

GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

DATA COLLECTION COMMITTEE

The Driskill

Austin, Texas

August 14, 2023

VOTING MEMBERS

- 10 Susan Boggs.....Alabama
- 11 Dale Diaz.....Mississippi
- 12 Dave Donaldson.....GSMFC
- 13 Jonathan Dugas.....Louisiana
- 14 Dakus Geeslin (designee for Robin Riechers).....Texas
- 15 Bob Gill.....Florida
- 16 Michael McDermott.....Mississippi
- 17 Chris Schieble (designee for Patrick Banks).....Louisiana
- 18 Andy Strelcheck.....NMFS
- 19 C.J. Sweetman (designee for Jessica McCawley).....Florida
- 20 Troy Williamson.....Texas

NON-VOTING MEMBERS

- 23 Kevin Anson (designee for Scott Bannon).....Alabama
- 24 Kesley Banks.....Texas
- 25 Billy Broussard.....Louisiana
- 26 Tom Frazer.....Florida
- 27 LCDR Lisa Motoi.....USCG
- 28 Anthony Overton.....Alabama
- 29 Joe Spraggins.....Mississippi
- 30 Ed Walker.....Florida

STAFF

- 33 Assane Diagne.....Economist
- 34 Matt Freeman.....Economist
- 35 John Froeschke.....Deputy Director
- 36 Beth Hager.....Administrative Officer
- 37 Lisa Hollensead.....Fishery Biologist
- 38 Mary Levy.....NOAA General Counsel
- 39 Natasha Mendez-Ferrer.....Fishery Biologist
- 40 Emily Muehlstein.....Public Information Officer
- 41 Kathy Pereira.....Meeting Planner - Travel Coordinator
- 42 Ryan Rindone.....Lead Fishery Biologist/SEDAR Liaison
- 43 Bernadine Roy.....Office Manager
- 44 Carrie Simmons.....Executive Director
- 45 Carly Somerset.....Fisheries Outreach Specialist

OTHER PARTICIPANTS

- 48 Peter Hood.....NMFS
- 49 Kerry Marhefka.....SAFMC

1 John Walter.....SEFSC
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1 The Data Collection Committee of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery
2 Management Council convened at The Driskill in Austin, Texas on
3 Monday morning, August 14, 2023, and was called to order by
4 Chairman Susan Boggs.

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

10 **CHAIRMAN SUSAN BOGGS:** Good morning, everyone, and
11 congratulations to our new council members. I would like to
12 call the Data Collection Committee to order. The first item on
13 our agenda is the Adoption of the Agenda. Mr. Gill.

14
15 **MR. BOB GILL:** Thank you, Madam Chair. Could we add, under
16 Other Business, an update on the commercial logbook program?

17
18 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** So noted. Dr. Hollensead. All right, and so
19 do I have a motion to approve the agenda, as modified?

20
21 **MR. DAVE DONALDSON:** So moved.

22
23 **MR. GILL:** Seconded.

24
25 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Thank you. Our next agenda item is the
26 Approval of the 2023 Minutes. Does anyone have any changes to
27 those? If not, may I get a motion to approve?

28
29 **MR. GILL:** Move approval of the June 2023 minutes.

30
31 **MR. DONALDSON:** Second.

32
33 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Thank you for that. All right, and so the next
34 item on our agenda is the Action Guide and Next Steps, and I'm
35 going to turn this over to Dr. Hollensead.

36
37 **DR. LISA HOLLENSHAD:** Thank you, Madam Chair. Just to give
38 everybody a little overview of what we're going to talk about
39 today for the Data Collection Committee, this presentation is
40 going to be a bit of an introduction for our new council
41 members, a little bit of a review for folks that have been at
42 the table for a while as well, and we're also going to summarize
43 a little bit of the stakeholder feedback that we got from the
44 SEFHIER program and identify some lessons learned.

45
46 The purpose of this presentation is, originally, staff had
47 thought about getting into some technical aspects of some of the
48 for-hire data collection in the Gulf, and we decided to postpone

1 that discussion until the next meeting, when the Southeast
2 Regional Office staff will also provide some summary information
3 from SEFHIER, and we thought that would be a good time to work
4 on a collaborative process with those staff members, to come up
5 with something a little more detailed, and so this presentation
6 is going to be a bit more of a thirty-five-thousand-foot view,
7 to catch everybody up and then also to provide a little bit of
8 launching points for some discussion, either, you know, at this
9 meeting, to get into some high-level discussions about purpose
10 and need and that sort of thing or also to allow for some
11 context for that more in-depth presentation that you will
12 receive in October, and so that's the purpose of the
13 presentation for today. Madam Chair, if anybody has any
14 questions, I will answer those. Otherwise, I will go right into
15 the presentation.

16
17 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Seeing no questions, let's go ahead and get
18 into the presentation. I'm sure we'll have many questions once
19 that's completed.

20
21 **SEFHIER PROGRAM UPDATE AND NEXT STEPS**

22
23 **DR. HOLLENSHAD:** Okay, and so that will be Tab F, Number 4 in
24 your meeting materials. Again, just to present a little bit of
25 an overview, and I'll just give a background on, you know, why
26 would you want to even collect for-hire data, for example, and
27 so we'll start that overview.

28
29 Then we're going to review some of the stakeholder feedback and
30 just give -- You know, touch on some points of data wants versus
31 data needs, talk to that in a little bit of an abstract manner,
32 but I will touch on that during this presentation. I will also
33 discuss the purpose and need, and the purpose and need that I
34 will be showing is the original purpose and need from SEFHIER,
35 and I will touch on a little bit of why that probably needs to
36 be reworked a little bit, as well as cover some lessons learned
37 and then provide some next steps.

38
39 Why even bother collecting this information in the for-hire
40 sector? Well, it provides data to inform stock assessments and
41 management advice, as well as some catch limit monitoring.
42 Basically, most of your -- Very broadly, your data collection
43 programs are broken into two objectives to collect catch data.

44
45 That is from what anglers harvested when they went out on their
46 fishing trip, and, in some cases, there is field samplers out
47 that will collect those intercept surveys and sample the catch,
48 so you can get an idea of what critters they're encountering

1 when they're on their fishing trips and which they're choosing
2 to harvest and that sort of thing.

3
4 The second component is effort, and this can be collected in a
5 number of ways, and so that could be via a phone call, in-
6 person, by mail, a mobile app, and each survey has its own
7 methods, depending on that program's needs. Participants are
8 asked how long they fished, what was targeted, and the number of
9 trips, and so you get an idea of, okay, this is what you
10 normally go out and harvest, or catch, and how often do you go
11 out, and then you can multiply those things together, in the
12 little graphic that we've got here on the slide, and that will
13 give you some estimate of total catch, and so that's why we go
14 through sort of these procedures, very broadly, and most
15 fisheries programs have some flavor of these two components, and
16 so anything we do for the for-hire would work similarly.

17
18 Just a little bit of a review, for those of you who were here,
19 and then sort of a catch-up, for those new council members.
20 When SEFHIER was first implemented, we certainly got a lot of
21 feedback from stakeholders, and so here's a little bit of a
22 summary of some of the feedback that we received.

23
24 Some of the things that were perceived as feasible for
25 participants in the program are filling out and reporting
26 logbooks, and we got some good support for that, and the hail-in
27 and hail-out when on fishing trips, and so the understanding --
28 Many of the participants understood why that was necessary and
29 were willing to do that.

30
31 Reporting catch before landing, there were some mixed reviews
32 here, but, on the whole, this is feasible for captains to do
33 that, as well as understanding the dockside intercepts, and so
34 to take the time and have the harvest be looked at by a sampler,
35 those sorts of things, you know, was considered feasible.

36
37 Some comments that we got back from the program as being
38 perceived as burdensome, it was that declaration for every time
39 a vessel moved, even when it was not fishing, to get things such
40 as gas, ice, pick up clients, that sort of thing, and so, every
41 time a vessel moved from a dock or a berth, they had to hail-
42 out, and that was considered burdensome by many people, and we
43 heard many comments to that. Some of the economic questions
44 were considered burdensome as well, as well as that twenty-
45 four/seven VMS requirement, and so those are the things that we
46 had received as feedback.

47
48 Looking a little bit at the data wants and needs, again, this is

1 a bit of an abstraction. When we start linking these things a
2 little bit better, we'll do that in October, sort of link these
3 pieces together when we get into the weeds of the program, but,
4 you know, there's a lot of discussion that has been around
5 SEFHIER and a lot of our other data collection programs, which,
6 actually, this is a good time to talk about this, because we're
7 also talking about the commercial and charter logbooks, and HMS
8 just gave, you know, a presentation on electronic reporting, and
9 so keeping all of these things in mind.

10
11 You know, this need, or this importance, of validation of catch
12 and effort information, sometimes the volunteer reporting sort
13 of doesn't have as much -- You need a bit of validity to that,
14 you know, somebody to just double-check that that might be the
15 case, or make any corrections, and also filling in some of the
16 existing data gaps, recognizing that the for-hire is a unique
17 sector, and so there is things that that sector -- That we may
18 be missing, in terms of those data gaps. We'll get into that
19 discussion a little bit more in October, but just keep that in
20 mind as we start these initial discussions.

21
22 Certainly there is a want and a need for more timely and
23 accurate for-hire reporting. Again, when we start to go into a
24 little bit of what we have currently in place, we begin to see a
25 little bit going back into those data gaps, some things that
26 could perhaps be improved by a refiring of SEFHIER here.

27
28 Also, the importance in the use of stock assessments and
29 management actions, as I've touched on a little bit earlier, and
30 then could potentially provide an individual catch history,
31 should the council decide to take on an avenue such as that, but
32 this program could potentially allow those sorts of things.

33
34 This is the purpose and need statement verbatim from the
35 original SEFHIER document, and I will tell you that word
36 "socioeconomic" will not appear publicly in any future document
37 associated with any kind of for-hire program, and so I bring
38 this up just to, you know, provide an overview, and this was
39 originally proposed as the purpose and need that the council
40 passed, and this was the language, and it will have to be
41 modified a little bit, but also just to sort of jog everybody's
42 memory, and then, as well, this is a link to the original
43 document, and so, at any point during our discussion, if you
44 want to pull that up, it's available in the presentation, and so
45 just to have that for your reference.

46
47 Then some lessons learned, and we certainly learned that
48 stakeholder buy-in is crucial for program success, and we

1 certainly saw that here with the SEFHIER program, and this sort
2 of goes into our second bullet point here, the program
3 compliance and the effect on data usage, and so the assumption
4 that people are reporting, they're reporting when they're
5 supposed to, that sort of thing.

6
7 Then consideration of what criteria of a data collection program
8 are appropriate for use in management, and do we want this as
9 more just as an index, or do we want it to be something that
10 could be directly used in stock assessments, and it's going to
11 change the experimental design of your program, and so that's
12 something to think about.

13
14 Certainly budget and funding needs to align with program
15 requirements is something of a lesson learned. If you want the
16 Cadillac, but you can't pay for those sorts of things to be
17 done, what else can we do to work with the budget and funding
18 that we have? Validation again comes up, and calibration will
19 need to be considered, and so you want a program that's sort of
20 robust enough to be able to interpret the data appropriately for
21 perhaps use in stock assessments, but you also want something
22 that has a little bit, perhaps, of flexibility or can at least
23 be related to some of your other data collection programs.

24
25 Then, lastly, that the program expectations and how those are
26 translated into the final implementation, and so, you know, lots
27 of good communication of program objectives, such that it can be
28 a collaborative effort between the council and the agency, and
29 that's going to be important.

30
31 Just to give you a little bit of next steps, so an IPT has been
32 populated, and they convened on July 27. Again, as I've
33 mentioned before, council and SERO staff will work together to
34 present the more in-depth information on what for-hire programs
35 are currently implemented and provide some summary information
36 on SEFHIER, and so we'll get a little bit more technical and
37 better relate and link those data wants and needs, as I had
38 spoken to on an earlier slide, help piece those together for
39 October.

40
41 The council should consider providing any guidance to staff on
42 desirable goals and objectives for Version 2.0 of the for-hire
43 data collection program, again perhaps thinking about what was
44 in the original purpose and need and taking those lessons
45 learned and begin thinking about what initial conversations the
46 committee would like to have about drafting another purpose and
47 need.

48

1 Certainly council staff can convene the Data Collection AP, or
2 another advisory body that the committee thinks would be
3 appropriate to discuss the development of the new data
4 collection program, and perhaps the timing of that is also
5 something that can be discussed, or at least identify maybe
6 those groups and a general timeline, and certainly council staff
7 would work to convene those groups to provide comment back to
8 the council as this progress goes on. That's all I have for my
9 presentation, and I certainly want to open the floor to any
10 discussion that the committee may want to have on this.

11
12 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Thank you, Dr. Hollensead. I want to start
13 with your last question first, and I would like to get some
14 feedback about convening the Data Collection AP. We heard a lot
15 of comment about how important it is for the fishermen to get
16 this program back on the water and functioning, and I would
17 think, however, it would be a little premature for us to ask to
18 convene this AP until we hear the presentation in October, and
19 so I would certainly entertain -- We can discuss that later,
20 but, since we were just discussing that, I think after October
21 would be the most appropriate time.

22
23 I would also like to say that I would like to do it so that we
24 could maybe move forward in January with getting this program,
25 the document, underway, and so the timeline would be after
26 October, but prior to the January meeting, and I would like to
27 hear some feedback from the committee. Mr. Gill.

28
29 **MR. GILL:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I concur that I believe we
30 should convene the Data Collection AP. I would suggest that, as
31 opposed to rationalizing one side of October or the other, it
32 depends on where it fits on the schedule. I could see it
33 convening prior to October, because the issues, and the needs,
34 have been well identified through all the work that we did on
35 the SEFHIER program, and so everybody who has been part of that,
36 and now, I grant you, not all council members here do, but that
37 they could have a very meaningful discussion and provide
38 valuable input to this council if it fits. If it doesn't fit,
39 after October, but I would agree that prior to January should be
40 a high priority.

41
42 **DR. TOM FRAZER:** I don't know, Susan, and it looks like, if
43 you're monitoring the screen, that Andy Strelcheck has his hand
44 up, too.

45
46 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** I forget about our virtual participants. Mr.
47 Andy Strelcheck.

48

1 **MR. ANDY STRELCHECK:** Don't forget about me, Susan. Welcome,
2 new council members. Sorry that I'm not there in-person. I
3 wanted to add, with regard to the Data Collection AP, I think it
4 is crucial that we engage the Data Collection AP. Based on, you
5 know, Lisa's overview presentation, I think we need to spend
6 some time, or I would recommend that we spend some time, in
7 October going through the lessons learned and the information
8 that staff will be sharing with us, as well as talking about
9 revisions to the goals and objectives first and then convening
10 the AP thereafter.

11
12 I think it's really important that, you know, we provide some
13 initial direction and comments and conversation around this
14 topic, before convening the AP, to help frame then their
15 conversation, as well as their advice back to us, and, ideally,
16 I would agree that it would be good to get input between the
17 October and January meetings.

18
19 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Thank you for your comments, Mr. Strelcheck,
20 and, Bob, I understand what you're saying, but I feel like,
21 since we're going to get some new information, and hear about
22 some other for-hire programs in October, let's see what the data
23 has done through the SEFHIER program, and that would be my
24 intent for waiting until after the October meeting.

25
26 With that, and your concerns about how does it fit on the
27 calendar, I do agree with that, that hopefully, if this
28 committee, and we can move it forward at Full Council, agrees on
29 a timeline, then staff can go ahead and be working on that,
30 instead of us waiting maybe until October and deciding that we
31 need to have a meeting, and I am just trying to give plenty of
32 notice, I guess, in trying to coordinate this, so that we can
33 get it fit in, but I really believe after the October meeting,
34 just because it looks like we're going to have a lot more
35 information.

36
37 To that, Dr. Hollensead, and this will be our next discussion
38 point after I call on you, but I want to say this before I call
39 on you, is I think the main thing we need to look at is to try
40 to get a well-defined purpose and need for that October meeting.
41 Mr. Gill.

42
43 **MR. GILL:** Thank you, Madam Chair, and I agree with that. Are
44 you looking for a motion? Do we need a motion for this?

45
46 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** I think we do, and do we not, to convene an AP?

47
48 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CARRIE SIMMONS:** No, but, since we were asked

1 explicitly if you want to pass a motion, that would be fine,
2 but, I mean, we could capture it in the report. Either way.

3

4 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Okay. Mr. Gill.

5

6 **MR. GILL:** So your druthers are for a motion?

7

8 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** I think we just need to be clear to staff, and
9 do we want it prior to October or after October, and I think
10 that would be the main thing, but, again, and I'm directing this
11 to staff, if it works better, if we can't get it in after
12 October, we look -- But I would suggest after October, the
13 October meeting. Dr. Hollensead, do you have any comments to
14 that, how that might work?

15

16 **DR. HOLLENSEAD:** Yes, ma'am, and we certainly can get it done
17 after October.

18

19 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Any other questions? J.D.

20

21 **MR. J.D. DUGAS:** Thank you, Ms. Chair. For the AP, do we have
22 to repopulate those members, or --

23

24 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Dr. Simmons.

25

26 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Thank you, Madam Chair, and so the
27 next appointment for the Data Collection AP is not until 2025.
28 If you want to include another group with this group, or
29 consider a technical committee later on, like we've had before,
30 that's up to the council, but you might want to start with this
31 group and go from there, and I'm not sure what your thoughts
32 were on that.

33

34 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Mr. Dugas.

35

36 **MR. DUGAS:** I was just curious if we had to repopulate the AP,
37 but I do have a question for Lisa. On Slide 8, the IPT has been
38 populated and met on July 27, and can you explain that a little
39 bit, what is an IPT?

40

41 **DR. HOLLENSEAD:** The IPT would be the group responsible for
42 developing the document and writing the sections and chapters
43 for that. This IPT meeting -- There was sort of an initial
44 discussion of what we thought might go forward. After actually
45 speaking with that group, and listening a little bit to what
46 they had to say -- For example, that's when this presentation
47 became less technical, and a little bit more of a tee-off for
48 the presentation in October, and so we discussed that.

1
2 Some other things that we discussed were sort of what we can and
3 can't do, based on the lawsuit, and, from my understanding,
4 generally probably a twenty-four/seven, you know, the VMS, is
5 not going to fly anymore, but some of the other things may still
6 be available in our toolbox to use, and so we certainly, you
7 know, wanted to get some of the council's feedback on some of
8 those things for our purpose and need, and we can take that to
9 the IPT and discuss it, and we can -- You know, perhaps
10 creating, or drafting, some of that document for you.

11
12 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Dr. Hollensead, during the IPT discussion, was
13 there any discussion about what the purpose and need might look
14 like? I understand that "socioeconomic" is not something we can
15 use, and can you maybe help me understand -- Can we use "social"
16 and "economic"? I mean, do we split it into two words now?

17
18 **DR. JOHN FROESCHKE:** I was there, and so I think we could. I
19 mean, to me, that's a minor issue, about how we would phrase
20 that. There would be some later discussion about what
21 information would be collected, and I think that would be
22 relevant.

23
24 You know, the bigger question -- I mean, to me, the purpose is
25 to collect the best information that we can for use in
26 management. The questions that we have are what are the bounds
27 of that, in terms of the legal scope, and then what are the
28 desires of that, in terms of the council, and what kinds of a
29 program are done, and so, you know, we have some -- When I was
30 looking at the HMS presentation, that's one avenue to think
31 about. The South Atlantic has a different program, and there's
32 something we could come up with.

33
34 There is pieces of the SEFHIER program that we might want to
35 use, or something totally different, and so that's where we're
36 going to be trying to get some more information for you all in
37 October and try to get some more refined guidance that we could
38 take to the AP and develop a document.

39
40 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Thank you, Dr. Froeschke, and Peter, and then I
41 have a question for Mara.

42
43 **MR. PETER HOOD:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I just wanted to
44 reiterate or not, but Dr. Stephen and Dr. Masi are -- You know,
45 they're working on getting the data together, and certainly they
46 can -- You know, we'll have a presentation ready for the next
47 council meeting, and it will give you a flavor, in terms of, you
48 know, what they were able to -- You know, what the information

1 can show you, in terms of, you know, management considerations
2 in the future and whatnot, but, you know, I think it's important
3 to see what the SEFHIER program was collecting and how it can be
4 used, and, you know, particularly I think in terms of validation
5 that would be an important point, and so I just wanted to make
6 that point. Thank you.

7
8 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** To that point, Peter, I agree, and I'm going to
9 ask this, and I had a note on another slide that we talked
10 about, but, when Dr. Masi and Dr. Stephen provide that
11 presentation, and I am looking back at my notes, we need to make
12 sure the wants and the needs, the Ford or the Cadillac, and, in
13 that presentation, why that's important, and I don't know if I'm
14 making myself clear, but if you -- I guess the question would
15 be, okay, if we didn't have that, what would be the outcome,
16 because, if this council doesn't understand the importance of
17 why we need that information, it's a little harder to get the
18 council -- Because you've got to get the council to buy-in
19 before you get the fishermen to buy-in, and it's got to pass the
20 smell test with the council first, and so I think we need a good
21 understanding of why it's needed.

22
23 **MR. HOOD:** Thank you, and just -- I know like Dr. Stephen is --
24 She is listening right now, and hearing your concerns, and so I
25 think that, you know, she's going to take that to heart, and
26 we'll try to put things together. She did notify me, in a chat,
27 that there's a lot of SEFHIER data out there, and they're
28 working through it, and so, at least in terms of what they'll be
29 able to present, it may not be everything, but, you know, it
30 certainly will be a preliminary run-through with the data and to
31 be able to provide you with, you know, some ideas, in terms of
32 what's working and what wasn't working, et cetera, and so thank
33 you.

34
35 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Andy.

36
37 **MR. STRELCHECK:** Thanks, Madam Chair. I would add that, you
38 know, there's been certainly a lot that's changed since, I don't
39 know, 2016 or 2017, when we originally began working on the
40 SEFHIER amendment, right, and it was ultimately implemented in
41 2020.

42
43 With that said, you know, I think it's going to be important
44 that the council come back, based on the information that's now
45 available, what we've learned from running the program for
46 several years, and evaluate, once again, the purpose and need
47 relative to, you know, what we want to accomplish with
48 management and science, right, and so that, to me, is going to

1 be a critical conversation, and I agree with you wholeheartedly,
2 right, that we need to be prepared to discuss kind of the pros
3 and cons of different approaches and the, you know, reason why
4 certain information is collected the way it's collected.

5
6 One point that I wanted to emphasize, and I believe it was Slide
7 4 that showed some of the concerns, or burdens, that
8 participants expressed with the previous program, and those were
9 all fair, right, and some of those have been resolved, or may
10 be, you know, no longer an issue, just simply because of the
11 litigation.

12
13 The economic questions is one where I want staff to be able to
14 come to the table and explain, well, why is that data being
15 collected, what's the purpose of it, so the council can weigh,
16 obviously, the benefits of collecting that data relative to the
17 impacts, or burden, on the industry and what ultimately would be
18 lost if that data is not collected, and so those are the types
19 of conversations that I think we're going to need to have moving
20 forward, as we really drill down into the details of the
21 program.

22
23 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Thank you, Andy, and so my question, Mara, and
24 it's been a while since I've read the lawsuit, but can we use
25 the word -- I think the reason it was struck down is we didn't
26 have a clear definition of what "socioeconomic" was, but we can
27 use "social and economic", if we so choose, in our purpose and
28 need?

29
30 **MS. MARA LEVY:** Yes, and, I mean, I will just reiterate that
31 that particular portion of the court's decision was going
32 towards notice in the rulemaking, right, and so it wasn't about
33 whether you use the term "socioeconomic" or not, but it's about
34 clearly articulating the type of data that you're going to
35 collect for the rule under the Administrative Procedures Act and
36 then making sure that that notice is clear for what you're
37 finally going to implement.

38
39 I mean, I guess I would -- We don't have to use "socioeconomic",
40 and we can say "economic", right, and, as long as we're
41 explaining what that means, it's meeting this type of data, X,
42 Y, Z, and it's in this category, and so at least people are on
43 notice, and, more importantly, that the agency do that in the
44 rulemaking, and that's where the importance comes.

45
46 I really would like us not to get hung up on what we call this
47 stuff, and I think it's more important, as Andy said, to explain
48 why we want to collect this type of data, what's lost if you

1 don't, a cost-benefit analysis type of burden, much more than
2 the terminology we use.

3
4 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Thank you for that clarification. Andy, is
5 your hand back up?

6
7 **MR. STRELCHECK:** No. You can take it down.

8
9 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Mr. Anson.

10
11 **MR. KEVIN ANSON:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm not on your
12 committee, but just to follow-up on what Peter was mentioning,
13 regarding some of the analysis of the data that has been
14 collected, and Dr. Stephen is on the call, and I would assume,
15 and hope, there would be some analysis that looks at the
16 validation component as it stands, at least related to the
17 dockside surveys and comparing of what was observed at the dock,
18 what was reported, and kind of the difference for the non-
19 reporting, because, as Dr. Hollensead mentioned earlier, I mean,
20 it's a significant component of the survey, and I think, from my
21 perspective, it's of value, at least when we were conducting the
22 Snapper Check survey and required mandatory reporting for any
23 boat landing red snapper in Alabama.

24
25 For the federally-permitted vessels, it was roughly 60 to 65
26 percent were reporting, at least on the algorithm we were
27 selecting to match the trips, and so I think there's a -- At the
28 time, it was a large number of boats that were not reporting.

29
30 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Thank you. Does anyone else have any
31 questions? So, about the validation, from the headboat side of
32 it, because we now -- The court struck down the ruling, and you
33 only have to report weekly, and we don't see the validators at
34 the dock like we used to, and I think the reporting is not
35 coming in like it used to when it was mandatory that you had to
36 report before you offload the fish, and we had the notification
37 that you were coming in, so you could have the validators there
38 to validate, and so I have seen a decline in that, and I do
39 think that is a huge component of this program. Mr. Dugas.

40
41 **MR. DUGAS:** Thank you, Ms. Chair. I'm going back to the AP, and
42 I don't have an issue with the AP meeting about this, but my
43 question is, is there a way for us to add members to the AP,
44 because, looking at the list, there's not a single person from
45 the State of Louisiana on the AP, and I would like to see some
46 representation from Louisiana on the AP.

47
48 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Dr. Simmons, and I think I know the answer, but

1 I think it's more appropriate that you answer.
2

3 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** I mean, I think you would have to
4 go through a process to solicit more applicants and select them,
5 and we have the fishing violation background checks that are
6 done before the finalization of those members, and so that could
7 take some time. I don't recall why -- We might not have had an
8 applicant from Louisiana originally, and I don't know why.
9

10 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Well, and, Dr. Simmons, too, I mean, if we
11 opened it up, we couldn't open it up just to Louisiana, could
12 we?
13

14 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** That's right, and it would be to
15 everyone who wants to apply for the position, if you're
16 reopening that advisory panel membership.
17

18 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Which I understand what you're saying, J.D.,
19 and maybe staff can go back and look and see if we had any
20 applicants from Louisiana, but, not discounting Louisiana, I
21 really would hate to delay this process any longer, because,
22 right now, we're looking at 2025, and, if we go down this path
23 of choosing, or adding, to the Data Collection AP, I'm afraid
24 we're going to push this to 2026 or further, and I don't think
25 this industry is going to be acceptable of that. Ms. Banks.
26

27 **DR. KESLEY BANKS:** Thank you. I kind of support J.D. on this,
28 in the fact that Louisiana has a large charter fishery, and, if
29 they don't have representation in this process, we're missing a
30 huge component there. If we're going to do this, we should do
31 it right. It's already been shut down in court once.
32

33 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Well, I -- Dr. Simmons.
34

35 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Well, I mean, maybe the council
36 wants to consider an ad hoc advisory panel to address this
37 charge specifically and not necessarily repopulate the current
38 Data Collection AP, but consider some type of ad hoc AP. I
39 mean, you can do that, and you could do a different working
40 group structure in our SOPPs, and, I mean, there's lots of
41 different options, but it's just going to take us some time,
42 depending on what you want to do.
43

44 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** I would look at my committee and ask them what
45 they would like to do. Mr. Donaldson.
46

47 **MR. DAVE DONALDSON:** Thank you, Madam Chair, and so, Carrie, the
48 ad hoc workgroup -- What's the process of doing that? Would

1 that be -- Could we convene, or create, that group and have them
2 convene quicker than readvertising for the current AP?

3
4 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** If you want to not follow the
5 SOPPs, yes. Maybe you want to call it a technical committee or
6 something else, but, I mean, even the ad hocs have gone through
7 that process, where you have an explicit charge that the council
8 is creating this body for, and the charge is developed, and we
9 advertise, we preliminarily appoint, we conduct the fishery
10 background checks, and then you finalize it.

11
12 I think we had some sort of -- I think it was like a technical
13 committee, John, or a working group, when we did this last time,
14 and it was made up of fishermen and scientists and staff from
15 the Regional Office, the Science Center, and our -- The Gulf
16 States and our staff, I believe, and it was a big group.

17
18 **MR. DONALDSON:** So I wasn't suggesting that we don't follow our
19 SOPPs, and I was just -- The timing issue, that we want to do
20 this sooner rather than later, I thought, if we did the ad hoc,
21 we could -- That it might be a little quicker, but it doesn't
22 sound like it is, and so never mind.

23
24 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Dr. Frazer.

25
26 **DR. FRAZER:** I am just going to look at Dr. Simmons here for a
27 second, and would it be possible to convene a stakeholder forum,
28 for some initial input, and then, ultimately, think about
29 soliciting applications, or nominations, from participants, to
30 have, you know, a technical group moving forward?

31
32 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Before you answer that question, I would like
33 to be really clear on what our SOPPs say we can do. I will
34 pause.

35
36 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Bernie, could you bring up our
37 SOPPs, page 7? I mean, I think there's lots of things we can
38 do, Dr. Frazer, but it's just what are we trying to accomplish,
39 how big does the body need to be, how many different folks need
40 to be involved, where do you want to hold it, how are you going
41 to do that, and I think we just need to work out those details.

42
43 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Dr. Frazer.

44
45 **DR. FRAZER:** I mean, the reason I asked the question, and I
46 appreciate the conversation around the table, right, and clearly
47 process sometimes gets in the way of what we're trying to do,
48 and so what I understand from J.D. and Kesley is, you know,

1 there is some concern about just representation, and so what I'm
2 looking for, actually, is some way to overcome that concern, so
3 we feel like we've heard the voice of charter/for-hire folks in
4 all five states.

5
6 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** So, if we're going to do that, if we're going
7 to go down this road, number one, this is an issue that is
8 directed to a specific user group, and so I would encourage
9 anything that we do initially to get with those stakeholders
10 that are going to be directly affected by this document. If we
11 feel like -- If this committee feels like that Data Collection
12 AP is not properly balanced, then we -- I would assume, and I'm
13 not going to encourage, because now we're delaying this
14 document, but, if we're going to create a new group, then it
15 needs to be equal, and, when I say equal, and I don't know if we
16 can do this, equal representation from each state, two from
17 Texas, two from Louisiana, and, I mean, however we want to do
18 it.

19
20 If we want to be equal about it, then that's what we need to do,
21 and I don't know if that's something we can do, and Dr. Frazer
22 just left, and -- Because, here again, I think we're getting
23 wrapped around the axle. I don't know who applied to the Data
24 Collection AP, and it's the will of this council to select those
25 AP members, and now, whether we had someone from Louisiana or
26 not, I don't know, but we go through this process again, and so,
27 this time, no one from Alabama gets chosen, and so are we back
28 at the table again and saying, okay, we need more people?

29
30 If we're going to do it, and, Dr. Simmons, maybe I need to
31 direct this question to you, but can we be very specific that
32 we're going to create an ad hoc, and we're going to put two from
33 each state, or three from each state, or however we do it,
34 because I don't want to be having this discussion after we do
35 this and saying, well, we don't have representation from
36 Florida, and so -- I am sorry. Well, I'm not sorry. I mean,
37 this is important. This is very important to the charter fleet,
38 and I don't want to see it get delayed any more than it needs to
39 be delayed. Captain Walker.

40
41 **MR. ED WALKER:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I'm not on your
42 committee, but I just thought I would throw this out there. We
43 don't seem to have time to do a whole new AP, and equal
44 representation -- Every state should definitely be included, but
45 there's ten-times more charter permits in Florida than there is
46 in Louisiana, and so that would get weird.

47
48 In my view, the AP is -- They're just going to give you advice

1 anyway, and they're not going to craft a new plan, and they're
2 competent guys that you've already selected for this job, and so
3 I think let them give you their advice, and you can take it or
4 not, and then it's going to have public comment, and you can
5 encourage charter public comment, as you're potentially crafting
6 a new system, and you can include people that way, to at least
7 get things rolling from the AP that you already have, and you
8 can take or leave their advice, but you would get things
9 rolling, and then you could get advice from every state and
10 every person that wants to offer any.

11
12 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** I appreciate your comments, Captain Walker, and
13 you're right. I mean, that's what public comment is for, and
14 you can do it standing at this podium, or you can do it written,
15 and there is many ways to do it, but, again, it's the will of
16 this committee, and, of course, I guess we'll have this
17 discussion again at Full Council. Mr. Schieble.

18
19 **MR. CHRIS SCHIEBLE:** Real quick, just for clarify, back in 2021,
20 Louisiana had two members on that Data AP, and we had Ronald
21 Chicola, and also Nicole Smith, who is our Chief of Data
22 Management at the department, and then, whenever we repopulated
23 the AP, participants from Louisiana were not selected, and so
24 just to clarify that.

25
26 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Again -- Just a minute, Mr. Hood. Again, I
27 mean, it's the will of this council, and so, if we go down this
28 path again, and we don't choose someone from state for some
29 reason, are we going to be having the same discussion and
30 continuously delaying, and Captain Walker brings up some very
31 good points.

32
33 You know, this is an advisory panel, and it's not what we're
34 going to do, and, I mean, this council -- We've been criticized
35 many times for not taking the advice of the advisory panels, and
36 so I understand what you're saying, J.D., but I really would
37 hate to delay this document for the charter/for-hire fleet,
38 because they want to be accountable, and they want this data
39 collection, and they want the validation. Mr. Hood.

40
41 **MR. HOOD:** Just Mr. Strelcheck has his hand up.

42
43 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Mr. Strelcheck, and I'm sorry. I couldn't see
44 the screen.

45
46 **MR. STRELCHECK:** No problem, and so I appreciate the
47 conversation, and I'm concerned about getting bogged down in
48 process, right, and so I'm trying to think outside the box here,

1 and I don't know if the operating procedures would allow this or
2 not, but, looking at the current Data Collection AP, I know
3 eight of the ten members, six of which are charter captains, one
4 is an NGO, and one is a commercial, and I did not know two of
5 the other people, to know what sectors they represent, but,
6 given the presentation that Lisa just provided, right, and we're
7 working toward buy-in, I am concerned about not including
8 Louisiana, because Louisiana was one of the areas that really
9 was most opposed to the SEFHIER program, and so I think there's
10 a benefit to including them.

11
12 My idea, if it's allowed, is, you know, we have other APs that
13 are populated, with maybe broader geographic representation, and
14 is it possible, since those individuals have been vetted for
15 other APs, that we could augment, or supplement, the Data
16 Collection AP with some additional members, assuming they're
17 willing, to participate, and, that way, it would bolster the
18 representation, from a geographic standpoint, and so that's just
19 a suggestion, and I'm not sure if the SOPPs would allow that.

20
21 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Dr. Simmons.

22
23 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Thank you, Madam Chair, and so,
24 yes, I think we could do that. We did pull up the Section 2.8,
25 and it says the Council Chair may appoint such ad hoc or special
26 committees, with the concurrence of the council, as needed to
27 conduct the orderly business of the council, and so a couple of
28 things.

29
30 When we last repopulated the Data Collection AP, we didn't have
31 that many meetings, because we struggled with, you know, when to
32 convene them, what materials to put in front of them, et cetera,
33 et cetera, et cetera, and so they weren't very active, and so I
34 think we didn't get a whole lot of applications the last time we
35 repopulated this group, because of that, likely, because they
36 weren't very active, and so one thing you might want to consider
37 is convene the current Data Collection AP, and maybe consider
38 taking people from Reef Fish and CMP and others.

39
40 If you want to meet them jointly, or convene them jointly, we
41 could do that, and then decide if you need to have a different
42 group that would actually be formed later on to provide
43 recommendations on the document, but I think that could happen,
44 and this is not going to happen quickly. I mean, this is not
45 going to happen overnight, and it's going to take us some time
46 to do this, and so I don't know that it would necessarily slow
47 us down if you wanted to have a separate group, or a newer
48 group, or add to this group, and we do have a lot of

1 flexibility.

2

3 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Ms. Levy.

4

5 **MS. LEVY:** So just this section is about council committees, and
6 so it's talking about like your Reef Fish Committee, and it's
7 talking about your council committees, like the Data Collection
8 Committee that we're in right now, and this is not related to
9 advisory panels, and so, if you look at the sections of the
10 SOPPs -- This is under council committees, and it's not under
11 the advisory panels, and so I don't think that the Chair can
12 just populate an advisory panel, like this is implying.

13

14 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Thank you.

15

16 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Okay, and so, Dr. Simmons, and I know we need
17 to kind of wrap this up, and we can pick it back up at Full
18 Council, but, Dr. Simmons, you said maybe the Data Collection
19 and CMP APs, but, if you're going to do that, then I would say
20 to do the Reef Fish AP, because, I mean, everybody has kind of
21 got a hand in this, which is fine, and I understand, and we want
22 to make sure we're inclusive, but now my concern is, if we go
23 down this road, and we get to another subject, and we don't feel
24 like that AP is properly populated, are we going to be having
25 this conversation -- I am just -- I am thinking forward. Ms.
26 Banks.

27

28 **DR. BANKS:** Thank you. I appreciate the desire to push forward,
29 and I do feel that as well, but this program was controversial,
30 and it's already been shut down in court, and we shouldn't try
31 to force it through as quickly as we are. We should have
32 representation, and we should take our time and make sure it's
33 right. Otherwise, we're going to end up in another lawsuit, and
34 it's going to end up shut down again, and we're going to be
35 delayed, and so one-and-done may take a little while longer, but
36 I think one-and-done logically makes sense to me. Maybe that's
37 me being new to the process, but that's my thought. Thank you.

38

39 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** I understand your comments, Ms. Banks, but I
40 think delaying having these conversations is going to push it
41 back, and, again, I am also thinking ahead. If we do it for
42 this AP, what are we looking at in the future, because we didn't
43 have so-and-so on this AP, and now we need to get people here on
44 this AP, and maybe we need to look at APs and repopulate them
45 every year, and I don't know.

46

47 That's a question for another time, and I understand your
48 concern, and I agree with you to get it right, and that's why I

1 want to go ahead and start this conversation and not wait,
2 because this council changes, as you understand, and you're new,
3 and, I mean -- I'm not being critical of that, but you get
4 momentum, and, if we keep pushing, pushing, pushing, we're going
5 to be next year and new council members, and we're going to have
6 to start this process over again, and so I'm not trying to push
7 it and not get it right, but I'm just trying to get this
8 conversation started, because we've got to, or we're going to be
9 2030 before this people have any kind of data collection going
10 for them, and I think it's very, very important.

11
12 There is plans out there, and we've got the charter/for-hire
13 plan from CFA that we need to be looking at, and there's things
14 that we can go ahead and look at and be incorporating in having
15 these discussions. Dr. Sweetman.

16
17 **DR. C.J. SWEETMAN:** Thank you, Ms. Chair, and so, listening to
18 all the points on this, I understand the need for Louisiana
19 representation, but, at the same time, the Data Collection AP is
20 charged with more than just looking at SEFHIER 2.0 or whatever
21 we're going to call it. It's a broader charge than just looking
22 at one specific topic here, and I will also point out that,
23 while I'm not opposed to maybe an ad hoc AP, or something along
24 those lines, to look specifically at this issue, I am concerned
25 about the timing of it, because we have heard from a large suite
26 of the charter community specifically about the need to
27 implement something as quickly as we possibly can here to
28 replace that, because we recognize the need for data collection
29 within that particular sector, in order to effectively manage
30 our fisheries here.

31
32 The points of why it was shot down are very specific, as it
33 relates to noticing and VMS and things along those lines too,
34 and so I do think that there are avenues we can work on. I
35 mean, the South Atlantic has a SEFHIER program that's working
36 okay right now, I mean, and so maybe there's something that we
37 can learn to maybe potentially fast-track this along those lines
38 there, but the moral of the story is I'm not opposed to an ad
39 hoc AP, to get some Louisiana representation on there, to look
40 at this specific issue, something along those lines, but, from
41 my perspective, timing is kind of the essence, and so I agree
42 with you, Madam Chair.

43
44 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Any more discussion on this issue? Mr. Gill.

45
46 **MR. GILL:** Thank you, Madam Chair, and so, hearing all of the
47 discussion, it seems, to me, that the path forward is to go in
48 parallel, and we continue work on the document, which, as Dr.

1 Simmons pointed out, is going to take some time, and we're very
2 early in the process, and the October presentation will help
3 provide some basis for that, but there's no reason, in my mind,
4 that, in order to accommodate the Louisiana representation that
5 we don't have, that we go ahead and create an ad hoc
6 charter/for-hire data collection AP that is populated and
7 created and set up while this document goes forward, and that
8 accommodates, in my mind, the need both in the timing and in the
9 substance.

10

11 **With that in mind, I move that we create a charter/for-hire data**
12 **collection AP, ad hoc, an ad hoc charter/for-hire data**
13 **collection AP for the purpose of addressing precisely the items**
14 **that we're talking about today.**

15

16 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Is there a second? J.D. Okay. I have a
17 question about this motion. Do we need to be specific in the
18 motion about how the ad hoc is populated, because, if you get
19 applicants, and someone, again, from Alabama is not chosen for
20 that ad hoc, are we going to be having this same discussion, and
21 I don't know how specific we can be in the motion. Mr. Gill.

22

23 **MR. GILL:** Thank you, Madam Chair, and so I think the answer is,
24 no, we don't need to do that, because we're going to revisit
25 this when the applications are in, and we will make the choices
26 then as to who populates this AP. We've had this discussion,
27 and all at the table will be present, assuming they're at the
28 meeting, for that discussion when we populate the AP, and that
29 will be part of the discussion at that time, and that will be a
30 closed session, and we can address those issues within that
31 closed session to populate this AP, and so I don't think it
32 needs to be here.

33

34 I think what we really need to do here is start the process,
35 take that first step, and get going on that, so that whatever
36 that process is to get that AP, in terms of a timeline, it's as
37 soon as possible, so that it can slide into the program that
38 will be discussed in October.

39

40 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Any other discussion? Dr. Simmons.

41

42 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Thank you, Madam Chair, and so I
43 think this works, but, by Full Council, if we could have like a
44 charge, and staff can help with that, for discussion at Full
45 Council for this ad hoc group, and I think that would help
46 people understand what they're applying for as well, and we can
47 put all that out on social media and send it to states and
48 promote it that way.

1
2 That being said, we could also try to expedite this if the state
3 law enforcement and federal law enforcement officers and
4 applicants are willing to go ahead and have us do a background
5 check prior to the council making the appointments, and that's a
6 big if, and so they would have to note that on the application,
7 and the states would have to turn that around for us, and the
8 federal staff would have to turn that around for us, for OLE,
9 and so that is a possibility, if we get those things to line up,
10 that you could make your final selection in October.

11
12 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** So, if, when, we approve this motion, how long
13 are we required to advertise it for?
14

15 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Emily, we've typically advertised
16 for three weeks, and is that right, and then, if we don't get
17 many applicants, we'll do another push out for more recruits,
18 and we had a really good -- We had high numbers of applicants
19 for the Coastal Migratory Pelagics AP, and we had record numbers
20 of applicants for the Coastal Migratory Pelagics AP, because the
21 states promoted it through their social media and their press
22 release avenues. We had almost ninety applicants for that AP,
23 and so that helped a lot.
24

25 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Ms. Muehlstein.
26

27 **MS. EMILY MUEHLSTEIN:** I was just going to say that I think,
28 logistically, we could probably get the advertisements out next
29 week and start pushing for it then.
30

31 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** So, if we did that, and did it for three weeks,
32 then we would have that available to us in October.
33

34 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Yes, and so what we would try to
35 do, if it's the council's desire to have all of this information
36 ready, including the background checks, for October, in a closed
37 session, we would tell the folks that apply that they're going
38 to have a fishing violation background check done on them, and
39 they do that anyway, but have that ready, and we would have to
40 get the applicants, send the applicants to the states and the
41 feds, have them do the check, and then hopefully have that all
42 together by October, and I think we could do that, if we move
43 fairly quickly on it, but I do think we need to have a mission
44 statement by Full Council, so that people understand what this
45 group is supposed to do, because I also think that other people
46 on the APs might be disappointed that we're not using them as
47 well.
48

1 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Understood. Mr. Diaz.

2
3 **MR. DALE DIAZ:** Thank you, Ms. Boggs. I don't think the motion
4 was seconded, and so I wanted to second the motion, and,
5 whenever it's appropriate, I wanted to comment on it.

6
7 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** You can go ahead and make your comments now.

8
9 **MR. DIAZ:** I just -- I agree with Andy that we need to try to
10 get buy-in, and I don't think Louisiana was the only area that
11 didn't have good buy-in, and so I think, by moving this motion
12 forward, we could try to see if we could get some of those folks
13 involved and be part of the process and have better buy-in.

14
15 I also think that it was stated earlier that we could have the
16 Data Collection Committee potentially meet with the ad hoc
17 committee, if we needed to, and so that might address some of
18 the concerns that folks have, but that's all I had. Thank you,
19 Ms. Boggs.

20
21 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Thank you, Mr. Diaz. Any more comments? All
22 right. **The motion on the board is to create an ad hoc**
23 **charter/for-hire data collection AP.** This is a committee
24 motion. **Is there any opposition to this motion? Seeing none,**
25 **the motion passes.** Dr. Hollensead, if you would quickly take us
26 through the update on the commercial logbooks, please.

27
28 **OTHER BUSINESS**
29 **UPDATE ON COMMERCIAL LOGBOOK PROGRAM**

30
31 **DR. HOLLENSEAD:** Yes, ma'am. Just to give the committee an
32 update, if you recall, we were going to do virtual public
33 hearings for this document, which included sending out a mailer
34 to permit holders. That letter has been mailed to those permit
35 holders, and we've already gotten a little bit of feedback.

36
37 Just to let you know, we've also selected dates and times for
38 those public hearings, and so one will be held at -- These are
39 all Eastern Time, but will be held at noon on August 23, 6:00
40 p.m. on August 29, and 10:00 a.m. on August 30. Those are the
41 times those will be conducted. Science Center staff will also
42 be available to provide a presentation and a demonstration of
43 the eTRIPS application, as well as answer any technical
44 questions.

45
46 The South Atlantic has already done their virtual public
47 hearings, and I listened in to all three of those, and, just to
48 give you a quick summary of that, a couple of folks had some

1 technical questions, and so it was nice to have the Science
2 Center there to directly answer those, so that everybody was
3 available to speak, and so that went really well. I believe
4 they had about four individuals provide comment, and all of them
5 were supportive of the transition to the electronic reporting.

6
7 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** If there is no other business to come before
8 this committee, we are adjourned.

9
10 **DR. FRAZER:** Thank you, Susan, and so I am just making sure that
11 I have in my head kind of the series of events, and I want to
12 capture the discussion, because I know it's going to come up
13 again in Full Council, right, and so, I mean, I understand
14 clearly that there's some urgency here, right, and the need to
15 continue to move this forward, and we have some momentum in that
16 regard, and I appreciate some of the comments that were made by
17 folks around the table, particularly C.J., right, with regard to
18 the fact that the AP that we have in place for data collection
19 had a much broader charge, and we're trying to focus the
20 discussion, and then to Kesley's points and others, and, you
21 know, we need to be able to capture the representation.

22
23 If we can come together again in Full Council and make sure that
24 we have a plan, and I'm just making sure that we're good here,
25 right, and so the things that have to fall into place, right, as
26 Emily pointed out, are, next week, try to get an advertisement
27 out, right, pretty quickly, have a three-week kind of turnaround
28 time, or thereabout, and so those applications would come back
29 in by the first -- End of the first or the second week of
30 September.

31
32 Then we have to engage our state and federal law enforcement
33 officials, right, and we'll be talking with them before all of
34 this, right, but the turnaround time for them is relatively
35 quick too to have the background checks completed, and so we
36 have all of that information by the October council meeting, and
37 I can't remember when it is. Is it the second week of October?

38
39 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** The third week.

40
41 **DR. FRAZER:** The third week? Okay. I think we can do all of
42 that, right, and my question is, failing to do so, what is the
43 Plan B? Carrie says that we don't need a Plan B.

44
45 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** So do you want to end this by 11:45, or do you
46 want me to answer?

47
48 **DR. FRAZER:** 11:45 would be fine. I just want to make sure we

1 have some clarity here, right, because it's a big ask, right,
2 and there's a lot of moving pieces, and I just -- Again, I feel
3 as strongly about making sure that we have representation,
4 appropriate representation, on any committee that we form, so
5 that we have buy-in from this council and everybody is all on
6 the same page that this in fact the way to go, and so that's all
7 I'm saying.

8
9 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** My suggestion for a Plan B is that we go ahead
10 and convene the Data Collection AP, knowing that we're working
11 on this ad hoc, because I think they're going to see it at some
12 point anyway, and so you could allow them to go ahead and look
13 at it while we continue populating the ad hoc AP, and is that --
14 I mean, is that kind of backwards, or does it really even
15 matter?

16
17 **DR. FRAZER:** Okay, and so we've got a floating Plan B. Again,
18 I'm okay with that, but I want to level the expectations around
19 the table.

20
21 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** So, just quickly, with this ad hoc AP, can we -
22 - I know we need to come up with a charge, and I don't know if
23 it would be part of the charge or how you advertise it, and I
24 understand what you said, Mr. Gill, about we'll have the
25 conversation at this table, but, to make sure we have qualified
26 applicants, can we be very specific that you have to have either
27 a reef fish or a CMP federal fishery permit, because that would
28 make you a charter vessel, and can we ask them to identify if
29 you are a six-passenger, a multi-passenger, or dually-permitted,
30 and I think that's important when we get into these
31 conversations, so that we, again, have a proper representation
32 of who we put on this ad hoc AP.

33
34 **DR. FRAZER:** All right, and so, prior to Full Council -- Again,
35 those are all good considerations, to the extent that we can
36 kind of refine that charge and make it as directed as possible,
37 and I think we'll all be in better shape as a consequence.
38 Kevin.

39
40 **MR. ANSON:** Just procedurally, I'm just curious, and do the
41 enforcement agencies -- Do they get the entire list of
42 applicants, or is it just for the residents -- Do they list the
43 state of residence and just those people go to that particular
44 state?

45
46 **DR. FRAZER:** Dr. Simmons.

47
48 **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SIMMONS:** Thank you, Mr. Chair, and so I

1 think Les left the room, but we do the whole list for all the
2 states now, and that change was made a couple of years ago, and
3 so the list could be quite large.
4

5 **DR. FRAZER:** Yes, and all the more reason to make sure that the
6 charge is, you know, as specific as it can be. Peter.
7

8 **MR. HOOD:** I am just trying to think about our enforcement
9 folks, and, you know, if they get a hundred applicants, which I
10 know that's a really high end of it, but we just need to make
11 sure that we cue them in early that this sort of thing is going
12 to happen, because they're going to -- That's a lot of work for
13 them to do, and so I think that we just really need to make sure
14 that we engage them early, so they're aware that something is
15 coming. Thanks.
16

17 **DR. FRAZER:** Point well taken, Peter, and we'll certainly engage
18 folks as soon as we possibly can. Okay. I asked Susan if she
19 could break us a little bit early, and she did a fine job,
20 because we need to set up for the lunch, in anticipation of the
21 discussion with Dr. Howell, and so I think you're still -- There
22 was no other business, right?
23

24 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Well, no, and we kind of wrapped all of that
25 up, but I would like to make a request of staff that, at the
26 October meeting, that we have plenty of time allotted to this
27 conversation, after we hear the presentation from the agency,
28 and, if there's no other business to come before this committee,
29 I would entertain a motion to adjourn. Bob, would you like to
30 make a motion to -- J.D. made a motion to adjourn. Is there a
31 second?
32

33 **MR. GILL:** A point of order, Madam Chair. There is other
34 business on the agenda that we have not discussed.
35

36 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Dr. Hollensead did go through that. Would you
37 like to have her repeat it?
38

39 **MR. GILL:** Apparently I'm not paying attention. No.
40

41 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Is there a second to adjourn?
42

43 **MR. GILL:** Sure.
44

45 **CHAIRMAN BOGGS:** Thank you. That concludes the Data Collection
46 Committee.
47
48

1 (Whereupon, the meeting adjourned on August 14, 2023.)
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