GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
DATA COLLECTION COMMITTEE
Perdido Beach Resort Orange Beach, Alabama
January 28, 2019

VOTING MEMBERS
Greg Stunz..................................................Texas
Kevin Anson (designee for Scott Bannon)............................Alabama
Susan Boggs..................................................Alabama
Roy Crabtree..................................................NMFS
Dave Donaldson..............................................GSMFC
Martha Guyas (designee for Jessica McCawley).....................Florida
Paul Mickle (designee for Joe Spraggins)..........................Mississippi
John Sanchez..................................................Florida
Chris Schieble (designee for Patrick Banks)......................Louisiana
Ed Swindell...............................................Louisiana

NON-VOTING MEMBERS
Leann Bosarge........................................Mississippi
Doug Boyd................................................Texas
Dale Díaz................................................Mississippi
Jonathan Dugas........................................Louisiana
Phil DySkow...............................................Florida
Tom Frazer................................................Florida
Robin Riechers........................................Texas
Bob Shipp...............................................Alabama

STAFF
Assane Diagne..............................................Economist
Matt Freeman..............................................Economist
John Froeschke.........................................Deputy Director
Morgan Kilgour...........................................Fishery Biologist
Mara Levy................................................NOAA General Counsel
Emily Muehlstein.......................................Public Information Officer
Ryan Rindone............................................Fishery Biologist & SEDAR Liaison
Bernadine Roy............................................Office Manager
Camilla Shireman..............................Administrative and Communications Assistant
Carrie Simmons.........................................Executive Director

OTHER PARTICIPANTS
Darryl Boudreau........................................Milton, FL
Ryan Bradley.................................MS Commercial Fisheries United, MS
J.P. Brooker..................................Ocean Conservancy, St. Petersburg, FL
James Bruce........................................Magnolia, MS
Nikki Burch........................................Magnolia, MS
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ron Chicola</td>
<td>Ruston, LA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Bubba Cochrane</td>
<td>Galveston, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Mike Colby</td>
<td>Clearwater Marine Association, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Chris Conklin</td>
<td>SAFMC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Traci Floyd</td>
<td>MDMR, MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Troy Frady</td>
<td>AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Johnny Greene</td>
<td>AL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Ken Haddad</td>
<td>ASA, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Bill Kelly</td>
<td>FKCFA, FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Laura Picariello</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- - -
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents.................................................................3
Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Minutes.........................4
Action Guide and Next Steps....................................................4
SEFHiER Implementation Update..............................................6
SEFHiER Outreach Meeting Schedule......................................6
Adjournment.................................................................12

---
The Data Collection Committee of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council convened at the Perdido Beach Resort, Orange Beach, Alabama, Monday morning, January 28, 2019, and was called to order by Chairman Greg Stunz.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA
APPROVAL OF MINUTES
ACTION GUIDE AND NEXT STEPS

CHAIRMAN GREG STUNZ: I would like to call the order the Data Collection Committee. The members of that committee are me as the Chair, Mr. Anson as Vice Chair, Mr. Schieble, Ms. Boggs, Dr. Crabtree, Mr. Donaldson, Ms. Guyas, Mr. Sanchez, Dr. Mickle, and Mr. Swindell, and all of those are present.

The first, if you’re following along, is, on Tab F, we have a little bit of a light agenda today, as the shutdown is preventing Mr. Strelcheck from talking about the unique trip identifiers that we have been talking about for a meeting or so, and so, with that, our first item of business is a motion to approve the agenda. Has everyone had a chance to look at the agenda and if there is any changes? Not seeing any changes -- Did you have a change, Kevin? Go ahead.

MR. KEVIN ANSON: Not so much a change, but just a question. I know, with the shutdown and everything, obviously it prevented Andy and others from attending the meeting, but is there any need to make sure this gets done during this meeting, and can Andy present remotely the presentation, or -- I mean, is it not that important and where it can wait until the next meeting?

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Well, I might defer to our Chair and staff about the timing on that. I’m not real sure.

DR. TOM FRAZER: Kevin, I think we don’t have a presentation, just because of the shutdown. There wasn’t an opportunity to prepare one, and so I think, out of necessity, we’ll have to defer that.

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Mr. Donaldson.

MR. DAVE DONALDSON: Kevin, this has been an ongoing issue. I mean, when you were still on the FIN Committee, we were talking about this, and it’s something that Andy and I and others have talked about, but, without the presentation, I don’t know that we can really move forward, and, while there is some people that think that we should have addressed it yesterday, I think waiting until April is probably the best approach.
CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Mr. Chairman.

DR. FRAZER: Just to clarify, we’ll make sure that it’s on the agenda for the April meeting.

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Okay. Well, if that’s okay with the committee, then, Kevin, we’ll move on. Is there any other changes to the agenda? Seeing none, would someone like to make a motion to approve the agenda? So moved by Mr. Donaldson, second by Ms. Boggs. Any opposition to that? Seeing none, we’ll move on to the next item of business, and that’s Approval of the Minutes. Any changes or edits to the minutes? Seeing none, a motion to approve the minutes?

MS. MARTHA GUYAS: So moved.

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Moved by Ms. Guyas, and it’s seconded by Mr. Donaldson. Any opposition? Seeing none, the minutes are approved. The next item of business is -- There’s really just one item, but, John, would you like to brief us on the action guide, please?

DR. JOHN FROESCHKE: Yes, I can go through this briefly. As we discussed, the commercial unique trip identifiers will be pushed back. On the SEFHIER implementation, there is two items here. The first part of this, we have SERO on the agenda, and this was really intended for the Regional Office to give an update on their implementation plan and deadlines and things.

They really haven’t had time to work on this, and I think the shutdown has modified some of this, and so the plan for that is we’re going to defer on this. If there is specific questions, I do think -- I have been in contact with Rich Malinowski from the Regional Office this morning, and I think I could reach out to him and find out any questions, if we have any. Otherwise, I think we should push this back, with the understanding that previously-established deadlines may be moved back a little bit. The second part of this, Emily is just going to give us an update on the SEFHIER, the outreach meeting schedule that we started last week.

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Okay. Thank you, Dr. Froeschke. Dr. Crabtree.

DR. ROY CRABTREE: I mean, obviously, everything is delayed at this point. Electronic reporting is going to be delayed, and the red snapper TAC increase is delayed, the red grouper emergency rule is delayed, all of these things are delayed.
Because staff is just today coming back in the office, no one
has had time to really figure out -- I mean, they're trying to
get the computers to come up and other type of administrative --
So we’re going to be a little bit of time to figure out what the
plan is and what’s the priority and what do we need to do and
how long are things going to take, and so I just ask for some
patience.

I know I’m getting a lot of questions about the Permits Office
and when are we going to start issuing permits, and I don’t have
answers to any of that yet, and so we’ll come up with an
alternative timing, and the concern with the electronic
reporting is we’re going to start running up into the beginning
of red snapper season, and so we’re going to have to have a
conversation about that, but I don’t think we are going to be
able to do it in a meaningful way right now.

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Thank you, Dr. Crabtree. On all of those
positive notes, maybe Ms. Muehlstein would like to share with us
her briefing on the SEFHIER.

SEFHIER IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE
SEFHIER OUTREACH MEETING SCHEDULE

MS. EMILY MUEHLSTEIN: Okay. I certainly will. Thank you, Mr.
Chairman. Just to sort of dial this all back, because SEFHIER
is kind of a scary acronym, I just want to put in context what
we’re talking about, and this is sort of the implementation
program for the for-hire reporting requirements that the council
voted to approve in the beginning of 2017, and so there has been
an implementation team that has been working to figure out the
logistics of the reporting requirements for those federally-
permitted for-hire vessels.

At the council, we have participated in different parts of that
implementation process. One of the things that we did was enter
into a contract with NOAA Fisheries to help them outreach the
new reporting requirements, and, just really quickly, to go over
sort of what we committed to doing with them, we decided that we
would hold between twelve and fourteen in-person outreach
meetings across the region to inform captains about what the
requirements were, and we were going to do that sometime before
December of 2019.

The next thing is we committed to holding at least five webinar
meetings to educate fishermen and other partners about the
upcoming requirements, and then we also committed to providing
the council and the implementation team and folks at NOAA with
detailed reports of each one of those meetings that we host.

With that said, we went ahead, and this was sort of before we
knew that everything would be delayed, and we started to plan a
series of outreach meetings for the beginning of this year.
It’s my understanding that implementation for these reporting
requirements will come in two phases.

The first phase will include the hail-out requirements as well
as the electronic reporting requirements, and, before the
shutdown, we had planned to put that into place by April 15, and
I suspect that that will be moved back, and then the second
phase is going to require owner-operators to have some sort of
device permanently affixed to their vessel that will, at
minimum, archive their GPS location, and so what we had planned
was to do this first round of meetings to talk about Phase 1,
the hail-out requirements and the electronic reporting
requirements, and we decided to move on and continue to host
those meetings, despite losing our federal partners for a
temporary time.

We did have our first meeting in St. Petersburg, Florida, and
that happened last Thursday night, and it went pretty well. We
had sixty-one operators at that meeting, and they all came and
sort of shared some of their fears and asked some questions, and
it was a pretty productive meeting.

We have a number of meetings scheduled moving forward, including
one tonight that will be happening at the Community Center in
Orange Beach, right before the social that is also planned in
the same place, and so hopefully we’ll see you guys there if
you’re interested in seeing how we’re hosting these meetings and
what we’re telling folks.

What’s next? We’re going to complete this first series of
meetings, and we expect to also send out a packet that is full
of all the information that captains will be needing. That
packet will go to all of our permit holders, our federal permit
holders. We already sent out a postcard to notice these
meetings, and so hopefully all the federal permit holders are
sort of aware that we are starting this outreach opportunity.
We will follow up with a packet.

Then the Phase 1 will be implemented. After Phase 1 becomes
implemented, we’re going to host a series of webinars to do some
troubleshooting, and we also want to engage our state partners
during those webinars, both law enforcement and also the data
collection folks in each state, and then we plan to host another
series of outreach meetings before this permanently-affixed
hardware needs to be put on the vessel that archives location,
and so we will be hosting another set of meetings, probably in
August, and we plan to send out another postcard to notify our
permit holders that we will be doing that. I guess that’s kind
of a broad overview of what we’re up to, and I’m happy to
entertain any questions.

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Well, thank you, Emily. There’s a few
questions, and I’ve got a few for you, too. Mr. Schieble, go
ahead.

MR. CHRIS SCHIEBLE: We talked about the romantic Valentines
evening that you set up for our charter captains at the Hale
Boggs Federal Building. Is there the potential that we could
maybe have a second meeting, or workshop, prior to
implementation of Phase 1? Is that possible at all?

MS. MUEHLSTEIN: You know what, especially since we’ll be
pushing back the implementation date, I think that’s something
that we can definitely consider, and he is referencing that we
have planned Valentine’s Day as the meeting for the Louisiana
folks. Apparently I am not a romantic, and so I didn’t even
notice.

MR. SCHIEBLE: I am not either, but I really don’t want to go to
the Federal Building no matter what.

MS. MUEHLSTEIN: No, I completely understand, and so that is
certainly something that we can consider, yes.

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Ms. Boggs.

MS. SUSAN BOGGS: Emily, you had mentioned that you sent out
postcards noticing these meetings. How was that information
pulled, the reason being the permit holders -- I have three
permits, and I have not received any postcard.

MS. MUEHLSTEIN: Well, that’s fascinating. I am going to have
to look you up. Typically, what we do is we ask the Regional
Office for their most recent list of federal permit holders and
those addresses that are associated with them. Because we were
not able to do that, we pulled the most recent one that was
posted online, and so it’s fascinating that you didn’t get one.
I will have to look on the database and see if you’re on there.

UNIDENTIFIED: She is on there.
MS. MUEHLSTEIN: Okay. You’re on there, and so we might have to look at your address and make sure that it’s all right.

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: One more question, Ms. Boggs?

MS. BOGGS: Just one more comment, and I know that I have expressed this at prior meetings, but I would like, tonight, to make sure that we express to the charter fleet the delay that may be caused because of the federal shutdown, so they understand why, because that’s going to be critical. They need to understand that there is going to be a delay.

MS. MUEHLSTEIN: Yes, and you’ll see on the presentation tonight that we actually have April 15 with a big-old question-mark everywhere, because, when we gave the first one on Thursday, we didn’t know when it was going to reopen, and so we’re still in that question-mark, and it’s pretty clear.

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Mr. Anson.

MR. ANSON: I’m sure this will be addressed tonight as well, Emily, but I’m just curious as to the two phases relative to the different data aspects. The first phase is going to deal with hail-out reporting requirements, and the second phase is going to deal with locational information, and so is the unit that they will be using for the locational information the same unit that they’re going to be reporting the hail-out information, or is the hail-out going to be done by phone, and then they’re going to have the unit installed later on, and then they’ll be using that? Is that how it’s going to work?

MS. MUEHLSTEIN: It’s a fabulous question, and so the answer is it depends. I think folks who have VMS already on their vessel or are already signing up. There is some pilot programs where you can get a VMS for free, and there is a federal reimbursement program, and so anglers will -- The short answer is anglers will have the option to do it either way, and so some of those devices that we know are going to qualify, and the VMS folks are working with it, you’ll be able to just have that unit, and you can report from there and do that all -- You can rip the Band-Aid and do it immediately.

For folks who don’t get the VMS in time for the reporting, or don’t want a VMS, there is -- Currently, the one approved vendor that we already have in the Gulf, and there is plenty that are planning to be approved, but the one approved vendor is actually working on a mobile reporting platform. They have a tablet-
based platform now, but you will be able to report from your phone, and so, for the first phase, if somebody didn’t want to jump in and get a device that was permanently affixed to their vessel, for the first phase, they would be able to use a free reporting app from their cellphone, and so it wouldn’t have any cost associated with it.

**MR. ANSON:** Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN STUNZ:** All right. Are there other questions? Emily, I’ve got two questions for you. One is just for clarity, because I think there are some questions, maybe, around this table and then just to get it on the record of how this relates to the headboats that are currently reporting in the current system they have versus this. Of course, obviously, there is headboats that aren’t in that system, and this includes everyone, and, obviously, the typical for-hire guys, but headboats as well.

**MS. MUEHLSTEIN:** Yes, and so both components of, I guess, the for-hire fishery, both the headboats and the charter vessels. Now, as you mentioned, the headboats are already reporting to the Southeast Region Headboat Survey, and so they will continue to report to the same people, but the frequency of reporting is going to change. Right now, they only report once a week, and Susan is shaking her head. It’s daily reports, but they are submitted weekly, I thought. Is that right?

**MS. BOGGS:** My understanding is it’s daily.

**MS. MUEHLSTEIN:** Okay. Yes, but John is confirming that they are daily reports, but they don’t have to be submitted every day. The difference is the new requirements will require that they submit every trip before offloading fish, and so they will have to have some new type of device.

I think a lot of those captains are currently reporting on a desktop computer at the end of the day, and so they will continue to report to the same survey, but they will have to change the frequency and method with which they’re doing that.

**CHAIRMAN STUNZ:** Right. Thank you, Emily, and I think there may be some -- Just, as you’re talking to people, that’s very clear, because I think there’s still a little bit of confusion on that.

The last question I have for you, Emily, is it strikes me a little bit in the discussion we’re going to have in Mr. Dyskow’s session coming up here regarding barotrauma, and you’re going to
be interacting with a lot of anglers, particularly leaders in
the fishery and charter captains, and it might be a good idea to
reiterate the stuff that’s going on with barotrauma.

I mean, obviously, don’t dominate the meeting, but it’s a good
opportunity to reach those people outside of the other
activities that we have planned, and that was just a comment
that I had.

**MS. MUEHLSTEIN:** Okay. Great. Yes, thank you for reminding me
of that. We have also, I think, at the first meeting we hosted,
there was an opportunity -- Some captains had asked about the
historical captain endorsement document, and so we definitely
are trying to leave some time at the end to have some stuff, but
that’s a good comment, and I will make sure that we mention it.

**CHAIRMAN STUNZ:** Okay. Any other -- Dr. Mickle.

**DR. PAUL MICKLE:** Yes, and thank you, Dr. Stunz. I just wanted
to bring up, and I think this maybe the right time or not, and
I’m not quite sure, but, with just the regionality, and I’m glad
these meetings are focused in on the regions, to get some real
customized education out there for the captains and then have
the captains, obviously weigh-in on Phase 1 and Phase 2 and how
it will be affected region-specific.

Now, as far as Mississippi, our fleet is very small, since
Katrina, and, potentially right now, with this implementation,
they would have to report through multiple systems. Tails ‘n
Scales is mandatory reporting.

Essentially, we’re not going to have Phase 2. Phase 1 is pretty
much exactly what Tails ‘n Scales is mandatorily making them do
right now, and so, as far as Phase 1 goes of this program, they
will be identical to Tails ‘n Scales, and I hate to add that
much reporting burden to this fleet, but, again, having parallel
datasets isn’t all a bad thing, but it’s burdensome for,
obvously, the user group, and so I’m just giving early warning
that there will be a lot of concerns from our state, and that
reflection of kind of userability, and I hope that -- Down the
road, I see kind of hybridizing datasets and making things more
efficient, and, if one dataset is different from another, I am
going to believe ours. Thank you.

**CHAIRMAN STUNZ:** Mr. Donaldson.

**MR. DONALDSON:** Along those lines, there is concern among
several states about -- You mentioned that they’re going to get
buy-in from or work with the states in terms of data collection and law enforcement at these meetings now, and I think that it might have been a little more efficient to do it ahead of time, and it could have addressed some of Paul’s issues, and so hopefully, in the future, when we’re doing these things, to include the states early on in the process and not later, and so one of the issues we’re going to be talking about at our commission meeting is this program and some of those issues, and so just something to consider in the future.

CHAIRMAN STUNZ: Thank you. That’s a very good point, Dave. Is there any other questions regarding this agenda item? Seeing none, that takes us to Other Business. Is there any other business that needs to come before this committee? Seeing none, then we will adjourn.

(Whereupon, the meeting adjourned on January 28, 2019.)

- - -