

**Data Collection Committee Report with Council Motions  
April 17, 2013  
Courtyard Marriott Gulfport Beachfront  
Gulfport, Mississippi**

**Committee members (present):**

Harlon Pearce, Chair  
Kevin Anson, V. Chair  
Roy Crabtree  
Pamella Dana  
John Greene  
Camp Matens  
Robin Riechers  
John Sanchez  
Martha Bademan

The agenda and minutes of the February 7, 2013 Data Collection Committee were adopted as written.

**Headboat reporting**

Dr. Froeschke reviewed the Draft Framework Action to the Fishery Management Plans for Headboat Reporting Requirements. This document considers changes to the frequency of headboat reporting requirements. At the February 2013 meeting, the Council selected **Preferred Alternative 4: Require that selected headboat vessels submit fishing records to the SRD weekly or at intervals shorter than a week if notified by the SRD via electronic reporting (i.e., computer or internet). Weekly = seven days after the end of each week (Sunday).** The committee discussed this action and made no further recommendation. Final action for this document will be considered at the June 2013 Council meeting.

**Status Update on Modifications to the Federally-Permitted Seafood Dealer Reporting.**

The Councils submitted the amendment to NMFS on October 30, 2012. The amendment stated that currently all dealers are required by the states to report electronically. However, the description of the current dealer reporting requirements was only partially accurate. Currently, all states in the Southeast, except South Carolina, allow dealers to report either electronically or via paper methods, though none require electronic reporting. South Carolina allows electronic reporting but requires paper reporting. As a result, any South Carolina dealer that reports electronically to satisfy federal requirements also has to submit paper reports to satisfy South Carolina state reporting requirements. The document has been revised to accurately reflect the current dealer reporting requirement and the potential impacts. This document has been modified to reflect these changes. After discussion, **the committee recommends, and I so move to submit the Modifications to the Federally-Permitted Seafood Dealer Reporting Requirements to the Secretary of Commerce and deem the regulations necessary and appropriate.**

### **Ad Hoc Private Recreational Data Collection Meeting Summary**

Dr. Froeschke reviewed the summary and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Private Recreational Data Collection AP meeting held February 26, 2013. The committee discussed the Advisory Panel's recommendations to implement a private recreational boat permit system to improve data collection. The Advisory Panel also recommended the requirement of daily permits for the daily bag limit for the private recreational boat owner to be issued for Red Snapper. The committee discussed these motions at length. Dr. Crabtree asked how these programs would work with with the regional management program that is currently being considered as this program would delegate management to the states. He also questioned how Texas' data collection program would be affected by the programs recommended by the AP. Mr. Riechers questioned if these programs would generate duplicative information. Dr. Ponwith suggested that the vessel permit and the red snapper daily snapper permits be considered separately. The committee recognized that several issues would need further clarification and suggested developing a document to evaluate these tradeoffs. **The committee recommends, and I so move to develop a plan amendment for implementation of a red snapper quota monitoring system for private recreational anglers.**

### **Final Report from the For-hire Pilot Program**

Dr. Colvin and Mr. Donaldson reviewed the key findings of the MRIP for-hire electronic reporting pilot study in the Gulf of Mexico. This pilot study included federally permitted for-hire vessels in the Corpus Christi, Texas and west Florida regions. The program required weekly electronic reporting and used several validation methods. The expectation with a mandatory reporting system was that a complete census of effort and catch among all participants in the fishery would be obtained however, this was not achieved due to non-reporting (both at the trip-level and vessel-level) by vessels required to report. Methods to independently validate self-reported fisheries data are needed to certify whether a true and accurate census of catch and effort is actually achieved, and to account for instances when it is not. Several potential benefits from a logbook reporting system were recognized from this study. If logbooks were to be used as a census, mechanisms to enforce timeliness and accuracy of reporting would need to be improved. Dr. Colvin recommended continued communication between state and federal partners and stated that the full report will be available on the MRIP website soon.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my report.

**Gulf Council Motions Report**  
**April 15–18, 2013**  
**Gulfport, Mississippi**

**Data Collection**

Motion: To submit the Modifications to the Federally-Permitted Seafood Dealer Reporting Requirements to the Secretary of Commerce and deem the regulations necessary and appropriate. Motion carried by roll call vote.

Mr. Sanchez	Yes	Mr. Riley	Yes	Mr. Pearce	Yes
Dr. Shipp	Yes	Mr. Boyd	Yes	Mr. Diaz	Yes
Mr. Fischer	Yes	Mr. Riechers	Yes	Mr. Anson	Yes
Dr. Dana	Yes	Dr. Crabtree	Yes	Ms. Bademan	Yes
Mr. Matens	Yes	Mr. Greene	Yes	Mr. Perret	Yes
Dr. Abele	Yes	Ms. Williams	Yes		

Motion: To develop a plan amendment for implementation of a red snapper quota monitoring system for private recreational anglers.

Substitute motion: To develop a scoping document for looking at enhancements, revisions, or new options for estimating or quantifying private recreational landings.

Substitute motion carried with no opposition.