



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Proposal for Joint Work through the ROP and ER&EM Intersessional Working Groups

WCPFC-SC21-ST-WP-11
USA

WCPFC Regional Observer Program (ROP) and Electronic Monitoring (EM)

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Given the mirrored objectives of ROP & EM:

- The IWG proposed that the Commission consider the development of one comprehensive monitoring program, including both ROP and EM

Proposal for Joint Work through ROP and EM&ER IWGs

1. The Commission tasks the Chairs of the ER&EM IWG and the ROP IWG to propose an approach to establish an overarching WCPFC Regional Monitoring Program, which would include both an EMP and the existing ROP, to be considered for adoption by WCPFC23 (2026).

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2. Draft Terms of Reference (TOR) should be developed by the IWG Chairs and other interested parties, including the United States, and should include consideration of the following:
 - a) data collection needs and reporting requirements of both programs;
 - b) existing monitoring requirements across the various fisheries sectors in the WCPFC; and
 - c) areas of existing overlap and/or areas where inconsistencies may exist to inform a merger of the two programs.