



Reef Fish AP Meeting February 24:
**Overview of changes to commercial
electronic log book reporting (ELB)**

Background: Timeline

Pilot project begins April 2015

Explore the use of ELB in commercial fisheries to better estimate effort and catch

June and October 2020:

The Council receives presentations from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC)

- See 'Background' materials

What does the ELB program do?

- Timely and accurate data collection
- Provide indices of abundance for stock assessments
- Provide social and economic information
- Estimates of discards (target and non-target)
- Validate commercial dealer reports
- **Estimate commercial catch and effort**

Is NOT used for ACL monitoring or tracking
Individual Fishery Quotas

What is changing in ELB program?

- Reporting now at set level rather than trip

- Additional data fields

Old

2018 SE COASTAL FISHERIES TRIP REPORT FORM Use Black Ink only!

Signature: _____ Phone No: () - _____ Schedule No. NMFS Use Only

Vessel Name: _____ Trip Start Date: MM/DD/YY County or Parish: _____ State: _____

Vessel No.: _____ Trip End Date: MM/DD/YY Dealer Name: _____

Operator Name: _____ SE Federal Dealer Number: _____

Operator Number: _____ State Trip Ticket No.: _____

Days at Sea: _____ No. of Crew: _____ Check box if landings sold to multiple dealers: ☐ Yes

GEAR SECTION: See instructions on Page 2. Check gear box and fill in all the boxes below.

Traps (Y) ☐ Longline (L) ☐ Gill Net (GN) ☐ Hook & Line (HL) ☐ Dredge (D) ☐ Other Gear (O) ☐

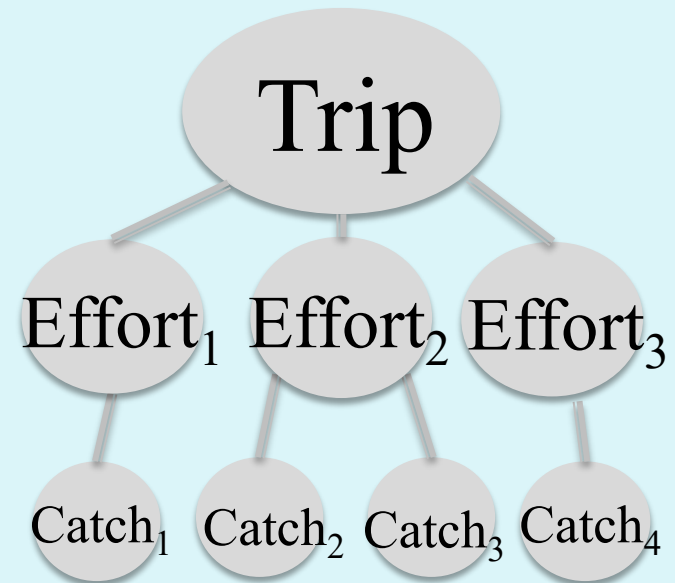
Trap # _____ # Sets _____ # Hooks per Line _____ # Lines _____ # Hooks per Line _____ Total Hrs Fished _____

Trap Soak Time (hrs) _____ Total Soak Time (hrs) _____ Date Received: MM/DD/YY

CATCH SECTION: See instructions on Page 4. Weight: Record POUNDS (not gutted or whole (DO NOT include fractions of pounds)). Gear: Record gear used for MAJORITY of catch as T, L, GN, HL, D, R, S, P or O. (Do not use multiple gears). Area: Area can be found on maps in logbook (page 6). Do not use state area codes. Depth: Record bottom depth where the MAJORITY of fish were caught in FEET.

| Species Name | Code | Outlets | Whole-lbs | Gear | Area | Depth |
|------------------|------|---------|-----------|------|------|-------|
| Amberjack-Grass | 1812 | # | # | | | |
| Amberjack-Lesser | 1815 | # | # | | | |
| Almaco | 1816 | # | # | | | |
| Banded Rubber | 1817 | # | # | | | |
| Cowfish | 2670 | # | # | | | |
| Cooper Fish | 1930 | # | # | | | |
| Black | 1423 | # | # | | | |
| Clay | 1423 | # | # | | | |
| Warshaw | 4740 | # | # | | | |
| Red | 1416 | # | # | | | |
| Scamp | 1424 | # | # | | | |
| Snook | 1414 | # | # | | | |
| Yelloweye | 1415 | # | # | | | |
| Yellowfin | 1425 | # | # | | | |
| Hind, Red | 1413 | # | # | | | |
| Hind, Rock | 1412 | # | # | | | |
| Hind, Speckled | 1411 | # | # | | | |
| Bluespotted | 1444 | # | # | | | |
| French | 1445 | # | # | | | |
| White | 1441 | # | # | | | |
| Largemouth | 1442 | # | # | | | |
| Crabs, Linc. | 1440 | # | # | | | |
| Hogfish | 1780 | # | # | | | |
| King Mackerel | 1940 | # | # | | | |
| Spanish Mackerel | 3840 | # | # | | | |
| Wahoo | 4710 | # | # | | | |
| Black Sea Bass | 3360 | # | # | | | |
| Bluefish | 0230 | # | # | | | |
| Blue Runner | 0270 | # | # | | | |

New



More precise CPUE indices

What is changing in ELB program?

New effort data elements

- Target Species
- Bait used and bait type: No, Live, Dead, or Artificial, and Species
- Set start/end, Haul start/end for select gears. Date, Time, and Location
- Number of pieces of apparatus for Cast Nets, Spears, and Harpoons
- Length of Gangion for Bottom Longlines
- J or Circle hook size and for coastal Hook & Line
- Number of lightsticks (not mandatory) for Bottom Longline



What is changing in ELB program?

Changes to catch data elements

- Hail amount /set.
 - This is a different definition than what fishers are used to reporting. Previously weight /trip.
- Offload date/time/port.
- Dealer name and Federal ID number.
- Disposition: Users are instructed to log every catch, whether it was sold, discarded, seized, or kept for personal use



What is changing in ELB program?

Reporting frequency

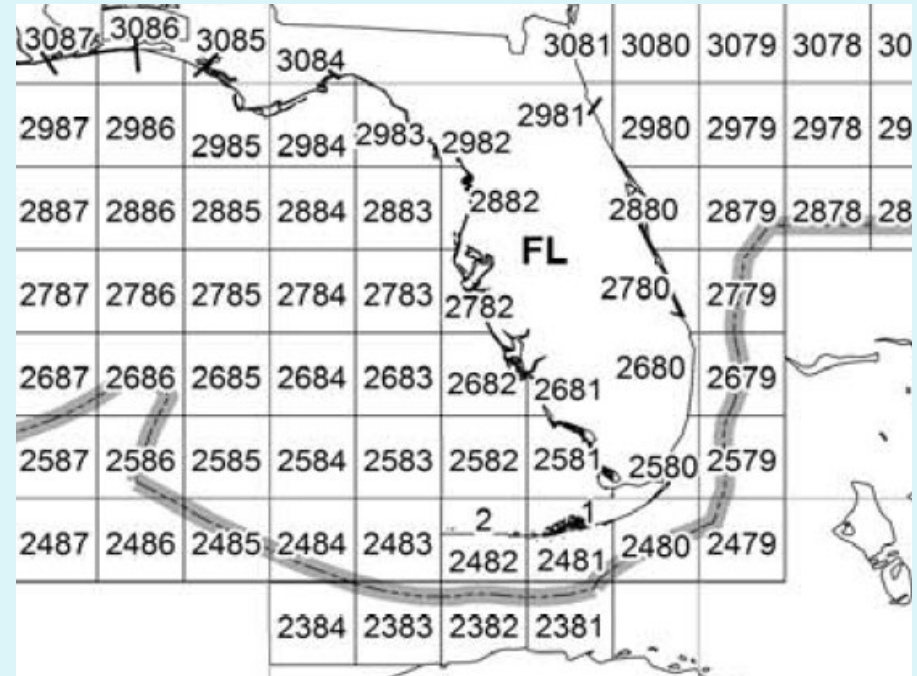
- Users will be required to submit a report for every trip, prior to offloading catch
- No Fishing reports remain monthly, at current requirement, 7 days after the end of the month.
- A positive fishing trip will supersede a monthly No Fishing report if both are submitted.



What is changing in ELB program?

Higher precision for location

- Multiple spatio-temporal points per trip and per set
- HMS will go from Degrees/Minutes to Decimal Degrees



Vendors are strongly encouraged to produce software that captures this via internal clocks and GPS on devices with these capabilities (example: smartphones or on-board GPS).



How to report this information?

A review of the 2015 Pilot Project

E-logbook versions from three vendors: OLSPS (Olrac) Marine, Electric Edge Systems Group Inc., and Harbor Light's Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP)



Preliminary Pilot Project Results: Participants

Nine commercial vessels with laptops or tablets submitted total of 58 trips with days at sea ranging from 1 to 17.

All vessels had on board GPS

- South Atlantic:
 - 5 from North Carolina, 1 From Florida
- HMS:
 - 1 South Florida (buoy, trolling), 1 North Carolina/Mass. (longline)
- Gulf:
 - 2 Florida (reef longline/hand line), 2 Texas (bandit)

Preliminary Pilot Project Results: Participant feedback

- Mobile devices work better than laptops which are cumbersome
- More efficient navigation through software
- Ability to search quickly when looking through tables for data entry
- As many data entry fields as possible to 'roll over' between sets (target species, hook size and type, bait type used, etc.).
- Display settings to accommodate night fishing
- All Pilot versions of the ELB have tool that limit the data entry burden
- Lists of valid entries for gear, bait used, and species targeted. Fishers can further refine list by creating "favorites"
- SEFSC staff suggest we limiting which species fields fishers need to enter every time to ensure that the correct information is collected.

Who would be affected?

Commercial permit holders for:

- King mackerel gillnet
- Reef fish longline endorsement
- Shark (both directed and incidental)
- Gulf reef fish
- King mackerel
- Spanish mackerel
- Highly migratory species

Review 'background' Q&A document for more

Timeline so far

Volunteer recruitment for Pilot 2014

Testing eLogbook Pilot April 2015

SEFSC Staff given Admin privileges in
SAFIS Management System in 2015

Infrastructure Development at
ACCSP and SEFSC 2015 - 2019

FER Launch 2018

Updated API
available 2019

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019



Proposed timeline for implementation

Ability to pull eTrips submissions into SEFSC through ACCSP's View March 2020 for testing

FISMA finalized Summer 2020

Sero permits are live at ACCSP 2020

SAFIS rebuild/"Switchboard" goes live 2020

Finalize technical requirements document for 3rd party software vendors 2020

Voluntary Implementation

Mandatory Implementation

2020

2021

2022



Reef fish AP action

- Ask questions of NMFS staff
- Provide insight and feedback on commercial ELB for consideration
- Make recommendation(s) to Council if the panel deems necessary

