

Electronic Monitoring 2021

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What is Electronic Monitoring??

Electronic monitoring is the use of video technology to track catches and discards of fish.

It should not be confused with vessel monitoring systems, which track the location of fishing vessels.



Project Description

THIS IS A FEASIBILITY STUDY TO TEST WHETHER ELECTRONIC MONITORING CAN BE USED TO ACCURATELY CAPTURE CATCH AND DISCARDS WHICH COULD AUTOMATE MONITORING AND IN-SEASON REPORTING OF LOWER COLUMBIA RIVER SMALL FISHING VESSELS.

WE ARE CONSIDERING THIS AS PHASE 1 OF THE PROJECT IN WHICH TESTING IS OCCURRING ON COMMERCIAL FISHING VESSELS.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Grant (NFWF)

Grant period in which work will be completed will be from 1/1/2021 to 12/31/2021.

- \$85,000 of funding from NFWF with additional matching funding from WDFW.
- Saltwater Inc. will be contracted to install and maintain the camera systems.
- Being a feasibility study, an on-board observer will also be required to ground-truth what the cameras are capturing.



Fisheries for Coverage

Spring Test Fishery

- At least 2 vessels needed for coverage.
- Coverage will consist of up to 8 fishing days per vessel.

Fall Gillnet Fishery

- At least 2 vessels needed for coverage.
- Coverage will consist of up to 7 fishing days per vessel.

October Tangle Net Fishery

- At least 2 vessels needed for coverage.
- Coverage will consist of up to 4 fishing days per vessel.

Alternative Gears – Fall (if fishery occurs)

- Pound Net – at least 1 vessel, up to 2 fishing days of coverage
- Beach Seine – at least 1 vessel, up to 2 fishing days of coverage
- Purse Seine – at least 1 vessel, up to 2 fishing days of coverage.

Will be compensating each vessel that carries a camera for every fishing day in which the camera is onboard.



Camera System – Option 1



Camera System – Option 2



Next Steps – Phase 1

- Continued conversations with advisory groups and state of Oregon co-managers.
- Meetings with spring test fishers and Saltwater Inc.
 - A random draw for participants will be made with camera implementation on two vessels.
- Meetings with fall gillnet fishers and Saltwater Inc.
 - Will be asking for volunteers for implementation on two vessels.
- Meetings with fall coho tangle net fishers and Saltwater Inc.
 - Will be asking for volunteers for implementation on two vessels.
- Meetings with alternative gear fishers (if fishing) and Saltwater Inc.
 - Potential camera implementation on 1 entity of each gear type.



Next Steps – Beyond Phase 1?

- If the camera systems are determined to be effective in capturing catch and discard data, we would want to expand the project to a “phase 2” which would include a wider base of fishery types.



Questions?

