

**Data Collection Committee  
Action Guide and Next Steps for Tab F**

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**Agenda Item IV:** Draft Framework Action: Modification to Location Reporting Requirements for For-Hire Vessels and Reef Fish Advisory Panel (AP) Recommendations

**Timeline Status:** Presentation, discussion, and feedback on alternatives

**Council input and next steps:** Council staff will present a draft framework action which will establish an exemption for unforeseen VMS equipment malfunction for SEFHIER program participants. The presentation will also include recommendations from the January 2022 Reef Fish AP meeting and Data Collection AP meeting. The Committee should review the materials and consider selecting preferred alternatives. If the Council desires taking final action in April, staff will move forward with completing the document and producing a video for written public comment.

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**Agenda Item V:** Presentation: Update on Modification to the Commercial Electronic Reporting Program

**Timeline Status:** Presentation, discussion, and feedback

**Council input and next steps:** Dr. Julie Brown from the Southeast Fishery Science Center (SEFSC) will present a progress update on the modifications to the commercial electronic logbook program. A similar presentation provided by the SEFSC at the recent Reef Fish AP meeting indicated that the program began allowing for voluntary electronic submission of the paper logbook on November 10, 2021 for commercial permit holders within in the Greater Atlantic Regional Office. The Committee should ask questions of SEFSC staff, discuss how to address potential future modifications to the program (e.g., additional data collection fields, timing of reporting), and advise whether the development of a policy document should be initiated at this time to consider electronic reporting options.

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**Agenda Item VI:** Update on the Southeast For-hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) Program

**Timeline Status:** Presentation and discussion

**Council input and next steps:** Southeast Regional Office (SERO) staff will provide a progress update on the Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) Program. Phase I of the program was implemented on January 5, 2021 and established new reporting requirements for the federal for-hire industry. Phase II of the program will require the use of vessel monitoring systems (VMS) and is expected to be implemented on March 1, 2022. Program

participants have expressed concern the inability to conduct fishing trips in the event of an unforeseen VMS malfunction after the implementation of Phase II. Additionally, they have expressed concern regarding duplicative reporting in the program. Further, the Data Collection Advisory Panel (AP) expressed concerns about making multiple hail outs when moving the vessel short distances for non-fishing trips and requested avenues for reducing this burden. Program participants have also expressed interest in streamlining the current reporting software to allow for more autofill options to alleviate filling in data fields that do not change often between fishing trips. The Council sent letters to SERO requesting both of these issues be explored and addressed at a future Council meeting during the SEFHIER update. The Committee should listen to the presented materials and discussion, ask questions of SERO staff, and provide insight on the SEFHIER program.

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**Agenda Item VII:** Update on Upcoming Workshop to Evaluate State-Federal Recreational Survey Differences

**Timeline Status:** Update and Discussion

**Council input and next steps:** Dr. Richard Cody from NOAA's Office of Science and Technology will provide a progress update and overview of the upcoming Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) Gulf Transition group meeting. The purpose of the workshop is to identify potential sources of non-sampling error between MRIP and the state-generated recreational survey estimates. The workshop is tentatively scheduled for late February 2022. The Committee should ask questions of Dr. Cody and provide feedback.

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**Agenda Item VIII:** Other Business

**Timeline Status:** Additional items that can be brought up for discussion

**Council Input and Next Steps:** Additional items may be brought up for discussion by Committee members during the adoption of the agenda, time permitting. If the Committee wishes to pursue action, then action can be scheduled at a future Council meeting.