

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
Focus Group on Shrimp Data Collection Framework Action

Thursday, October 21, 2021

9:00 am – 5:00 pm EDT / 8:00 am – 4:00 pm CDT

Virtual Meeting

Motion: To form a small Working Group of knowledgeable and involved individuals selected with agreement by the Science Center Director, Council Executive Director, and Council and Shrimp Committee Chairs to develop an agreed upon structure and direction for the shrimp data collection framework amendment. This document shall be reviewed by the Shrimp AP prior to consideration by the Council.

Charge: Provide advice to Council on a revised Gulf of Mexico shrimp effort monitoring program via vessel position data collection.

Objectives:

- 1) Operationalize the Gulf of Mexico shrimp effort monitoring program with consideration of minimizing industry burdens, to the extent practicable
- 2) Consider utilizing the current hardware to the extent practicable on Gulf of Mexico federally permitted shrimp vessels, and identify potential headwinds
- 3) Consider utilization of the NESDIS server (or equivalent) for housing of the data before transferring the data to the Science Center
- 4) Consider utilization of the GSMFC server for housing of the data before transferring the data to the Science Center
- 5) Consider utilization of replacement hardware on federally permitted shrimp vessels with minimal technical requirements and automatic cellular transmission
 - a. Identify methods for on-vessel testing and potential headwinds with operationalizing replacement hardware

If Objectives 1-5 are not viable, then the following objectives may be considered:

- 6) Consider utilization of cellular VMS units
 - a. Identify methods for on-vessel testing and potential headwinds (data storage, transmission/maintenance costs, etc) with operationalizing VMS units
 - b. Evaluate data and device compatibility with NMFS shrimp effort algorithms

Agenda

- 1) Review of charge and objectives – Dr. Matthew Freeman
- 2) Overview of current cELB units’ programming and implementation – Dr. James Nance
- 3) Presentation on elements of data from current cELB units – Dr. James Primrose
- 4) Background Information: GSMFC process for data receipt, security, and storage
- 5) Focus group discussion for Objectives 2-4

LUNCH BREAK

- 6) Comparison table – Ms. Leann Bosarge
 - a. Background Information: VMS tech specs
 - b. Background Information: Proposed tech specs
- 7) Focus group discussion for Objective 5
- 8) Presentation: case study of Gulf reef fish VMS data inputted into the Gulf shrimp effort algorithm for illustration of compatibility – Dr. John Walter
- 9) Focus group discussion for Objective 6
 - a. Background Information: Framework Action: Modification of the Vessel Position Data Collection Program for the Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Fishery – Dr. Matthew Freeman
- 10) Public Comment
- 11) Summary of focus group advice and proposed next steps

Focus Group Members: Leann Bosarge; Glenn Delaney (alternate – John Williams); Benny Gallaway; Dave Gloeckner (alternates - John Walter, Clay Porch); Alan Lowther; Jim Nance; Corky Perret; James Primrose

Council Staff Lead: Dr. Matthew Freeman