Technical Compliance Working Group, Meeting 5 (TCWG5)

Agenda item 2.3- - information paper on electronic monitoring– Australia

TCWG5 will consider methods for enhancing the reliability of logbook information and scientific observer data through appropriate verification methods, including the use of electronic monitoring (EM), for target and non-target species.

EM systems are used in Australia to collect fisheries dependent data to support scientific analyses and management decision-making. In Australian Commonwealth fisheries, EM is also used to validate and improve logbook data reporting at the individual vessel level through the provision of consistent feedback to fishers on their logbook reporting.

Australia has reported to the CCSBT previously on the use of EM to enhance the reliability of logbook information and scientific data (in particular, see the previous discussion at ERSWG13 in 2019 Agenda Item 5.3).

Since the 2019 meeting, an additional report has been published (see the final reference below). This report highlighted the capability of EM, when applied across all vessels in a fleet, to identify vessels with general or specific (e.g. particular species) logbook reporting deficiencies. This enables managers to undertake either incentive-based, education-based or, where required, compliance-based targeted actions to ensure that those vessels improve their logbook reporting. Australia considers that this approach will improve data inputs for scientific analyses and the fisheries management decisions that rely on them.

To assist TCWG 5, a list of relevant Australian publications is below.

The use of electronic monitoring within tuna longline fisheries: implications for international data collection, analysis, and reporting TJ Emery, R Noriega, AJ Williams, J Larcombe, S Nicol - Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries, 2018

Changes in logbook reporting by commercial fishers following the implementation of electronic monitoring in Australian Commonwealth fisheries TJ Emery, R Noriega, AJ Williams, J Larcombe - Marine Policy, 2019

Measuring congruence between electronic monitoring and logbook data in Australian Commonwealth longline and gillnet fisheries TJ Emery, R Noriega, AJ Williams, J Larcombe - Ocean & Coastal Management, 2019

The capability of electronic monitoring to measure logbook reporting performance and improve data for scientific analyses TJ Emery, R Noriega, M Parsa, D Bromhead, T Timmiss - Fisheries Research, 2025