

**FINAL
SUMMARY REPORT
DATA COMMITTEE MEETING
Atlantic Beach, NC
December 8, 2016**

The Data Committee received a report on voluntary electronic logbook reporting by commercial fisherman from Dr. Bonnie Ponwith, SEFSC. Progress continues on developing the linkages that will allow such data to be submitted through ACCSP and available to the SEFSC. It is anticipated that all components will be completed by February 2017.

Mike Cahall of the ACCSP presented an overview of electronic reporting programs available through ACCSP, including levels of adoption along the Atlantic Coast for dealer and vessel traditional and electronic reports. Electronic report submission is anticipated to increase considerably in the near future, and ACCSP continues to expand its data storage and internet capacity to meet anticipated needs.

Mike Errigo, SAFMC, provided an update on the SAFMC-ACCSP charter vessel electronic reporting pilot study. Tablets have been provided to participating fishermen from NC through Florida, and training and outreach are now underway. The Council purchased and provided 3 additional tablets for use by fishermen in the Florida Keys to increase participation and coverage. Mike presented screen shots from the charter reporting application as well as preliminary work on developing an electronic version of the APAIS survey form for use in dockside intercepts for validation.

Ken Brennan of the SEFSC Headboat Survey presented an overview of electronic reporting by Southeast headboat vessels. Electronic reporting has resulted in reduced costs and increased timeliness and compliance. Outreach efforts, both prior to and following electronic reporting implementation were also reviewed. Initial and ongoing outreach is crucial to developing buy-in and ensuring compliance, and late reporting decreased in 2016 from 2015. The headboat program also intends to begin providing an annual report to fishermen, the Council, and other interested parties. Preliminary content and formats were illustrated, and Council members were asked to provide comments to Council Staff by January 9, 2017.

The Committee considered the For-Hire Electronic Reporting Amendment for final approval. Wording was clarified for the alternatives and Council intent was clarified with regard to duplicative reporting, reporting requirements, and amendment timing. These are detailed in the following bullets:

- Council's intent is that all charter vessels with a South Atlantic fishery for-hire permit will report all trips and all effort regardless of where the trips take place.
- It is not the Council's intent for vessels without South Atlantic for-hire permits to be required to report under this amendment.
- There is language in the codified text addressing headboat reporting of vessels without permits, landing snapper grouper in state waters that is not applicable to the actions in this amendment.

- Councils intent is to accept, in fulfillment of the actions in this amendment, reports submitted under other permits a vessel may possess when:
 - (1) The reporting requirements of those other permits are more stringent than the requirements for the South Atlantic charter for-hire permit.
 - (2) The data from those reports meet the core data elements identified by the SAFMC and are available to the SEFSC as required to meet assessment needs and ACL monitoring requirements.

Examples include the GARFO VTR system, SC DNR reporting, and actions under consideration by the Gulf Council that will require more frequent reporting than weekly as preferred by the South Atlantic.
- Requirements of vessels to participate in MRIP are not affected by any of the actions in this amendment.
- Requirements of this amendment should become mandatory at least 6 months after publication of the final rule and no earlier than January 1, 2018.
- Council intent is to allow “did not fish” reports to be filed in advance, for up to 30 days, as currently allowed in the headboat survey.

MOTIONS:

Motion #1: Move to incorporate the 3 suggested wording changes to the Action 1 alternatives by replacing slashes with “and”, replacing “harvested” with “the fish were caught” in the area description, and striking the parenthetical “(current headboat requirements)”.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Preferred Alternative 2. Require that federally permitted charter vessels, while operating as a charter vessel, submit fishing records to the SRD weekly, or at intervals shorter than a week if notified by the SRD, via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware ~~and~~ software). Weekly = Tuesday following each fishing week. [Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel preferred.](#)

Preferred Sub-alternative 2a. Report all fish harvested ~~and~~ discarded on all trips regardless of where ~~harvested~~ the fish were caught. ~~(current headboat requirement)~~

Sub-alternative 2b. Report only South Atlantic federally-managed fish harvested ~~and~~ discarded on all trips regardless of where ~~harvested~~ the fish were caught. (snapper grouper, dolphin/wahoo, and CMP species)

Sub-Alternative 2c. Report all federally-managed fish harvested ~~and~~ discarded on all trips regardless of where ~~harvested~~ the fish were caught.

Alternative 3. Require that federally permitted charter vessels, while operating as a charter vessel, submit fishing records to the SRD daily ~~via electronic reporting~~ via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware ~~and~~ software). Daily = by noon of the following day.

Sub-alternative 3a. Report all fish harvested ~~and~~ discarded on all trips regardless of where ~~harvested~~ the fish were caught. ~~(current headboat requirement)~~

Sub-alternative 3b. Report only South Atlantic federally-managed fish harvested ~~and~~ discarded on all trips regardless of where ~~harvested~~ the fish were caught. (snapper grouper, dolphin/wahoo, & CMP species)

Motion #2: Move to incorporate the suggested wording change for Action 2 alternatives 2 and 3, to replace slashes “/” with “and”.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Preferred Alternative 2. Require that headboats, while operating as a headboat, submit fishing records to the SRD weekly, or at intervals shorter than a week if notified by the SRD, via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware ~~and~~ software). Weekly = Tuesday following each fishing week. [Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel preferred.](#)

Alternative 3. Require that headboats, while operating as a headboat, submit fishing records to the SRD daily via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware ~~and~~ software). Daily = by noon of the following day.

Motion #3: Move to incorporate the suggested wording changes for Action 3, alternative 2 to: replace slashes “/” with “and”, clarify reporting is for fishing location, and clarify how location is entered.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Preferred Alternative 2. Require federally permitted charters vessels to report location ~~fished~~ electronically by ~~manually entering~~ latitude ~~and~~ longitude in degrees and minutes or by clicking on an ~~electronic headboat~~ chart. [Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel preferred.](#)

Motion #4: Move to approve the for-hire electronic reporting amendment for formal secretarial review and deem the codified text as necessary and appropriate. Give staff editorial license to make any necessary editorial changes to the document and codified text, and give the council chair authority to approve the revisions and re-deem the codified text.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Timing and Tasks

Motion #5: Approve the following timing and tasks:

- Modify the FHER Amendment as directed and prepare it for formal review.
- Provide the FHER Amendment to the Gulf Council for final approval in January 2017.
- Solicit comments from Council members on the proposed SRHS Annual Report by January 9, 2017.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL