

FINAL
Summary of the SAFMC Data Collection Committee Meeting
September 16, 2014
Charleston Marriott
Charleston, SC

Members:

Mel Bell, Chair
Michelle Duval
Wilson Laney

Jessica McCawley, Vice-Chair
Jack Cox
Roy Crabtree

The agenda was adopted, and the minutes of the June 2014 meeting were approved.

Joint Gulf & South Atlantic Council Generic Dealer Amendment

Phil Steele reported that the amendment was sent to NMFS for formal Secretarial review on 9/26/13. The notice of availability (NOA) published on 12/19/13 with comments due by 2/18/14. The proposed rule was published on 1/2/14 with comments due by 2/3/14. The final rule was published on 4/9/14 with regulations effective on 8/7/14. The Committee discussed the requirement to report all landings versus Federal species and whether penaeid shrimp are included. There was concern that more data are being required than was authorized by the Amendment.

Electronic Technology (Data Collection & Monitoring) Implementation Plan

Gregg Waugh stated that the Council's response was included in the briefing book as Attachment 2b. Phil Steele reported that the draft report is being prepared and will be sent to NMFS HQ on Monday (September 22nd). The Teams from each Council area (Gulf, South Atlantic, and Caribbean) will review and provide input. The final report will be presented to the Council at the December 1-5, 2014 meeting.

Status of Work in Northeast Related to Bycatch Reporting

Janon Ditton, MAFMC, reviewed the following two amendments:

1. Northeast Standard Bycatch Reporting Amendment Omnibus Amendment (SBRM) - reviews current bycatch data collection with respect to meeting a 30%CV goal, cost, etc.; provides a prioritized list of fisheries and a mechanism/process to allocate any funding for observers among fisheries but reaching some minimum level for each fishery; and requires an annual bycatch report with a 3-year review. The Councils approved the amendment in April and it the amendment is under review. It was clarified that this methodology applies to the commercial sector only.
2. Omnibus Industry Funding Amendment – this amendment is being developed to provide funding for additional observer trips.

The Committee discussed lessons that could be learned from the northeast and also discussed timing. The Council's current timing has scoping in early 2015 and then working on the details in 2016 after the SBRM amendment is approved and the Industry Funding Amendment is further along. This timing was discussed at the Executive/Finance Committee meeting and the Data

Collection Committee discussed this timing and agreed this was a reasonable approach. There was some discussion that perhaps the best approach would be a joint amendment with the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils.

Status of Implementation Plan for Commercial Logbook Electronic Reporting

Gregg Waugh reviewed the Council's guidance from June 2014 directing staff to work with ACCSP in developing a commercial logbook electronic data entry form with the SEFSC, SERO, and NOAA GC. Mike Cahall outlined their progress to date: they have received the data elements from the SEFSC and they have access to the permits data. From their side the technology is ready; integrating the data and making the data available for all users immediately is the challenge. Francine Karp, Contractor, presented the software developed in Rhode Island for the northeast. The system was developed with significant input from the headboat captains and they are very pleased with the ease of use. This system can be modified to allow commercial logbook data to be submitted electronically.

The Committee asked a number of questions and discussed the system. The consensus was to continue work with the goal of implementing this in January 2015.

Update on Commercial Logbook Pilot Study

Brett Pierce, SEFSC, updated the committee on the status of this project. Infrastructure and software changes should be completed by August 1, 2015.

Joint South Atlantic & Gulf Council Generic Charterboat Reporting Amendment

Mike Errigo, Council staff, reviewed the draft report. The final report will be available by the Council's December 2014 meeting. Gregg Waugh outlined the conclusions from the Gulf Council on the recommendations from the technical sub-committee. The Committee provided guidance to work on a joint amendment during 2014.

Motion

There were no motions.

Timing and Task Draft Motion

The following motion has been developed based on direction from the Committee:

MOTION: APPROVE THE TASKS AND TIMING AS PRESENTED:
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

1. Direct staff to assist in providing input on the draft Electronic Technology Implementation Plan.
2. Direct staff to continue working with ACCSP (Mike Cahall) on developing a commercial logbook electronic data entry form. Gregg Waugh will be the staff person; Andy Strelcheck will represent the NMFS SERO and Dave Gloeckner/Steve Turner will represent the SEFSC; Monica Smit-Brunello will represent NOAA GC. A status report will be presented to the Council in December 2014 with the goal of implementation in January 2015.

3. Direct staff to continue working on the charterboat logbook technical sub-committee to complete the report for the December 2014 meeting. A final report will be presented at the December 2014 meeting.
4. Directed staff to begin working on a joint charterboat logbook amendment with the Gulf Council.
5. Directed staff to conduct scoping on bycatch reporting in 2015.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my report.