

**Data Collection Committee Report
January 28, 2019
Dr. Greg Stunz – Chair**

The agenda and minutes of the October 24, 2018 meeting were approved.

For-Hire Electronic Reporting Implementation Update

Implementation of the new reporting requirements is scheduled to occur in two phases with the electronic reporting and hail-out beginning in the first half of 2019 while the archival GPS requirements will likely begin later in 2019.

Council and NMFS staff are working collaboratively to schedule and hold a series of stakeholder workshops about the upcoming changes in reporting requirements for federally permitted for-hire vessels. Council staff noted that 8 meetings have been scheduled between January 24 and March 11, 2019 in each of the five Gulf States. The meetings are intended to make for-hire operators aware of the upcoming changes and address stakeholder concerns prior to implementation. A Committee member noted that a workshop is scheduled in New Orleans on February 14 and that the holiday may reduce attendance. In response, staff rescheduled the meeting so it will be held at 6 p.m. on February 12 at the La Quinta Inn & Suites, 2610 Williams Blvd. Kenner, LA 70062.

Mr. Chair, this concludes my report.