

Remote Electronic Monitoring: Guidance for Pelagic Boats

**The Sea Fisheries (Remote Electronic
Monitoring and Regulation of Scallop
Fishing) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 [SSI
2024 No.165]**

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1. Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) – Guidance for Pelagic Boats

1.1 Introduction

This document provides guidance for the Sea Fisheries (Remote Electronic Monitoring and Regulation of Scallop Fishing) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (the REM legislation) [<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2024/165/contents/made>]

Remote inspections and system test trips (as per section 2.2 of this guidance) can be carried out from **7 September 2025**. The Fully Documented Fisheries Unit (FDF) of the Scottish Government will be happy to advise on suitability of systems and answer any other queries you may have to help you prepare for REM (contact details are at 1.4).

The mandatory REM requirements for pelagic fishing trips come into force on **7 March 2026**.

The REM legislation mandates the use of REM systems onboard certain categories of pelagic fishing boats operating in Scottish waters, and certain categories of Scottish registered pelagic boats wherever they fish, and sets out the various obligations that must be met. These include a number of data requirements which are set out in section 4 of this guidance and in a separate [Privacy Notice](#) which outlines how the Scottish Government intend to collect and process REM data in more detail¹

The technical specifications which REM systems installed onboard these categories of pelagic fishing boats must meet can be found at **Annex B**.

The REM legislation applies to pelagic Refrigerated Sea Water (RSW), Chilled Sea Water (CSW) and freezer boats which are 12 metres and over in length. More details about the categories of pelagic fishing boat to which the REM legislation applies are given below in the section titled “Which boats does this guidance apply to?”.

This guidance document is intended to provide affected pelagic masters, owners and charterers (if a boat has any charterers) with a general overview of the REM legislation as it will apply to relevant pelagic fishing boats and does not constitute legal advice on the REM legislation. It is the responsibility of masters, owners and charterers (if any) of pelagic boats to which the REM legislation will apply to ensure that they understand their duties under the legislation and how to ensure that fishing activities will be compliant with the legislation, as well as ensuring that those working

¹ REM Privacy Notice | gov.scot
(<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/advice-and-guidance/2024/06/remote-electronic-monitoring-privacy-notice/documents/remote-electronic-monitoring-rem-systems-fishing-vessels-2024-privacy-notice/remote-electronic-monitoring-rem-systems-fishing-vessels-2024-privacy-notice/govscot%3Adocument/remote-electronic-monitoring-rem-systems-fishing-vessels-2024-privacy-notice.pdf>).

on board the boat are aware of the rules. Masters, owners and charterers should seek independent legal advice if needed.

This guidance applies solely to the requirements as set out in the Sea Fisheries (Remote Electronic Monitoring and Regulation of Scallop Fishing) (Scotland) Regulations 2024) and its accompanying technical specifications. As neither the Scottish Ministers or the Scottish Government’s Marine Directorate have a role in setting technical specifications for other jurisdictions, we recommend that vessels undertake appropriate investigations to determine what requirements for REM systems might apply elsewhere.

1.2 What is REM?

For pelagic fishing boats, REM involves the use of onboard cameras, winch sensors and Vessel Positioning Systems (VPS) to capture data that is used to enhance monitoring of fishing operations, effort and catch. Use of REM technologies will help to ensure that fishing activity remains sustainable, responsible and accountable. The legislation and introduction of REM supports the Scottish Government’s Fisheries Management Strategy², the UK Joint Fisheries Statement³, and the delivery of the sustainability, precautionary, scientific evidence and bycatch objectives set out in the Fisheries Act 2020⁴, building on our approach to improve sea fisheries compliance and our scientific evidence base. The REM data gathered will be used to enhance decision making across the marine space.

1.3 Which boats does this guidance apply to?

Pelagic boats

The REM legislation applies to ‘relevant pelagic boats’, which are defined as:

A fishing boat that is 12 meters or more in length and is equipped with at least one of the following:

- A chilled sea water system (CSW)
- A refrigerated sea water system (RSW)
- Freezer storage capabilities

And which uses nets in the Scottish zone (or, for Scottish pelagic fishing boats, in any waters) for the primary purpose of fishing for small pelagic species, such as:

- Mackerel
- Herring
- Horse mackerel
- Anchovy
- Sardine
- Blue Whiting

² [Future fisheries: management strategy - 2020 to 2030 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/future-fisheries-management-strategy-2020-to-2030/pages/1-introduction-and-contents.aspx)

³ [Joint Fisheries Statement JFS 2022 Final.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/attachment_data/file/103111/joint-fisheries-statement-jfs-2022-final.pdf)

⁴ [Fisheries Act 2020 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2020/12/section/1)

- Argentines
- Sprat
- Boarfish

For the purposes of this guidance, the ‘Scottish zone’ is also referred to as ‘Scottish waters’ in this document and all boats captured by the above definition are referred to as ‘relevant pelagic boats’.

For which fishing trips does REM need to be fully operational?

For Scottish boats falling within the definition of a ‘relevant pelagic boat’, the REM legislation requires an REM system (which meets the technical specifications for REM systems onboard relevant pelagic boats) to be fully operational⁵ for the duration of all fishing trips in any waters during which the boat deploys a fishing net for the primary purpose of fishing for small pelagic species of fish.

For non-Scottish boats falling within the definition of a ‘relevant pelagic boat’, the legislation requires an REM system (which meets the technical specifications for REM systems onboard relevant pelagic boats) to be fully operational⁶ for the duration of all fishing trips in the Scottish zone during which the boat deploys a fishing net for the primary purpose of fishing for small pelagic species of fish. The REM system must be fully operational from the point a non-Scottish boat either leaves a Scottish port or enters Scottish waters and until they either return to a Scottish port or leave Scottish waters.

1.4 Who is the responsible fisheries authority?

The REM legislation has been prepared by the Scottish Government and approved by the Scottish Parliament. The Marine Directorate of the Scottish Government are responsible for the administration and enforcement of the legislation, on behalf of the Scottish Ministers. Marine Directorate officials will access, process and analyse data collected by the REM systems on all relevant pelagic boats, regardless of the flag or coastal state to which the boat belongs.

The Fully Documented Fisheries Unit (FDF) of the Scottish Government is the first point of contact if you have queries and can be contacted at FDF@gov.scot

⁵ The term ‘fully operational’ is used to mean that the REM system must be powered, carrying out its intended function, recording and storing the required data

⁶ The term ‘fully operational’ is used to mean that the REM system must be powered, carrying out its intended function, recording and storing the required data

2. Preparing for REM

Requiring REM on pelagic fleets operating in Scottish waters is a new concept and the pelagic sector will need time to prepare for the requirements set out in the legislation. A long lead-in time for the pelagic industry has therefore been included in the legislation. All relevant pelagic boats fishing in Scottish waters must have a fully compliant and operational REM system onboard from **7 March 2026** (Scottish registered pelagic boats must carry and use REM wherever they fish from this date). From this date any non-Scottish pelagic vessel wishing to operate in Scottish waters is required to have a fully operational REM system onboard that has been validated by the FDF Unit.

There are a number of actions that masters, owners and charterers (if any) of relevant pelagic boats will need to undertake between 7 September 2025 and 6 March 2026 at the latest to ensure that their boat is compliant for the introduction of the mandatory REM requirements. Please note that non-Scottish pelagic boats may undertake these actions at a later date but will not be authorised to fish in Scottish waters until they have been completed. In summary, these are:

- **Sourcing and purchasing a compliant REM system** – it is important that all aspects of the boat’s REM system meet the technical specifications for REM systems for relevant pelagic boats, which are published here: [\[https://www.gov.scot/policies/sea-fisheries/\]](https://www.gov.scot/policies/sea-fisheries/) [and are also set out in **Annex B** of this document];
- **Installing the REM system** – as above the REM system should be installed in such a way that it complies with all technical specifications.
- **Submitting mandatory information** to the FDF Unit about the REM system that you have had installed onboard your boat.
- **Facilitating a remote inspection** of the onboard REM system by the FDF Unit.
- **Undergoing a system test trip** when authorised in writing by the FDF Unit.

2.1 Purchasing and installing your REM system

It is the responsibility of the master, owner and charterer (if any) of a relevant pelagic boat to source, purchase and arrange for the installation of an REM system that meets the technical specifications.

There is no approved supplier scheme in place under this REM legislation. Masters, owners and charterers (if any) are able to choose their own REM supplier and engineer to install the system, providing that the REM technical specifications are met. There are many established and developing companies with relevant expertise and experience of supplying REM systems for a range of fishing boats.

Before purchasing your REM system you must be satisfied that it meets all of the requirements set out in the technical specifications.

Please be aware that the Scottish Government's technical specifications do require that your REM system should have the capability to introduce additional cameras in areas of your pelagic boat where they are not currently included in the Scottish Government's technical specifications. This will help to future-proof your REM system and will help to support interoperability with other jurisdictions where Scottish Ministers do not have responsibility and which may require a different configuration of cameras.

It is also possible that other jurisdictions, where Scottish Ministers do not have responsibility, may have differing REM requirements for winch sensors. We therefore recommend that your REM system is configured in such a way as to allow for additional sensors to be introduced that are not currently specified in the Scottish Government's technical specifications.

If you are experiencing problems in meeting the winch sensor requirement, please speak to the FDF unit, who will be able to explore options with you.

2.2 What should I do once my REM system is installed?

When a REM system has been installed the Scottish pelagic boat master, owner or charterer (if any) should request a validation form from the FDF unit. The form can be sent to you electronically or, if preferred, a paper version is available. The validation form should be completed and returned before 7 March 2026. Additional checks are required to ensure REM equipment is compliant, these are undertaken as part of the system test trip process outlined below. We recommend returning the required documentation well in advance of the 7 March 2026 deadline to ensure that fishing activity will be authorised in time. A copy of this form can be found in **Annex A**.

The master, owner or charterer (if any) of a non-Scottish boat will be asked to provide evidence, such as an installation confirmation from the supplier that REM has been installed on their vessel when they apply for a licence to fish in UK waters. On receipt of confirmation owners will be issued with a validation form by the FDF unit. The validation form should be completed and returned via email before 7th March 2026. More checks will be required to ensure REM equipment is compliant and we recommend returning the required documentation well in advance of any fishing trip to ensure that fishing activity will be authorised in time (with consideration to the legislation becoming enforced from 7 March 2026).

Validation Forms and enquiries should be emailed to FDF@gov.scot.

Please note that any changes to the information you supply must be notified to the FDF Unit in writing via email to FDF@gov.scot, no later than 7 working days after the change occurs. This requirement to update the submitted information continues to apply on an ongoing basis.

Once your form has been submitted you must liaise with the FDF Unit to begin the inspection process so that they can confirm that, at that time, the REM system is fully functioning. This will include a remote inspection of the REM equipment you have installed and a system test trip at sea. Providing that the FDF Unit have given prior written authorisation for the system test trip, the trip can take place from 7 September 2025. The system test trip can be part of a commercial fishing trip and does not necessarily need to take place in Scottish waters. Given the seasonality of pelagic fishing, the master, owner and charterer (if any) will need to carefully consider when such a test trip should take place. Early engagement with the FDF unit will help to avoid bottlenecks and ensure that, where possible, officials can schedule test trips at a time that is convenient.

Following the system test trip, the FDF unit (on behalf of Scottish Ministers) will issue the owner, via email, a copy of the validation form which details whether REM system meets the requirements (at the time of testing). If the REM equipment does not meet the requirements, the form will note remedial actions. Remedial actions must be taken, and the REM system must be functioning to the satisfaction of the FDF Unit, before being able to fish.

If the above actions are not completed and the applicable requirements are not met the master, owner and charterer (if any) of that boat would commit an offence if fishing for small pelagic fish species in Scottish waters (or for Scottish boats, in any waters) takes place. It is the responsibility of the master, owner and charterer (if any) to correct any deficiencies in the REM system that are identified as a result of the remote inspection or system test trip. Examples of possible deficiencies might include positioning of cameras or needing additional cameras to capture everything which the technical specifications require the cameras to capture.

We recommend you complete this process in good time as you will not be permitted to fish in Scottish waters (or for Scottish boats, in any waters) from 7 March 2026 until these steps are complete.

This section also applies if at any point you replace your REM system or a component of your system (identified below). Again, engaging with the FDF unit early will help to minimise any operational delays.

2.3 What happens if I replace my REM system?

If you replace any part of your REM system control box, winch sensors or cameras at any point, you must follow the steps outlined in the section above and arrange for a system test trip to be carried out. You may not fish in Scottish waters (or for Scottish boats, in any waters) until the steps outlined are complete.

2.4 Technical specifications

The technical specifications that the REM system must meet are set out at **Annex B**.

The Scottish Government reserves the right to amend the technical specifications periodically. We do not anticipate that changes to the technical specifications will be

made on a regular basis. However, where a change is considered necessary, it will be subject to appropriate consultation with relevant pelagic boats and will have a sufficient implementation period prior to the changes taking effect. For example, the technical specifications currently require that all REM cameras onboard pelagic vessels are capable of recording video at a minimum rate of 30 frames per second. In future we anticipate that it may be possible for some cameras to reduce this minimum frame rate. Subject to appropriate consultation, such a change could help to reduce the volume of REM data gathered.

2.5 System Diagnostic Checks

It is important that regular checks are undertaken to ensure that the REM system installed onboard a relevant pelagic boat continues to be compliant.

The master, owner and charterer (if any) must ensure that the REM system installed on board the relevant pelagic boat is fully functional for the duration of the fishing trip.

To assist with this, we recommend that a system diagnostic check is carried out prior to:

- a relevant pelagic boat leaving port;
- a relevant pelagic boat entering Scottish waters (this applies to non-Scottish boats only);
- a relevant pelagic boat commencing each fishing operation.

Your system provider will be able to demonstrate how to carry out a system check and discuss the diagnostics undertaken.

Please note that, whilst not a requirement in the technical specifications published in accordance with the REM legislation, other jurisdictions may require system diagnostics and remote access for configuration of REM systems to be made available. We recommend that vessels undertake appropriate investigations to determine what requirements for REM systems might apply elsewhere.

3. Dealing with Faults

There are clear processes that must be followed in the event of a fault occurring with a REM system.

An offence may be committed if the relevant processes are not followed.

3.1 REM fault on a Scottish boat detected in port

If a fault with the REM system is detected while the boat is in port this must be rectified before fishing activity is commenced. Once the repairs are complete you should contact the FDF Unit who will check that the REM system is functioning to their satisfaction. It is only when the system is functioning to the satisfaction of the FDF Unit that you may leave port for the purpose of undertaking a fishing trip.

Scottish boats may transit with a non-functioning REM system, for example for the purposes of returning to your home port to get the system fixed, providing that no fishing activity takes place.

3.2 REM fault onboard a non-Scottish boat detected in a Scottish port or before entering Scottish waters

For non-Scottish boats, any fault detected while the boat is in a Scottish port or before entering Scottish waters must be rectified before a fishing trip in Scottish waters can be commenced. Once the repairs are complete you should contact the FDF Unit who will check that the REM system is functioning to their satisfaction. The fault may be rectified in port or at sea (the nature of the fault will likely determine where the fault is dealt with). You must not commence any fishing activity in Scottish waters without a fully functioning REM system. It is only when the system is functioning to the satisfaction of the FDF Unit that you may fish in Scottish waters.

For non-Scottish boats you may transit through Scottish waters with a non-functioning REM system, for example for the purposes of returning to your home port to get the system fixed, providing that no fishing activity takes place in Scottish waters.

3.3 Technical faults at sea

It is important that the correct steps are followed in the event of a fault occurring to prevent an offence from being committed. Any faults detected while the boat is at sea should be notified immediately to the FDF Unit.

In general terms if you detect a fault in your REM system at sea you may continue fishing activity, providing that you notify the FDF Unit at the point of detection.

If you were unable to resolve the fault during the fishing trip, you **must** rectify the fault when you return to port. Further, the FDF unit must undertake a remote inspection and have confirmed that the REM system is working to their satisfaction before any further fishing voyages are undertaken in Scottish waters (or for relevant Scottish pelagic boats, any further fishing voyages in any waters).

If you experience a **technical failure on your subsequent voyage** this is the procedure that must be followed:

Scottish Boats

You must stop all fishing operations, haul the net and process the fish. You must ensure that no slipping or illegal discarding of catch takes place and ensure appropriate steps are taken to ensure the safety of your boat.

If you cannot rectify the fault at sea and complete a remote inspection to the written satisfaction of the FDF Unit you must return to port. If you return to port, you **must** rectify the fault and the FDF unit must undertake a remote inspection and have confirmed that the REM system is working to their satisfaction before any further fishing voyages are undertaken. You may transit with a non -functioning REM

system, for example for the purposes of returning to your home port to get the system fixed, providing that no fishing activity takes place.

Non-Scottish Boats

You must stop all fishing operations, haul the net and process the fish. You must ensure that no slipping or illegal discarding of catch takes place and ensure appropriate steps are taken to ensure the safety of your boat.

If you cannot rectify the fault at sea and complete a remote inspection to the written satisfaction of the FDF Unit you must return to a Scottish port or leave Scottish waters in order to fish. You may not leave that Scottish port or re-enter Scottish waters for the purposes of a fishing voyage without having undergone a remote inspection and having received confirmation from the FDF Unit that the REM system is working to their satisfaction.

4. Data

The master, owner or charterer (if any) of a relevant pelagic boat is responsible for ensuring the data requirements, as set out in the legislation and technical specifications, are met. There are various offences associated with failure to comply with the data requirements – these are set out under the relevant section of this guidance.

You should work with the supplier of your REM system to ensure that you understand how the data is to be transferred and stored, and to ensure that the system you use is compliant with the requirements.

4.1 Winch and VPS data

The REM system must automatically transmit data from the winch sensors and VPS device in a secure manner at least once in every 24-hour period. For non-Scottish boats, this requirement applies to fishing activities in Scottish waters. For Scottish boats, this requirement applies regardless of where they are fishing.

In accordance with the technical specifications at **Annex B** you need to ensure that winch and VPS data is transmitted to a data storage system, for example a storage system provided by your REM system provider.

Data must be kept for 1 year and made available to Scottish Ministers on request. In some circumstances Scottish Ministers may serve the master, owner and / or charterer (if any) with a written notice which exempts specified data from this, or other duties.

The data transfer must take place in a secure manner, to ensure that the recorded data cannot be altered in any way after the data are recorded.

4.2 Camera data

Camera data can be large in volume, which means that data transmission and storage considerations have been taken into account as part of the operational requirements. Masters, owners and charterers (if any) can choose their preferred method of data transmission depending on their business requirements. Data transmission of camera data must be automatic but can either take place at sea, in port, or a combination of the two. We recommend speaking to your REM system supplier to determine which method is right for you. Costs will vary depending on the method you use.

For those boats with a quick turnaround in port, or with large amounts of data to transmit (e.g. freezer boats whose trip length may be longer than other pelagic boats) it may be preferable to transmit data, or start the data transmission, whilst still at sea.

As with the winch and VPS data, camera data must be transmitted to a data storage system owned, operated or hosted by or on behalf of the manufacturer of your REM system (i.e. a data 'cloud'). Once transmitted, you should ensure that the data is stored for one year from the date of capture or the date automatic transmission was completed, whichever is the latest, and made accessible to the Scottish Ministers on request during that period. Data must be stored during this period unless instructed by the Scottish Government that it may be deleted.

The data transfer must take place in a secure manner, to ensure that the recorded data cannot be altered in any way after the data are recorded.

4.3 Mandatory timescales for camera data transfer

Camera data transfer to the storage system for each fishing trip must be completed automatically no later than 5 working days after a boat returns to port or at the point that the next fishing trip starts, whichever is earlier. For non-Scottish boats operating in Scottish waters, it is possible for fishing activity to continue after leaving Scottish waters, as long as the data is transmitted in accordance with the regulations, and as long as the transmission of that data recorded in Scottish waters is completed within 5 working days of the boat returning to port or prior to re-entering Scottish waters.

4.4 Costs and Access Requirements

All costs relating to the transmission and storing of data must be met by the boat owner or charterer (if any). Officials operating on behalf of the Scottish Ministers must be able to, at any time, and without cost, access the recorded data, extract the recorded data and review the recorded data using your REM providers software so that the data can be analysed appropriately.

The technical specifications published in accordance with the REM legislation require REM systems that are capable of allowing a British sea-fishery officer, from a

position inside the wheelhouse of the pelagic boat, to extract data from the REM control or storage box. We anticipate that the method for data extraction in Scotland would likely be a pen drive. However, this requirement may vary across other jurisdictions where Scottish Ministers do not have responsibility and, to help facilitate interoperability, we recommend that your REM system is capable of uploading a portion of data (including camera data) to a third party system on request.

Scottish Government officials reserve the right to download data to their own corporate systems for further analysis. Such data is held in accordance with the published privacy notice [<https://www.gov.scot/publications/remote-electronic-monitoring-privacy-notice/>].

4.5 Exemption notices

In exceptional circumstances the Scottish Government may authorise an exemption to these data transmission and retention requirements at any time, if they are satisfied that there is reasonable cause to do so. This will be in the form of a written notice.

Conditions may be specified as part of this written notice and an offence may be committed if these are not met.

4.6 Ad hoc data transmission requests

Scottish Ministers may at times require access to specific data within a short time period, otherwise called a 'data transmission request'. Notwithstanding the data transmission requirements set out in the regulations, at any time an ad hoc data transmission request may be served on the master, owner or charterer (if any). Data transmission requests will be proportionate and we anticipate will be used infrequently.

Data transmission requests will be made in writing and will be used for the purpose of requesting that REM data in relation to a fishing trip be immediately transmitted to a data storage system owned, operated or hosted by or on behalf of the manufacturer of the REM system (i.e. a data 'cloud').

If a data transmission is served then the master, the owner and the charterer (if any) must:

- Transmit all the requested data securely and in a manner which ensures that the data cannot be altered in any way after they are recorded by the REM system (i.e. that data should be encrypted).
- Transfer the relevant data to the data storage system (i.e. the cloud) identified in the request within a period of 72 hours beginning with the time at which the notice is received.
- It is likely that the transfer of data will need to be carried out at sea, or else the boat may return to port to complete the data transmission, providing that this is within the allotted timescale.

A data transmission request can only be made to non-Scottish pelagic boats when they are located within the Scottish zone or to Scottish registered pelagic boats wherever they may be fishing. Scottish Ministers may not serve a data transmission request to non-Scottish pelagic boats when they are located out-with the Scottish zone.

Please note that whilst Scottish Ministers do not currently intend to use remote access to retrieve REM data it may be a requirement elsewhere in areas where Scottish Ministers do not have responsibility and the capability of remote access is included as part of the Scottish Government's pelagic technical specifications as a way of helping to facilitate future interoperability.

5. Offences and Penalties

REM legislation introduces a number of offences and penalties that you should be aware of.

The relevant offences and penalties will become enforceable on 7 March 2026 (following the lead-in time for pelagic boats to comply with the legislation).

5.1 REM – Penalties

British sea fishery officers (BSFOs) in the Scottish Government monitor and enforce marine and sea fishing laws in Scottish waters and report, as appropriate, to the Scottish prosecuting authorities.

In the event that any of the offences outlined below are committed the master, owner or charterer (if any) will each be considered to have committed an offence, unless specified otherwise. Furthermore, where an offence is committed by a company this may result in an offence being committed by a director or other officer of that company.

Where on summary conviction the master, owner or charterer (if any) is found to have committed an offence the penalty is a fine not exceeding £50,000. In circumstances where the master, owner or charterer (if any) is found to have committed an offence on conviction on indictment, the penalty is an unlimited fine.

In either case, the court may also order forfeiture of any fish in respect of which the offence was committed and of any net or other fishing gear used in committing the offence. Furthermore, an additional fine, not exceeding the value of the fish, may be imposed on summary conviction.

Alternatively, and depending on the severity of any infringement, officers may offer a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) to the master, owner, or charterer (if any). The levels of FPN range from £500 up to a maximum of £10,000. Further guidance is available at [Marine compliance: fixed penalty notices – gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot).

5.2 REM - Offences

Issue: Offences arising from the requirement to have a fully functioning REM system installed onboard:

Applies to:	Offence:
The master, owner and the charterer (if any) of a relevant pelagic boat each commit an offence if any of these duties and prohibitions	It is an offence to not ensure that an REM system which complies with the technical specifications specified by the Scottish Ministers is installed on board any relevant boat.

<p>are contravened (“contravene” includes a failure to take a required action to comply with a duty)</p>	<p>It is an offence to not ensure that the REM system installed on board a relevant pelagic boat is fully functional for the duration of any fishing trip.</p> <p>This offence is subject to specified exceptions, for example, in the event that an REM system malfunctions during a fishing trip and the duties/procedures set out are fully complied with or where a fishing trip is carried out with the prior written consent of the Scottish Ministers for the purpose of testing the functionality of a REM system.</p>
	<p>It is an offence to not ensure the REM system undergoes a remote inspection prior to the first fishing trip being undertaken following the first installation or replacement of an REM system.</p>
	<p>It is an offence to not undertake a system test trip under the remote supervision of the Scottish Ministers for the purpose of assessing whether the REM system is fully functioning to the satisfaction of the Scottish Ministers.</p>
<p>The owner and the charterer (if any) of a relevant pelagic boat each commit an offence if this duty is contravened</p>	<p>It is an offence to not pay in full any costs, charges and fees arising from or in connection with arranging and maintaining access for the Scottish Ministers to the data storage system and the companion software to the REM system.</p>

Issue: offences relating to the collection and transfer of REM data

Applies to:	Offence:
<p>The master, owner and the charterer (if any) of a relevant pelagic boat each commit an offence if any of these duties and prohibitions are contravened (“contravene” includes a failure to take a required</p>	<p>It is an offence to not take all reasonable steps to arrange and maintain access for the Scottish Ministers to the data storage system owned, operated or hosted by or on behalf of the manufacturer of the REM system and the companion software to the REM system.</p>
	<p>It is an offence to not take all reasonable steps to ensure that REM data recorded in relation to a fishing trip is retained for 1 year and to not make the data available to Scottish Ministers on request during the 1 year period.</p>

<p>action to comply with a duty)</p>	<p>It is an offence to not submit required information (e.g. the validation form) to the Scottish Ministers in certain circumstances.</p> <p>The relevant circumstances include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • after the first installation of an REM system; • after the replacement of an REM system; and <p>following any changes to the information already provided on a validation form within 7 working days (this 7 working day period runs from the day after the change occurs).</p> <hr/> <p>It is an offence to not comply with a specific data transmission request notice made by Scottish Ministers for raw REM data to be transmitted within 72 hours of the request being received (this applies to the pelagic provisions only).</p>
<p>Any person that tampers with the REM system, along with the master, owner and the charterer (if any) of a relevant pelagic boat each commit an offence if this duty is contravened</p>	<p>If any person tampers or interferes with the REM system (except to repair, clean or replace the system) or with the recorded REM data, that person, along with the master, the owner and the charterer (if any) each commit an offence.</p>

Issue: offences arising from technical failure or malfunctioning or the onboard REM system

Applies to:	Offence:
<p>The master, owner and the charterer (if any) of a relevant pelagic boat each commit an offence if any of these duties and prohibitions are contravened (“contravene” includes a failure to take a required action to comply</p>	<p>Where, following a system test trip, the REM system is not fully functioning to the satisfaction of the Scottish Ministers, it is an offence to undertake any further fishing trip unless the Scottish Ministers have given their prior written consent to that fishing trip.</p> <hr/> <p>Where an REM system fails or malfunctions before the start of a fishing trip, it is an offence for a Scottish pelagic boat to leave any port for the purpose of undertaking a pelagic fishing trip until the REM system is fully functioning to the satisfaction of the Scottish Ministers.</p> <p>Where an REM system fails or malfunctions before the start of a fishing trip, it is an offence for a non-Scottish pelagic boat to leave a</p>

with a duty)	port in Scotland or enter the Scottish zone for the purpose of undertaking a pelagic fishing trip until the REM system is fully functioning to the satisfaction of the Scottish Ministers.
	It is an offence for the master or their representative to fail to notify the Scottish Ministers of an REM system malfunction / technical failure during a fishing trip, immediately after it is detected.
	Following the end of a fishing trip during which an REM malfunction / technical failure occurred, it is an offence for a Scottish pelagic boat to leave any port for the purpose of undertaking their next pelagic fishing trip until the REM system has undergone a remote inspection is fully functioning to the satisfaction of the Scottish Ministers. Following the end of a fishing trip during which an REM malfunction / technical failure occurred, it is an offence for a non-Scottish pelagic boat to leave a port in Scotland or enter the Scottish zone for the purpose of undertaking their next pelagic fishing trip until the REM system has undergone a remote inspection is fully functioning to the satisfaction of the Scottish Ministers.
	If the REM system fails / malfunctions on two consecutive fishing trips , it is an offence to not cease fishing activity on the second voyage immediately after the failure/malfunction is notified to the Scottish Ministers.

5.3 Prohibitions on interfering with REM systems

The master, owner and charterer (if any) should ensure that all persons working onboard a relevant pelagic fishing boat and all persons with access to the REM system are made aware that it is an offence to:

- Alter the data or the transmission of the data recorded by the REM system.
- Obstruct or the block the view of the digital cameras or the functioning of the winch sensors.
- Interrupt the power supply to the REM system (unless than for the purpose of repairing or replacing that system).
- Remove the REM system, unless the system requires repairs or replacement.

- Destroy, damage or interfere in anyway with the REM system, unless the system requires repairs or replacement.
- Communicate any false geographical position.

6. Annexes

6.1 Annex A

REM Validation Survey Form

Owner or nominee to complete section 1 to 7 and return to FDF unit. A mutually agreed date & time will be arranged by both parties for the REM check (system test trip) to be facilitated remotely by the FDF unit.

Scottish Pelagic REM Validation Survey		
Please provide information below & return completed form to FDF@gov.scot		
Date		
1. Vessel Information		
Vessel name		
PLN		
RSS		
Usual home port of vessel		
Vessel Length (meters)		
Gross Registered Tonnage		
Pump Manufacturer		
Pump Model		
Maximum Pump Rate (tonnes/minute) for; (a) Herring (b) Mackerel (c) Blue Whiting		
2. Owner Details		
Name		
Owner Business Address		
Email Address		

Telephone Number	
3. Contact Details of the nominated person who will liaise with MS to facilitate REM Remote check.	
* nominated person will usually be the Master of the vessel.	
Name of Contact and Relationship to Vessel	
Email Address	
Telephone Number	
4. REM System	
Date of Installation	
Provider Name	
System Model	
Hardware id or serial number of system	
Data Capture Platform details	
How many Cameras installed	
How many Winch Sensors installed (inc. hardware)	
Any other sensor inputs (beyond GPS, Speed, Winch, cameras)	
Name of Port where vessel will be located during the Survey.	

5. Details of next fishing trip. *This is required by FDF in order to be complete Remote REM check.	
Date the vessel is expected to be next fishing.	
Target Species	
Fishing Grounds	

Fishing Method	
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6. Additional info & any comments

7. Camera Positions- Please indicate below approximate location of cameras and coverage . (e.g. camera #1 “PORT SIDE” on wheelhouse roof covering port side)			
Camera	Manufacturer, Model, Resolution & Frames Per Second	Location & Description	Still image of field of view at time of validation form submission
Camera # 1 <i>(insert name on system)</i>			
Camera # 2 <i>(insert name on system)</i>			
Camera # 3 <i>(insert name on system)</i>			
Camera # 4 <i>(insert name on system)</i>			
Camera # 5 <i>(insert name</i>			

<i>on system)</i>			
Camera # 6 <i>(insert name on system)</i>			
Camera # 7 <i>(insert name on system)</i>			
Camera # 8 <i>(insert name on system)</i>			
Camera # 9 <i>(insert name on system)</i>			
Camera # 10 <i>(insert name on system)</i>			

Winch Sensor * Inform the representative that the winch sensors will be tested at the first available opportunity the vessel fishes in Scottish waters.

How many net drums		
Sensor	Type (e.g. hydraulic, proximity), Manufacturer, Model	Location and description
Sensor #1		
Sensor #2		

8. DECLARATION

I confirm that the information contained in this application is true to the best of my knowledge and that I undertake to notify Marine Scotland in advance of any changes.

Data Protection Act 1998: The Scottish Government undertakes to comply with the data protection principles in all matters relating to the processing and storing of personal information.

Signed	
Name	
Date	

Please now return this form to FDF@gov.scot along with photographs of the installation locations of winch sensors and a **vessel diagram** featuring the layout and location of all REM system components. The diagram shall illustrate the work deck during fishing activity including any tanks, separators, designated discard control points, and mechanical equipment. The items can be on singular or separate diagrams.

Marine Scotland Official Use Only	
Date form received by FDF	

6.2 Annex B

Technical specifications for remote electronic monitoring (“REM”) systems for pelagic boats specified pursuant to regulation 16(1) of the Sea Fisheries (Remote Electronic Monitoring and Regulation of Scallop Fishing) (Scotland) Regulations 2024

1. In exercise of Scottish Ministers’ powers at regulation 16(1) of the Sea Fisheries (Remote Electronic Monitoring and Regulation of Scallop Fishing) (Scotland) Regulations 2024 (SSI 2024/No.165) (“the Regulations”) and for the purposes of Part 3 of the Regulations, the technical specifications for REM systems for relevant pelagic boats are that an REM system must include:—
 - (1) a control box or storage box which is capable of—
 - (a) housing and storing software; and
 - (b) housing and storing, until the time at which automatic transmission is successfully completed in accordance with paragraphs 1.(8) and 1.(9), recorded data consisting of—
 - (i) video recordings from digital cameras;
 - (ii) recorded data from winch sensors; and
 - (iii) recorded data from a vessel positioning system device;
 - (2) a sufficient number of digital cameras positioned so as to comply with the requirements of paragraph 2, each of which—
 - (a) automatically begins recording video at the time of the first activation of a winch sensor during the first relevant pelagic fishing operation of the fishing trip;
 - (b) is capable of recording video at a minimum rate of 30 frames per second;
 - (c) produces video recordings with a minimum of 2 mega pixels per frame, with a minimum horizontal resolution of 1920 pixels per frame and a minimum vertical resolution of 1080 pixels per frame;
 - (d) has infra-red capability which is automatically enabled and is therefore capable of recording video in low light conditions; and
 - (e) has a minimum IP Rating of IP66;
 - (3) winch sensors which are—
 - (a) connected to the winches by which fishing gear is deployed;
 - (b) activated when the winches are operated; and
 - (c) capable of detecting the operation of the winches to which they are connected for the duration of the movement of the winches.
 - (4) a vessel positioning system device which automatically stores in the control box or storage box, at intervals of at least once every 10 seconds, the following information:—
 - (a) the pelagic boat’s unique identifier;

- (b) the most recent geographical position of the pelagic boat using co-ordinates of latitude and longitude on the World Geodetic System 1984 Reference System (WGS 84)⁽⁷⁾ and with a position error of less than 10 metres;
 - (c) the date and time of the fixing of each geographical position of the pelagic boat expressed in Co-ordinated Universal Time;
 - (d) the speed and course of the pelagic boat at that time; and
 - (e) the estimated accuracy of the fixing of each geographical position of the pelagic boat;
- (5) a means of enabling the master to view the recorded data in real time on board the pelagic boat on which the system is installed, for example, a monitor within the wheelhouse;
- (6) a means of allowing a British sea-fishery officer, from a position inside the wheelhouse of the pelagic boat, to extract data held in the control box or storage box;
- (7) the capability of enabling remote access to the REM system;
- (8) a means of automatically transmitting the recorded winch sensor data and vessel positioning system device data from the REM system to any data storage system owned, operated or hosted by or on behalf of the manufacturer of the REM system—
- (a) at least once in a 24 hour period; and
 - (b) in a manner which ensures that the recorded data—
 - (i) cannot be altered in any way after the data are recorded by the REM system; and
 - (ii) are transmitted in a secure manner;
- (9) subject to regulation 16(2) of the Regulations, a means of automatically transmitting the video recordings made by the digital cameras from the REM system to any data storage system owned, operated or hosted by or on behalf of the manufacturer of the REM system—
- (a) no later than the automatic data transmission deadline (see section 3 below); and
 - (b) in a manner which ensures that the recorded data—
 - (i) cannot be altered in any way after the data are recorded by the REM system; and
 - (ii) are transmitted in a secure manner; and
- (10) a means of enabling the Scottish Ministers at any time, without cost to the Scottish Ministers, to—
- (a) access the recorded data on the data storage system;

⁽⁷⁾ The World Geodetic System 1984 Reference System (WGS 84) is maintained by the United States National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency. This Reference System refers to the 1984 revision of the World Geodetic System and subsequent modifications. The authoritative definition of the World Geodetic System 1984 Reference System (WGS 84) is contained in the United States National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency Standardisation Document NGA.STND.0036_1.0.0_WGS84, Version 1.0.0 of 8th July 2014 entitled "Department of Defense World Geodetic System 1984: Its Definition and Relationships with Local Geodetic Systems" (<https://nsgreg.nga.mil/doc/view?i=4085>).

- (b) extract the recorded data from the data storage system; and
- (c) review the recorded data using the companion software to the REM system.

2. For the purposes of paragraph 1.(2), the requirements in relation to digital cameras are that the REM system must include—

(1) digital cameras located at each of the port side, the starboard side and the stern of the pelagic boat—

- (a) whose combined field of view captures all fishing activity, including the deployment and retrieval of any nets and any use of the pump; and
- (b) with a minimum of 1 digital camera located at each of the port side, the starboard side and the stern;

(2) digital cameras located in the area of the pelagic boat containing the separator grid—

- (a) whose combined field of view captures the passing of fish over the separator grid; and
- (b) with a minimum of 1 digital camera;

(3) where freezing or other processing of fish is carried out on board a pelagic boat, digital cameras—

- (a) whose combined field of view captures the journey of the catch from the buffer tanks, through the grading stage to any freezing activity; and
- (b) with a minimum of 1 digital camera;

(4) digital cameras located in the pump control room—

- (a) capturing continuous information of tank capacities and usage on the display screens for any chilled or refrigerated sea water system; unless this information is fed to the REM system via a mirrored feed of the display screen or direct integration of sensors with the data source; and
- (b) with a minimum of 1 digital camera;

(5) digital cameras—

- (a) located in the area of the pelagic boat which is designated for the purpose of discarding any marine animals brought on board the pelagic boat as a result of any fishing activity, in any information and documentation submitted to the Scottish Ministers in accordance with regulation 14 or regulation 19 of the Regulations;
- (b) whose combined field of view captures all activity in that designated area relating to the discarding of such marine animals; and
- (c) with a minimum of 1 digital camera;

(6) digital cameras—

- (a) positioned so that, where catch is pumped on board the pelagic boat from a fishing net, their combined field of view captures the cod-end of the fishing net so that any in-water releases of any marine animals, whether living or dead, which occur from the time that the catch begins to be pumped on board until the time at which the fishing net is empty, are visible in that combined field of view;

- (b) with a minimum of 1 digital camera; and
- (c) the capability to introduce additional cameras to any area of the pelagic boat not currently covered in these technical specifications.

3. For the purposes of these technical specifications, the following definitions apply:-

“automatic data transmission deadline” for video recordings means—

- (a) for a Scottish pelagic boat, whichever is the earlier of—
 - (i) the end of the period of 5 working days beginning with the time at which a fishing trip ends in accordance with regulation 13(a) of the Regulations, or
 - (ii) the time immediately before the Scottish pelagic boat starts the first fishing trip following the fishing trip in relation to which the video recordings were recorded,
- (b) For a non-Scottish registered pelagic boat which has undertaken a fishing trip which ended at the time that the pelagic boat arrived in a port in Scotland in accordance with regulation 13(b)(ii)(aa) of the Regulations, whichever is the earlier of—
 - (i) the end of the period of 5 working days beginning with the time at which the pelagic boat arrived at the port in Scotland, or
 - (ii) the time immediately before the pelagic boat starts the first fishing trip following the fishing trip in relation to which the video recordings were recorded,
- (c) For a non-Scottish registered pelagic boat which has undertaken a fishing trip which ended at the moment when the pelagic boat left the Scottish zone in accordance with regulation 13(b)(ii)(bb) of the Regulations, whichever is the earlier of—
 - (i) the end of the period of 5 working days beginning with the time at which the pelagic boat first arrived at a port after leaving the Scottish zone, or
 - (ii) the time immediately before the pelagic boat starts the first fishing trip following the fishing trip in relation to which the video recordings were recorded;

“British sea-fishery officer” means any person who by virtue of section 7 of the Sea Fisheries Act 1968 is a British sea-fishery officer;

“buffer tank” means any tank on board a pelagic boat which is used to hold fish prior to processing or discharging of catch;

“cod-end” means the rearmost part of a trawl net, of net of the same mesh size, having either a cylindrical or a tapering shape, whose transversal cross-sections are nearly a circle of the same or decreasing radius respectively;

“companion software to the REM system” means any software provided by or on behalf of the manufacturer of an REM system which is capable of synchronising the winch sensor, vessel positioning system device and video recording data outputs from the REM system along a single timeline and of displaying the data in an integrated interface, including in the form of graphs, maps and videos;

“grading” means separating and sorting fish according to size or weight;

“IP rating” means ingress protection rating as defined in international standard IEC 60529, setting out degrees of protection by enclosures against harmful ingress of water⁽⁸⁾;

“separator grid” means a mechanism used to remove excess sea water from fish before they are stored in a tank forming part of a chilled sea water system or refrigerated sea water system.

[31 January 2025]

⁽⁸⁾ Edition 2.2: International Electrotechnical Commission, 2013.



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