



Southeast For-Hire Electronic Reporting Program



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Gulf & South Atlantic SEFHIER Permit Accounts as of Feb. 1st



Reporting Platform	S. Atl. Permit Accounts (Since Nov. 2021)	Gulf Permit Accounts (Since Nov. 2021)	Gulf/S. Atl. Dual Permitted Accounts
eTrips	657 (+115)	182 (+3)	80 (+2)
VESL	525 (+18)	533 (+12)	155 (+40)
Headboat (VESL)	64	68	_____
VMS	_____	193 (+87)	_____
South Carolina (VESL)	144 (+0)	_____	_____
Total	1,390 (+133) ~885 have yet to register	976 (+102) ~499 have yet to register	235 (+42) ~170 have yet to register

Continued Outreach



- A [year end SEFHIER Fishery Bulletin](#) went out December 17th
- Updated Gulf and South Atlantic [SEFHIER program toolkits](#) available on our website
- Official NOAA permit requirement letter drafted for (Gulf) SEFHIER Validation Surveyors to hand out in the field
- Regular updates to our SEFHIER website:
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/recreational-fishing/frequently-asked-questions-southeast-hire-integrated-electronic>



VMS Update: Gulf Requirements

VMS rule: effective March 1st, 2022

- Must be installed by a qualified marine electrician/installer, be permanently affixed to the vessel, operate 24 hours a day and collect/transmit vessel position data at least once per hour (unless under an approved power down exemption)
- Now 3 cVMS type-approved VMS units (Faria, CLS NEMO and Nautic Alert's Insight X3)
- Hail-outs and VMS units are expected to provide better data on fishing effort (number of trips) and allow for better enforcement of fishing regulations

Link to all type-approved VMS Units:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/rules-and-regulations/approved-vessel-monitoring-system-vms-units-reporting-southeast-hire-electronic>



General Discussion Items

- HMS caught species
 - Using VESL app, still need to complete the HMS reports (refer to: www.hmspermits.noaa.gov)
 - Whereas the eTrips mobile prompts for HMS required questions
- Dually permitted vessels (commercial reef fish & for-hire)
 - Must complete both a commercial reef fish and for-hire trip declaration when going on a for-hire trip
 - NMFS is working to streamline this process
 - These notifications serve different purposes for each sector and have different regulatory text
- For Gulf federal for-hire permitted vessels
 - The SEFHIER Validation Survey started in October, 2022
 - Participation is required if you have a Gulf limited access reef fish permit



Acknowledgements

- SEFHIER program staff
- ❖ Special thanks to our For-Hire constituents!

