

**Shrimp Committee Report
June 21, 2022
Leann Bosarge, Chair**

The Committee adopted the agenda (**Tab D, No. 1**) with the addition of an Empirical Dynamic Models (EDM) Working Group Discussion under Other Business. The Committee then approved the minutes (**Tab D, No. 2**) of the April 2022 meeting as written.

Update on Testing and Development of Options Proposed as Replacements for the Historical cELB Devices for the Gulf Shrimp Fishery (Tab D, Nos. 4a-b)

Mr. Wallace (SEFSC) presented an update on side-by-side testing of cellular vessel monitoring system (cVMS) units and cellular electronic logbook (cELB) units by NMFS, as seen in Tab D, No. 4a. A Committee member asked for clarification if the vessels identified in the presentation from Louisiana had been sold and were no longer available for participation in the testing. Another Committee member responded that the vessels were for sale, from her understanding, and then inquired why the RV Caretta was not testing the Woods Hole unit in addition to the Faria Beede, in order to test both NOAA approved cVMS devices on the same vessel. Mr. Wallace responded that the two cVMS units use the same GPS sensor and would have the same data stream, so NMFS did not see a purpose in testing both cVMS devices on the RV Caretta. A Committee member asked for confirmation that the cVMS data collected from the participating vessels would be run through the shrimp effort algorithm and if the algorithm outputs and results would be presented to the Council no later than its January 2023 meeting. Mr. Wallace responded in the affirmative to both questions. Mr. Wallace also confirmed that a substitute vessel from Louisiana would be selected to replace the Louisiana vessel for sale.

Dr. Putman (LGL) presented an update on LGL Ecological Research Associates' pilot study of the P-Sea WindPlot program for vessel position data collection and automatic transmission on shrimp vessels, as seen in Tab D, No. 4b. The Committee was informed that successful cellular transition from P-Sea WindPlot to a designated server had occurred in a land-based test and that the next step would be to reproduce a successful transmission from onboard a vessel at sea. A Committee member inquired if the data collected would be run through the shrimp effort algorithm. Dr. Putman responded in the affirmative.

Finfish Commercial Logbook Reporting: Considerations Related to the Potential Applicability of this System to Shrimp Effort Collection (Tab D, No. 5)

Dr. Brown (SEFSC) presented on the potential applicability of the finfish commercial logbook reporting system to shrimp effort collection, as seen in Tab D, No. 5. A Committee member noted that additional staff were needed for quality control if eTrips was to be utilized in the Gulf shrimp industry and asked how that would compare to what would be needed for use of the GPS logger, such as P-Sea WindPlot, and cVMS programs. SEFSC staff replied that a GPS

logger program would need two additional staff and that a cVMS program would likely need two additional staff as well. A Committee member inquired about the cost of eTrips. Dr. Brown responded that the eTrips software is free, but there would be a monthly fee for transmission, such as a cellular plan. Another Committee member asked if it was possible for eTrips to passively collect information. Dr. Brown stated that it was not possible for eTrips to do so in its current form, but software developers and engineers might be able to accomplish that. The Committee member then added that she did like that the data went directly to the Science Center and that the Science Center oversees both the approval specifications and testing process, but eTrips might be burdensome on shrimpers in its current form, as it requires manual entry of data by the fishermen instead of the automatic, passive data collection process associated with the shrimp industry's current electronic logbook program.

Updated Draft Framework Action: Modification of the Vessel Position Data Collection Program for the Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery (Tab D, No's. 6a-c)

This agenda item will be covered in Full Council.

SSC Recommendations (Tab B, Nos. 10a-b)

Dr. Nance (SSC representative) presented SSC recommendations on several shrimp-related items from its May 2022 meeting, as seen in Tab B, No. 10a. A Committee member inquired if Argentinian shrimp and Gulf royal red shrimp are two different species. Dr. Nance responded that they are two species in the same genus. The Committee member then relayed that industry members were concerned that Argentinian shrimp were being marketed in a way that would lead many consumers to think the shrimp were wild caught, domestic royal reds.

Other Business

A Committee member asked for an update from the SEFSC on the Council request for participation in an EDM working group. SEFSC staff accommodated this request by saying they concurred with the request in the Gulf Council's letter and plan to hold the first meeting of the working group in August 2022.

Mr. Chair, this concludes my report.