



# A Deep Dive on Electronic Monitoring

An informational webinar presented by  
The Pew Charitable Trusts

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# Today's Presentation



A quick intro to our work



What is an Electronic Monitoring program?



EM and the Tuna 2020 Traceability Declaration



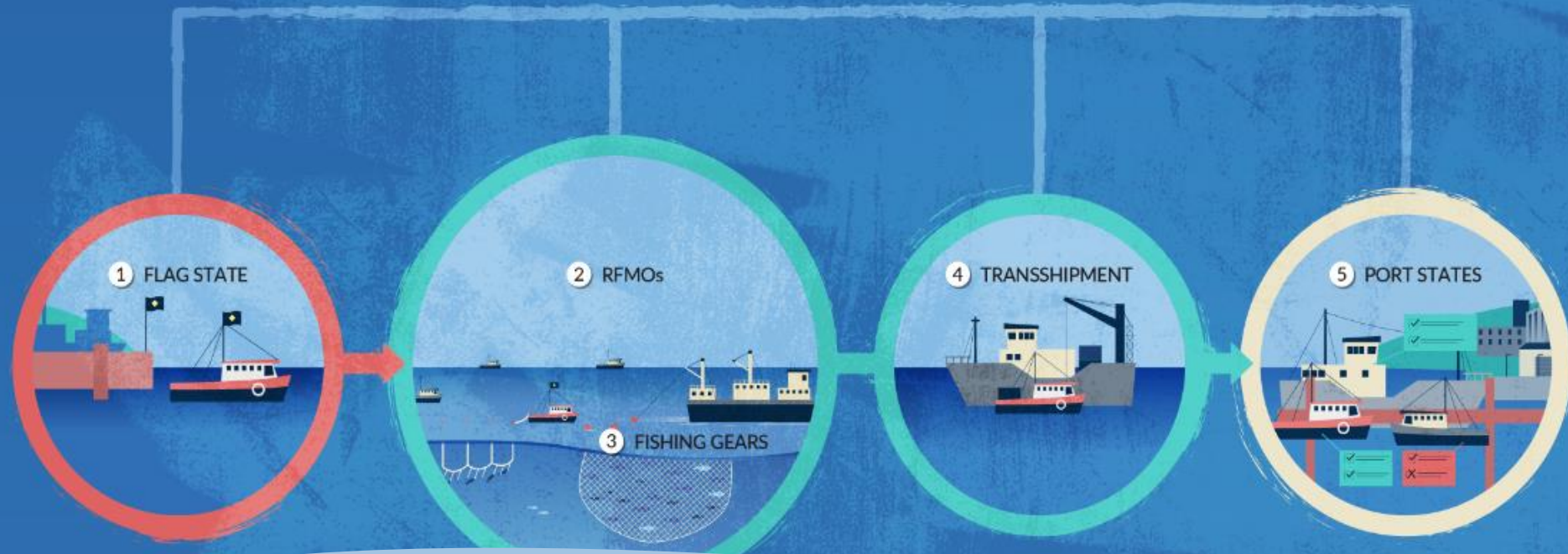
EM and RFMOs



What can you do?



Questions and Answers



Pew's  
International  
Fisheries Team

Working to secure comprehensive and complementary rules and consequences for international fisheries management to support healthy, resilient marine ecosystems and fisheries over the long term.

# Why Electronic Monitoring?

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## Human observer coverage at the typical RFMO today

- Purse Seine – 100%
- Longline – 5% (barely)
  - Space
  - Costs
  - Difficulty finding trained observers

This leads to insufficient oversight to ensure supply chain sustainability, transparency, and to minimize IUU





## Benefits

**Cost & Space Savings | Employment | Observer Safety  
24/7 Coverage | Scalability | ETP reporting | Data integrity |  
Market Access**





## Concerns

**Additional Costs | Biological Sampling | Privacy  
Species Identification | Post Release Mortality**



# ELECTRONIC MONITORING PROGRAM





Step

1

Step

2

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3

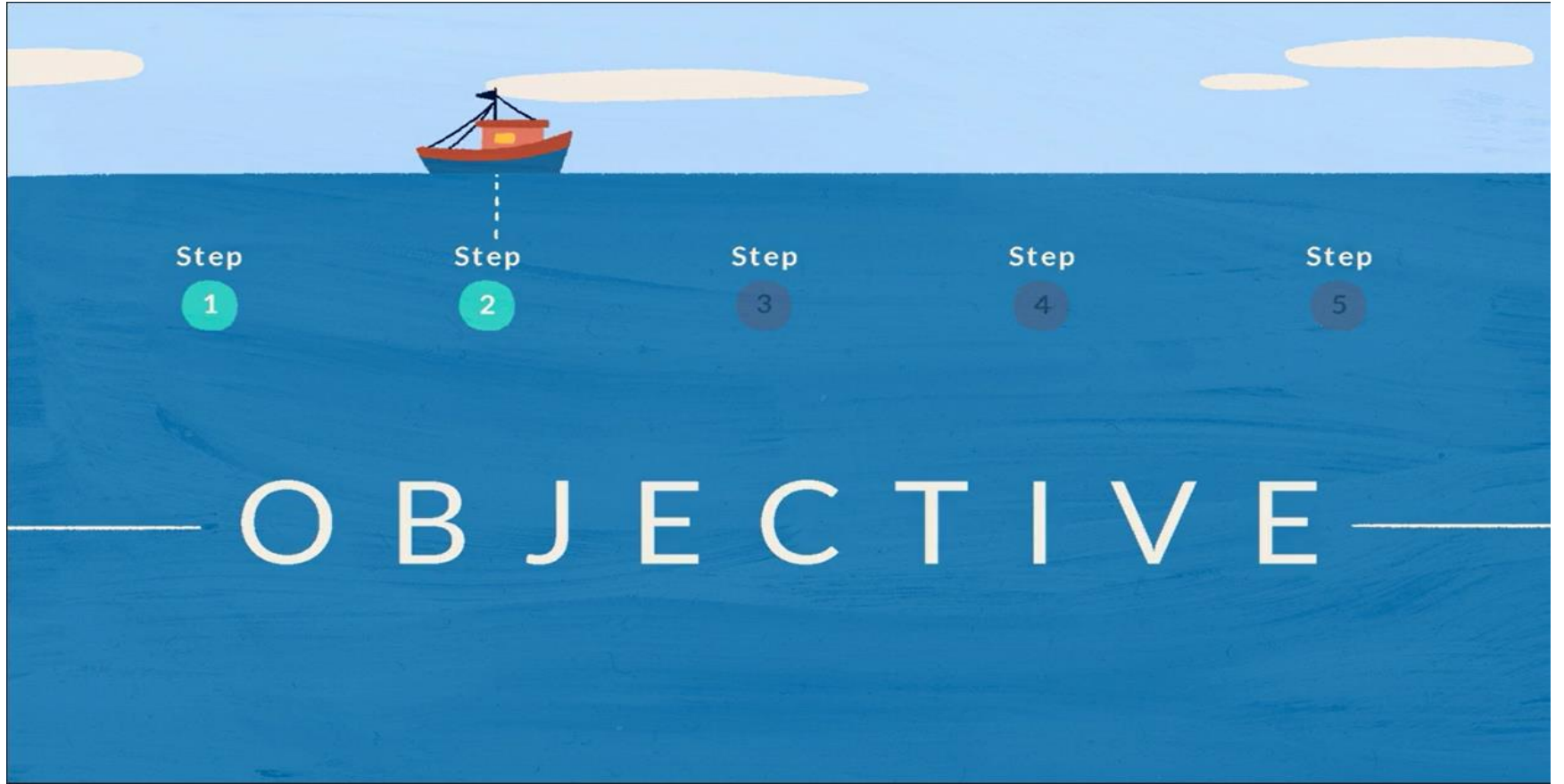
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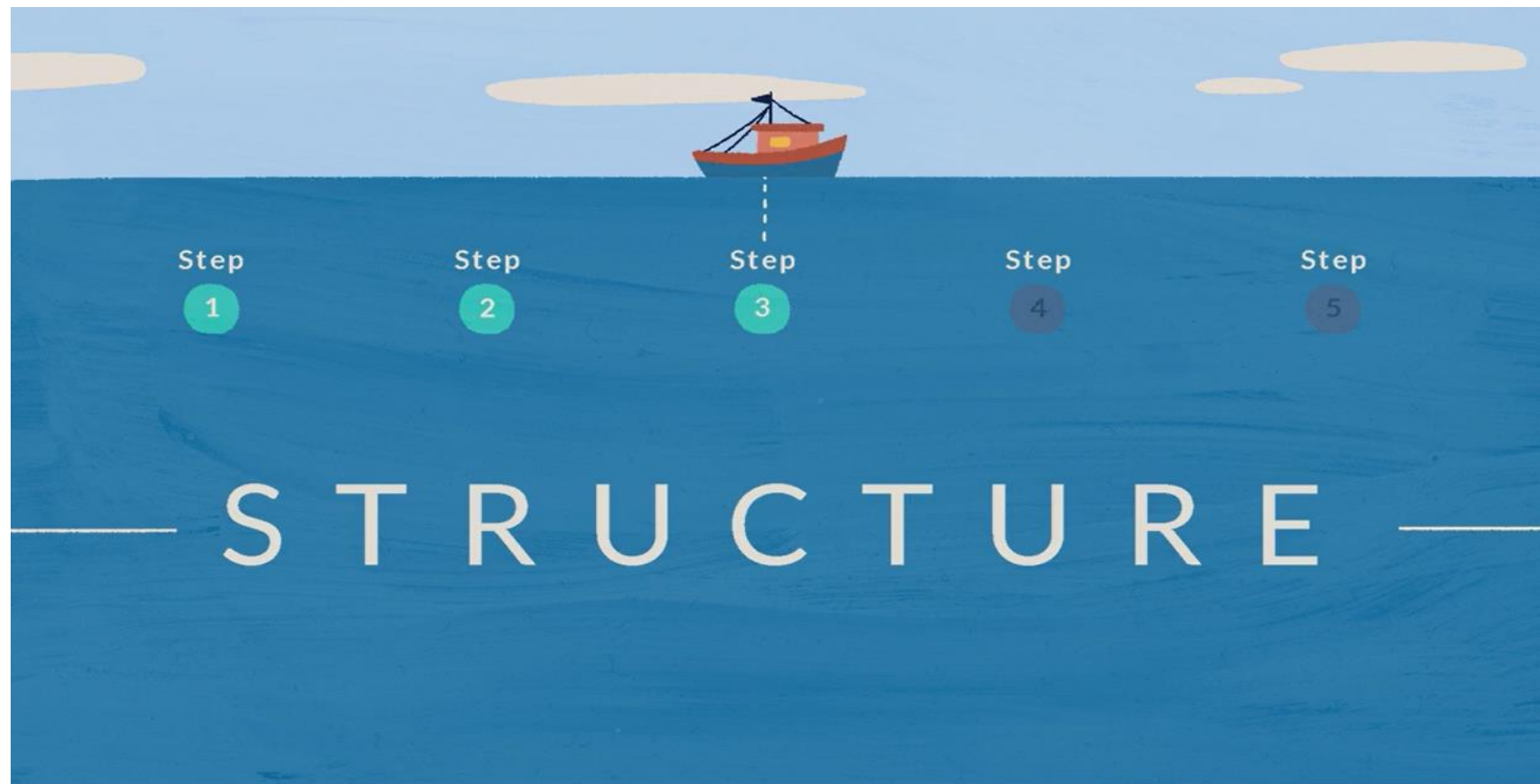
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Step

5

— O U T R E A C H —





Step

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# DATA STANDARDS

Step  
1

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# REVIEW





# EM and the Tuna 2020 Transparency Declaration

- **Tuna Traceability Commitment** – EM ensures effective traceability of catch (including trip dates, vessels, gear)
- **Commitment to a Socially Responsible Tuna Supply Chain** - Verifies fishing (from hook to port) are free from illicit activities and can be designed to document labor practices
- **Commitment to Environmentally Responsible Tuna Sources** – EM provides managers with data to support science-based management plans and can document compliance with handling requirements
- **Government Partnership** – GTA can work with governments to advocate for EM and build capacity and manage information systems



## Market Requirements Can Drive Adoption of EM

- International trade rules have prompted early adoption of EM
  - EU IUU carding system
  - US Seafood Import Monitoring Program (SIMP) | US Marine Mammal Protection Act
- Driven by market pressure and desire to mitigate risk, seafood and fishing companies are taking more action to improve monitoring and reporting



## Tuna RFMO Progress in 2019

**WCPFC** – ER/EM Working Group is drafting EM standards and CMM

**ICCAT** – SCRS is drafting EM standards by 2021 & tropical tuna longline vessels will be required to have 10% observer coverage by 2022

**IATTC** – Scientific Staff drafting EM Standards



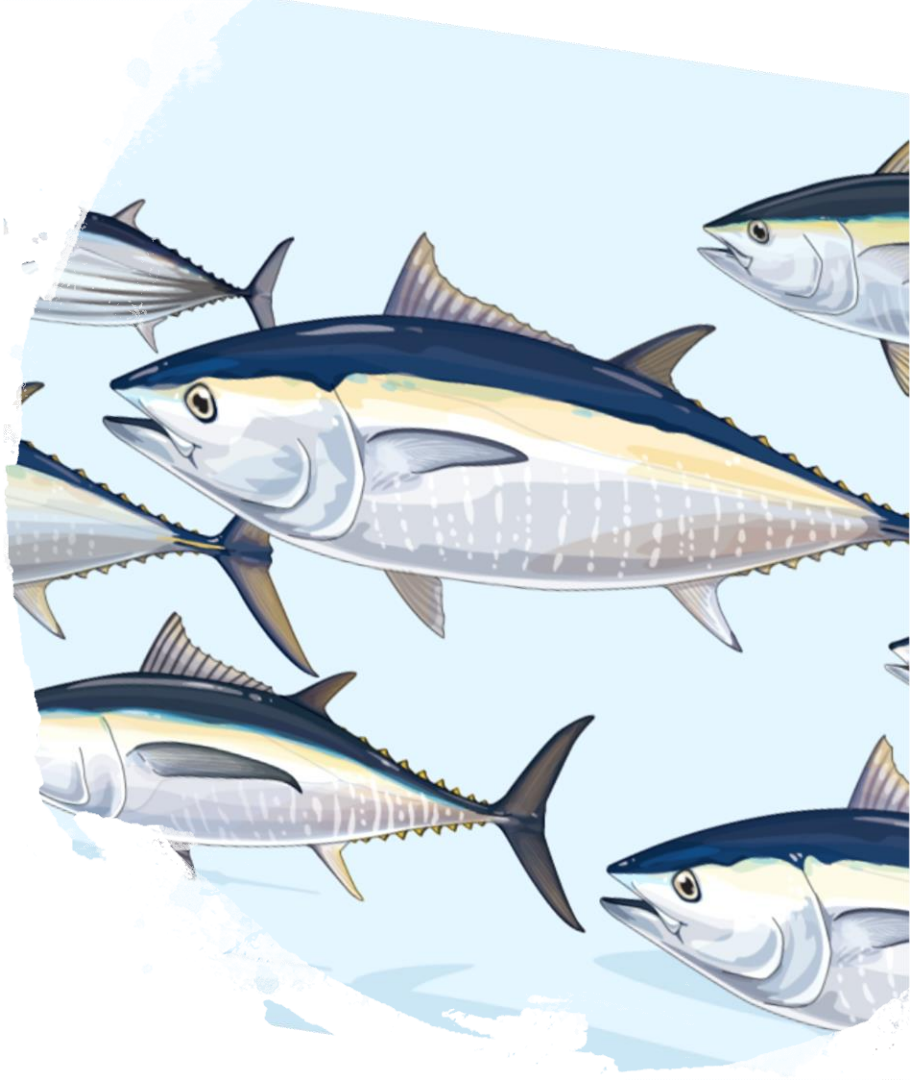
# Effects of COVID-19

Indefinite suspension of observer requirements

- Less oversight
- Removes source of independent data

Recent attention on benefits of EM

- Pew NGO Letter – supported by the EU in their letter to IOTC & other governments (informally) as well other NGO proposals for EM implementation (e.g. SFP)
- GTA Observer Position and GTA/TUPA Joint Call for Action



## Supply Chain Actions: What can you do?

- Include use of EM as part of company sourcing policies
- Support the implementation of EM programs or trials by suppliers
- Advocate for RFMOs to adopt EM Programs that include standards and pathways for increasing observer coverage
- Participate in national RFMO advisory bodies and encourage governments to support development of EM



## Supply Chain Actions: What can you do?

- Partner with key region-specific suppliers to demonstrate how EM can help drive market behavior
- Continue to support NGO collaborations by amplifying messaging to keep momentum on EM past COVID-19 (e.g., markets statements, RFMO letters, workshops)
- Include calls for development of EM programs and increases in observer coverage in future commitments
- Continue to deliver on GTA partner commitments

# Coming soon from Pew



EM Toolkit including markets factsheet



EM Animation



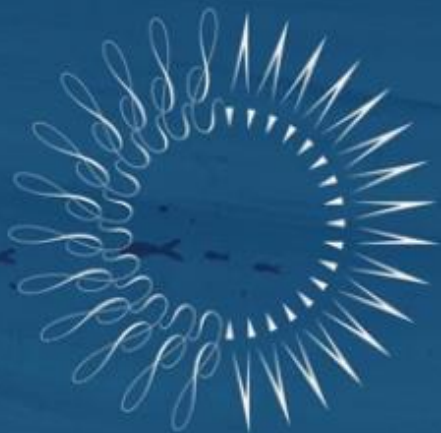
EM RFMO engagement  
materials for markets

Policy template letter

Talking points for online advocacy/side-  
events

A split-level photograph showing the surface of the ocean and the underwater world. The top half shows the water's surface with gentle ripples and a tropical island in the distance, covered in palm trees and lush vegetation. The bottom half shows a vibrant coral reef with various types of coral and sandy patches. The word "QUESTIONS?" is overlaid in large, white, outlined letters across the center of the image.

QUESTIONS?



THE  
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