

# OVERVIEW

## Data Collection Committee Meeting

March 6, 2014

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The Data Collection Committee will: (A) receive a status report from NMFS SERO on the Joint Dealer Amendment and take action as may be necessary; (B) receive a status report from NMFS SERO on the Joint Generic For-Hire Reporting Amendment (SA only) and take action as may be necessary; (C) receive a status report from NMFS SERO on the Gulf Framework for For-Hire Reporting and take action as may be necessary; (D) receive a status report from Council staff on CE-BA 3 (Bycatch), a presentation from NOAA GC on how bycatch requirements are being met, modify CE-BA 3 as necessary, and approve CE-BA 3 for formal review or provide other guidance; (E) receive an update from NMFS SEFSC on the Commercial Logbook Pilot Study and take action as may be necessary; (F) discuss the status of the Charterboat Reporting Amendment and provide guidance on how to move forward; and (G) discuss the electronic technology workshop & implementation plan and take action as may be necessary.

### **A. Joint Gulf & South Atlantic Council Generic Dealer Amendment**

The Joint Dealer Amendment was originally sent for formal Secretarial review on October 30, 2012. NMFS SERO and NOAA GC identified some issues that were discovered in early 2013 that needed to be modified in the amendment document. They presented the changes in the revised amendment to the SAFMC during the March Council meeting and the GMFMC during their April meeting. Both Councils approved the changes and reapproved the amendment/codified text for formal review. The revised amendment was sent for formal review on April 24, 2013. NOAA GC identified additional issues and advised the Council in June that additional analyses would need to be completed and hearings held in the Mid-Atlantic and New England areas. The analyses were completed and the hearings. The Councils reapproved the amendment and it was sent for formal Secretarial review on September 26, 2013. The proposed rule was published on 1/2/14 and is included as **Attachment 1**.

### **REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

1. Discuss.
2. Take action as may be necessary.

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

At the March 2013 meeting, the Council approved the for-hire reporting in the South Atlantic only amendment. The amendment was provided to the Gulf Council for their February 2013 meeting and they approved sending the document to the Secretary for formal review. The final amendment was sent for formal review on April 23, 2013. NMFS/NOAA gave a report on how compliance will be implemented during the September 2013 meeting. The final rule was published 12/17/13 (included as **Attachment 2**) and regulations became effective 1/27/14.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

1. Discuss.
2. Take action as may be necessary.

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

At the December 2012 meeting, the South Atlantic Council moved the for-hire reporting in the South Atlantic & Gulf action into a separate amendment. The South Atlantic Council's intent was to address compliance and the provision for paper reporting in catastrophic situations in this amendment. However, NMFS and NOAA GC advised that text could be added to the SA only For-Hire Amendment to address these two issues. This was done and was included in the SA Only For-Hire Amendment (see above). The Gulf Council approved a Framework Action (List of Actions included as **Attachment 3**) to implement Headboat Reporting in the Gulf at their June 2013 meeting, and the South Atlantic Council approved the modifications to the CMP FMP at the June 2013 meeting prior to the amendment being sent for formal Secretarial review on July 18, 2013. NMFS/NOAA gave a report on how compliance will be implemented at the September 2013 meeting. The framework was sent for formal Secretarial review on July 18, 2013. The proposed rule published on 10/25/13.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

1. Review Gulf Council actions.
2. Discuss and take action as may be necessary.

**D. Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 3 (CE-BA3) (Attachment 4a&b)**

At the December 2012 meeting, the Council:

1. Moved VMS to Snapper Grouper Amendment 30
2. Moved SAFMC For-hire reporting to a Generic SG, D/W & CMP Amendment
3. Moved Commercial Reporting to a Joint SA/GM Amendment

The only remaining item in CE-BA 3 is bycatch reporting; staff was directed to revise the document and bring to the Council in March 2013 for final review and approval.

At the March 2013 meeting, the Council reviewed and made changes to CE-BA 3. These changes were based on recommendations from the IPT to clarify wording and intent. The IPT conducted the analyses in the March 2013 document based on their new, suggested wording that was approved by the Council. Also, at the March 2013 meeting, NOAA GC offered to prepare an analysis of how the South Atlantic Council is currently meeting the MSA bycatch requirements. The Council accepted NOAA GC's offer and the Council also voted to postpone

further consideration of CE-BA 3 until receipt of the analysis from NOAA GC. NOAA GC was scheduled to present their analysis during the September 2013 Council meeting to the Data Collection Committee. However, this presentation was rescheduled for the December 2013 meeting due to workload issues, and was recently rescheduled for the March 2014 meeting due to the government closure.

The Committee will receive the presentation at the March 2014 meeting, review the amendment, make any necessary changes, and approve for formal review or provide other guidance.

**E. Joint South Atlantic & Gulf Council Generic Commercial Logbook Reporting Amendment (GM & SA) & Update on Pilot Study**

At the December 2012 meeting, the South Atlantic Council moved the commercial logbook reporting action into a separate amendment, directed staff to work with the Gulf Council to determine if they would work with us on a joint amendment, and coordinate with the SEFSC on removal of several reporting items on the commercial logbook form. A summary of the issue with the action/alternatives as discussed by the South Atlantic Council was provided to the Gulf Council for their February 2013 meeting. The Gulf Council approved a motion agreeing to work cooperatively with the South Atlantic Council on development of the Joint South Atlantic/Gulf of Mexico Generic Commercial Logbook Reporting Amendment. At the March 2013 meeting, the South Atlantic Council directed staff to do the following:

- a. Continue working with the Gulf Council to develop this amendment
- b. Coordinate with the SEFSC on removal of several reporting items on the commercial logbook form and provide a status report at the June 2013 meeting
- c. Work with the SEFSC to develop a schedule of meetings/workgroup with commercial fishermen in the Gulf and South Atlantic to work on developing the electronic logbook and bring back to the committee at the June 2013 meeting
- d. Direct the IPT to work on the wording and structure of the action/alternatives and bring back to the committee at the June 2013 meeting

The IPT met on April 1, 2013 and the Council discussed how to proceed at the September 2013 meeting. The Council approved the following motion at their September 2013 meeting:

***Timing and Tasks***

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

1. NOTIFY THE GMFMC THAT THE SAFMC APPROVED THE GENERIC DEALER AMENDMENT FOR FORMAL REVIEW AT THEIR SEPTEMBER 2013 COUNCIL MEETING.
2. REQUEST THE SEFSC PROVIDE UPDATES AT EACH COUNCIL MEETING ON PROGRESS OF THE COMMERCIAL ELECTRONIC LOGBOOK PILOT STUDY AND DIRECT STAFF TO DEFER WORK ON THE AMENDMENT UNTIL THE PILOT IS COMPLETED.
3. DIRECTED STAFF TO WORK WITH GULF COUNCIL STAFF AND NMFS STAFF ON A GENERIC AMENDMENT ADDRESSING CHARTER REPORTING.

NMFS SEFSC will provide an update on progress (**Attachment 5**).

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

1. Discuss progress to date.
2. Take action as may be necessary.

**F. Joint South Atlantic & Gulf Council Generic Charterboat Reporting Amendment**

At their December 2012 meeting, the South Atlantic Council reviewed the Gulf Council's actions related to charterboat reporting (shown below), and directed staff to keep the Council informed of progress on the Gulf Council's Generic Amendment addressing Charter Reporting.

The Gulf Council approved the following motions at their October 2012 meeting:

- a. Motion#1: To create a subcommittee with a member of the South Atlantic, HMS, Gulf Council, SEFSC, and MRIP to coordinate and bring back a complementary document to deal with headboat data collection system.  
Motion carried with no opposition.
- b. Motion#4: To begin work on an amendment for electronic reporting for charterboats and to make the South Atlantic Council aware that we are developing the amendment.  
Motion carried with no opposition.
- c. Motion: That the charge of the Ad Hoc Private Recreational Data Collection AP be as follows:
  - Work with different experts to evaluate the merit of using offshore fishing permits, vessel registration information, and satellite imaging to gauge fishing effort.
  - Work with staff from the Southeast Science Center to evaluate the utility of self-reported angler data. (i.e., electronic web based/ phone apps)
  - Suggest possible "citizen scientists" projects that can be used to supplement current recreational data.
  - Critique the MRIP Strategic Communications Plan for recreational data collection, provide feedback on clarity and effectiveness of the message, and advise the Council on which pathways should be used to connect with anglers.Motion carried with no opposition.

The South Atlantic Council discussed this issue during the September 2013 meeting and approved the following motion:

**MOTION #2: APPOINT JOHN CARMICHAEL/MIKE ERRIGO (BACKUP) AS THE SAFMC REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SUBCOMMITTEE WORKING ON THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF SEPARATING CHARTERBOATS FROM THE MRIP SAMPLING PROGRAM.**

The Gulf Council appointed John Froeschke as the Gulf staff representative at their October 2013 meeting.

The next step was to request the involved agencies appoint individuals to represent MRIP, HMS, SEFSC, ACCSP, SERO, and ASMFC. The memo was distributed on February 4, 2014

(**Attachment 6**) with a request that appointments be made prior to the South Atlantic Council's March 2014 meeting.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

1. Discuss the status of appointments.
2. Provide guidance as necessary.

**G. Electronic Technology Workshop & Implementation Plan**

At the December 2013 meeting, the Council held a Data Workshop during which George Lapointe gave a presentation on Regional Electronic Monitoring Input for NOAA's Policy on Electronic Technologies and Fishery-Dependent Data Collection.

A National Electronic Monitoring and Reporting Workshop was held January 8-9, 2014 in Seattle, WA. Council members Mel Bell and Dr. Michelle Duval attended. The purpose of this workshop was to bring key decision makers and stakeholders together in an effort to facilitate the implementation and integration of electronic monitoring (EM) into U.S. fisheries.

Goals of the National EM Workshop included:

- Facilitating a better understanding of the possible range of EM applications
- Determining solutions to current challenges impeding integration of EM
- Sharing lessons learned from pilot studies and early EM program design and integration efforts across regions
- Identifying key program design elements and processes
- Understanding cost considerations and implications of EM
- Providing tools to facilitate development of regional EM implementation plans
- Discussing Electronic Reporting (ER) needs in the context of developing effective EM programs

A summary prepared by George Lapointe is included as **Attachment 7**. A listing of Electronic Technology ideas by Council region is included as **Attachment 8**; South Atlantic Council items appear on page 3 and some of the New England items on page 4 are equally applicable to the South Atlantic. Contents of a Draft Regional Electronic Technology Implementation Plan are included as **Attachment 9**. Cross Regional Issues are shown in **Attachment 10**. Finally, comments by Dr. Duval are included in Attachments 8 & 9 in track changes and comments by Mel Bell are included as **Attachment 11**.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:**

1. Review and Discuss.
2. Take action as may be necessary. It is expected that the committee will draft a position statement and/or provide comments to NMFS regarding this program.