



# South Atlantic Rock Shrimp VMS Fishery Update

Prepared by:

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SE OLE VMS Program Manager

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# Summary of Investigative Actions for RS VMS Fishery

- 2003 - Two cases for failure to comply with VMS requirements
- 2004
  - Four investigations for trawling without operational VMS
  - Nine investigations involving trawling in Oculina Bank HAPC
    - Five of which were issued NOVAs totalling \$140,000
  - One investigation for trawling without valid permit issued \$4,000 NOVA

# Summary of Investigative Actions for RS VMS Fishery (Continued)

- 2005
  - Two investigations for trawling in Oculina Bank HAPC
  - Two investigations for failing to comply with VMS requirements.
- 2006 - One investigation for failing to comply with VMS requirements.



# Current RS VMS Status

- As of January 28, 2006, there are 135 vessels permitted with Rock Shrimp Endorsements (RSE)
- As of January 28, 2006, SE OLE has 118 RSE vessels with equipped with VMS units

# Currently Approved RS VMS devices

- Thrane & Thrane TT-3022D-NMFS (Inmarsat C)  
(approved for use in the RS and HMS fisheries)
- Thrane & Thrane TT-3026S-NMFS (mini-C)  
(approved for use in the RS and HMS fisheries)  
**NOTE: TT3026M no longer sold to NMFS SE Fisheries**
- Skymate ST2500 (firmware version 245a – approved for RSE, HMS, and NE fisheries)
- Boatracs FMCT-G (approved for use in RSE and NE fishery only for dual NE and SE permitted vessels)



# SE VMS Unit Reimbursements

- Rock Shrimp VMS had the opportunity to receive a \$750 reimbursement if they applied prior to December 2004.
  - South Atlantic Council handled this as reimbursement program under a grant from SERO.
  - Vessel owners purchased the units and communications.
- HMS Shark VMS had the opportunity to receive a loaner unit if they applied prior to November 15, 2004 implementation date.
  - Only 14 of those loaner units are installed and the owners pay the communications costs.
- HMS Pelagic VMS owners had to purchase their own units and communications

# Other Division VMS Unit Distributions

- Pacific Island
  - All of their 70+ Trimble VMS units are owned by NOAA and NOAA pays the communications.
- Northeast
  - All of their fisheries require that the owners pay for the unit and communications costs.
- Northwest
  - All of their fisheries require that the owners pay for the unit and communications costs.
- Alaska
  - All of their fisheries require that the owners pay for the unit and communications costs.



# Potential OLE Reimbursement Program

- Fisheries set aside \$4M for unit purchase/reimbursements
- Hogarth has requested OLE recommendations for program to purchase/reimburse for any implemented fisheries since October 2005
- Preliminary recommendations
  - Reimbursement program with a maximum of \$3500 if terminal required and \$2000 if no terminal
  - Reimbursements handled by OLE to receive applications, validate installations, and distribute monies to fishermen



# Recent Boatrac Type Approval

- Approved by FR Notice December 6, 2005
- Allows NE and SE dual permitted vessels to report in both VMS programs

## FMCT and FMCT/G

### Technical Specifications

*FMCT*: Guaranteed accuracy of 300 meters using QASPR<sup>®</sup> algorithm.

*FMCT/G*: Guaranteed accuracy of 100 meters utilizing GPS constellation. All other specifications identical to FMCT.



#### Antenna Communications Unit (ACU)

This compact all-weather unit is specially designed and tested to survive extreme temperatures, shock, and vibration.

Dimensions: 11.5 x 6.75 in.

Weight: 11 lbs.

Temperature

range: -40° to +70° C

Radiated frequency: Continuous tracking Ku-band

Flash memory: Field-upgradable

Operating voltage: +9vDC to 32vDC



#### Enhanced Display Unit (EDU) Keyboard

You can view both text and graphics on the 15-line by 40-character display. The new wider keyboard makes data entry easier, and keys are backlit for nighttime use.

Dimensions: 12.8 x 9.3 x 2.2 x 6.75 in.

Weight: 3 lbs

Display: 15-line backlit LCD, 40 characters/line, 6-in. diagonal, 320 x 240 pixels

Keyboard: 70 standard backlit keys

Keypad: Elastometric, splash-resistant

#### Optional Features

- Panic Button: Upon receipt of distress signal, Boatrac's NOC professionals immediately call customer's predesignated emergency contacts.
- On-board PC setup (requires Boatrac's WBU software), and optional printer setup
- Other options include remote message waiting light, remote message buzzer, and message return receipt



# Types/Number of VMS Units in RS

- VMS Unit Types installed on RSE vessels:
  - Thrane TT-3026S = 52
  - Thrane TT-3026M = 48
  - Skymate ST2500 = 5
  - Boatracs FMCT-G = 13

# New Thrane TT-3026D





# Currently Approved Unit Costs

- Boatracs FMCT-G (includes terminal) - \$2995
- Thrane & Thrane
  - TT-3022D - \$2500
  - TT-3026S (Standard) - \$1650
  - TT-3026D Silver (Distress) - \$1750
  - TT-3026D Gold (Distress/Terminal) - \$3595
- Skymate Communicator 100 - \$1599

# Currently Approved Communications Costs

- Qualcomm (for Boatracs)
  - \$55/mo satellite fee, \$.30/message, \$.003/character (average price \$80/month - includes 24x7 operations center)
- Telenor (for Thrane)
  - \$.05 per position, \$.24 per message/email (\$30/mo average)
- Xantic (for Thrane)
  - -.07 per position, \$.21 per message, \$.20 per email (\$35/mo average)
- Orbcomm (for Skymate)
  - \$149 one time activation fee
  - \$38.99/month (Gold Plan) for SE Reporting (Mon-Fri 8-5 operations center)



# CONTACT INFO – Unit and Communication Service Providers

- Skymate:  
Jim Harper (703-636-4220)  
Skymate, Inc.  
14000 Willard Road Suite #2  
Chantilly VA 20151
- Thrane & Thrane:  
Charles Matthews  
Thrane and Thrane, Inc. (formerly  
LandSea Systems)  
509 Viking Drive, Suites K, L & M  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452  
757-463-9557
- Boatracs:  
Lauri Paul, 877-468-8722  
9155 Brown Deer Road  
San Diego, CA 92121
- Orbcomm  
Jim Harper (703-636-4220)  
Skymate, Inc.  
14000 Willard Road Suite #2  
Chantilly VA 20151
- Telenor or Xantic - TT-3022D & TT-3026S  
Donna Sherman or Valerie Hill  
Thrane and Thrane, Inc. (formerly  
LandSea Systems)  
509 Viking Drive, Suites K, L & M  
Virginia Beach, VA 23452  
757-463-9557
- Boatracs for FMCT-G  
Lauri Paul, 877-468-8722  
9155 Brown Deer Road  
San Diego, CA 92121

# SE VMS Requirements for Gulf Reef Fish Implementation (July/August)

- 24/7 reporting
- Vendor installed and certified
- Declaration of fishery/gear type for each trip
- Proof of an installed and properly reporting VMS unit required prior to permit renewals or transfers
- Two way communication with NMFS (with terminal)
- Power Down Exemption Requests to be authorized by SE VMS
  - If out of the water for > 72 consecutive hours, or
  - Minimum of 1 month, if not embarking on further trips



# Additional VMS Implementations

- July/August 2006 – 1100 vessels under Amendment 18A Gulf Commercial Reef Fish
  - Includes Charter/Headboat with commercial permit
  - Includes Amendment 26 Red Snapper IFQ potential implementation January 2007 – 600 vessels
- Gulf of Mexico Amendment 14 – 2000+ vessels with Gulf Shrimp permits – potentially 2007
- 50 CFR 300 – Five US Flagged vessels permitted to harvest Patagonian Toothfish by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)



# Current Status of Other SE VMS Fishery Implementations

- HMS Pelagic LL – 124
- HMS Shark Directed (Gillnet and Bottom LL) – 22
- Penalty – 7
- Voluntary Gulf Shrimp - 2

# Current SE VMS Program Personnel

- SE VMS Program Manager/Supervisory Program Analyst – Beverly Lambert
  - Supervises Enforcement Technician and IT Staff
  - Manager for VMS Program
- SE VMS Technicians – 2
  - Jonathon Howard – Full Time
    - Rock Shrimp and Gulf HMS Fisheries
  - Erica Nunez – Contractor
    - HMS and Shark Directed in South Atlantic
- SE VMS IT – Scott Pope

# Proposed SE VMS Staff Additions

- Two VMS Technicians (Contractors)
- One VMS Intelligence Analyst (Contractor)



# CONTACT INFO – OLE & SER

- **OLE / SE:**

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301-427-2300 (tel)  
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- **NMFS SER**

Joe Kimmel  
263 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701  
727-551-5752 (tel)  
727-824-5308

- **NMFS SER**

Steve Branstetter  
263 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
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727-824-5308 (fax)

# Thank You

- If you have any questions or require more indepth statistics or information on the RS VMS program, please contact:

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