# Record of Meetings

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| 12/01/2022 | Alexander Ford – Sustainability IncubatorKatrina Nakamura – Sustainability IncubatorDan McDougall – Pier FishScott Bode – Pier Fish | * Consulting with Yellowtail processor (Pier Fish) to capture their insight on issues with the fishery
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* Initial meeting with Pier Fish to understand their role and influence on the project
* Pier Fish informed us that though they are financially engaged in the FIP, they have little to do with the management of the FIP on the ground and that we should speak with The Tremont.
* They did offer to put us in touch with the policy contacts NMFS

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| 27/01/2022 | Alexander Ford – Sustainability IncubatorKatrina Nakamura – Sustainability IncubatorRicardo Federizon – North Atlantic Fisheries Organisation | * Understanding how NAFO policy is formed and influenced.
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* + Ricardo Federizon is the NAFO Fisheries Commission Coordinator
	+ NAFO deals only with international stocks and there has no influence on the US or Canada’s domestic stocks
	+ Management for straddling stocks should be equal to or more strict that NAFO policy. Although this cannot be enforced by NAFO
	+ The governance process for introducing news policy starts with the CPCs at the annual meeting. Recommendations based on science are put forward to the members, who then decide on how to adopt policy for the preservation of the fishery and ecosystems. This includes ETP species and bycatch limits.
	+ External influence is minimal as CPCs prefer to keep the decision-making to themselves only

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| 22/02/2022 | Alexander Ford – Sustainability IncubatorAndrew Walsh – The TremontMike Walsh – The Tremont | * Consulting with Yellowtail fishers (The Tremont) to capture their insight on issues with the fishery.
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* + Initial meeting with the Tremont
	+ They are engaging in a FIP because they realise that in order to gain access to seafood markets they need some kind of assurance that they are sustainable. A FIP would be the first step, but in the long run they are aiming for MSC certification, like their Canadian counterpart
	+ Efforts they have currently taken upon themselves include:
		- Using a net mesh size that is larger than the standard US regulation. The practical reason this is done, is to reduce labour sifting through things on board when you haul up the net, including sea cucumbers.
		- Currently licensed to target yellowtail in international waters only, which means you waste time, money and fuel motoring out. To improve this situation, you are working with the NMFS to allow also catch yellowtail in US waters which would reduce the amount of fuel used and the amount of time wasted not fishing.
	+ The Tremont regularly engage with NOAA/NMFS on experimental fisheries policy and would be happy to work on initiatives that would help the FIP.

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| 09/03/2022 | Katrina Nakamura – Sustainability IncubatorAlexander Ford – Sustainability IncubatorAndrew Walsh – The TremontMike Walsh – The Tremont | * Consulting with The Tremont to understand whether and how electronic monitoring could support the MCS of the fishery
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* + Second meeting with the Walshes was to explore a little more what improvements could be made to improve monitoring of Principle 2

1. A logbook we could send through CLS would be helpful on the US NMFS side, would be helpful if it could print so we did not need to have to do both electronic and paper copies, especially when an inspector came aboard.

Required protocol:

* + Electronic logbook began in November 2021
	+ Fishonline NOAA uses wifi for trip start and end and catch reports
	+ CLS vessel monitoring is by satellite, need daily reports
	+ We have a human observer, we don't have cameras.
	+ EVTR report on spreadsheet must also be submitted after the trip
	+ We still need to have paper to show NAFO enforcement officials who board the vessel.

Trend:

* We were getting boarded a lot before covid.  We are always in international waters and it's NAFO officials that will board and they may be traveling on a Canadian Coast Guard cutter.  Canada has two Coast Guard cutters and the EU has one NAFO patrol vessel to patrol 53 boats throughout the year. During covid they came up to the vessel but monitored the haul from behind.
* Someone trying to combine EMS, VMS, CLS as AIS – could this be used for public research (GFW?)

Current practice:

* Declare trip
* Start vessel trip report on iOS but doesn't transmit data unless have service
* Fishing have to make daily reports
* Driving out to grounds easy to write 0 catches
* Then tow by tow 100% of catch bycatch and catch and discards
* Several categories and have to tally it up for each tow (15 min/tow at 5 tows/day) add up on paper to a daily catch log also daily production log (in the hold), and a capacity plan with a stowage plan for what went into the hold and need to color code for where it went in hold.
* Then need to put everything in a spreadsheet and send that to the government
* EVTR electronic vessel trip reporting is additional
* Observer has a recorder and sends on transparent email and also by encrypted codes

USA Fishery Unique Rules or Initiatives

* USA thinks the quality of observers should be higher in NAFO as not all fleets have independent observers but use their own crew members. Also observers are not required to monitor ETP species
* USA fisheries can fish only in NAFO waters OR US waters whereas the other fleets can fish in different waters and separate their catches by origin.
* USA would like EMS but probably not NAFO. NAFO meetings are not public. We like open meetings and they do not like anyone but official diplomats to attend. EU seems to push against it.
* The Walsh's take on this is that the USA is pushing too much and too far and don't think about the economics, frustrating the other countries; going hard on sea sponges and Greenland sharks.

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| 30/03/2022 | Katrina Nakamura – Sustainability IncubatorAlexander Ford – Sustainability IncubatorShannah Jaburek – NOAA Fisheries | * Consulting with Yellowtail manager (NOAA Fisheries) to understand progress being made on electronic MCS and how the FIP could be used to catalyze the adoption of e-MCS.
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NOAA

* Submit trip start hail and end trip and declaration of what fishing activity is – sent to NOAA by VMS
* EVTR (e-VTR)

COE, CAT, COX

Catch on Entry, Catch on Exist, Daily Catch Report

NAFO reqs

* Haul by haul fishing log
* Plan of where fish is kept in the hold so that if an inspector gets on board s/he can inspect the hold
* NAFO require everything digitally, but need to have access to the information in case they come on board, although apparently inspector prefers digital (iPad?)
* Article 6 – CEM – to see what the fishers have to do
	+ Directive fishing infringement is the element of this that is a pain in the ass
* NAFO are very much set in their traditional ways and don’t like changing the way they do things

Suggestion for FIP

* Making a platform to streamline reporting