



NOAA
FISHERIES

1. *Correspondence (June 22-24, 2021) M*

#13a.9

Electronic Technology (ET) Implementation Plan (2021-2025)

ATLANTIC HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES DIVISION
OFFICE OF SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

May 2021 Advisory Panel

Purpose/Background

- National effort to develop/revise/update regional based ET plans for the next 5 years
- All Regional ET Implementation Plans should be available in the next few weeks
- Allows AP members/stakeholders/partners to provide ongoing feedback on various programs and approaches
- Plans support internal (e.g., FIS/ET/CSP) and external (e.g., NFWF EM/ER) competitive funding opportunities.
- Provides a cornerstone for the continued engagement with the HMS AP and other partners (domestic and international) on all ET initiatives.

Objectives of the Implementation Plan

- Recap the last 5 years - What went right, what didn't, lessons learned, etc.
- Vision document for implementing ET in HMS fisheries/management over next 5 years
- Exploring top ET priorities for HMS
- Coordination and streamlining across regions
- Changing Needs/Challenges implementing ET programs
 - Scope of the various programs
 - Data Integration and Modernization with partners
 - Research and Development
 - Costs of EM/ER programs; Cost Transition Plans (where warranted)



Current Vessel ET Programs with HMS engagement

- Pelagic Longline EM Program
- HMS Automated Landing Reporting System – Vessel reporting app/web
- eTrips – ACCSP vessel reporting app
- eVTR – GARFO mandated reporting
- SEFHIER – SE Charter/Headboat reporting
- HMS Tournament Registration/Reporting
- VMS Program
- Third party vendors



Current Vessel ET Programs with HMS engagement

- eDealer – HMS dealer reporting (non-BFT)
- eBFT – BFT dealer reporting
- ICCAT eBCD/biweekly – International Trade Tracking
- HMS Tournament Registration/Reporting
- 3rd Party proprietary software (Bluefin Data VESL and/or file uploads)



Plan for Expanding/Refining ET for Atlantic HMS

- Reduce/eliminate redundancy of reporting
- Ensure HMS data elements are included in all application development
- Clear lines of communication to improve systems/programs (internal/external)
- Consistency across programs, standardization
- Consider ways to utilize ET to aid in challenging situations such as experienced in 2020
- Examples
 - EM Feasibility study Shark Research Fishery
 - CCCFA EFP – Unauthorized gears onboard (BFT)
 - VMS/EM unit consolidation
 - ICCAT



Next Steps

- Ongoing input and feedback from HMS AP Members, stakeholders, and/or partners regarding the use of ET to meet the goals/objectives of the HMS FMP
- Continued collaboration at regional, national, and international, levels to ensure HMS reporting and monitoring needs are included to help facilitate efficiency/accuracy in overlapping reporting authorities
- Continue to explore/evolve purpose and need, funding sources, pilot programs (where warranted), of ET in HMS fisheries to maximize the information being collected to inform management decisions



Dates/Contacts

- Regional and HMS Plans intended to be released Spring 2021
- Please reach out to Brad McHale (HMS brad.mchale@noaa.gov) and/or Brett Alger (OST - brett.alger@noaa.gov) Laura Keeling (OSF - laura.keeling@noaa.gov), if you have any questions

