

Southeast Fisheries Science Center SAFMC Update – March 2012 Headboat Update

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Headboat Survey update:

• The 2011 estimated headboat landings and estimated angler days for the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico were completed by March 6, 2011 -- the earliest these estimates have been completed since 1972. Increased reporting compliance and efficiency of processing logbooks is attributed to this accomplishment.

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• Headboat Survey staff participated in the SEDAR 28 Data Workshop in Charleston, SC. The headboat data will be used to create an index of abundance for cobia in the South Atlantic. It will not be used for Spanish mackerel in the South Atlantic since headboat effort could not be determine for trips that targeted this species, and those that did not.

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- The Southeast Region Headboat Survey secured funding from the Marine Recreational Information Program for 2 projects:
 - 1) Pilot project Validation Methods for Headboat Logbooks,
 - 2) Pilot Project, Phase II Survey-Wide Implementation of Electronic Logbook Reporting on Headboats Operating in the South Atlantic and Gulf Mexico.