



NFWF

# Electronic Monitoring and Reporting Program

## NFWF CONTACTS

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## PARTNERS

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

## ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) works with partners to foster sustainable and impactful conservation solutions so that people and nature thrive together. Chartered by Congress in 1984, NFWF has grown to become the nation's largest conservation foundation. Since its founding, NFWF has funded more than 23,300 projects that have generated a total conservation impact of \$11.3 billion. NFWF is an equal opportunity provider.

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

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Commercial fishing boat in Alaska

## BACKGROUND

The Electronic Monitoring and Reporting (EMR) grant program was established by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) in 2015 with support from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The grant program funds projects to modernize fishery data collection and data management systems to support productive and sustainable U.S. fisheries.

For 2024-2025, Congress appropriated \$3.5 million to the EMR grant program. Since 2015, EMR has awarded more than \$37.6 million to 126 projects in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, the Southeast, Caribbean, Gulf, Pacific Coast, Alaska and Hawai'i. These awards leveraged matching contributions of more than \$54.4 million, generating a total conservation impact of \$92 million. These grant awards build upon NFWF's investments in electronic technology across the nation between 2010 and 2015 through the Fisheries Innovation Fund.

Electronic technologies have the potential to decrease the cost of fishery monitoring; increase the speed, reliability and transparency of fisheries data; and enable decision makers and fishermen to address management and business challenges more effectively. High quality, timely and accurate fisheries information is critical to maintaining healthy U.S. fisheries. Scientists use this information to assess the status of fish stocks and recommend annual harvest limits.

## GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The goals of the EMR grant program include 1) Driving the incorporation of electronic technologies in fisheries data collection and 2) Modernizing fisheries data management systems. The grant program seeks both projects that explore and pilot new technology ideas, as well as projects that seek to implement proven fisheries technology innovations at the fishing fleet scale or across multiple fishing communities.

The EMR grant program is a national program and considers proposals from all U.S. state and federal fisheries, including commercial, recreational or for-hire sectors. NFWF seeks to support work in key fisheries including the Gulf reef fish fishery, the New England groundfish fishery, the West Coast groundfish fishery, the Alaska halibut and groundfish fisheries and highly migratory species fisheries that have all been engaging with these innovations for some time, but other fisheries are eligible and encouraged to apply for funding.