

FINAL
Summary of the SAFMC Data Collection Committee
December 5, 2013
Hilton Wilmington Riverside
Wilmington, North Carolina

Members:

Mel Bell, Chair	Jessica McCawley
Michelle Duval	Jack Cox
Wilson Laney	Roy Crabtree

The agenda was adopted, and the minutes of the September 2013 meeting were approved.

Joint Gulf & South Atlantic Council Generic Dealer Amendment

Dr. Jack McGovern reported that the amendment was sent to NMFS for formal Secretarial review on 9/26/13. The proposed rule package is under review in the Region and is expected to be submitted to headquarters soon.

Joint South Atlantic & Gulf Council Generic For-Hire Reporting Amendment (SA only)

Dr. Jack McGovern reported that the amendment was sent to NMFS for Secretarial review on 4/23/13. The Notice of Availability of the amendment was published in the Federal Register on 9/18/13, and comments were accepted through 11/18/13. The proposed rule published on September 18, and the comment period ended on 11/18/13. Decision day is 12/18/13.

Gulf Framework to implement For-Hire Reporting (Headboat only)

Dr. Jack McGovern reported that the amendment was sent to NMFS for Secretarial review on 7/18/13. The proposed rule published on October 25, and the comment period ended on 11/25/13. The final rule package is under review in the region.

Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 3 (CE-BA3)

Anna Martin reviewed the Council's motions from the March 2013 meeting requesting a presentation from NOAA GC and stated that the presentation has been rescheduled for the March 2014 Council meeting.

Update on Commercial Logbook Pilot Study

Dr. Bonnie Ponwith updated the committee on the status of this project and delays resulting from the recent government closure. The SEFSC is still aiming for full implementation of the project during 2016 depending on funding.

Joint South Atlantic & Gulf Council Generic Charterboat Reporting Amendment

Council staff reviewed the status of work on the sub-committee to work on the technical issues related to this amendment, the Councils' intent, and the need for additional members of the committee that need to be appointed. The committee discussed the intent and clarified the direction to be provided to the technical group, and on behalf of the committee I move the following:

MOTION #1: The Councils' intent is to remove charterboats from the MRIP reporting system and have charterboats report catches electronically at a minimum of weekly as is being implemented for headboats. It is the Councils' intent that this information be updated on the SERO's website on some regular period.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION #2: Direct staff to draft a letter from SAFMC/GMFMC to the agencies/partners (MRIP, HMS, SEFSC, SERO, ACCSP AND ASMFC) requesting they appoint representatives prior to the South Atlantic Council's March 2014 meeting.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Timing and Task Draft Motion

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

MOTION #3: APPROVE THE TASKS AND TIMING AS PRESENTED:

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

1. Directed staff to work with Gulf Council staff to draft a letter from the two Councils requesting agencies appoint members to work on the technical committee examining the potential of removing charterboats from the MRIP program and have them report electronically.
2. Provided general guidance that the technical group meet during 2014 and provide recommendations to the Councils by the December 2014 Council meeting.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my report.