



New England Fishery Management Council

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C.M. "Rip" Cunningham, Jr, *Chairman* | Thomas A. Nies, *Executive Director*

New England Fishery Management Council Seeks Fishermen to Participate in an Electronic Monitoring (EM) Working Group

The New England Fishery Management Council is forming an *ad hoc* Electronic Monitoring (EM) Working Group. Its members will be asked to identify any existing barriers or necessary steps that would enhance groundfish sector operations plan(s), in particular those plans that rely on electronic monitoring as a primary mechanism to achieve their stated compliance and catch attribution goals.

The Council will appoint two fishermen, who participate in the Northeast Multispecies Sector Management Program and who are not currently on Council advisory panels, to serve on the working group. The working group also will include representatives of the Council and its staff, NOAA Fisheries Northeast Regional Office and Northeast Fisheries Science Center staff and fishermen.

The Council asks that, at its September 24-26 meeting in Hyannis, MA, the working group present a response to the following issues: 1) identify existing barriers to address and next steps to eliminate impediments concerning the use of electronic monitoring; 2) outline the respective responsibilities of participating entities; and 3) recommend timelines for implementing electronic monitoring. The NEFMC will pay travel expenses consistent with its travel reimbursement policy for Advisory Panel members. The Council Chairman will review all statements of interest and approve appointments.

Please indicate your interest in participating on the Working Group by mail, email or fax and include information about the gear type you use, the areas you currently fish and any other information you think may be relevant. If you have questions or need additional information about the EM Working Group, please contact Chris Kellogg at 978.465.0492, ext. 112 or ckellogg@nefmc.org.

Paper copies should be mailed to the attention of the Tom Nies, Executive Director, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950. If using a fax, please send the applications to 978.465.3116 or email electronic copies to Karen Roy at kroy@nefmc.org.

Deadline

***Statements of Interest are due at the Council office by 5:00 p.m.
Friday, July 19, 2013***