



Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting Program



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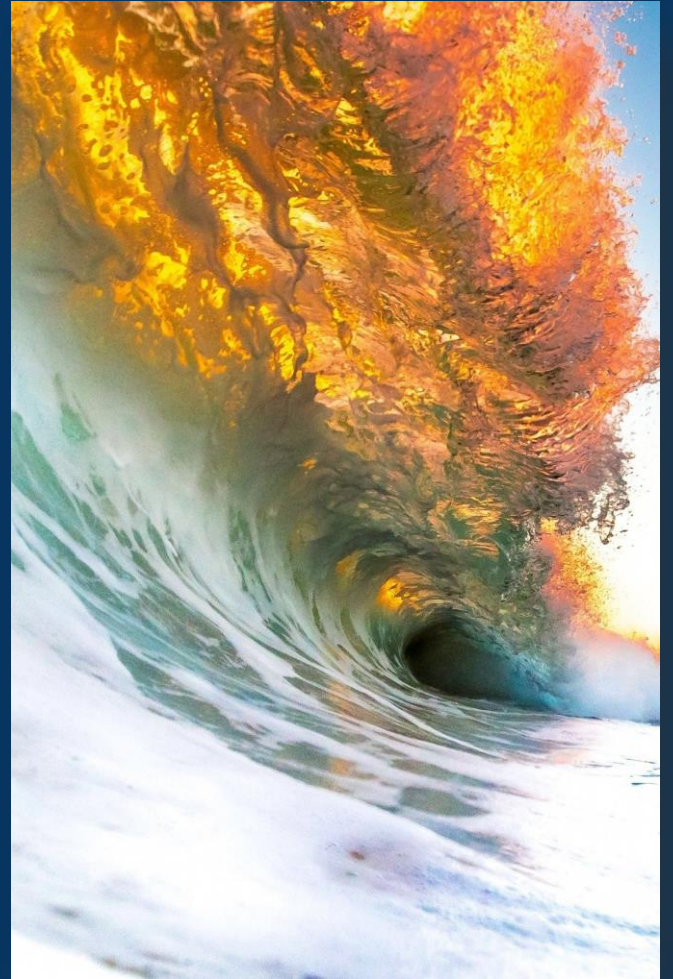


SEFHIER Background Information

- Federal for-hire electronic reporting began in Jan. 2021
- Applicable permits
 - Charter/headboat Reef Fish
 - Charter/headboat Coastal Migratory Pelagic Fish
 - For-hire historical captain permits

Anticipated Benefits

- ❖ Census-based reporting
- ❖ Increased accuracy of data
- ❖ Reduction in recall bias
- ❖ Near real-time preliminary data





Gulf Timeline

- Initially developed in conjunction with South Atlantic (2013)
 - Same logbook fields across regions, same database to receive data
- Separated amendments (2014)
 - Gulf added built-in validation components (2014)
 - Declaration, VMS positioning, and validation survey
- Final rule to implement the program published (2018)
 - Reporting requirement effective separate from VMS positioning
- Logbook and declarations effective (January 2021)
- Validation survey (to start ~September/October 2021)
- VMS position reporting will begin mid-December 2021



Program Goals

- Produce reliable estimates of catch and effort for federally permitted for-hire vessels
- Immediate data uses
 - Validate minimum catch & effort estimates
- Future data uses
 - Requires independent dockside survey (in progress)
 - Requires calibration and benchmarking to existing data collections



Reporting Requirements

Approved software applications work on a variety of platforms (iOS, android, computer)

Declaration

- Submitted prior to leaving a dock for *any* trip
- Trip activity determines whether additional information is required
- Fishing Trips:
 - Estimated return time
 - Estimated return location
 - Must land only at approved landing location
 - Landing location is selected in declaration

Logbook

- Submitted prior to fish offload
- Trip information – vessel, captain, trip date, etc.
- Catch data – all species landed and discarded
- Effort data – anglers, hours fished, gear, depth, target species, etc.
- Economic data – amount of fuel used & cost, charter fee
- *Southeast Regional Headboat Survey (SRHS) vessels only report using VESL's SRHS form*

VMS requirement

- Begins Dec 13, 2021
- Cellular and satellite VMS units approved for use
- Some units contain reporting forms
- Some units work with Reef Fish Permits
- Power-down exemptions
 - Min. 72 hr off
 - Vessel cannot move on water for any reason
- Equipment failure exception
 - On-going Council action



Vendors

Logbooks and Declarations

- eTrips by ACCSP
 - Windows 10, iOS, Android
 - Cost = free
 - Also compliant with GARFO, HMS
- VESL by Bluefin Data LLC
 - Webpage, iOS, Android
 - Cost = free
 - Also compliant with SRHS, SC
- Upcoming new vendor

VMS Positioning

- AddValue iFleetOne (S, F, GRF)
- Faria Watchdog 750 (S, F, GRF)
- Faria FB Eterm-C (C, F)
- MetOcean OmniCon VMS & Global (S, F, GRF)
- Skymate m1600 & i1500 (S, F, GRF)
- CLS Triton (S, F, GRF)
- CLS Leo (S, F, GRF) [no new purchase]
- CLS Thorium TST (S, F, GRF) [no new installs]
- Nautic Alert Insight x2 (S, GRF)
- CLS Nemo EMTRU-C (C)

S = Satellite unit
C = Cellular unit
F = Forms included
GRF = Compatible with Gulf Reef Fish



Data Collection

- Currently: Vendor → ACCSP, ACCSP → NMFS database
 - ACCSP's data collection meets reporting requirements of all east coast NMFS reporting requirements (e.g., GARFO and HMS)
 - Referred to as One-Stop Reporting (OSR)
- Upcoming: Alternative reporting pathway for SERO only vessels
 - Build data collection pathway (in progress)
 - Modify database for new pathways (in progress)
 - Update vendor requirements to meet each pathway
- Data collection pathways under modification related to stakeholder feedback



Validation Survey

- For-hire Methods Workshop (2019) recommends robust Complemented Census and Sampling Survey design
 - Mandatory logbook census with dockside survey
 - Estimates final landings using capture/recapture statistical method to account for unreported or misreported catch and effort
- Validation Survey designed in collaboration with Office of Science & Technology
- Validation Survey through GulfFIN and state partners
 - Brief survey on vessel catch/effort; includes biological sampling
 - Permit holders required to answer Validation Survey questions
- Calibration & benchmark to existing data collections
 - Vessels still need to report to MRIP



Data Usability

- Requires effective enforcement and compliance
- Logbooks are monitored for outlier values
- Declarations
 - Characterizes effort and may indicate pending logbooks
- Positioning
 - Replaces boots on the ground to ground-truths trips taken
 - May indicate pending logbooks
- Survey
 - Used to calculate final landings
 - Accounts for misreporting and/or under-reporting
- Equipment failure options weighed in relation to validation of data



Updates & Outreach



of Gulf & South Atlantic SEFHIER Permit Accounts as of Sept. 27th



Reporting Platform	Gulf Permit Accounts (change since 8/27/21)	S. Atl. Permit Accounts (change since 8/27/2021)	Gulf/S. Atl. Dual Permitted Accounts
eTrips	177 (+1)	627 (+3)	77 (+1)
VESL	521 (+26)	507 (+93)	115 (+4)
Headboat (VESL)	68 (+0)	64 (+0)	_____
VMS	128 (+22)	_____	_____
South Carolina (VESL)	_____	144 (+0)	_____
Total	894 (+49) *504 have yet to register	1,342 (+96) *904 have yet to register	192 (+5) *177 have yet to register



Gulf & South Atlantic Permit Accounts

- 1,585 permit holders have yet to register with approved vendor
 - +107 Accounts added since Aug. 27th
 - Sept 27th = 2,406 registered accounts
 - Accounts include both permit holders & captains (not 1:1)
- Expect 20-30% permit latency
- Some surrendered permits due to increased restrictions (*S. Atl.)
- SERO and Council staff enhancing outreach efforts to improve industry understanding of For-Hire regulations
- SERO anticipates increased participation as permits come up for renewal



SERO Hosted Outreach Webinars

Upcoming Webinars

- Oct 12th: VMS vendor webinar (hosted by GMFMC)
- Oct 14th: S Atl. SEFHIER constituent call with Andy Strelcheck

Recently Held Webinars

- Weekly VMS requirement webinars in Sept (~10 permit holders at each)
- Oct 7th: Gulf SEFHIER constituent call
- Oct 7th: VMS vendor webinar



Continued Outreach

- Updated permit renewal letter with SEFHEIR requirements posted to SEFHIER website
 - https://portal.southeast.fisheries.noaa.gov/reports/cs/SEFHIER_VMS_Rule_Letter.pdf
- Southeast for-hire intercept survey (SEFHIS) is scheduled to begin in late-Sept
 - Rack card posted to the SEFHIER website:
https://portal.southeast.fisheries.noaa.gov/reports/cs/Better_Data_Better_Fishing.pdf
- Regular SEFHIER website updates
 - E.g. updated answers to FAQs
<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/recreational-fishing/frequently-asked-questions-southeast-hire-integrated-electronic>



Declaration Discussion

- Per the regulations, a declaration is required every time a vessel leaves the dock (e.g. getting gas, ice, bait, home stop)
 - Must select appropriate trip activity on the declaration (e.g. trip no intention of fishing)
- Some vessels that were reporting consistently have now stopped reporting
- Some logbooks are missing a declaration
 - SEFHIER staff attempt to reach out to constituents to remind them of their permit requirements





General Discussion Items

- HMS caught species:
 - HMS and GARFO have different reporting requirements than SEFHIER
- Dually Gulf and South Atlantic permitted vessels:
 - Have to meet Gulf standards, regardless of where they are fishing
- Declaration emails
 - If OLE does not receive a declaration email it may be due to an outdated email list or a technical issue.
 - Prior to issuing a citation/warning check with SEFHIER Customer Service
 - Be aware SERO won't have submitted declarations/logbooks until the next day
 - JEA coordinate with federal OLE partner to sign up for declaration email notifications



Acknowledgements

- SEFHIER program staff
- Council staff assisting with outreach
- ❖ **Special thanks to our For-Hire constituents!**



Constituent Questions?



Start on our website:

- News and announcements:
 - Sign up to receive SEFHIER-specific Fishery Bulletins:
<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNOAAFISHERIES/subscriber/new>
- Guides and Tools:
 - Informational videos and the Gulf-specific toolkit online
- Upcoming webinars dates (will also be sent via SEFHIER Fishery Bulletins)
- Find forms: landing location, power down exemption and VMS install certification
- Contact SEFHIER customer service:
 - Customer Support Toll Free: 1-833-707-1632
 - Customer Support Email: ser.electronicreporting@noaa.gov
 - Contact me directly: michelle.masi@noaa.gov





What Can fisherman Do Now?

1

Select a reporting software; select & install a VMS unit before the effective date

2

Create a reporting account for each vessel/user

3

Review the website; watch informational videos, read SEFHIER toolkits

4

Check that your landing location is approved. If not, submit a landing location request form for approval





VMS Update

cVMS (cellular-based VMS) Type Approvals for Gulf For-Hire

1. Faria ETERM-C cVMS approved
 2. CLS NEMO cVMS approved
 3. Nautic Alert cVMS is currently undergoing sea trials for approval
- ❖ VMS rule to publish in Sept, with an effective date of Dec 13th

Link to all type-approved VMS Units:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/rules-and-regulations/approved-vessel-monitoring-system-vms-units-reporting-southeast-hire-electronic>