

Historical Captain For-Hire Permits: Review and Discussion



April 17, 2018

Motion

Initiate the development of an action that considers removing the historical captain endorsement to reef fish and CMP permits, allow those permits to be fully transferable.

What is a historical captain?

To get a historical captain permit, individuals were required to provide:

- prior to March 29, 2001 he/she was issued either a 6-pack license or a USCG Masters license;
 - operated, as a captain, a federally permitted charter vessel or headboat in the Gulf reef fish and/or CMP fishery;
 - the vessel was as not permitted in his/her name or the name of a corporation in which he/she was a shareholder; and
 - at least 25% of his/her earned income was derived from charter vessel or headboat fishing in 1997, 1998, 1999, or 2000.
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- Intent was to cap the effort and passenger capacity of vessels during moratorium
 - Gulf of Mexico Historical Captain Charter/Headboat permits are not transferable except to a vessel operated by the historical captain that owns the permits.

How many historical captains are there?

Permits	Active	Expired
Reef fish	19	6
CMP	18	6

- 25 unique permit holders (historical captains)
- 19 active historical captains
- 6 historical captains with expired permits but within window to renew

What are the limitations of a historical captain's permit?

	For-hire permit	Historical captain permit
Transferrable	Yes	No
Resale value	Yes	No
Captain required to be aboard vessel on for-hire trips	No	Yes
Passenger capacity	Variable	Variable

*Passenger capacity was originally established by the U.S. Coast Guard Safety certificate. Permit may be placed on vessel with less capacity than the permit allows

Permit capacity

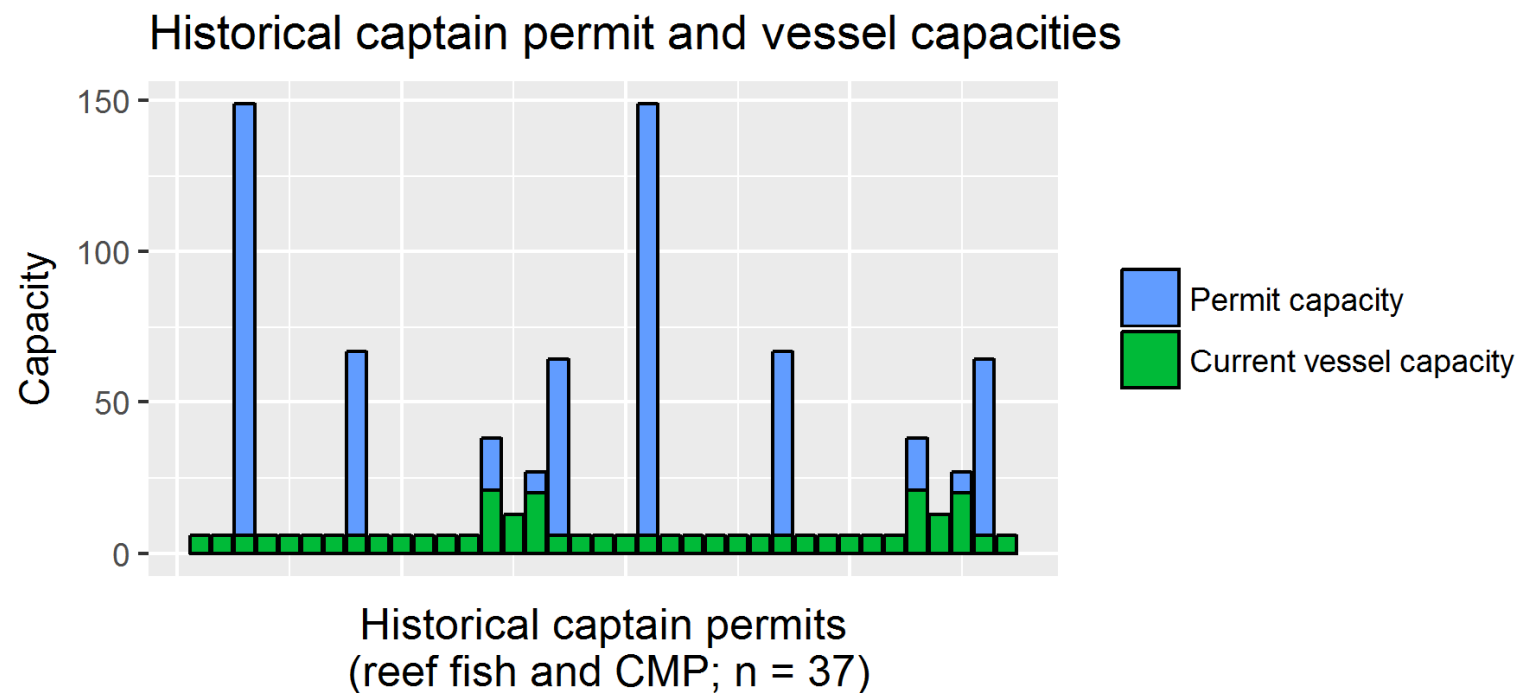
Historical captain permits were issued capacities based on the allowable capacity of the vessel at time of issuance.

Options:

- 1) Keep original permit capacity
- 2) Use current vessel capacity as passenger capacity
- 3) Limit permit capacity to a maximum of 6 passengers

Passenger and permit capacity

Historical captain permits were issued capacities based on the allowable USCG capacity of the vessel at time of issuance.



Transferability options

1. Fully transferable
2. Transfer permits to a family member only?
3. Availability of permit to be retro-active to family members? (i.e., recent widow)*
4. Can there be an option to keep the historical captain permit indefinitely (if not transferred)? If transferred then must go to a 6 pack?

*Would require control date

Next steps

– June 2018 Council meeting

- Draft options paper with two actions

- 1) Transferability of historical captain permits
- 2) Vessel capacity of transferred permits

