

Electronic Monitoring and Reporting Grant Program

Willy Goldsmith
Pelagic Strategies LLC

Caribbean Fishery Management Council
August 14, 2024



Funding available to support your fisheries!

I NNOVV 002KMPH 2022/05/10 11:26:53 N17.48.42 W67.19.05 #70451 – Conservacion ConCiencia

National Fish And Wildlife Foundation

A person wearing an orange jacket and grey gloves is handling a large, dark fish on a metal surface. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a boat or a similar outdoor setting.

- Created by U.S. Congress in 1984
- Independent, 501(c)(3) non-profit
- Public/Private partnerships
 - Federal agencies, corporations, & private foundations
- No advocacy, lobbying, litigation
- Focus on voluntary conservation actions

NFWF Fisheries Programs

- Focused electronic technologies investments since 2015
 - Nationwide: \$32.9 Million awarded to 112 projects
 - U.S. Caribbean: ~\$800,000 awarded to 5 projects



#70617 – Harbor Light Software, Inc.



EMR Funding Priorities

- Support use of technologies in fisheries data collection
 - Improve & scale voluntary Electronic Monitoring
 - Expand & improve electronic reporting
 - Drive engagement with data collection in all sectors
- Modernize data management
 - Enhance ability to efficiently process & use this data
 - Reduce costs, improve timeliness & access



Electronic Monitoring (EM): Examples

- Conservacion ConCiencia
 - EM for artisanal commercial vessels targeting highly migratory species in Puerto Rico
- Gulf Fisheries Research Foundation
 - Develop remote EM for Gulf of Mexico for-hire reef fish fishery
- Next Steps
 - Address costs
 - Integrate new tools like artificial intelligence
 - Caribbean: Continue to evaluate feasibility and use cases

Electronic Reporting (ER): Examples

A person's hands are shown holding a tablet computer. The person is wearing a white short-sleeved shirt. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with a rocky shore in the foreground and a body of water in the background. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

- The Nature Conservancy
 - Expansion of Puerto Rico's commercial fishery electronic reporting system
- Virginia Institute of Marine Science
 - Recreational and citizen science reporting application - RecFish
- Next Steps
 - Ease of use
 - Support recreational engagement

Data Modernization: Examples

- Element in majority of projects
- University of Miami
 - Develop electronic data collection technologies to improve sampling of Puerto Rico recreational fisheries.
- Angler's Atlas/MyCatch
 - Expansion of mark-recapture technique to estimate recreational catch (CA, OR)
- Next Steps
 - Increasing efficiency & accessibility

Interested in Funding?

- Application window live now
- **October 2 deadline (11:59pm ET)**
- \$4.8 million in funding

More information: bit.ly/EMRRFP2024



What Makes a Good Proposal?

- Partnerships!
 - Fishermen engagement
 - Agency involvement
- Strong technical elements
- Prepared grantees
 - Financial documents in order



NFWF EMR Program Field Liaison

2024 RFP Cycle: Contract with **Field Liaison:**

- Spread awareness of opportunity
- Identify prospective applicants
- Brainstorm project ideas/partners
- Serve as a resource when developing application materials



Willy Goldsmith

Wgoldsmith@pelagicstrategies.com

617-763-3340

Thank You!
Any Questions?

Gray Redding

Gray.Redding@nfwf.org

202-595-2438

Willy Goldsmith

Wgoldsmith@pelagicstrategies.com

617-763-3340

RFP information: bit.ly/EMRRFP2024

