

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

Agenda Item IV: Discussion on For-hire Data Collection

Timeline Status: Information, discussion, and feedback

Council input and next steps: The Ad hoc Charter-For-hire Data Collection Advisory Panel (AP) met January 10-11th to discuss initial steps for creating a new data collection program to replace SEFHIER. A summary of the meeting is available and Captain Jim Green (AP Chair) will provide insight on the meeting discussions. Dr. Masi (SERO) will also provide a presentation of SEFHIER data addressing questions the Council asked during the October 2023 meeting. Broadly, the presentation includes information on number of targeted trips, species-specific catch numbers, spatial movement behavior of the fleet, and regional compliance estimates. The Committee should read over the meeting materials, ask questions of staff and the AP chair, and discuss the AP recommendations. The Committee should direct staff on the considerations and recommendations from the AP that they would like to see move forward in the document the Council requested be initiated at the April 2023 Council meeting.

Agenda Item V: ~~Discussion of MRIP-FES Inventory and Action Plan for the Gulf of Mexico~~
To be discussed during Sustainable Fisheries Committee (Agenda Item E – 4)

Timeline Status: ~~Information and discussion~~

Council input and next steps: ~~In 2023, NOAA Office of Science and Technology released a pilot study examining the robustness of the recreational fishing effort survey questionnaire based on variations in the order that the questions were asked. The results indicated that the order in which the questions were administered could affect future estimates of effort and catch with subsequent impacts to fisheries science and management. Council staff created a generalized method for considering the severity of exposure to the MRIP-FES recreational data to better assess potential effects to managed stocks and prioritize future work. The Committee should review the information presented and provide feedback to staff as appropriate.~~

Agenda Item VI: Update on the Implementation Timeline Status of the Commercial Electronic Logbook

Timeline Status: Informational

Council input and next steps: Both the Gulf and South Atlantic Council’s took final action in late 2023 on a joint amendment that will transition the commercial coastal logbook from paper to electronic submission. Next steps will include transmitting the document to NMFS and completing the final rule process. SEFSC staff will provide a verbal update on tentative plans for implementing the reporting transition. The Committee should ask questions of staff regarding the status of the implementation timing.