

Outline for a Socio-Economic Profile of Fisheries for Species Managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

Synopsis:

This report is being pursued as part of an effort to further extend the work completed for the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan and to provide comprehensive information on South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (Council) managed fisheries. At their December 2017 meeting, the Council directed staff to begin work on a socio-economic characterization of fisheries for Council-managed species. This report will include a description of fishing communities (demographics, engagement and reliance on fishing), fishing trends (effort, landings, fleet characteristics, seasonality of landings), competition from imported seafood, fishing infrastructure, and safety at sea. Council staff will provide an overview of the work plan, and timing for the project.

Chapters by FMP (Snapper Grouper, Coastal Migratory Pelagics, Dolphin Wahoo, Shrimp, Golden Crab, Spiny Lobster):

A. **Description of major fishing communities-** this section will include a qualitative description of major fishing communities in each state or region by fishery management plan. These descriptions will profile major industries as well as demographic information such as age structure, income, education. This section will also include information on social indicators such as engagement and reliance on commercial and recreational fishing for these communities as well as vulnerability and gentrification indices.

**The primary data sources for this section will be:*

-U.S. Census data, NMFS Social Indicators database, FMP content

B. **Fishing Trends** – The section on fishing trends will include information on effort, landings, permits, vessel characteristics, and seasonality of landings for both the commercial and recreational sectors where available.

1. Effort (total and by region)
 - i. Trips (commercial and angler trips)
 - a. Potential spatial analysis of commercial fishing effort (where available)
2. Landings (total and by region)
 - i. Weight
 - ii. Ex-vessel value and by gear for commercial landings
3. Vessel characteristics
 - i. age, length, horsepower, crew size, holding capacity, hull material, fuel type, use in for-hire fishing
4. SAFMC-related permits
 - i. For-hire and commercial
5. Seasonality
 - i. Monthly landings graph

Note: For snapper grouper landings, information will be provided for all species in the complex well as shallow water groupers, shallow water snappers, deep water species, jacks, “others”, and for assessed species individually.

**The primary data sources for this section will be:*

-SEFSC coastal logbook, ACCSP, MRIP, SERO Permits database, Fishery Performance Reports

C. Imports- Summarized information will be provided on the annual volume, value, and country of origin by product type (fresh or frozen) for foreign imports of species within an FMP.

**The primary data source for this section will be:*

-NMFS Foreign Trade Query

Discussion Question for the SEP:

- The intent of this report is to provide a “snap shot” of SAFMC managed fisheries. What sort of timeframe would be sufficient? Is the most recent 5 years sufficient?

Chapters by Region and by State (for the South Atlantic Region only):

A. Description of major fishing communities- See above for description. This section will only include states in the South Atlantic Region.

**The primary data sources for this section will be:*

-U.S. Census data, NMFS Social Indicators database, FMP content

B. Fishing Trends – The section on fishing trends will include information on effort, landings, permits, vessel characteristics, and seasonality of landings for both the commercial and recreational sectors where available.

1. Effort
 - i. Trips (commercial and angler trips)
 - a. Potential spatial analysis of commercial fishing effort (where available)
2. Landings (total and by region)
 - i. Weight
 - ii. Ex-vessel value and by gear for commercial landings
3. Vessel characteristics
 - i. age, length, horsepower, crew size, holding capacity, hull material, fuel type, use in for-hire fishing
4. SAFMC-related permits and recreational anglers
 - i. For-hire and commercial permits
 - ii. Number of anglers by state
5. Seasonality
 - i. Monthly landings graphs for all major species by FMP

Notes: ¹For snapper grouper landings, information will be provided for all species in the complex well as shallow water groupers, shallow water snappers, deep water species, jacks, “others”, and for assessed species individually.

²Information may be included outside the South Atlantic Region for Coastal Migratory Pelagics and Dolphin Wahoo.

**The primary data sources for this section will be:*

-SEFSC coastal logbook, ACCSP, MRIP, SERO Permits database, annual Fisheries of the US Report

C. Infrastructure -

1. Seafood Dealers

i. Location, trends in number of permits

- a. Potential spatial analysis overlaying dealer location with fishing vessel home port

The primary data source for this section will be:

- SERO Permits database

Discussion question for the SEP:

- Is there other readily available (i.e. no primary research required) data sources that could be used to show the distribution of fishing infrastructure?
- Is there other readily available information not included in the outline that could help better describe the social and economic characteristics of SAFMC managed fisheries?

D. Safety at Sea

1. Major safety related incidents at sea occurring on fishing vessels

The primary data source for this section will be:

- USCG Marine Information for Safety and Law Enforcement (MISLE) database, NIOSH Commercial Fishing Incident Database