

DRAFT
Summary of the SAFMC Data Collection Committee
December 5, 2012
Hilton Wilmington Riverside
Wilmington, NC

Members:

Michelle Duval, Chair
Jessica McCawley/Martha Bademan, Vice Chair
Steve Amick
Tom Burgess
Ben Hartig
Wilson Laney
Charlie Phillips
Tom Swatzel

The agenda was adopted, and the minutes of the September 2012 meeting were approved.

The committee received the following presentations:

- A. NMFS Presentation on Post-Stratification methodology used to arrive at recreational landings estimates (including whether the methodology has been reviewed and whether it is used in other regions) – Dr. Nick Farmer, SERO
- B. Results of Live Demonstration of the NMFS Quota Monitoring System for Council Staff – Gregg Waugh, Council Staff and Dr. Bonnie Ponwith, SEFSC Director

The Committee discussed the reports and requested that a letter be sent to NMFS HQ on behalf of the Council encouraging sufficient resources be provided to continue implementation of the quota monitoring systems and to highlight the importance of this program.

The committee received a status update on the Joint Gulf & South Atlantic Council Generic Dealer Amendment. The amendment was submitted for formal Secretarial review on October 30, 2012. A regulatory package is being prepared in the Regional Office. The following milestones for implementation were provided:

1. All reporting requirements (electronic, weekly, purchase, and/or no purchase form) – effective 30 days after publication of the final rule
2. Generic Dealer Permit – start issuing 30 days after publication of the final rule
3. Current Dealer Permit or New Generic Dealer Permit – required 4 months after publication of the final rule
4. Current Dealer Permit phased out with renewal on birth date

Council staff reviewed the Gulf Council motions and public comments received. The Committee then discussed the four actions in CE-BA 3 and split each action into a separate amendment as shown below.

The Committee approved the following motions:

The committee discussed the quota monitoring system and on behalf of the committee I move the following:

**MOTION#1: CHAIR WORK WITH COUNCIL CHAIR AND STAFF TO PREPARE AN APPROPRIATE LETTER TO NMFS HQ TO ENCOURAGE PROVISION OF ADEQUATE RESOURCES TO MAINTAIN THIS SYSTEM AND TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS SYSTEM
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE**

The committee discussed Action 1. For-hire reporting and the following motions were made:

MOTION: KEEP HEADBOAT REPORTING IN CEBA3
MOTION WITHDRAWN

**MOTION#2: MOVE ACTION 1 INTO A GENERIC AMENDMENT TO THE SNAPPER GROUPER, DOLPHIN WAHOO, AND COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGICS FMPS
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE**

The committee discussed Action 2. Commercial reporting and the following motions were made:

**MOTION #3: REMOVE ACTION 2 FROM CEBA3 AND WORK WITH THE GULF COUNCIL ON A JOINT AMENDMENT TO ADDRESS COMMERCIAL LOGBOOK ISSUES (ADDRESS COMPLIANCE WITH REPORTING TIME LINES, NO FISHING REPORTS, MANDATORY ELECTRONIC REPORTS WITH PROVISION FOR EXTREME EVENTS)
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE**

The committee discussed Action 3. Bycatch reporting and the following motions were made:

**MOTION #4: ACCEPT THE IPT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION 3
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE**

IPT Recommendations

The IPT (interagency planning and review team that compiles the documents and develops analyses) has recommended the Council consider the following changes to the language of Action 3 and the alternatives at their next meeting (September 2012):

- Change language of action to state: **Action 3. Amend the Snapper Grouper, Dolphin and Wahoo, Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources, and Golden Crab Fishery Management Plans to modify bycatch and discard reporting**
- Remove “adopt” from the language in Alternative 1 (No Action) and indicate these are the current requirements in place.
- Change the language of Alternative 2 to state: **Alternative 2.** Implement the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP) Release, Discard and Protected Species Module as the preferred methodology.
- Remove Alternative 3 from consideration. Include new Alternative 3 to state: **Alternative 3.** Implement aspects of ACCSP that are not currently being done.

The committee discussed Action 4. Commercial VMS and the following motions were made:

MOTION #5: MOVE THE VMS REQUIREMENT INTO A SEPARATE SNAPPER GROUPER AMENDMENT 30 AND BRING BACK TO THE COMMITTEE IN MARCH APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS OUR PREFERRED: Alternative 2. Require all commercial snapper grouper fishing vessels *with a Federal unlimited or trip-limited permit* to be equipped with VMS. The purchase, installation, and maintenance of VMS equipment must conform to the protocol established by NMFS in the Federal Register. Purchase of VMS equipment will be reimbursed by the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement *from the VMS* reimbursement account if funding is available. Installation, maintenance, and communication costs will be paid for or arranged by the permit holder.

WITHDRAWN

MOTION #6: ASK STAFF TO CRAFT A NEW ALTERNATIVE 3 WITH CONTINGENCY AND MAKE IT OUR PREFERRED:

Alternative 3. Require all commercial snapper grouper fishing vessels *with a Federal unlimited or trip-limited permit* to be equipped with VMS CONTINGENT UPON AVAILABLE FUNDING. The purchase, installation, and maintenance of VMS equipment must conform to the protocol established by NMFS in the Federal Register. Purchase of VMS equipment will be reimbursed by the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement *from the VMS* reimbursement account if funding is available. Installation, maintenance, and communication costs will be paid for or arranged by the permit holder.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION #7: ACCEPT THE IPT'S WORDING FOR ALTERNATIVE 2: Alternative 2. Require all commercial snapper grouper fishing vessels *with a Federal unlimited or trip-limited permit* to be equipped with VMS. The purchase, installation, and maintenance of VMS equipment must conform to the protocol established by NMFS in the Federal Register. Purchase of VMS equipment will be reimbursed by the NOAA Office of Law Enforcement *from the VMS* reimbursement account if funding is available. Installation, maintenance, and communication costs will be paid for or arranged by the permit holder.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Timing and Task Draft Motion

The following draft motion has been developed based on actions taken by the Committee:

DRAFT MOTION #8: APPROVE THE TASKS AND TIMING AS PRESENTED:

1. Send letter to NMFS HQ indicating support for quota monitoring system.
2. Move CE-BA 3, Action 1. For-hire Reporting into a separate Generic SAFMC Amendment.
3. Request the Gulf Council, at their February 2013 meeting, review and approve for formal review the new Generic SAFMC For-Hire Reporting Amendment; coordinate the Gulf Council's review and approval. SAFMC will approve for formal review at their March 4-8, 2013 meeting.
4. Coordinate work with the Gulf Council on a Generic Headboat Reporting Amendment during 2013.
5. Request the Gulf Council, at their February 2013 meeting, discuss working with the SAFMC on a new Generic SA/GM Generic Commercial Reporting Amendment; coordinate the Gulf Council's review and input.
6. Coordinate with the SEFSC on removal of several reporting items on the commercial logbook form.
7. Make the modifications to CE-BA Action 3. Bycatch reporting and bring CE-BA 3 that only includes one action (bycatch) back for final approval at the SAFMC March 2013 meeting. Directed staff to add information from Shrimp Amendment 6, additional cost information, and any relevant information on bycatch data collection from the NEFSC.
8. Move CE-BA 3, Action 4. VMS to a separate Snapper Grouper Amendment 30 and bring to the Council in March 2013 for approval for public hearings. Public hearings would be held in April or May and final action would be considered at the June 2013 SAFMC meeting. Directed staff to include all additional benefits from VMS and information from the Gulf Council's amendments related to VMS; also to correct the Snapper Grouper AP's position on requiring VMS.
9. Directed staff to keep the Council informed of progress on the Gulf Council's Generic Amendment addressing Charter Reporting

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my report.