



# EM Implementation in the Northeast US

Presentation for NPFMC SSC  
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**NOAA**  
**FISHERIES**  
West Coast  
Region

## Overview

Electronic monitoring (EM) under development for:

1. Northeast multispecies fishery to validate vessel logbook reports of discards for catch accounting
2. Atlantic herring & mackerel midwater trawl to monitor compliance with prohibitions on discarding (pair with portside sampling)

## Northeast Multispecies Fishery

- Catch share program
- Allocated, non-allocated, non-groundfish species
- Bottom trawl, gillnet, longline gears used
- Fish multiple stock areas on single trip/haul
- 8% scientific observer coverage (NEFOP)
- ~ 14-18% catch accounting coverage (ASM)
- Logbooks validated by EM desired alternative to ASM coverage

## Northeast Multispecies Fishery

### Technical Issues:

- ✓ Gear type
- ✓ Area(s) fished
- ? Discard species ID
  - Some flatfish, hakes → Species group comparison
- ? Discard weight
  - High volume species → Volumetric weight estimates

## Northeast Multispecies Fishery

### Policy Issues:

- Who should pay for what? What is cost?
- Who should have access to data and for what?
- What level of audit is acceptable?
  - NEFSC sample size analysis
- What difference between EM and logbook is acceptable?
- What happens when doesn't match?

## Northeast Multispecies Fishery

### 2015

- Run EM alongside ASM for 7 vessels
- Objective to test protocols, develop performance standards and infrastructure

### 2016

- EM in place of ASM for ~ 15-50 vessels
- Publish EM regulations

### 2017

- EM option for all sector vessels (up to 400)

## Atlantic Herring & Mackerel Fisheries

- Midwater trawl gear is focus
- ~ 0-2% scientific coverage (NEFOP)
- Additional coverage up to 100% under development to document slippage and sample catch
  - EM or ASM w/portside samplers, or observers
- Same policy issues, few technical issues

## Additional Information

- NEFSC Project: <http://www.nefsc.noaa.gov/fsb/ems/>
- NE EM Workshop:  
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/mediacenter/publicevents/upcomingevents/em.html>
- E-Logbooks:  
<http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/aps/evtr/index.html>
- Cost Estimate Report: Coming soon
- Regional ET Implementation Plan: Coming soon