

Southeast For-Hire Electronic Reporting Program



Program Update



Beginning January 4, 2021: Charter/Headboat vessel owner/operators will need to submit an electronic report for each fishing trip.



- **South Atlantic:** Fishermen with South Atlantic or Atlantic federal charter/head-boat permits for Snapper-Grouper, Coastal Migratory Pelagics, or Dolphin and Wahoo will need to:
 - Submit reports weekly, no later than Tuesday of the following week.



- **Gulf of Mexico:** Fishermen with Gulf of Mexico federal charter/headboat permits for reef fish or Coastal Migratory Pelagics will need to:
 - Submit reports for each trip before offloading fish.
 - Complete a hail-out each time the vessel leaves the dock.
 - Gulf permit holders will also need to have a position reporting device permanently affixed to the vessel. However, this will not be required until later in 2021.

Outreach Requirements

NOAA Fisheries and Gulf and South Atlantic Council Staff are working collaboratively to outreach the requirements.

Outreach aims to inform all permit holders who must participate in program about relevant information:

- Timeline
 - Who needs to report
 - What needs to be reported
 - When and how the information must be reported
- Program progress
 - Future Data Use



Completed Outreach Efforts

South Atlantic:

- In-person workshops in each state to explain program, field questions and receive feedback
- Regular updates to permit holders in Council's email database

Gulf of Mexico

- In-person workshops in each state to explain program, field questions and receive feedback
- Regular program updates by mail-out to permit holders and to email database



Current Outreach Efforts

Outreach goal: **To continue to engage for-hire vessel owner/operators to:**

- Inform of program progress
- Maintain an open line of communication for questions and feedback to ensure successful participation and improve the program

Outreach goal: **Work with state and federal partners to:**

- Inform permit holders
- Collaborate to reduce reporting burdens and enhance partnerships among agencies



Current Outreach Efforts

- Informational tool-kit
 - Tailored to SA and Gulf permit holders
 - Letter
 - Tiered step-sheets on who, what when, how
 - Swag – Stickers with contact information, tally sheets
- Instructional videos



Future Outreach Efforts

Who are all the target audiences?

- Permit holders
 - May not be the same as vessel operator, crew
- State agencies
 - Good rapport with their charter fleet
 - Dockside samplers who will be conducting surveys
- Other?



Future Outreach Efforts

What is the best way to reach the target audience?

- Online: trainings, targeted webinars, Q&A sessions?
- In-Person:
 - What does it look like with COVID?
 - Workshops to answer questions, gain feedback, train users on software and hardware?
 - Walk the dock – Interact with vessel owners, operators, crew one-on-one to help answer questions about reporting and equipment?



Questions?