

Ad Hoc Charter For-Hire Data Collection Advisory Panel
Scope of Work
February 24, 2025
Gulf Council Office
Tampa, Florida

Agenda Item V: Review of Council discussion and amendment development

Action: Information

Committee input and next steps: Council staff will provide an update on the development of a new Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) program. This information is provided as background and AP members should ask any questions of staff about updates to a new SEFHIER that is under development.

Agenda Item VI: Discussion of Program Validation Methods

Action: Presentation and discussion

Committee input and next steps: Staff from the Southeast Regional Office (SERO) will provide a presentation outlining approaches for validating data collection for the new SEFHIER program. The previous program relied on Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) as an effort validation tool; however, the Council will pursue alternative methods and will not be considering the use of VMS in the new program. Instead, several reporting components including: a combination of hail out/in declarations, logbook reporting prior to offload, dockside intercepts, use of approved landing locations, and “Did Not Fish” reports will be used to validate catch and effort estimates. AP members should review the presentation, ask questions of staff, and provide any feedback they may for the Council regarding the proposed validation methodology.

Agenda Item VII: Discussion of Economic data collection

Action: Presentation and discussion

Committee input and next steps: Collection of fisheries economic data is a requirement of the Magnuson-Steven Fishery Conservation and Management Act and is used to compare and inform management decisions. For the new SEFHIER program, the Council is considering the implementation of economic data collection and staff from the Southeast Fisheries Science (SEFSC) will provide a presentation outlining the rationale, proposed methods, and intended use of these data. Additionally, two methods (a census and a sampling approach) are being considered for collecting of this information. AP members should review the presentation, ask questions of staff, and provide any feedback they may have for the Council regarding the proposed economic data collection component of a new program.

Agenda Item VIII: Review of For-hire Data Collection Document

Action: Presentation, discussion, and recommendations

Committee input and next steps: Council staff will review the draft amendment including the proposed action and alternatives. The actions include considerations for an electronic logbook for the charter vessels (Action 1) and participants in the Southeast Region Headboat Survey (Action 2), reporting timing and trip declarations requirements (Action 3), and the collection of economic data (Action 4). The AP should review the document, ask questions of staff, and provide recommendations to the Council on preferred alternatives, if desired.

Agenda Item VIII: Discussion of outreach for new SEFHIER program

Action: Discussion and recommendations

Committee input and next steps: The AP will discuss approaches for outreach of the new SEFHIER program. The AP is encouraged to speak towards what worked and what was not as effective for gaining buy-in from the first iteration of the program. Additionally, the AP should make recommendations to the Council about developing an outreach plan for the new program.

Agenda Item IX: Public Comment

Action: Information

Committee input and next steps: Members of the public will be able to address the AP directly with respect to the topics discussed during this meeting, and other matters, as time allows.

Agenda Item X: Other Business

Action: Discussion

Committee Input and Next Steps: Additional items may be brought up for discussion by AP members, time permitting.