



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

SEFHIER

Better Data, Better Management

Michelle Masi, PhD
NMFS|Southeast Regional Office
Michelle.Masi@noaa.gov

Why Do We Need Trip and Catch Validation To Use The SEFHIER Data?

- **Trip and Catch Validation** – is a main component in the statistical method used to estimate the amount of non-reporting or misreporting in the self-reported logbook data (i.e., allows us to estimate the amount of uncertainty there is in the data)
- **Precision and Accuracy** – the validation survey is used to improve the precision and accuracy of the final estimates of landings and effort by accounting for non-reporting and misreporting



Options to Estimate Non-reporting and Misreporting

Least
Uncertainty

Uncertainty Scale



Most
Uncertainty

1. Using VMS (or Geofencing) to “Passively” Self-Validate Trips:

- ❖ Lots of options for passive self-validation; some options will take time & money to research, develop & test, and then may prove nonviable in the end (e.g. P-Sea WindPlot, with Shrimp)
- ❖ VMS, although it is the least uncertain for estimating non-reported trips, is not a preferred option

2. Dockside Intercepts to Validate Trips:

- ❖ Intercept surveys allow us to estimate non- and misreporting, assuming we have a representative sample size (i.e., the more trips intercepted, the closer the estimates of non-& misreporting are to representing reality)
- ❖ The survey is costly for the agency to fund

3. No Trip Validation Method:

- ❖ Without trip validation, the estimates of catch and effort would have considerable uncertainty (we’d be unable to estimate any non-reporting or misreporting, and therefore the data may have limited use in management/stock assessment)

Minimum Requirements Recommended for Management Use

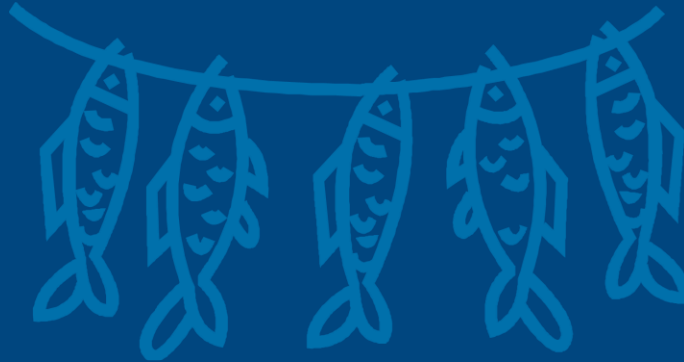
1. **Declaration**: must be submitted prior to the vessel leaving the dock; informs the trip start/end & landing location, which maximizes enforcement opportunities & allows for SEFHIER compliance tracking (matching a declared trip to whether a logbook was submitted) **[Action 3 in draft Gulf Amendment]**
2. **Landing Location**: needs to be approved prior to trip departure; informs dockside survey site weights **[implemented in previous Gulf For-hire Amendment]**
3. **Logbook**: must be submitted for every for-hire fishing trip; to maintain dockside validation survey statistical design, the logbook must be submitted before a surveyor intercepts the vessel **[Actions 1 & 2 of draft Gulf Amendment]**
4. **Did Not Fish (DNF)**: informs if a vessel is inactive, or just not reporting; important for compliance tracking and for quantifying the number of latent federal for-hire permit holders **[important for capturing uncertainty in non-reporting; a component of program compliance tracking and Trip Validation]**
5. **Dockside Validation Survey**: to estimate non- & misreporting; requires a representation sample size (therefore, the survey should not be voluntary) **[implemented in previous Gulf For-hire Amendment]**

- **The Original SEFHIER Program** – was implemented in January 2021 with optimal data collection standards, like VMS to capture non-reporting and a declaration for every movement the vessel made, in an effort to achieve top quality data

- **The Revised SEFHIER Program** –draft For-Hire Amendment includes:
 - ✓ **Dockside Trip Validation Survey** – to statistically estimate non-reporting and misreporting
 - ✓ **Declaration only required for a fishing and/or chartered trip**– minimizing industry burden
 - ✓ **Did Not Fish Report** – to better account for non-reporting uncertainty, aid in compliance tracking for the program and to allow for accounting of latent permits

We heard your concerns and have worked with you to develop a revised SEFHIER program

-- THE END --
Questions???



Thank you!!

