



# Electronic Monitoring and Reporting Program

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## ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.1 billion.

Learn more at [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Cameras on a fishing vessel | Credit: Ayla Fox

## OVERVIEW

The Electronic Monitoring and Reporting (EMR) grant program was established by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in 2015 with support from the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The grant program funds projects to modernize fishery data collection and data management systems. Technology has the potential to bring down the cost of fishery monitoring; increase the speed, reliability and transparency of fisheries data; and enable managers and fishermen to address management challenges more effectively.

High quality, timely and accurate fisheries information is critical to maintaining sustainable U.S. fisheries. Scientists use this information to assess the status of fish stocks and recommend annual harvest limits. Fishery managers use this information to open and close fishing seasons and to track and manage fishing activity within sustainable levels. Fishermen and seafood marketers are increasingly using information about their fishing activity to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of their operations and to satisfy their customer demands for legally and sustainably caught seafood.

Since 2015 EMR has awarded more than \$21.5 million for 71 projects in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, Pacific Coast, Alaska, and Hawaii. These awards leveraged matching contributions of more than \$27.6 million, generating a total conservation impact of \$49.1 million. This is in addition to NFWF's investments in electronic technology across the nation between 2010 and 2015 through the Fisheries Innovation Fund.