Tab F, No. 4

For-hire data collection purpose/need and next steps

Presentation Overview

- **Background**
  - Why collect for-hire data?
- **Review of stakeholder feedback**
- **Data wants vs data needs**
- **Discussion of Purpose and Need**
- **Lessons learned**
- **Next steps**

GULF OF MEXICO Fishery Management Council

Background: Why collect for-hire data?

- Provide data to inform stock assessments and management advice; catch limit monitoring

- **Catch data**
  - Collected from anglers on what they harvested during fishing trips. In some cases, field samplers will conduct intercept surveys and sample the catch.

- **Effort data**
  - Collected via a phone call, in person, by mail, or a mobile app. Each survey has its own method of data collection. Participants may be asked how long they fished, what was targeted, and the number of trips.

https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/infographic/infographic-illustrates-role-hire-data-science-and-management

Review of stakeholder feedback

- **Perceived as feasible**
  - Filling out and reporting logbooks
  - Hail in/out when on fishing trips
  - Reporting catch before landing
  - Dockside intercepts

- **Perceived as burdensome**
  - Declaration for every vessel movement when not fishing
  - Economic questions
  - 24/7 VMS requirement

Data wants and needs

- Validation of catch and effort information
- Filling in existing data gaps (more discussion in Oct.)
- More timely and accurate for-hire reporting
- Use in stock assessments and management actions
- Can provide an individual catch history

Purpose and need statements from original SEFHIER document

- The purpose is to improve accuracy and timeliness of landings, discards, effort, and socioeconomic data of federally permitted for-hire vessels participating in the Gulf reef fish and CMP fisheries.

- The need for this action is to improve management and monitoring of the Gulf reef fish and CMP fisheries.

- Link to original document: https://gulfcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/Electronic-Reporting-for-For-Hire-Vessels-5-23-17.pdf

Some lessons learned

- Stakeholder buy-in crucial for program success
- Program compliance and the effect on data usage
- Need to better define validation
- Consideration of what criteria of a data collection program are appropriate for use in management
- Budget/funding needs to align with program requirements
- Validation and calibration will need to considered
- Program expectations and how those are translated into the final implementation (communication of program objectives)

Next steps

- An IPT has been populated and met July 27th

- Council and SERO staff will work together to present more in-depth information on what for-hire programs are currently implemented and provide some summary information from SEFHIER
  - Will be presented at the October Council meeting

- Council should consider providing guidance to staff on desirable goals and objectives for version 2.0 of the for-hire data collection program

- Is the Council ready to convene the Data Collection AP (or another advisory body) to discuss the development of a new data collection program?

Questions?