



**Reef Fish AP Meeting
February 24, 2021**

**Overview of changes to commercial
electronic logbook reporting (ELB)**

Background: Timeline

Pilot project begins April 2015

Explore the use of ELB in commercial fisheries to better estimate catch and effort

June and October 2020:

The Council receives presentations from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC)

- See 'Background' materials

What does the ELB program do?

- Timely and accurate data collection
- Provide indices of abundance for stock assessments
- Provide social and economic information
- Estimates of discards (target and non-target)
- Validate commercial dealer reports
- **Estimate commercial catch and effort**

Is NOT used for ACL monitoring or tracking Individual Fishery Quotas

What is changing in ELB program?

- Reporting now at set level rather than trip

- Additional data fields

Old

2018 SE COASTAL FISHERIES TRIP REPORT FORM **Use Black Ink only!** QSE Control No. 964-0216 Expiration Date: 9/30/2018

Signature: _____ Phone No: () - _____ Schedule No. NMFS Use Only _____

Vessel Name: _____ Trip Start Date: _____ County or Parish: _____ State: _____

Vessel No.: _____ Trip End Date: _____ Dealer Name: _____

Operator Name: _____ Trip Unload Date: _____ SE Federal Dealer Number: _____

Operator Number: _____ Days at Sea: _____ State Trip Ticket No.: _____

Check box if landings sold to multiple dealers: Yes

GEAR SECTION: see instructions on Page 2. Check gear box and fill in all the boxes below.

Traps (T) Longline (L) Gill Net (GN) Anchor Hook & Line (HL) Divers Spear Other Gear (O)

Sets _____ # Hooks per Line _____ Length (yards) _____ # Lines _____ Divers _____ Type _____

Trap Soak Time (hrs) _____ Set Soak Time (hrs) _____ Depth (yards) _____ Total Hrs Fished _____ Total Hrs Fished _____

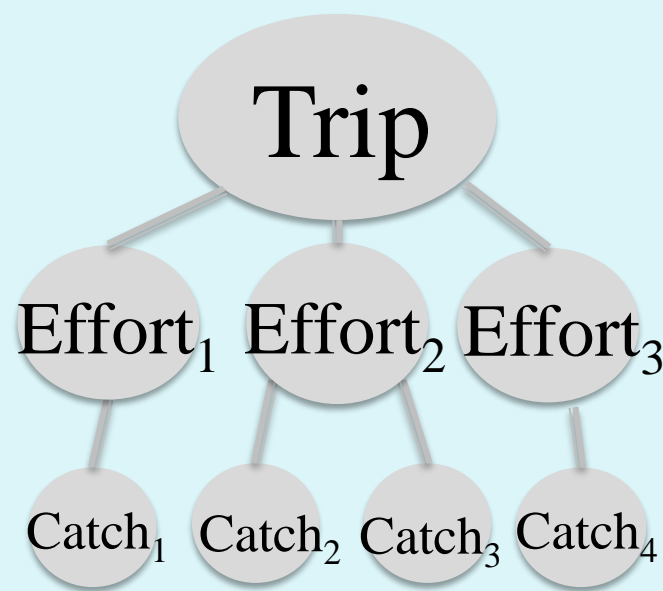
Total Soak Time (hrs) _____ Total Soak Time (hrs) _____ Set Soak Time (hrs) _____ Date Received: _____

Mesh _____ Length (miles) _____ Mesh _____

CATCH SECTION: Weight-Record POUNDS kept gutted or whole (DO NOT include fractions of pounds). Gear-Record gear used for MAJORITY of catch as T, L, GN, HL, E, TR, B, S, or O. (Do not use multiple gears). Area-Record can be found on maps in logbook (page 6). Do not use state area codes. Depth-Record bottom depth where the MAJORITY of fish were caught in FEET.

Species Name	Code	Gutted-lbs	Whole-lbs	Gear	Area	Depth	Species Name	Code	Gutted-lbs	Whole-lbs	Gear	Area	Depth
Amberjack-Great	1812	#	#				P	Johnhead	3312	#	#		
Amberjack-Lesser	1815	#	#				O	Knothead	3308	#	#		
Almaco	1810	#	#				R	Red	3302	#	#		
Banded Rubber	1817	#	#				V	Vindrome	3306	#	#		
Cheval	2670	#	#				B	Blacktip	3405	#	#		
Cook	2673	#	#				B	Bonnethead	3403	#	#		
Cookin Fish	4250	#	#				B	Bull	3407	#	#		
Blanch	1423	#	#				H	Hogfish	3511	#	#		
Clap	1423	#	#				A	Dogfish, Smith	3511	#	#		
Waraw	4740	#	#				R	Finetooth	3481	#	#		
Red	1416	#	#				L	Lemon	3517	#	#		
Scamp	1424	#	#				S	Sandbar	3513	#	#		
Snow	1414	#	#				S	Sharpnose, AI	3518	#	#		
Yellowedge	1415	#	#				B	Blackfin	3757	#	#		
Yellowfin	1425	#	#				L	Lane	3751	#	#		
Hind, Red	1413	#	#				N	Mangrove	3762	#	#		
Hind, Rock	1412	#	#				A	Mutton	3763	#	#		
Hind, Speckled	1411	#	#				P	Queen	3770	#	#		
Bluestriped	1444	#	#				R	Red	3764	#	#		
French	1445	#	#				S	Silky/Yelloweye	3758	#	#		
White	1441	#	#				V	Vermilion	3755	#	#		
Largate	1442	#	#				V	Vincelona	3757	#	#		
Largate, Black	1443	#	#				T	Triggerfish, Gray	4561	#	#		
Grunts, Utc.	1440	#	#				T	Triggerfish, Orange	4562	#	#		
Hogfish	1790	#	#				T	Triggerfish, Queen	4563	#	#		
King Mackerel	1940	#	#				T	Tufted, Gray	4474	#	#		
Spanish Mackerel	3840	#	#				T	Tufted, Golden	4470	#	#		
Wahoo	4710	#	#				S	Sea Trout, White	3465	#	#		
Black Sea Bass	3360	#	#				L	Little Tunny	4653	#	#		
Bluefish	0230	#	#				B	Barracuda	0180	#	#		
Blue Runner	0270	#	#				H	Hole	1500	#	#		

New



More precise CPUE indices

What is changing in ELB program?

New effort data elements

- Target Species
- Bait: No, Live, Dead, or Artificial, and Species
- Set start/end, Haul start/end for select gears
 - Date, Time, and Location
- Number of pieces of apparatus for cast nets, spears, and harpoons
- Gangion length for bottom longlines
- Hook size and type for coastal hook & line
- Number of optional lightsticks for bottom longlines



What is changing in ELB program?

Changes to catch data elements

- Hail amount / set.
 - This is a different definition than what fishers are used to reporting. Previously weight /trip.
- Offload date/time/port.
- Dealer name and Federal ID number.
- Disposition: Users are instructed to log every catch, whether it was sold, discarded, seized, or kept for personal use



What is changing in ELB program?

Reporting frequency

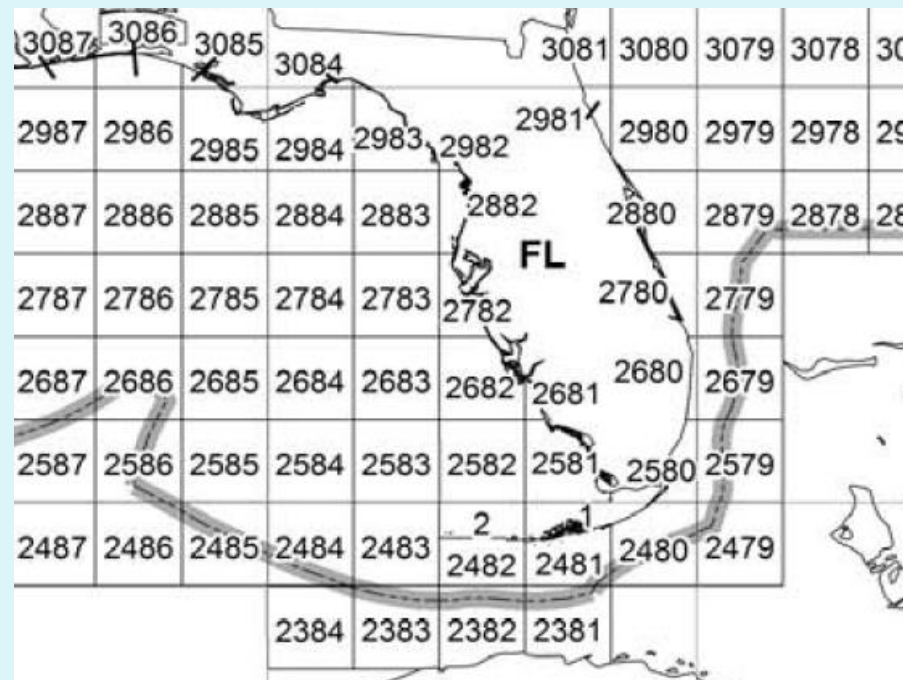
- Users will be required to submit a report for every trip, prior to offloading catch.
- No Fishing reports remain monthly, at current requirement, 7 days after the end of the month.
- A positive fishing trip will supersede a monthly No Fishing report if both are submitted.



What is changing in ELB program?

Higher precision for location

- Multiple spatio-temporal points per trip and per set
- HMS will go from Degrees/Minutes to Decimal Degrees



Vendors are strongly encouraged to produce software that captures this via internal clocks and GPS on devices with these capabilities



How to report this information?

A review of the 2015 Pilot Project

E-logbook versions from three vendors: OLSPS (Olrac) Marine, Electric Edge Systems Group Inc., and Harbor Light's Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP)



Preliminary Pilot Project Results: Participants

Nine commercial vessels with laptops or tablets submitted total of 58 trips with days at sea ranging from 1 to 17.

All vessels had on board GPS

- South Atlantic:
 - 5 from North Carolina, 1 From Florida
- HMS:
 - 1 South Florida (buoy, trolling), 1 North Carolina/Mass. (longline)
- Gulf:
 - 2 Florida (reef longline/hand line), 2 Texas (bandit)

Preliminary Pilot Project Results: Participant feedback

- Mobile devices work better than cumbersome laptops
- More efficient navigation through software
- Quick search ability when browsing tables for data entry
- Automated data entry between sets
- Display settings to accommodate night fishing
- Pilot versions of the ELB designed to limit data entry burden
- “Favorites lists of gear, bait, and species targeted entries
- SEFSC suggests limiting species entry fields to ensure that the correct information is collected.

Who would be affected?

Commercial permit holders for:

- King mackerel gillnet
- Reef fish longline endorsement
- Shark (both directed and incidental)
- Gulf reef fish
- King mackerel handline
- Spanish mackerel
- Atlantic highly migratory species

Review 'background' Q&A document for more

Timeline so far

Volunteer recruitment for Pilot 2014

Testing eLogbook Pilot April 2015

SEFSC Staff given Admin privileges in SAFIS Management System in 2015

Infrastructure Development at ACCSP and SEFSC 2015 - 2019

FER Launch 2018

Updated API available 2019

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019



Proposed timeline for implementation

Ability to pull eTrips submissions into SEFSC through ACCSP's View March 2020 for testing

FISMA finalized Summer 2020

Sero permits are live at ACCSP 2020

SAFIS rebuild/"Switchboard" goes live 2020

Finalize technical requirements document for 3rd party software vendors 2020

Voluntary Implementation

Mandatory Implementation

2020

2021

2022



Reef Fish AP action

- Ask questions of NMFS staff
- Provide insight and feedback on commercial ELB for consideration
- Make recommendation(s) to Council if the RFAP deems necessary

