

1 GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

2  
3 DATA COLLECTION COMMITTEE

4  
5 The Tremont House Galveston, Texas

6  
7 OCTOBER 23, 2019

8  
9 **VOTING MEMBERS**

- 10 Kevin Anson (designee for Scott Bannon).....Alabama
- 11 Susan Boggs.....Alabama
- 12 Leann Bosarge.....Mississippi
- 13 Roy Crabtree.....NMFS
- 14 Dave Donaldson.....GSMFC
- 15 Martha Guyas (designee for Jessica McCawley).....Florida
- 16 Paul Mickle (designee for Joe Spraggins).....Mississippi
- 17 Lance Robinson (designee for Robin Riechers).....Texas
- 18 John Sanchez.....Florida
- 19 Chris Schieble (designee for Patrick Banks).....Louisiana
- 20 Greg Stunz.....Texas
- 21 Ed Swindell.....Louisiana
- 22 Troy Williamson.....Texas

23  
24 **NON-VOTING MEMBERS**

- 25 Dale Diaz.....Mississippi
- 26 Jonathan Dugas.....Louisiana
- 27 Phil Dyskow.....Florida
- 28 Tom Frazer.....Florida
- 29 Bob Shipp.....Alabama
- 30 Lt. Mark Zanowicz.....USCG

31  
32 **STAFF**

- 33 Zeenatul Basher.....Coral and Habitat Biologist
- 34 Assane Diagne.....Economist
- 35 John Froeschke.....Deputy Director
- 36 Lisa Hollensead.....Fishery Biologist
- 37 Ava Lasseter.....Anthropologist
- 38 Mara Levy.....NOAA General Counsel
- 39 Jessica Matos.....Document Editor & Administrative Assistant
- 40 Natasha Mendez-Ferrer.....Fishery Biologist
- 41 Emily Muehlstein.....Public Information Officer
- 42 Ryan Rindone.....Fishery Biologist & SEDAR Liaison
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- 44 Carrie Simmons.....Executive Director

45  
46 **OTHER PARTICIPANTS**

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2 Terry Bessinger.....  
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4 Richard Cody.....NOAA Fisheries  
5 Chris Conklin.....SAFMC  
6 Katie Fischer.....  
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9 Susan Gerhart.....NMFS  
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11 Max Lee.....Mote Marine Lab, Bradenton, FL  
12 John O'Keefe.....  
13 Clay Porch.....SEFSC  
14 Casey Streeter.....  
15 Bob Zales.....Panama City, FL  
16 Jesse Zepeda.....Galveston, TX

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18  
19

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1 The Data Collection Committee of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery  
2 Management Council convened at the Tremont House, Galveston,  
3 Texas, Wednesday morning, October 23, 2019, and was called to  
4 order by Chairman Kevin Anson.

5  
6 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**  
7 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
8 **ACTION GUIDE AND NEXT STEPS**  
9

10 **CHAIRMAN KEVIN ANSON:** The first item that we will need to  
11 attend to is the Adoption of the Agenda. First, let me make  
12 sure that members are here. It's myself as Chair, Dr. Greg  
13 Stunz as Vice Chair, Mr. Banks or Mr. Schieble, Ms. Boggs, Ms.  
14 Bosarge, Dr. Crabtree, Mr. Donaldson, Ms. Guyas, Mr. Robinson,  
15 Mr. Sanchez, Dr. Mickle, Mr. Swindell, and Mr. Williamson. You  
16 have the agenda in front of you. Is there any changes that are  
17 needed for the agenda? Is there any opposition to accepting the  
18 agenda as written? Seeing none, we will move ahead.

19  
20 We next go to the second item on the agenda, and that's Approval  
21 of the August 2019 Minutes. Is there any changes to the August  
22 2019 minutes? Is there any opposition to accepting the minutes  
23 as written? Seeing none, the minutes are approved. We go next  
24 to the Action Guide and Next Steps. Dr. Hollensead, would you  
25 like to review, please?

26  
27 **DRAFT PROCEDURAL DIRECTIVE FOR ELECTRONIC MONITORING DATA**  
28 **RETENTION**  
29

30 **DR. LISA HOLLENSHAD:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. The first agenda  
31 item for the committee is going to be looking at and reviewing  
32 and commenting on a draft procedural directive for electronic  
33 monitoring data retention, and so I have included a couple of  
34 background materials in your briefing book.

35  
36 Just to help orient you as to what this is, if you look and you  
37 think, well, I looked at something like this, and did I not look  
38 at this before, and it was something very similar, and so just  
39 to keep everybody sort of in context.

40  
41 Back in September of 2018, the council sent a letter, and so  
42 that's Tab F, Number 4(a), commenting on a procedural directive  
43 that was published in May of this year. That procedural  
44 directive looked at the cost allocations in electronic  
45 monitoring programs, and so what was sort of administrative and  
46 what was going to be covered by NMFS, for example, and then what  
47 was going to be covered by industry.

1 In that previous procedural directive, it was determined that  
2 cost associated with imagery or video would be an industry cost,  
3 for example, and so this other procedural directive for your  
4 review, and so that is going to be the actual item that you  
5 would be commenting on, which is Tab F, Number 4, is under that  
6 larger umbrella of sort of that other directive, and so this  
7 says, a little bit more specifically, what is the data retention  
8 minimum timeline for imagery, and it's not VMS or logbooks.  
9 This would just be for the imagery of the video.

10  
11 If we scroll down to that Figure 1, right here is sort of the  
12 meat and potatoes of the directive, and so what it says is that  
13 -- That sort of little black bar on the time says this is where  
14 the fishing year would be, and, of course, you would be  
15 monitoring during the fishing year, and then there would be a  
16 little bit of time after that where there would be some  
17 processing by NMFS to look through the video, and then, once  
18 they're finished with that, there is a minimum retention period  
19 of twelve months with which that imagery has to be retained, and  
20 so that's what this procedural directive is going over.

21  
22 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Again, as it states in the directive, that  
23 monitoring period after the fishing year is completed could be  
24 as soon as maybe a month to maybe six or eight months, and so  
25 it's, as it says, it's variable, and so I just want to make sure  
26 that's clear to everyone. Is there any committee discussion on  
27 this retention period? Seeing none, is there any other points  
28 within the policy guidance here that we need to address?

29  
30 **DR. HOLLENSHAD:** I don't think so. I think that was mostly what  
31 I was going to let everyone know, to understand retaining and  
32 keeping this type of data. Storage is very expensive, and I  
33 think NMFS recognizes that, and so it was to allow for about a  
34 twelve-month period afterwards, but what you do with the video  
35 after that is up to you. Industry can retain it if they would  
36 like, but, if they don't want to, they don't have to.

37  
38 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** I am just curious, and maybe Sue can answer the  
39 question, but is that -- Does the agency consider that  
40 proprietary, even though the agency is not paying for any of the  
41 storage or, maybe directly, any of the collection devices and  
42 such? Can that be shared any time during the collection period  
43 with outside entities, since it's, I guess, owned by the  
44 fishermen?

45  
46 **MS. MARA LEVY:** I don't know the answer to the question, but I  
47 do know that electronic monitoring is something that's  
48 happening, right, on the Pacific coast, and even I think in the

1 Northeast, and they're looking at that as well, and I know that  
2 that's an issue that they are expressly trying to address, and I  
3 think they're still in the process of addressing that and what  
4 happens with that data when it's stored off site and who can  
5 have access to it and things like that. I think, as they  
6 develop their program and finalize things like that, then  
7 whatever they do will sort of end up applying to anything that  
8 would happen in other parts of the country.

9  
10 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Thank you. Seeing that there is no additional  
11 comments, I guess, Dr. Hollensead, would you be willing to write  
12 a short letter then that says the council has reviewed the  
13 policy directive and has no comments to that effect, if the  
14 committee so chooses? Go ahead, Dr. Hollensead.

15  
16 **DR. HOLLENSEAD:** Yes, Mr. Chair. We can do that. The ending  
17 for the comment period is at the end of the calendar year, and  
18 so I guess, if you wanted to take a little bit of time to review  
19 it, you could send any notes that you might think of afterwards,  
20 but I think we can send a short letter.

21  
22 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Ms. Bosarge.

23  
24 **MS. LEANN BOSARGE:** NOAA has a policy on data privacy and  
25 confidentiality for other types of data, and so I guess, yes,  
26 this may be a little different, and maybe they're doing some of  
27 this on the west coast, but I would hate to say that I will just  
28 leave it straight up to them. I would want at least the NOAA  
29 policy -- At least that blanket of protection for the data.  
30 There are some other issues, because it's off site and things  
31 like that, but at least that level of protection.

32  
33 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Ms. Levy.

34  
35 **MS. LEVY:** I don't want to speak too much of it, and so I think  
36 part of the issue is there's the confidentiality with the  
37 Magnuson Act for information submitted to the Secretary, and I  
38 think part of the question is if you're not submitting it to the  
39 Secretary, and so this -- Whatever happens with electronic  
40 monitoring is not going to implicate the information submitted  
41 to the Secretary pursuant to the Act.

42  
43 There are questions about all of this data that potentially gets  
44 stored off site, through private contracts and all of that, and  
45 what that means and how that interplays with the Magnuson Act,  
46 and so I think those are the questions that they are looking at  
47 and trying to answer at this point.

48

1 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Thank you. Any other comments about this  
2 particular policy directive on the length of time that the  
3 fishermen must keep the electronic monitoring data? As you  
4 said, you would accept comments up until what date then?

5  
6 **DR. HOLLENSEAD:** The end of November, and I guess we could do  
7 that.

8  
9 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Okay. Mara.

10  
11 **MS. LEVY:** I think if, as the council, you're going to have  
12 comments, you need to express them now. I mean, I don't -- I  
13 wouldn't want there to just be private comments and then a  
14 letter comes out and it hasn't been vetted in the open format.

15  
16 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Seeing that we have a deadline of the end of  
17 the year and we have no other council meeting until after the  
18 end of the year, if anyone has any pressing concerns, to bring  
19 it up at the committee report tomorrow. Otherwise, we will try  
20 to finish it up then and give some more concrete direction.  
21 Then that would -- The cost allocation, do you want to --

22  
23 **DR. HOLLENSEAD:** That was just as background material, just like  
24 I said, to orient everyone. Some of these look a little  
25 similar, and so you might think this was something that I've  
26 seen before, and you kind of have, but this is just something  
27 that's a little bit more directed at the retention for the  
28 electronic monitoring data.

29  
30 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** All right. Thank you. That will bring us to  
31 our next item on the agenda, and that's an update on SEFHIER.  
32 Ms. Gerhart.

33  
34 **UPDATE ON SEFHIER**

35  
36 **MS. SUSAN GERHART:** Thank you. I want to update you on some of  
37 the progress we've made in implementing the electronic for-hire  
38 and reporting program. If I go back to the title slide, we have  
39 this acronym SEFHIER that stands for Southeast For-Hire  
40 Integrated Electronic Reporting. Someone coined that, and it  
41 sort of stuck, and so, if you see that on your agenda and you're  
42 wondering what it is, that's what that stands for.

43  
44 The integrated part of that is important. We want to emphasize  
45 that this is a Southeast program. It's not just Gulf of Mexico,  
46 and it also includes the South Atlantic. Even though each of  
47 the councils created their own amendment and have some  
48 differences in the requirements themselves, we are treating it

1 as a single program and trying to integrate the two regions, as  
2 much as possible, as well as other regions throughout the  
3 country.

4  
5 The requirements apply to Southeast federally-permitted for-hire  
6 vessels, regardless of where they're fishing, and that's  
7 important to note, because, if someone holds a Gulf permit,  
8 regardless of if they go to Alaska, for example, with their  
9 vessel that has that permit and start fishing there, they will  
10 still need to be reporting to the Gulf program, and so,  
11 regardless of -- Even if they're in state waters, they still  
12 have to report as well.

13  
14 There are three requirements, on the Gulf side at least, and you  
15 can see those listed, and we've talked about those before, and  
16 the thing that is the connection between the Gulf and South  
17 Atlantic is the logbooks that are required to be reported that  
18 are at a trip level, and so what the landings and effort were  
19 for each trip. There is a difference in the timing between the  
20 two, but we have worked very hard to make sure that the logbooks  
21 themselves look the same between the two regions, so that those  
22 vessels that are permitted in both regions will not have to do  
23 two different forms.

24  
25 Also of note is vessels that have permits from both the Gulf and  
26 South Atlantic must follow the Gulf requirements. The South  
27 Atlantic put into their amendment that, if a vessel has permits  
28 from other regions, that they have to follow the more stringent  
29 reporting requirements, and the Gulf requirements are more  
30 stringent than the South Atlantic, because we do require the  
31 hail-out before any trip, and, eventually, we will require the  
32 tracking devices as well. Those vessels, even if they are  
33 fishing in the South Atlantic, will need to report to the Gulf  
34 program if they have a Gulf permit.

35  
36 Here is the timeline. Just, very briefly, and we go through a  
37 timeline each time, and you probably notice that it changes each  
38 time. One of the things that we're looking at is the hardware  
39 and software development and approval, and that's really  
40 determining when we do things, because we can't put out a final  
41 rule requiring people to report to a program that's not set up  
42 yet, and so that's what is determining the timeline but we are  
43 getting more and more confident in our timeline now, because we  
44 are making a lot of progress, and so we expect the final rules  
45 for both regions to publish sometime early next year, and then  
46 Phase 1, which is the hail-out and logbook portion of this  
47 program, will be in the spring sometime, is our expectation.  
48 Phase 2 is for the Gulf only, and it's about the location



1 tracking devices, and we expect that later in 2020.

2  
3 I have talked to you, a lot of times at these meetings, about a  
4 lot of our challenges that have made this timeline keep being  
5 pushed back, and I would like to talk this time about what we've  
6 actually accomplished, because we have accomplished quite a bit,  
7 and we have focused mainly on Phase 1, as I mentioned, which is  
8 the logbooks and hail-out.

9  
10 We are very close, like within a week or two, of having the tech  
11 specs ready for the logbooks and, shortly thereafter, the hail-  
12 outs. The tech specs include the data elements, which I have  
13 shown to you many times and have been solidified for quite a  
14 while now, but the tech specs also include the formatting of  
15 that data and how it needs to be transmitted to our data  
16 warehouse, which is ACCSP.

17  
18 The way that we are doing this is that we are putting this  
19 basically out to the open market for any vendors that would like  
20 to develop a platform to accept the data that needs to be  
21 provided, so that fishermen will have lots of choices,  
22 hopefully, in how they are going to provide this data to NOAA  
23 Fisheries.

24  
25 The platforms then will have to develop the forms that meet all  
26 of our specifications, including collecting the right data and  
27 being able to transmit safely and securely to ACCSP. Those  
28 platforms will need to go through an approval process, which  
29 also will be part of our tech specs that we put out within the  
30 next few weeks. We will have to make sure that they can do what  
31 they need to do and that they meet all the requirements.

32  
33 Those platforms can take different forms. Probably the most  
34 common will be internet-based platforms, or those that use  
35 mobile apps, and so some examples are eTRIPS is a mobile app, an  
36 internet-based platform, that is run by ACCSP, our data  
37 warehouse. Because we have been working with them to set up the  
38 data warehouse, they are probably the farthest along in being  
39 ready for this, and we feel that they are very, very close right  
40 now. We have been working with them closely.

41  
42 Another example is VESL, which is actually a program run out of  
43 the State of South Carolina. It's their state-run program.  
44 They are very interested in modifying their platform to be able  
45 to accept our data and send our data, and so, even without  
46 having the tech specs, they have taken the data elements that we  
47 have put out and already developed forms, and they're just  
48 waiting for the rest of the tech specs to finish developing

1 their program, and, although they are in South Carolina, they  
2 are interested in moving into the Gulf with their program, and  
3 so they are developing the hail-out form as well, so that Gulf  
4 vessels could report through their program.

5  
6 This is open to any vendors, any states, anyone who wants to be  
7 a platform for submitting this data. They can use these tech  
8 specs to develop a program and then submit it to our office for  
9 the approval process and be a vendor, and so I would encourage  
10 any of those states that are concerned about double reporting on  
11 your vessels part to contact us and talk to us about doing any  
12 of that. We have talked briefly with Mississippi already in the  
13 past, but now is the time.

14  
15 Another way in which data can be submitted is through VMS units.  
16 Now, to be very clear, these VMS units are not required for the  
17 tracking portion until Phase 2, but many vessels already have  
18 VMS units, and the request was, through the amendment, that they  
19 could submit logbooks through the VMS units, and so that's a  
20 different set of tech specs, slightly, because of the way the  
21 VMS works.

22  
23 We have a contractor who accepts all the data for VMS units and  
24 then forwards it to NOAA Fisheries, and so that's a slightly  
25 different set of tech specs. Those went out last week to the  
26 vendors, and we have had a lot of interest from companies about  
27 modifying their forms to be part of this program as well.

28  
29 For those VMS units that have already been approved for the  
30 commercial reef fish program, they are not automatically  
31 approved for this program, and I want to be clear about that.  
32 However, they can go through an amended approval process, which  
33 means they won't have to have their units tested themselves,  
34 because they have already been tested, but they will have to  
35 show that they can supply the forms and transmit the data that  
36 we're collecting in the appropriate manner.

37  
38 That approval goes through our VMS program that is run from the  
39 Office of Law Enforcement at our headquarters, and so we won't  
40 be doing that in SERO. That will be up to that program to do  
41 that, and so they have put out those tech specs, and those are  
42 the people that should be contacted, if anyone is interested,  
43 and, if you don't know their contact information, then let me  
44 know, and I can certainly put you in contact with them.

45  
46 Again, with the VMS, the important thing to note is, if you  
47 already have one, that doesn't mean it's approved. We do expect  
48 that a number of the currently approved ones for the other

1 program will be approved for this program, but there are some  
2 that may not, and then, also, that those VMS will not be  
3 approved, necessarily -- Or will not need to do the pinging that  
4 is required later on in Phase 2, towards the end of next year.

5  
6 Some other things are we have a data warehouse, ACCSP, that has  
7 to show that it meets the security needs of the agency, and so  
8 there is an audit process that they have gone through. They had  
9 some recommendations and requirements that came out of that  
10 auditing process that they are addressing, and our expectation  
11 is that they will have met all of those requirements before the  
12 end of the year, and so that is one of the things that we're  
13 really waiting on before doing the final rule to start requiring  
14 this.

15  
16 Then another thing is the data flow. If we have multiple  
17 vendors collecting data, obviously, the data has to flow to our  
18 warehouse correctly. One of the things is, with the way the  
19 contract is set up with VMS, that the data coming through VMS  
20 cannot go directly to our data warehouse, and so it will have to  
21 come to our office, and that requires us to build tables and a  
22 system of accepting and transmitting that data, and so that's  
23 another thing that we have made some progress on and are working  
24 on.

25  
26 Phase 2, we have made a little bit of progress there as well.  
27 The council wanted the ability to use archivable GPS units for  
28 the tracking that takes place in Phase 2, and so that is what we  
29 are calling cellular VMS units, and VMS just means a vessel  
30 monitoring system, and so they can be satellite based, which is  
31 what the current ones are, or cellular based, and so, again,  
32 that will go through our Office of Law Enforcement Headquarters  
33 Program that will do that approval, and they are adding that to  
34 their regulations, and so we've been proceeding with that.

35  
36 Of course, when Phase 2 comes along, those that want to use the  
37 satellite-based VMS will be able to. We expect that a number of  
38 units will be already approved from Phase 1, and so there  
39 shouldn't be much of a process there at that time.

40  
41 A few other things that we have accomplished, and one of the  
42 things that I have always stressed to you is that we don't have  
43 directed funding or staffing for this program, and we were able  
44 to get a grant from FIS to hire some contractors on to help us.  
45 Keep in mind that these are temporary funds, and so these people  
46 are generally on a one-year contract, and so we are looking to  
47 hire contractors for assurance quality control that will work  
48 with the Science Center on looking at the data, those that are

1 going to deal with VMS approvals, as well as functioning, some  
2 customer support, and we also will have someone to help with  
3 some outreach.

4  
5 Again, I am stressing that these are temporary funds, and these  
6 people will be available to help us set up the program, but that  
7 does not mean they will be there to help us continue to run the  
8 program, and so we're still looking at funding sources.

9  
10 A little more about customer support. We have some information  
11 packets that we've drafted that we'll mail out to all of the  
12 participants once the final rule publishes. Those still need to  
13 be completed, but we do have a good start on those. We have  
14 some how-to guides in development, to help people when they get  
15 started, to know what steps to take to submit their data, and  
16 then we're also working on setting up a toll-free phone line, as  
17 well as an email, so that people can contact us, and the email  
18 is actually set up already, and you see that email address right  
19 there.

20  
21 Then we have our webpage that we've always had, and the link is  
22 there in the presentation, and that will have everything that we  
23 have for this program on that page, and so our development plan  
24 is there, and we'll have the tech specs for both the VMS and  
25 mobile apps on there, and that's a place you can go to find all  
26 the information that you need.

27  
28 Then, finally, one more thing about outreach. I wanted to point  
29 out that we have a contract with the council where we gave over  
30 \$42,000 to the council itself to do some of the outreach for us,  
31 and this was a contract from last year, but this money does  
32 carry over into this year, and so this is money that was used to  
33 complete eight in-person meetings that took place up until now,  
34 as well as the newsletter that we put out shortly after the last  
35 council meeting, but we have a lot of money remaining, because  
36 we haven't go to a lot of the outreach that we want to do, and  
37 so that amount remaining that you see there can be used by the  
38 council to do more outreach.

39  
40 The things you see listed there are what are required by the  
41 contract for the council to do. However, based on the amount of  
42 money that was spent so far, we should be able to do far more  
43 outreach than is required, and so you all have a very competent  
44 outreach person on your staff, which is Emily, and she is  
45 working on -- She will be working on getting these different  
46 meetings in place, as well as completing the informational  
47 packets and mailing those out under that contract.

48

1 Note that we have some webinars for fishermen who can't get to  
2 our in-person meetings, but some of those webinars will also be  
3 very specific, for example for enforcement, and we'll have ones  
4 for port agents, or we hope to, and then hopefully we can have  
5 ones with each of the states, to talk about how their programs  
6 integrate with ours. That is our plan right now, and I will  
7 take any questions, if you have them.

8  
9 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Thank you, Sue. Any questions? Ms. Boggs.

10  
11 **MS. SUSAN BOGGS:** Sue, you touched on it, and I wanted to make  
12 sure that I understood. The devices that were used during the  
13 charter/for-hire pilot program and the headboat pilot program  
14 could possibly be approved, and is there anything that those  
15 captains can do to help move that process along?

16  
17 **MS. GERHART:** It's really up to the vendor to apply, and this is  
18 purely by choice, and so, if the vendor who supplied those is  
19 interested in participating in this program as well, then it  
20 would be up to them to submit their new forms and such to get  
21 approved.

22  
23 The approval process shouldn't be that difficult if they were  
24 approved once. Like we said, normally -- Now, if you're  
25 starting from scratch with a vendor that's never been approved,  
26 they do all kinds of tests on the unit themselves. They take  
27 them out on boats, and they do things like wrap tinfoil around  
28 the antennas and see what happens, and they make sure that  
29 they're waterproof and things like that.

30  
31 If those tests have already been done, then they don't have to  
32 do them again, and so what they really need to do for approval  
33 is get the right forms, to show they are collecting the right  
34 data, and that the data will transmit from those units to  
35 wherever that data needs to go in the proper manner and is  
36 secure.

37  
38 **MS. BOGGS:** I'm sure the vendor would know, but who does the  
39 vendor contact?

40  
41 **MS. GERHART:** For VMS units, there is a contract with an  
42 organization called VISMA, and they are the -- They coordinate  
43 all the VMS vendors, and so we have individual vendors, but they  
44 report to VISMA, and they work through VISMA, who then works  
45 with our Office of Law Enforcement, but I can certainly get you  
46 that information, and I suspect the vendor that you're thinking  
47 about has already been in contact with us, and so that probably  
48 isn't a problem.

1  
2 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Chris.

3  
4 **MR. CHRIS CONKLIN:** Thanks. I am interested to hear about the  
5 funding, and I know it's been a big issue, and I see that it's  
6 temporary, and I was wondering how temporary it's going to be.

7  
8 **MS. GERHART:** Those are a one-year grant, and so that's how  
9 temporary it will be. Whether we get another grant in the  
10 following year, we don't know at this time. As far as more  
11 permanent funding, that's a much higher level than I can speak  
12 to.

13  
14 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Any other questions for Sue? Sue, I have just  
15 a couple of questions. You mentioned about the double reporting  
16 for states that are going to have reporting requirements for  
17 various species. You mentioned the vendor, and so I just wanted  
18 to see if the opportunity still exists for NMFS to forward to  
19 the states the data for those vessels and/or species  
20 combinations that the state is interested in.

21  
22 **MS. GERHART:** I would say, at this point, we -- Because we don't  
23 have directed funding for this, we are setting up the bare bones  
24 that we can, and I don't know that we -- Well, I do know that we  
25 have not worked out yet the way of getting data from ACCSP back  
26 to the states. Certainly that is our desire, but we're working  
27 on collecting the data first.

28  
29 If a state was a vendor, they would, obviously, be collecting  
30 the data first and sending it to ACCSP, and so I'm not sure that  
31 that would be a necessary step, but we can talk more about that  
32 and talk about that with ACCSP.

33  
34 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** I would be happy to do that, and just one other  
35 question that somebody might be interested in hearing around the  
36 table is I'm curious as to the motivation for the State of South  
37 Carolina to want to collect data from boats in the Gulf.

38  
39 **MS. GERHART:** I don't know their motivation for that. I know  
40 that their motivation for being part of this program was because  
41 they do collect the data from their vessels, and they didn't  
42 want to have the double reporting, but I guess, because the  
43 logbooks forms are the same from both, it was an easy step for  
44 them to do a hail-out form as well. There's only a few items on  
45 the hail-out form, and they decided to go ahead and expand  
46 themselves.

47  
48 Just to be clear, with each of these vendors, there may be a

1 cost associated with some of them. Again, that's up to the  
2 vendor, and so it's also up to the fishermen to decide, if there  
3 is a cost associated with one, do they offer more things to the  
4 fishermen that they would want that makes it worth that cost.

5  
6 We know that eTRIPS will be a free program, and so there is  
7 something free out there, but they might not offer the bells and  
8 whistles that someone else might desire, and so it really will  
9 be up to the vendors on what they provide. They have minimal  
10 things they have to provide, but then there are other things  
11 that they could provide, and then it will be up to the fishermen  
12 to decide, if there is a cost, if that's worth it.

13  
14 **CHAIRMAN ANSON:** Thank you. Any other questions for Sue?  
15 Seeing none, that will take us to our last item on our agenda,  
16 which is Other Business, and no other business was declared at  
17 the beginning of the meeting, and so, with that, I will pass it  
18 over to you, Mr. Chair.

19  
20 **DR. TOM FRAZER:** Thank you, Kevin, and to your committee for  
21 moving -- It looks like Mr. Swindell has a question.

22  
23 **MR. ED SWINDELL:** I am just wondering if any of this is going to  
24 be part of what is submitted to Congress about the Modern  
25 Fishery Act, and was any of this data program that we have for  
26 the charter boat fishing, which is part of the recreational side  
27 of our business, included?

28  
29 **DR. FRAZER:** I am going to have to go back, Ed, and look at the  
30 topical areas in the report. Chris, do you have something to  
31 add to that?

32  
33 **MR. CONKLIN:** I know the committee is over, but, to answer some  
34 of your question about the State of South Carolina, we've been  
35 collecting charter boat data independently since the dinosaurs  
36 went extinct, and so it's sort of a no-brainer to go ahead and -  
37 - We have the infrastructure, the bones, in place to go ahead  
38 and transition and see if there's anything to offer up, because  
39 we've been doing it so long.

40  
41 **DR. FRAZER:** I guess my suggestion, Ed, is there is an element  
42 of the report that bears on data collection, and, if you have  
43 something specific that you want to contribute, then certainly  
44 bring that up at Full Council, and we'll add it to the list.

45  
46 **MR. SWINDELL:** I was just curious if that's going to be included  
47 in part of our report about what we're doing for improvements in  
48 data collection and in keeping with the Modern Fishery Act

1 requirements is all. Thank you.

2  
3 **DR. FRAZER:** Thank you. We are actually amazingly close to  
4 schedule here. We are going to break for lunch. Before we do  
5 that, I would like to take an opportunity to recognize Mr.  
6 Rafael Combaluzier Medina. He is the Minister of the Yucatan  
7 State Ministry of Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture. He and  
8 his colleagues are visiting and observing the process, and so  
9 thank you for being here today, and I hope you get something out  
10 of it.

11  
12 We also have in the audience Mr. Doug Boyd, and Doug said that  
13 he didn't want to be recognized, but, Doug, you have many  
14 colleagues around this table, and they felt that it was  
15 necessary, and so thanks for being here. I agree with them.

16  
17 We will reconvene with Full Council at two o'clock, but the last  
18 thing that we need to do before we break for lunch is all the  
19 council members should meet at the bottom of the stairs so that  
20 Emily can get a picture of the Full Council. Thank you very  
21 much, and I will see everybody at two o'clock.

22  
23 (Whereupon, the meeting adjourned on October 23, 2019.)

24  
25 - - -  
26