

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

Agenda item IV: Commercial Fishing Unique Trip Identifiers

Timeline Status: Education and Information

Council input and next steps: The Committee will receive a presentation summarizing the challenges and potential benefits of developing unique trip identifiers for commercial fishing trips in the Gulf of Mexico. Unique trip identifiers have been requested by stakeholders to improve the timeliness and quality of commercial fishery data. However, implementation of a unique trip identifier is challenging given the number of partners with established data collection programs. SEFSC staff will provide a summary presentation outlining the challenges and provide examples of how these challenges have been overcome in other regions. The Committee should provide guidance to staff determining if more information is needed or if this request has been fulfilled at this time.

Agenda item V: SEFHIER Implementation Update and Outreach Meeting Schedule

Timeline Status: Information and discussion

Council input and next steps: SERO staff will provide an update about the implementation plan and process to enact electronic reporting requires for federally permitted for-hire vessels in the Gulf. A series of workshops were held Gulf-wide and are intended to improve communications with for-hire vessel operators that will be affected by the upcoming changes in reporting requirements. Council staff will provide the Committee with summaries from each outreach meeting and report on potential implementation issues identified by the public. The Council can provide feedback to NMFS regarding issues identified during the for-hire reporting requirement workshops for consideration during the implementation process.
