Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council

April 30, 2019
3:30 – 5:00 PM
Arlington, VA

Draft Agenda

The times listed are approximate; the order in which these items will be taken is subject to change; other items may be added as necessary.

1. Welcome/Call to Order *(L. Fegley)*
2. Council Consent
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
5. Public Comment
6. Review Progress on Accountability/Validation (*J. Simpson*)
7. Program Updates
    a. Administrative (*M. Cahall*)
    b. SAFIS (*M. Cahall*)
    c. Recreational (*APAIS Staff*)
8. Committee Updates (*Staff*)
    a. Commercial Technical
    b. Information Systems
    c. Joint Operations/Advisors
9. Review and Consider 2020 Request for Proposals (*L. Fegley*)
10. Other Business/Adjourn

The meeting will be held at the Westin Crystal City, 1800 S. Eads Street Arlington, VA 22202; 703.486.1111

ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION
ATLANTIC COASTAL COOPEATIVE STATISTICS PROGRAM
COORDINATING COUNCIL

The Westin Crystal City Arlington, Virginia

FEBRUARY 6, 2018

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The Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission convened in the Jefferson Ballroom of the Westin Crystal City Hotel, Arlington, Virginia; Wednesday, February 6, 2018, and was called to order at 10:00 o'clock a.m. by Chairman Lynn Fegley.

CHAIRMAN LYNN FEGLEY: Good morning; I'm Lynn Fegley, your Chair from Maryland, and to my left is John Carmichael from the South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council as Vice Chair, and of course our team from ACCSP. With that my first order of business is to get approval of the agenda. Is there anybody who has any modifications to the agenda?

Seeing none; and you have in your meeting materials minutes from our October meeting in New York City, does anybody have any modifications or changes to the minutes? Okay seeing none. Then finally, is there anybody out there in the public who would like to provide comment; seeing none, so with that we'll roll straight into our agenda.

The first thing on the list is to discuss this funding status. If you remember, we found ourselves a little bit short on our proposals. We had a couple of things change; I believe with New Jersey, and we are still waiting for information from the federal government. With that I'll turn it over to you, Mike.

MR. MIKE CAHALL: Lynn is exactly right. We don't have a lot of new information. The main thing that we do know is New Jersey decided to go ahead and direct hire one of its ACCSP folks. Just running the numbers roughly through their grant request that will free approximately $70,000.00; which is not quite half of what the shortfall ended up being on the worst case scenario. We will keep you guys informed again; and we'll notify the committee no longer called the Executive Committee, it's a team, and I can never remember the name.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: It is the Management and Policy Committee.

MR. CAHALL: Thank you. We'll notify them as soon as we have numbers again. The big variables, just as a reminder, are the overhead rates; whether or not we'll be charged an overhead by the Northeast or Southeast grants offices, and also what the final overhead for the Commission is going to look like.

Those numbers are at variance enough to cover the entire request. If we don't get charged at all, we would be able to cover everybody. Then depending on who charges us how much; we'll have more information on that I'm sure once the Feds have a budget.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Just to remind everybody where we left that in October. There was a motion made that we would wait until we got this information; and depending on what the result is that that Management and Policy Committee will convene to make any decisions that need to be made. I guess everybody needs to be aware that the money could be coming later with the shut downs going on; and we're just going to have to be patient, so any questions? Pat.

MR. PATRICK C. KELIHER: The issue of funding as it relates more long term; and I'm thinking about the maintenance that is currently slated to start going down. I raised this at the Executive Committee this morning. I think we're going to need to have further conversations regarding maintenance and loss of maintenance funds long term. I just bring it to the Chairs attention as a place holder for future conversation. I know there are several jurisdictions that were going to be in very difficult financial situations; if that goes forward as it is currently planned.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Okay note made; and that is something perhaps we'll take up in the spring, anybody else? With that we'll move on to the next agenda item; and I'll turn it over to Mike to go over the results of the Data Accountability Survey. I want to thank everybody's staff and everybody who participated in that.

I think it's a really interesting outcome. We do not have a lot of time today. There was a lot of information. I think what we're going to do is do a real high level overview; and plan on coming back with a more detailed discussion on this in May. With that Mike, take it away.

MR. CAHALL: I think the first thing that we found when we did the survey is that we aren't all speaking the same language; which was a lot like how things began in the program. For those of us that are long term survivors of this program. I can remember arguing about what a dock was or what a landing net. I think in the survey some of that came through.

Having said that going through this really quickly, what we're looking at is a mechanism to verify our harvest data. There is a lot of different ways that we can do that. What we would eventually like to do is come up with a consistent standard on how we would like to see that accomplished.

To do that we went ahead and put together a survey and my thanks to Julie and Ali for doing that; they pulled it together and sent it out. Basically asking our member agencies what kind of accountability measure did they use; and again, if they used some kind of accountability measure to describe it for us.

Again why we're looking at it, we would like to develop an accountability standard; so that we have some universal measurement that we could use that we could provide help, and also eventually integrate into the tools that we provide, and also data that meet these standards could be flagged in our database.

I don't want to say we would put the gold flag on it; but what we would say is that we know these data have been validated by a methodology that everyone has agreed is sound. There is some potential benefits of course to having a standard in our new electronic tools; especially as we move forward with development, or we certify other contractors that they would be able to provide this level of validation. We would also potentially be able to do a tool that could assist the states; and also of course improve the data itself for stock assessments and for allocation decisions.

Here is what we found. The most common method, no surprise to be honest, is the comparing commercial fishermen trips to dealer reports. Then after that they saw them going down. Some require negative trip reporting; also almost everybody does do some kind of a data on it. Less used, and not surprisingly, because it's also really expensive, are the onboard observers and VMS.

Then kind of in the middle we have dockside monitoring and sampling, free trip notifications, and hale-ins or hale-ins and hale-outs, different comparison with data that you might get from another agency, and then finally actually having law enforcement. What we think we need to do is some further analysis on the results of the survey.

We do have a meeting of our Commercial Technical Committee upcoming; and where we could start chewing through this a little bit. We're not at the point where we could even begin to make recommendations. We've had the results of the survey less than two weeks. I think the main news that we're sending back to you all is that we did do the survey.

There are a lot of different methods that are in use. One of the benefits I think also is recognition that there are a lot of different things going on in a lot of different places. No surprise, NOAA Fisheries has generically the most robust program; and that there may be some lessons that we could learn from them. I think that's what we got right now for the survey. Does anybody have any questions?

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Thanks, Mike, and thank you TR Team for getting that done. For me, I found this to be fascinating; and I certainly learned a lot. It was very helpful for me to get out of my parochial view of Maryland systems; and see what everybody else is doing. We'll have a more detailed discussion about this in May.

Like I said, go home, digest it, and read the results. But I have a couple sort of high level questions to throw out to the group to think about for the spring. One is if we were to go down this road of accountability standards, you know the question is; would accountability standards be helpful to you? I think that they would be helpful; obviously in the context of stock assessment, understanding the quality and accuracy of the data that go into our assessments.

But would they be helpful to your state in the context of seeking funding; and also support from your leadership to implement some of the accountability measures that could be helpful. That's one question. Would these standards actually be helpful to you? The second one is; when I read through the results there are some states that have some pretty interesting stuff going on.

They are doing some things accountability-wise that we in Maryland, it would be very difficult for us to get there just through stakeholder buy-in. I wondered if it would be helpful to the group to hear from some of these states who have some of these interesting programs going on; and understand how they go there. You know how did they get the stakeholder buy-in to get where they are? What was the genesis of their construction of these programs? Those are just two questions I have to throw at the group; and if anybody else has questions lay them on us, otherwise we'll move on. With that we'll just move along.

MR. CAHALL: I've condensed five or six months worth of work down into one slide here; because our primary focus today is our recreational data collection. The shutdown may or may not influence the effective date of the regulations for the Southeast and the Gulf. We had a regroup conference call with the folks at the SEFHIER Program yesterday; and they are not sure at all yet either.

They are having a meeting on Thursday with their General Counsel to talk it over; and see what they think the right solutions need to be. The likelihood is that the regulations will be delayed; but we don't' know by how long, and there is also a likelihood that the Gulf requirements may be split off from the Southeast requirements.

The Gulf requirements are much more stringent in many ways than the South Atlantic's requirements are. Having said that we maintained our development schedule through the shutdown, because we weren't impacted by the federal government folks not being available, in terms of the software development, and we're moving forward and we're on time to have a testing version of the new version of eTrips mobile, which we're calling Version 2, which you could also call SAFIS redesign beta.

But it is intended to run on multiple platforms; all three of the common tablets, as well as phones. It will allow partner-specific configurations much more flexibly. The goal also is to allow; an example I'll sight is the gear configurations. The system will allow you different kinds of configurations of gear by partner; depending on where your fisheries are, and what kind of gears you allow your folks to use.

Our concept for the redesign system would be to allow each individual participating partner to have a switchboard; where they could literally turn fields off and on, or validation lists off and on, depending on whether or not they need them. A good example might be multiple landing locations, and the requirement for a sell-to dealer.

National Marine Fisheries GARFO requires sell-to dealers; and each sell-to dealer has to have a landing location associated with it. That may not be something that is required for folks with the state trip reports. We are on target to have a production version in, in mid-March on the assumption that we would need it to be available by April 15.

We don't know that that is actually going to be the case; but nonetheless, we're going to maintain that schedule at this point, until we hear otherwise. I'll tell you that there are two pieces that are holding us back right now; one of them is that we still do not have South Atlantic permits. We are working with them to get them.

There are some issues with privacy concerns over personal identification information; the birth dates that we need to create the IDENTs that uniquely identify our participants. Those of you who have been around for a while know what an IDENT is, and we use them. We have made a deal with SERO to have them generate the IDENTs and send us the relevant information, and that's the work around. But of course they didn't have staff around to do it during the shutdown. Then the other piece is that we need to make sure that we have all of the ports that are in use in the South Atlantic and Gulf into the system; so that we have places for them to leave and go to that are relevant to their areas.

We're working with that. That got impacted by the shutdown too; and Joan Palmer's retirement. Joan was doing the work with Geoff; and then she retired and shut down, so she was in this weird limbo for the better of a month, where she was sort of retired but not, because they couldn't process here paperwork.

But those of you who know Joan, you can imagine what she did, which was she kept working. We expect to have that resolved in the not-too-distant future as well. I'm very hopeful that we'll get this out on time. I'm very hopeful that it won't be the be-all and end-all; but it's definitely a step forward, and it's definitely a step in the directions that we've been talking about creating a universal flexible tool that will allow for variations within our individual partners. Are there any questions? Yes, sir.

MR. JOHN CLARK: This is kind of off topic. I was just wondering. I noticed in the Modern Fish Act, one of the big points of that is; recreational fishermen reporting. Would this serve as like a basis that could be put out to all recreational anglers; or do you see ACCSP having to get involved in getting all this data from individual anglers?

MR. CAHALL: Thanks for the question. In fact thanks to the South Atlantic Council, we already are. The way that our tools communicate back to our data bases is through an application programming interface, an API. Because of that the tools themselves are independent from our systems.

Any tool that can speak the language that our API speaks can provide us with data. We're currently working with a couple of different systems. The system formally known as SCAMP, whose name was changed, RELEASE, it's now called RELEASE, and a couple of others that are set up that way; eTrips itself can be modified to manage individual anglers, but it's not specifically designed to do citizen science.

But the API that supports it; the data transfer protocol that's used, can support citizen science. We are actively working, as I said before, on two separate projects. Probably what we'll do is we'll publish a standard API for citizen science; so that we have an easy way for vendors or developers to flood data in. We'll keep those data off to the side while we collectively decide how we're going to use these data.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Any other questions? Okay seeing none; we will move on to Agenda Item 7, which is the Recreational Updates. Geoff.

MR. GEOFF WHITE: We're going to start off with just a little bit of the metrics of how the Access Point Intercept Survey has gone for the last three years; and then Alex is going to lead us through kind of the really exciting development for moving to tablets in 2019. With that quick recap, the number of angler intercepts obtained by all of your staff has been increasing; so about a 27 percent overall increase over the last three years, 43 percent increase in charter-mode intercepts. That has been done with essentially the same sampling size of site assignments. Last year there was a 10 percent increase funded by NOAA, of additional site assignments, on average across the states.

But that is really good news; and it shows a lot of attention and work that your staff has all put into that. The productivity, the interviews per assignment has gone up from 5.5 to 6.5. I've got a few graphs, but one of the big ones is really the percent of eligible anglers that are being interviewed.

During that six hour assignment, a bunch of people go by you that have been fishing. What percentage of them were you able to complete an interview for versus maybe you were busy talking to somebody else and they weren't counted, or maybe there was a language barrier, or some other issue.

That is increased from 54 up to 62 percent. That is an efficiency of capturing activity at the site that you're at at the time. That has been fantastic. Also over the last three years dealing with paper, we'll pass these out as a historical comparison. The edit rate, the amount of times that there was something that had to be changed either from logic or handwriting, or maybe just the scanner reading it wrong, has changed from an average of about 6.5 percent down to 3.5 percent.

That is less time of everybody calling back and forth, figuring out exactly what the data were supposed to be, before we end up delivering that to NOAA Fisheries. A lot of good news there, it relies on all of the partners contributing; that's your state staff, what we've been able to do inside of ACCSP, and MRIP working with us on a bunch of things as well, so thanks to everybody.

Then two quick graphs, I won't spend too much time here. This is the number of intercepts overall; and each state is represented, so Maine on the left is northern, and going down to Georgia on the right. A reminder Florida is covered through the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission; and that's why they're not on the slide. The lines across there show an increase each year of the average.

You can see that within each state there has been an increase over time of the number of intercepts contained. That's generally just a representation of how you guys are doing within each state. Then the next graphic is that percentage of eligible anglers that were interviewed. Again, you see some pretty large jumps within each state; and of course the biggest jump between 2016 was learning 2017.

There was the Social Economic Survey, so we didn't go down, but maintained the same average number of intercepts. Then 2018 kind of were free to get more intercepts; and that shows with the large increase that is there. This is Alex DiJohnson; he's the South Atlantic and APAIS Coordinator, Coleby Wilt couldn't be with us today. But Alex is going to walk you through all the information about the new tablets. I'll pass out the forms while he talks.

MR. ALEX DiJOHNSON: We started collecting APAIS data electronically in January, Wave 1; and North Carolina is the only state from Maine down to Georgia, like Geoff mentioned that we actually work with the ACCSP. The way that this is working now is that as opposed to distributing all these forms and having people fill in everything manually, it is sort of automatically uploaded through this application that we have.

We distributed both tablets sort of differently for headboats, and also for site assignments that have these applications on them. They can collect everything straight from the NOAA Fisheries site assignment draw that we house in our assignment tracking application or ATA. All of these sites come in automatically once you're in Wi-Fi.

The intercepts out in the field are conducted out of Wi-Fi obviously, with no issues with that. Then you get back into Wi-Fi to submit everything; and it's submitted automatically to the ACCSP. In 2019 we will not be distributing any forms. We did release PDFs just as backups; in case of any catastrophic failure with the tablet, or anything like that.

But still we would require that those paper forms are then transcribed back into the tablet, and then submitted to the ACCSP that way. This has seen a real reduction in the amount of manual corrections; both to things like your state and county, but also some logic that Geoff was mentioning in helping to reduce the number of edits that we're looking at.

In general we're seeing less time spent in fixing data. This is sort of the overarching theme that we're going to talk about here is that this is kind of reducing the time. From paper it was about 15 to 21 days from the time that it would take for an assignment to be completed; until both the state leads and state field interviewers and the ACCSP were kind of working with the data before submitting to NOAA, down to about 1 to 4 days with the tablet.

This is what you would see when you log in; and I'll actually show you a brief demo to go through this. But this is effectively the list of assignments; so you can see some identifying information for the interviewer, for the assignment, some really important parts like the date, the time that you're required to be out there, the full six hours.

We sort of differentiate here between site and headboat assignments; just because they kind of have different procedures, so we color them a little bit differently. It's just important to note that his is sort of going along with the MRIP Strategic Plan; to sort of have more electronic data collection in general.

The point of this graphic is to show you that sort of the process has changed a little bit. It's essentially the same process; but you can see on the left we have the old version in 2018 and before, using paper forms, which is just more cumbersome. People were out in the field collecting information.

They would send that within one to seven days to their state leads. The state leads would then have to take a couple of hours to manually input all of that into our tracking application; and then also to send that all in a couple of days to a week to the ACCSP. The ACCSP would then have to work through everything to make sure that we had all of the correct assignments and the intercepts that we thought we had; then to actually scan that in manually, which was another week on top of that. By the time that we got to the point where we are working with everything, this is that 15 to 21 days that I was talking about earlier. The states and ACCSP kind of confer to make sure all the information looks correct; that is a pretty big chunk of time, and then the states have some time to look at post validation.

They would call 10 percent of the total intercepts; just to make sure that the people were actually out there and that they were doing the procedures correctly. We had a pretty big time lag with that; before the data were eventually sent to NOAA Fisheries. Whereas if you look at on the right now, the interviewing is still taking place obviously in the field, but now with the tablet, and this is now a 1 to 4 day lag as opposed to 15 to 21.

We're essentially halving this. What we saw in Wave 1 so far in January, which I'll get to next, is that pretty much one day after we had everyone's information, so the day after they completed their assignment we had it. Then states can begin conducting these post foul calls, pretty much right afterwards. They are also kind of reducing that recall bias with anglers; and trying to contact them.

Then it's the same process. ACCSP then submits everything to NOAA Fisheries. How has everything gone so far? North Carolina in January, well there were 131 site assignments, and they are all successfully uploaded into the ATA. We have all of the data there already. I think the longest it took was four days; just because people were editing it.

People are still getting used to everything in general; but so far we've seen a really smooth transition from North Carolina. They obtained 112 interviews on 42 assignments; which is almost identical to what we saw in January of 2018 with the paper forms, so no real difference in that so far.

We've heard from North Carolina staff that this has reduced the amount of time that they're spending for their state staff by about 20 hours; with working with the forms and submitting everything in the mailing process to the ACCSP each week. In general North Carolina staff has been really awesome to work with.

They put a lot of time into working on the flow of everything; to make sure everything works as well as possible, both hardware and software. You know all states are also working on this in sort of a test environment as well. But as they continue to provide us feedback, we're able to make changes into the application and into the hardware as well, in order to make this as efficient and timely as possible.

MR. WHITE: Alex has a live demo; but we also have a request to go back to one of the graphics. While he's getting that going, Julie can you go back to the percent efficiency by state graphic? Yes, the graph. Then we'll go to the demo.

MR. DiJOHNSON: I'm just going to walk through the application in general. I'll show you what it's like. Right now I'm just projecting from this tablet that I actually have this up. This is potentially what it would look like. This is the list of assignments that I was talking about; all the details in here. Essentially I'm just going to click on one of these to go through. We'll pick the top one here. Definitely a bit of a lag, so we have the detailed houses everything inside of it that would normally be manually filled in by the interviewer; but in this case we don't need to do that. We can just move into the site section; once it catches up. But in the site section it houses one of two sites; depending on whether or not this is a one or two site cluster, which is sort of NOAA creates these assignments, the danger of doing a live demo, so the internet connectivity.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Maybe we can, if anyone is interested they can catch up with Alex, and we can do an offline demo in the interest of time.

MR. DiJOHNSON: That works perfectly.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: In the meantime and thank you guys very much. Are there any questions? Dee Lupton.

MS. KATHY KNOWLTON: Well it will be Kathy. Good morning. Just wanted to make sure I took a moment to congratulate and thank the ACCSP staff for this work. A few years ago we had the lovely discussions about state conduct of the APAIS; and now going into the for-hire telephone survey.

I firmly believe that none of what you're seeing now and the savings in time and efficiency; and the increase in the data quality, and the reduction of the possibility for so many errors would have been possible without the collaborative process between the Commission, the ACCSP, and the states. I know coming from the perspective of a state that very much enjoys working with the staff towards these kinds of products that this is pretty monumental.

It's not just seeing the data being collected electronically dockside, and moving into the next advancement with technology. It is an epic improvement in the potential for those data and their quality, and the increase in the data that are available, and the timeliness of the data. But I don't think any of that would have happened if it hadn't been for the state conduct, and the partnership between the Commission, ACCSP, and the states. I just wanted to say thank you and this is really incredible to see finally come true.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Thank you for that Kathy. It is impressive, and it looks like we have a graph. Dan.

MR. DANIEL McKIERNAN: My question is is there any take-home points to one or more states clearly above the median; and some below. I know back home we have a lot of challenges with cooperation with some of the anglers, especially on charterboats. I'm just wondering if there is anything you can say from these trends.

MR. WHITE: Within each state, increasing over time shows more comfort and ability to make things happen; probably better outreach to the anglers. There are differences in fishing activity, other things that kind of are masked in this. But I will say that a lot of states that have consistent-long-term staff doing the project tend to get better at doing it overall. In larger states that have more seasonal staff, it's harder to get the level of proficiency and the interviewing skills to be able to go approach a bunch of people you don't know, and ask them how their fishing is going. To be a same face at the same kind of sites as to what's going on. The marine operators know you; different things happen out in the field. You know where states have been able to maintain consistent staff; they tend to do better in the long run.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Are there any other questions, before we go into the CATI? Okay.

MR. WHITE: At the same time we're deploying the electronic tablets, there are three states that do the phone calls for the for-hire telephone survey. The amount of project work, the telephone calls are less staff time than going out in the field to do the angler interviews. There are three states that do that; North Carolina, Georgia, and Maine directly, and then all the other states are handled through the NOAA contractor, which is QuanTech.

This year with support from NOAA, we developed an online call-assisted-telephone interview, or CATI; that helps these three states make the telephone calls in a more efficient way than they had been doing in the past. It's being used by these three states in 2019, and the Executive Committee discussed earlier this morning about moving forward and exploring the options for full state conduct in 2020 that will depend on figuring out the resources, as well as approval from MRIP in figuring out their contracting.

The benefits are really increasing the state contact and relationships with your fishermen, more direct changes to the vessel directory; the list of what vessels are active in your state at that time and potential flexibility as the for-hire logbooks are implemented. But for 2019 the procedures remain; and North Carolina has already noted in January that it's saved them about 30 percent of their staff time by streamlining the processes around those phone calls.

The phone call itself takes about the same amount of time; but all the things about recording it on paper, transcribing it into electronic system. There is a bunch of back-end organizational pieces that this tool is already saving them about 30 percent of their time per week. I'm going to give you two screen shots of what this one looks like.

The first is as it enters the screen based on the login; it's a web tool, it is part of what Alex mentioned is the assignment tracking application. It automatically selects the current week for calling; and the little telephone icons are colored green, if you're supposed to be calling those people that week.

On the left hand side there is a circle for screens that it will be able to show you your completed surveys. There is also a pre-notification letter that goes out. In the past states would have to actually create their letters, do the mail merge and everything else. This system, you just push one button; it downloads the information, and you print it out and you're good to go, send those letters out to the states.

The next screen shows, so if you were to press a button to call a vessel representative, it goes to the next screen, and it basically walks you through the interview. At the top of the screen it shows who the person is that you're calling. There is a section to add notes, a section to add differences for the vessel. If they don't answer the phone there is a "did not answer," or "answering machine," or "call back at this time." There are some quick ways to get out of that call if there is nobody there. Then it puts them into the next round of calls. Then if they do pick up the phone, there is a script at the bottom of the screen, which leads the person making the phone calls to go through.

In this case it says; hello, my name is Geoff White, calling from the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission on behalf of NOAA Fisheries Service and the for-hire telephone survey. May I speak with the vessel representative, and if you say yes it just walks you through all the questions. Click on yes/no if they did trips there is a log sheet that it enters all that information directly.

You need to be online; but it records it, and it has all the information right away. These kinds of process efficiencies should standardize how it's happening in these three states for 2019. We're really excited about it. North Carolina has been really positive about it, and Georgia is going to start up in March; so they're about ready to go too. They've all been through training and testing and modifications with the system with us. We're very excited about this development. Are there any questions on that part? Yes.

MR. ROY W. MILLER: Out of curiosity. If you were to call me, what would come up on my caller ID screen? I suspect that many people, like in my household. If it says anonymous or it says private caller, we're not even going to pick it up. Out of curiosity, what would come up?

MR. WHITE: At the moment the North Carolina phone number that is calling you pops up. If QuanTech is the contractor and they call you, and then their phone number comes up as QuanTech, it shows up on caller ID. It's the phone number that is being dialed, so whether it's coming from a state or whatever.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Go ahead, Roy.

MR. MILLER: Is there a better way to do that? In other words, could more information be programmed in to pop up on caller ID?

MR. WHITE: It's possible; depending on the phone system that is being used. The computer doesn't actually dial the phone number. It shows you all the information, the phone number, and then you type in the numbers and dial it from your local phone. I think Dee has some input.

MS. DEE LUPTON: I think the for-hire fishermen get a letter the week before that the call is coming. In North Carolina, it's a good question; I don't know what it says. If it says Division of Marine Fisheries they may not answer; but if just says a local number from Washington, North Carolina, they may. But like I said, they are prompted to expect this call the next week.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Cheri, did you have a question?

MS. CHERI PATTERSON: We had staff call the states that were conducting this and just get a general idea. We got the impression that the cost to do this was higher than what was budgeted.

Am I misrepresenting that somehow? If not, could one of the states that are conducting it explain this?

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Kathy.

MS. KNOWLTON: Did you just say that the staff indicated that the cost that was presented was lower than what they thought it took to do the work or higher? Would you repeat that again for me, please.

MS. PATTERSON: It was higher than budgeted.

MS. KNOWLTON: I would say that in Georgia we have indicated through the Rec Tech process that the estimated price that was presented was by far a minimum of what it takes to do the work. That was, I will say one caveat that table of information was without using the CATI system, so there could be obviously the improvements in that.

I know that both myself and Chris from North Carolina indicated that there could be a difference in the, shall we say ability to get off the phone quickly, when you are a state staff member that is calling a constituent, and they've got you on the line directly. We hope they would ask other questions and perhaps relay other opinions and concerns and issues.

That's a great opportunity to have bridge building with our constituents that you can't easily quantify in a monetary value. But I think that the information that is presented as cost information is a good starting point; because you have to have somewhere to start. I know that those data were applied equally in the states; so that you had a starting point.

But I would say that our staff spend more time per call when they make contact; because of the relationship building, and the access that person has to the staff members. Yes, definitely something to keep in mind, I feel as you proceed down the line of trying to figure out approximately how much money it might cost the states to do the work. But it's a good question.

1. CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Yes, Bryan.

MR. BRYAN KING: I'm going to offer one possible suggestion to alleviate the caller ID. Would it be possible in the letter that goes out that you let them know what they're going to see; who it's going to be identified as and the telephone number it will be? That would maybe smooth the process a little bit; but it may not solve it completely.

MR. WHITE: Appreciate the suggestion. The desire is usually for flexibility. Some interviewers like to make the phone call from their cell phone while they're on assignment. Some people end up doing it at home. Sometimes the fishermen actually receive an answering machine message and call the staff member back. There is a high variability of how this actually happens. We've created a system that allows for a lot of that flexibility.

MR. McKIERNAN: In the spirit of suggestions. Has anyone considered sending a text message instead of a letter? I usually get a text message the week before my dentist appointment. It's brilliant, because I always forget. But getting that kind of puts me in the mode. I'm wondering if you would consider sending a text message saying; in the next two days expect a call from this number about this.

MR. WHITE: The current survey design requires a pre-notification letter. It's a great idea. We can talk to MRIP about it. The first questions become, of the three phone numbers that each vessel contact has, which one is the cell phone; so that you can actually send a text message. Do you have a valid cell phone for each vessel representative? There are hurdles, there are questions. But it's a good suggestion.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Thank you for that Dan. My question just real quick is how much of a problem is the non-pick up? How much of a problem do you have with people not responding to the phone call? Is it a significant issue?

MR. WHITE: Overall no. The response in North Carolina has been about an 80 percent pick up rate. That is higher than I believe the historical is; which is around 60 percent. But the reason MRIP has continued the for-hire telephone survey, is they get a high response rate from the for-hire captains that are a known universe that know they need to respond. The survey from a percentage response rate still works.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Any more questions on CATI before we go to Julie to take us home? Okay seeing none; Julie you're on, Confidentiality.

MS. JULIE DEFILIPPI SIMPSON: The spring load, we have started that process. The participants are due at the end of the week. We will start matching those at the beginning of next week. If you have the files ready to go you can e-mail them to us; and we are hoping to have the upload application for that up and running as soon as possible.

The data are going to be due in the beginning of March; and then we will be releasing those in mid to late April. The second round of standardizing for species in common names has been completed. The Standard Codes Committee is going to be talking about Round 4 in February meeting, and Round 3 is actually going to be released to the public in March.

We're going to talk about how we want to handle Round 4 in February with the standard codes folks. For our data warehouse enhancements, I'm going to talk about the improvements to the Confidential Account Application, and that management interface in a next slide, so I'll just keep going.

Since our last meeting we've actively worked on the FMP review for herring, the Commission stock assessment for black sea bass, the FMP Review for bluefish, and winter flounder. We've continued to work on other species such as shad and menhaden, and lobster and cobia, and red porgy, and some of the other species that you heard about at the last meeting.

Two custom data request highlights since the last meeting. One of them is the penaeid shrimp fishery in South Carolina and Georgia had a cold water event. We worked closely with both the states and the economist in the Southeast Fisheries Science Center to get him the data that he needed to write that report. He turned that around very quickly after the furlough; so he's got a draft report out to those states. The other sort of interesting request has been working with DFO in Canada on the American eel stock assessment. I said I would come back to this. For those of you that have ever applied for confidential access, especially if you did it a few years ago. You'll remember that you had to download the PDF, and if you needed coastal access you needed to print it out 16 times, and fill it out.

Then scan each one of them, and e-mail them to 16 different people. Those folks would print it out and sign it, and scan it, and e-mail it to us, and we would print it out and we would fill out the part that we had to fill out, and we would do the data entry in our system, and then we would file it in the file drawer in the hallway.

That was a lot of paper and a lot of printing and a lot of scanning and a lot of writing. The new process is there is an online form; and once you hit submit that online form sends e-mails with PDFs attached to the partner that you requested access to, and it copies you. That PDF has been electronically filled out and signed by you.

No one ever has to print it if they don't want to. But we do want to send it to the states; so that if they do want to print it for their records that they can. The security contact is then able to log into the system; and at that opportunity they can either approve or reject, and that includes certain options like if you want participant info and things like that.

If you feel that the applicant hasn't given you quite enough information to make a decision, you can actually put them on hold. When you choose hold you can have the opportunity to send a message. That is also true if you approve or reject. If you put someone on hold and say hey, I really want more information.

If you choose hold, put that information in the comment box, and then hit submit, it's actually going to e-mail the applicant and copy you and say; please provide me with this additional information. That is also stored in the database; so they can see the status of their application. One of the other things we've done is that when a person is applying they can see their current status.

We're hoping that this will alleviate people, and they can't choose boxes for things that they already have access to. If you only need two or three states, you're not clicking all the states that you already have and bugging those people, even though you don't need access to them. It kind of filters out what you can and can't do.

It also allows a security contact. When they log in they can maintain a request. If someone in your state has retired or moved on, you can actually go in and remove their confidential access to your state data, and you don't have to call anyone. You can just maintain the account within there. It also allows the partners, some of the partners have additional files that are either part of their state approval or that are a part of the request.

They are an additional form to fill out or a letter you get at the end; and there is a place where you can maintain those partner files, so if you change your file and you have a new letter. You can just upload that through the application. That means that the ACCSP staff is just serving as support to all of the electronic forms. We've had really good feedback on people thinking it is much easier. There have been a lot of bugs to work out; because it's a pretty complicated system, so we appreciate everybody's patience when they got a lot of testing e-mails with Daffy Duck applying for confidential access. Does anyone have questions?

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Matthew.

MR. MATTHEW P. GATES: Actually it's more of a comment. As someone who was an approver in both systems, the newer one is definitely more streamlined. It's probably a 99 percent savings in time. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN FEGLEY: Are there any other questions for Julie? All right well this is excellent work. It's impressive to see this all unfolding. Thank you, and with that would anybody oppose a motion to adjourn? Seeing none; thank you everyone.

(Whereupon the meeting adjourned at 11:00 o'clock a.m. on February 6, 2019)

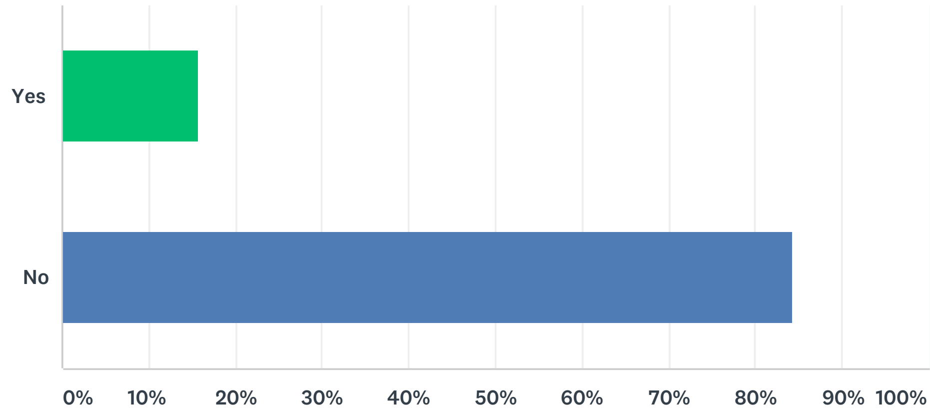
- - -

Q1 What agency do you represent?

Answered: 19 Skipped: 0

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

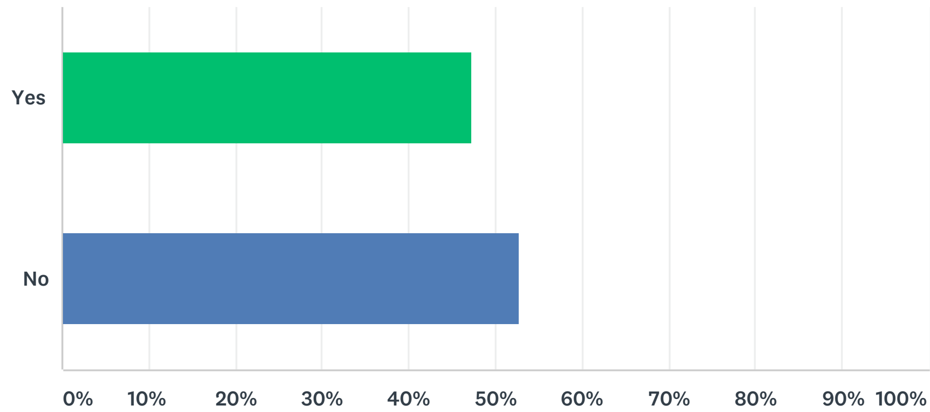
Answered: 19 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	15.79%	3
No	84.21%	16
TOTAL		19

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

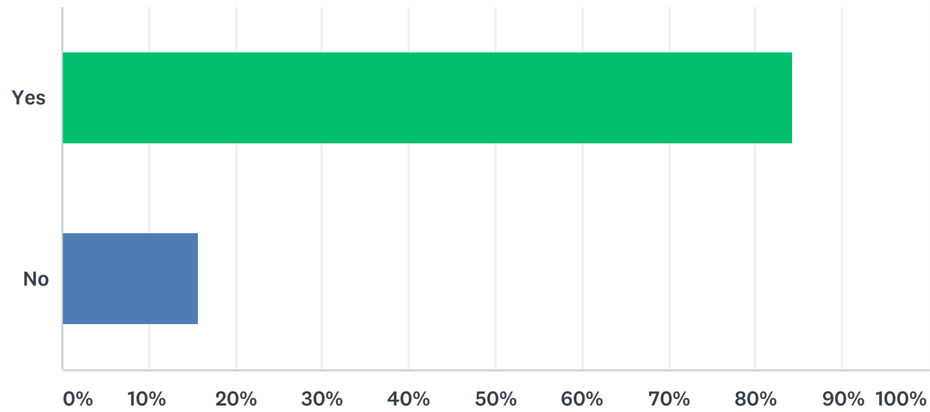
Answered: 19 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	47.37%	9
No	52.63%	10
TOTAL		19

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

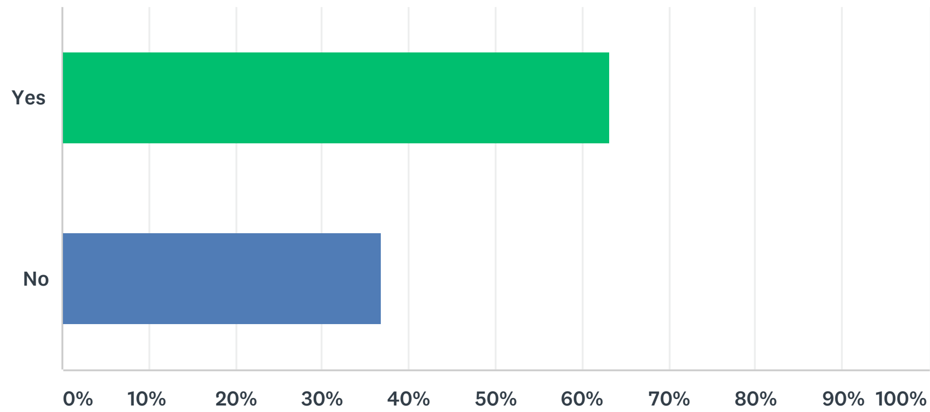
Answered: 19 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	84.21%	16
No	15.79%	3
TOTAL		19

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

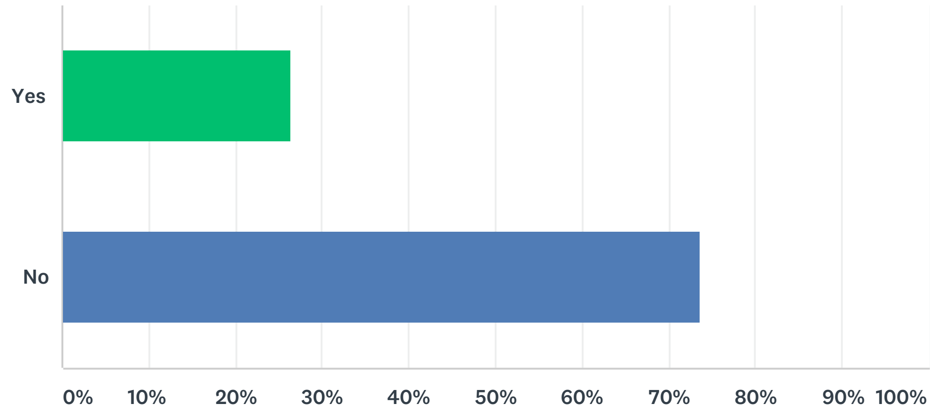
Answered: 19 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	63.16%	12
No	36.84%	7
TOTAL		19

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

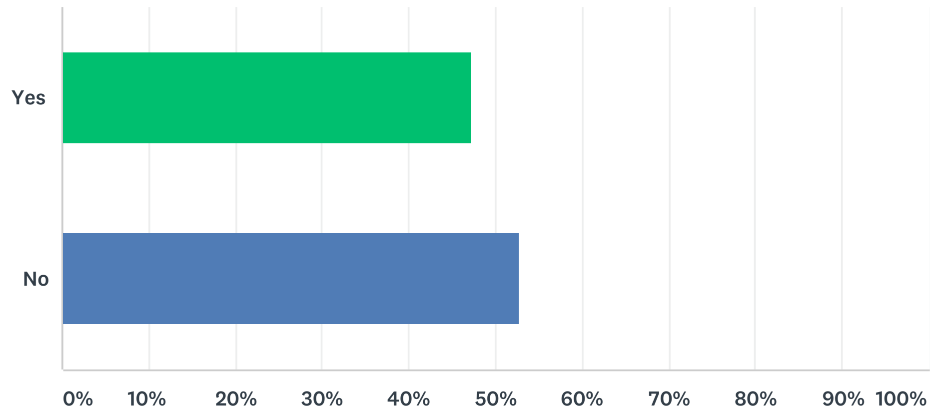
Answered: 19   Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	26.32%	5
No	73.68%	14
TOTAL		19

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

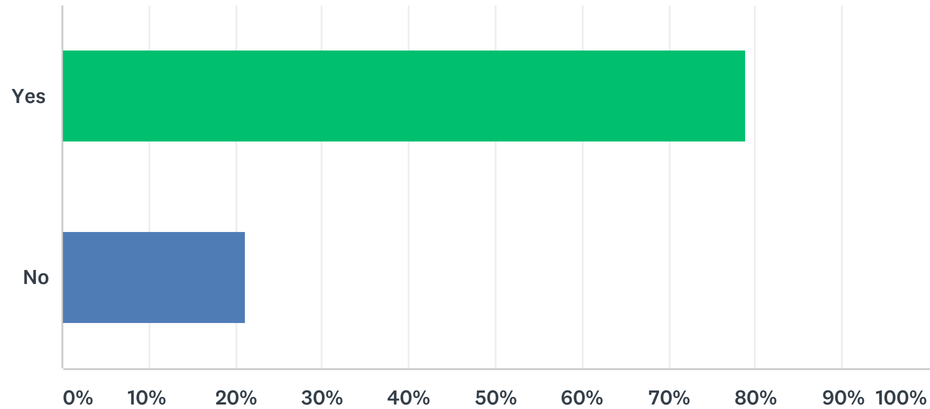
Answered: 19   Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	47.37%	9
No	52.63%	10
TOTAL		19

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

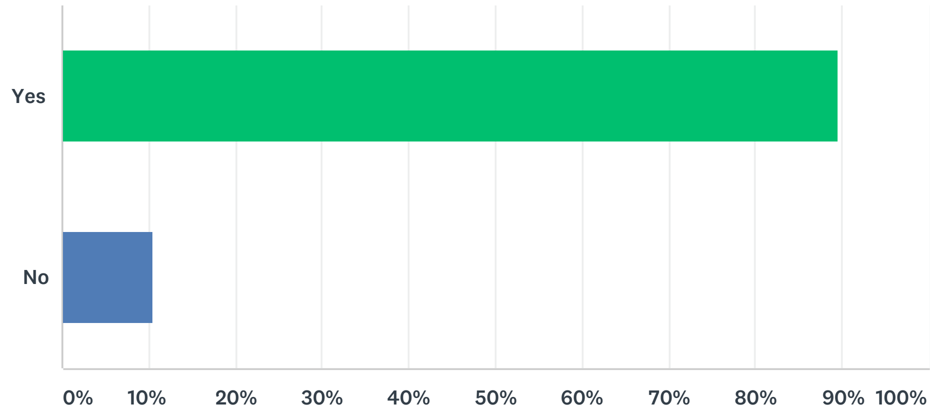
Answered: 19 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	78.95%	15
No	21.05%	4
TOTAL		19

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

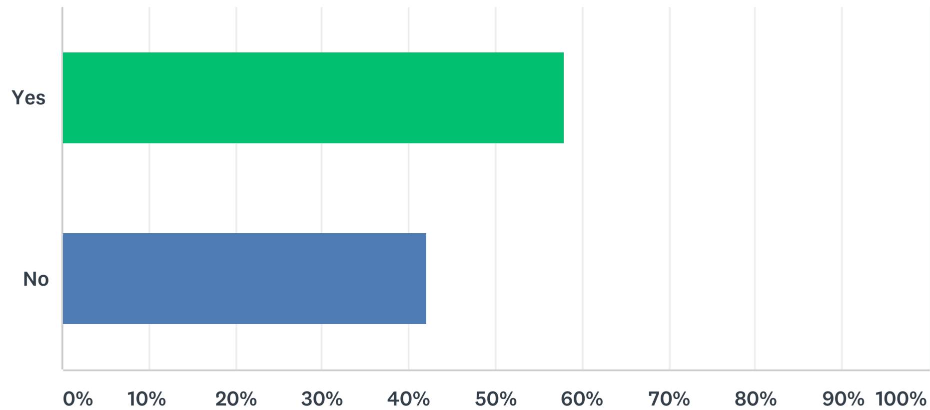
Answered: 19 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	89.47%	17
No	10.53%	2
TOTAL		19

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Answered: 19 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	57.89%	11
No	42.11%	8
TOTAL		19

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

Answered: 12 Skipped: 7

#1

INCOMPLETE

Collector:	Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started:	Thursday, January 10, 2019 9:57:45 AM
Last Modified:	Thursday, January 10, 2019 10:41:12 AM
Time Spent:	00:43:26
IP Address:	167.192.187.109

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

No

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Georgia uses a single trip-ticket. Harvesters provide the dealer with gear, effort, and area information at the time of the transaction.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Federally permitted dealers based in Georgia submit electronic reports to SAFIS are required by NOAA Fisheries. Georgia considers those reports to have met the state reporting requirement. As such, there is no state report for Federal dealers.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

No

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports? **No**

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits? **No**

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)? **No**

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies. **Respondent skipped this question**

#2

INCOMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 10, 2019 10:57:41 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 10, 2019 11:12:23 AM
Time Spent: 00:14:41
IP Address: 132.177.103.88

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

NH Fish and Game

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We have sea samplers on a specific number of lobster trips in different areas, but that is to specifically obtain biological data on the total catch (kept and discards).

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We do dockside sampling to gather biological data for lobster and crab. These are checked against harvest data and landings data, but are not targeted specifically for validation.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
On an annual basis we combine state harvester, dealer, and federal vtr data to look for discrepancies and assign area to landings for later use in stock assessments. Resolution depends on the data set with the issue. Discrepancies of more than 10% are flagged for further review. Federal issues are sent to the statistics branch to be resolved. Landing issues are checked with the dealer in case of entry error. State harvest data are checked with the harvester. Other fisheries are predominantly federal or kept for personal use or bait.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
In our lobster fishery specifically because much of it is state only. Most other state waters fisheries are personal use or for bate and not sold. Other fisheries are prosecuted in federal waters and only appear on federal vtrs and federal dealer reports. We do not validate those. During our annual lobster resolution we compare state harvest reports, federal vtrs, and dealer reports.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

No

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We require negative reports for anyone possessing a state license or permit to fish in state and in state/federal joint waters. Federal reporters are still required to submit negative reports despite the feds not requiring it. We have no way of knowing if they are delinquent in their reporting or truly inactive without negative reports.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
All state harvest data are audited after entry. Comparisons are also made with dealer data. Data discrepancies for entry are simply resolved by using the number provided by the harvester. Electronic reports are check for values that are out of normal bounds. Discrepancies are resolved by checking with the harvester or the dealer then left or fixed accordingly.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

No

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

Respondent skipped this question

#3

INCOMPLETE

Collector:	Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started:	Friday, January 11, 2019 9:32:57 AM
Last Modified:	Friday, January 11, 2019 9:59:17 AM
Time Spent:	00:26:19
IP Address:	158.123.91.30

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

RI Division of Marine Fisheries

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

No

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

Subsets of state only data is audited, not every report. the percentage of data covered varies annually. discrepancies are corrected either via the dealer or JIRA depending on magnitude after the necessary correction has been confirmed through contact with the fishermen/dealer. Additionally, RI works with GARFO on port change audits monthly of federal data.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

Work with GARFO though JIRA on both port change audits (GARFO submitted and RI checks for accuracy and approves the changes), and to correct other mistakes RI notices (mostly fishermen license corrections, but other things as required). federal dealers/vessel data is audited this way, which is a large portion of RI data.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
pre-trip notifications are required in specific fisheries only, namely fishing for menhaden in the menhaden management area. this is a very small subset of RI fishing activity, <1%. the fishermen is required to call RI Enforcement prior to engaging in any fishing activity, after fishing is complete, a call in from the fishermen with landings is required to RIDMF.

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
both RI dealers and fishermen are required to submit negative reports. negative reports are required for dealers for gaps in purchasing activity of approximately 5 days or longer. fishermen are required to submit negative reports for gaps in fishing activity of 2 weeks or more.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
All data is audited regularly. -Landings data is validated through 1. daily ACCSP audits - these prioritize duplicate reports and species concerns (strange grade/market codes, unit concerns) 2. Weekly audits of all current year data concentrate on fishermen license mistakes, missing data (price, vessel, license numbers), strange landings (very large, unlikely species), price concerns, and various other concerns. 3. Port validations in conjunction with GARFO monthly 4. Possession limit audits occur regularly (season dependent for each species) and look for typos in reported quantity. -Fishermen data is validated in 2 methods 1. paper logbooks are checked when received for missing data fields, or incorrectly completed logbooks. Anything small is confirmed with the fishermen via phone calls. Logbooks with multiple mistakes, or missing a majority of the required fields are returned to the fishermen for completion. 2. electronic reports are audited once every two months for inaccuracies and missing fields. fishermen are required to go back and edit their reports to rectify any mistakes.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
enforcement officers routinely board vessels for violations. seized fish from these cases are then sold to a licensed dealer and the landing is available in RI landings data.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

fishermen reports submitted to RIDMF are routinely checked against the dealer reports to ensure all fishing trips are accounted for in the effort data.

#4

INCOMPLETE

Collector:	Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started:	Friday, January 11, 2019 2:59:30 PM
Last Modified:	Friday, January 11, 2019 3:31:46 PM
Time Spent:	00:32:16
IP Address:	167.7.12.164

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

SCDNR

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

All federally managed species; staff participate in the federal TIP program, during these dockside intercepts staff interact with the dealer and fisher to collect trip information. Additionally staff asses and monitor species and volumes by trip. Penaeid Shrimp; Staff intercept shrimp trawlers to evaluate and collect shrimp composition data which is used to portion out shrimp landings to species.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

See question 3. Also, there are a few fisheries that fisherman are required to report trip level data and that data is compared to dealer reports.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

Staff work closely with federal agencies to compare landings and discrepancies of federally managed species.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

No

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Staff routinely conduct data audits for all fisheries data entered by staff and downloaded by the data manager. Data is also reviewed to identify erroneous data and data outliers based on historical data.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
only when intercepted for
violations.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

Respondent skipped this question

#5

INCOMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Monday, January 14, 2019 9:09:45 AM
Last Modified: Monday, January 14, 2019 9:20:14 AM
Time Spent: 00:10:29
IP Address: 167.7.12.164

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We do TIP sampling. Creel clerks also visit the dealers occasionally to check.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Only in eel harvest reports though. SCDNR uses a one ticket system so this would not be possible in most cases.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

No

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

No

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
This is just an indication that there were no trips in a given month. Not necessarily a trip when nothing was harvested.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We randomly sample 10 percent of entered reports and double check all of them. If we see any errors they are corrected and recorded. If there are any questions, the dealer is contacted to verify the data.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
They do inspections, but these are never used as a verification method.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

n/a

#6

INCOMPLETE

Collector:	Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started:	Thursday, January 24, 2019 2:00:33 PM
Last Modified:	Thursday, January 24, 2019 2:35:34 PM
Time Spent:	00:35:00
IP Address:	167.102.37.34

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

Maryland DNR

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

For certain species, especially striped bass and yellow perch.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

No,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

Maryland's dealer reports are summary reports of monthly purchase and dollar values. It's used to calculate an average price per pound per species.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

For commercial species, we compare our state reports with the federal dealer report on a trip level basis. Found that discrepancies are mostly from the dealer report not being as detail as the fisherman's report about the trip, i.e. gear type used. Discrepancies concerning poundage, we usually go with the federal dealer report.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

Participants in our Facts electronic reporting system, about 10% of the total commercial fisherman population in Maryland and 16% of the commercial harvest, both hail out at the start of a trip and then hail in at the end. Most discrepancies are resolved by going back to the fisherman with the problem.

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

Every commercial fisherman is required to submit a monthly report irregardless that they actively fished or not. Fishermen missing reports can be penalized from a hold on renewing their license to suspension days.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

The monthly reports are compared to data from the permitted species, quota monitoring data (summer flounder, black sea bass, striped bass, yellow perch, menhaden, and horseshoe crab).

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

No,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

The electronic reporting system does allow visibility of the hail out to NRP, so they could validate the landings. However, it has not yet been implemented.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

Respondent skipped this question

#7

INCOMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 24, 2019 3:10:37 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 24, 2019 3:39:54 PM
Time Spent: 00:29:17
IP Address: 164.51.49.223

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

In addition to the NOAA Fisheries port agents in Florida, we have 9 field staff covering different regions of the state using the NOAA Fisheries Trip Interview Program for biostatistical sampling and data recording. About 2% of commercial fishing trips are intercepted by state and federal samplers. In addition to the intercepts, both state and federal field staff will routinely review commercial landings data for their region and report discrepancies to the state data manager.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

We periodically compare NOAA Fisheries coastal logbook data to state dealer reports for those fisheries where a logbook is required (~75%). The state does not have a separate fisher logbook program. State staff communicate with the federal logbook staff on resolving any data issues.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
See answer in question
4.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

No

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Although not at trip level, dealers are required to notify the state of no activity for specific periods of time (weekly for federal dealers, monthly for state-only dealers).

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
The state FWC has an auditor's office that conducts periodic dealer audits based on lack of reporting or reporting delinquency. Florida only have one auditor, so the annual coverage statewide is low.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We frequently get requests from officers for landings data to compare to their observations in the field, or because of an investigation being conducted. It may result in missing information being reported, or false information being omitted.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

We monitor reporting delinquency via a trip reporting tracking system by dealer year and month. We also use fisher landings requests to validate data reported by the dealer against the fisher's own records for the same period.

#8

INCOMPLETE

Collector:	Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started:	Friday, January 25, 2019 9:10:58 AM
Last Modified:	Friday, January 25, 2019 9:20:31 AM
Time Spent:	00:09:33
IP Address:	98.11.155.167

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

Maine Department of Marine Resources (MEDMR)

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

For sea urchin harvester/dealer data only and not all the time. The swipe card data received from urchin dealers are at times validated with our port sampling agents. The port agents information gathered in the field are compared to what a dealer reports. Harvester, pounds, price and market are validated. Less than 10% of all landings data are affected by this audit procedure.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

MEDMR has currently only compares dealer and harvester reports for our lobster and elver fishery. These comparisons are very time consuming but have shown to be very valuable to discover any misunderstanding with reporting harvesters and dealers. When a discrepancy is identified, both parties are contacted to determine which is at fault for the discrepancy. Most of the time it is a misunderstanding and the issue is resolved quickly. Only a few times have both parties insisted their values were correct and at that point the discrepancy is noted and left as each reported.

Approximately 75% of all harvester data and dealer data are covered by this check.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

MEDMR only compares VTR data to other harvester reported data for the quota monitoring of the Atlantic herring and menhaden fisheries. While monitoring Atlantic herring landings, MEDMR uses VTR, VMS, dealer data and MEDMR required industry emails to determine quota. Otherwise, harvesters required to report via VTR for other fisheries are not required to submit a second “state only” report. We accept their VTR as their report if all the state required information are included on the VTR. 100% of herring and menhaden reports are required to follow this process which account for less than 10% of landings collected.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

MEDMR only validates our quota monitored reporting (emailed data) for Atlantic herring to VMS data. This is a very limited comparison but still extremely valuable to ensure we are monitoring quotas with the most precise information possible. 100% of herring and menhaden reports are required to follow this process which account for less than 10% of landings collected.

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

MEDMR only requires pre-trip and hail out notifications for our Atlantic herring and Atlantic menhaden fisheries. Harvesters are required to declare into the fishery and email daily landings along with monthly landings reports. The emails are used to track quota and are later validated against their reporting logbook. 100% of herring and menhaden reports are required to follow this process which account for less than 10% of landings collected.

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

MEDMR does required negative reports. If we did not we would have no way to validate whether a harvester decided not to report or forgot to report. Using dealer data to validate only works to a certain point since state only harvesters can sell their catch to whomever they choose and does not need to go through a licensed dealer.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

MEDMR audits data entered into MARVIN (MEDMR's database) at least once a month. The audits included, but not limited to, checking for unknown harvesters, incorrect vessels, weights that exceeded a trip limit, high and low prices, wrong species-gear-disposition combinations, species caught outside of the season, area fished check (bad latitude/longitude or lobster zone/federal statistical area combos), gear quantity and configuration check and dealers who reported buying from unlicensed harvesters. Electronic audits on SAFIS data are completed weekly. These audits are built into the SAFIS system and are emailed to MEDMR staff daily. They include basic audits, such as high or low prices and over the trip limits. Staff also query and audit the SAFIS landings attributed to an "unknown harvester" each week. Dealers and harvesters are contacted as needed to correct reporting mistakes so that subsequent reports are submitted with the correct data. Once per month, MEDMR staff query all the SAFIS data to audit records with unusual species, high or low prices, harvesters without licenses, unknown vessels and wrong gears. Data submitted through the elver system (VESL) and urchin data submitted through "eDR/mobile" are audited daily. Staff looked for duplicate records (harvesters selling twice in one day, dealers creating two tickets if one had incorrect pounds or price, etc), high or low prices and quota monitoring.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

No

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

All are covered in the above questions.

#9

INCOMPLETE

Collector:	Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started:	Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:03:04 AM
Last Modified:	Tuesday, January 29, 2019 9:10:40 AM
Time Spent:	00:07:36
IP Address:	155.206.136.19

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

NOAA Fisheries

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

The NE Fisheries Observer Program would be better able to provide the details of their activities.

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

The NE Fisheries Observer Program would be better able to provide program details.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

The GARFO has a team of data auditors who work within the APSD.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

No

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
This is included in the audits performed by GARFO.APSD staff.

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
All trips that are eligible for NEFOP observer coverage must file a pre-trip notice, but this is not a requirement for all fisheries.

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

No

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
The GARFO.APSD audit team and NEFSC DMS staff perform data audits. Analysts who identify further data issues are expected to report them to APSD for investigation via JIRA as well.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
OLE can provide better information regarding their activities.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

Respondent skipped this question

#10

INCOMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 8:48:29 AM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 9:06:37 AM
Time Spent: 00:18:08
IP Address: 166.67.66.246

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

Virginia Marine Resources Commission

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

No

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We randomly select to audit VA licensed dealers, they can get a phase I which compares just dates, a phase II which targets specific species (ie oysters, crabs, etc) and all data is compared, or they can get a phase III audit which review all data purchased everyday for all harvesters. These audits will capture 50%, every other year the top ten dealers will be audited this will capture 80%. If found out of compliance letters are sent and harvesters have five business days to resolve or they may be brought before the Commission to face possible license suspension.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We compare all federal dealers harvest reports (Phase III described above) in SAFIS to data submitted to the state. The VA federal dealers are some of the largest dealers in VA these audits will capture 50% of data harvested. If harvesters are found out of compliance they will receive notice and have five business days to respond, if not resolved they may be bought before the commission to face possible license suspension

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
On some quota managed species. Small percentage, the agency quota managing coordinator will refer any found out of compliance to our mandatory reporting program and harvester will receive notice and has five business days to resolve or they may be bought before the commission to face possible license suspension

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
All harvesters have to report by the 5th of the following month whether they worked or not.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Explained above three types (Phase I, Phase II and Phase III)

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

We use Marine police boarding logs to compare for any commercial harvest they may have intercepted. If harvester is found out of compliance they will receive notice and have five business days to resolve, if not resolved they may be bought before the commission to face possible license suspension.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

All methods have been described.

#11

INCOMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 3:35:04 PM
Last Modified: Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:20:59 PM
Time Spent: 00:45:55
IP Address: 170.63.67.40

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
In the past MA DMF has sea sampled the lobster, otter trawl, gillnet, fish pot, and weir fisheries that are conduct in state and adjacent waters. More recently we have reduced sampling to just lobster and an experimental small mesh otter trawl fishery. Data collected aboard these trips are used to inform management and support stock assessments. No trip validation is done.

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
MA DMF port samples specific fisheries to collect biological samples on a needed basis. Data are used to support specific in-house research and stock assessments. In addition, we are currently conducting a study to port sample the small pelagic mid-water trawl fishery landing in Massachusetts, with the purpose to quantify landings and inform a river herring bycatch avoidance system. Information collected is not used to validate landings.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Broad trends are analyzed annually for at least the lobster and striped bass fisheries. At a smaller scale, anomalies in data trends are compared to the matching dataset to identify the source of the problem if one exists. Staff will reach out to the party with an error for correction. A small example may be a dealer reporting an incorrect vessel for a harvester. A larger example includes using harvester data to identify two dealers who were not reporting inshore shellfish. In this example, the dealers were notified, historical data were obtained where possible, and the dealers began to report inshore shellfish moving forward.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Duplicate reporting is not required for any landing. Trips are reported to the appropriate authority so there would be no reason to have a state report and a federal VTR for the same trip. Additionally, there would be no reason for a state report to be reported to another state. In contrast to this, a state harvester report may have an equivalent federal dealer report. If so, comparisons may be made as indicated in question 4.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We are piloting two projects this summer that would incorporate elements of vessel tracking (outside of the federally approved VMS devices).

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

No

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

We require reports for all months of the year regardless of whether or not the permit was fished, the permit issue date, the permit endorsements, etc. If a permit is not fished in a given month, the permit holder must submit a did not fish report for that month. Did not fish reports are only required for months in which no commercial fishing activity occurred. Vessels reporting to federal systems (VTR, surf clam, HMS) are exempt from this requirement.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

Annually, we conduct extensive audits on 100% of the inshore shellfish and crustacean landings submitted by dealers. Finfish audits are run as needed, but we audit quota managed species weekly within season. These audits can include anything from identifying price anomalies, species issues, quantity issues, vessel or permit holder issues, etc. Harvester data are subjected to audits annually when feasible. These audits can include anything from identifying gear anomalies, species issues, quantity issues, dealer issues, vessel issues, etc. Additional one time audits are run on data used to fulfill any data request. Anomalies are addressed as needed.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

No,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

We work closely with the Environmental Law Enforcement Officers to address data issues, and data inform or support certain enforcement actions. However, landings are not validated by officers.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

There are data validations built into all SAFIS applications to prevent major errors from entering the datastream. For paper harvester and/or dealer reporting, validations are placed on the forms and spreadsheets used for data entry to prevent errors from entering the dataset. For harvester paper-reporting, at least two individuals review data prior to loading into SAFIS.

#12

INCOMPLETE

Collector:	Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started:	Wednesday, January 30, 2019 3:54:12 PM
Last Modified:	Wednesday, January 30, 2019 4:35:23 PM
Time Spent:	00:41:10
IP Address:	99.120.10.156

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Management Division, NMFS

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

observer reports are used, at times, to verify landings on dealer reports, esp. prohibited species. It is done on a case by case basis. We go back to the dealer to make any necessary changes. We will work with the state during this process, depending on the state's wishes

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

No

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

We work with the SEFSC in Miami to reconcile the vessel trip reports against the dealer reports, including the weigh out sheets. This helps identify missing vessel reports or dealer reports. The SEFSC has the documentation regarding this process. We also compare landings on vessel reports to what is reported on the dealer reports on a case by case basis. We go back to the dealer to make any corrections and work with the states depending on the state's wishes.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?	**No,** If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.: The science centers handle the VTR data; we so compare state dealer reports to federal dealer reports in the Gulf of Mexico region.
Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?	**Yes,** If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.: We have used VMS to verify where a vessel that was reported on a dealer report was fishing if there are questions regarding fishing in a closed region/area.
Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?	**No**
Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?	**Yes,** If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.: The SEFSC requires No Fish reports for VTRs; our office requires negative reports if a dealer does not purchase fish for a given week
Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?	**No,** If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.: We do have a number of checks that are done automatically by our HMS electronic dealer reporting program that looks for things like buying with an expired dealer permit, price and weight triggers, fishing in region/season that is currently closed, no VTR reported, prohibited species, sharks reported from the research fishery by unauthorized vessels. In addition, we have QA/QC checks where we look for missing vessel information, missing price information, missing VTRs (or suspect VTRs), and gear code issues

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

We work with OLE esp. when there are cases where vessels are landing prohibited species and dealers are buying that product and/or vessels are fishing in areas after they have closed for the season and dealers are buying the product. However, OLE is using the VMS, trip reports, etc. to validate the landings. They very rarely board or intercept during an offloading at the dealer.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

We will use weight out sheets that are submitted to the SEFSC to verify landings and which dealer bought product. The SEFSC has a process where they use these data in the dealer report and vessel trip report reconciliation. We use the weight out reports on an ad hoc basis where we need to figure out if there are duplicate reports because one dealer packed product and reported it, and then the dealer who bought the product from the vessel also submitted a dealer report. This has been a small percentage of the overall landings. We always go back to the dealers to make changes to any discrepancies

#13

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 31, 2019 8:25:36 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 31, 2019 8:42:55 AM
Time Spent: 00:17:19
IP Address: 155.206.131.61

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

NMFS SERO - IFQ Program only

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
For the IFQ system only - Required advanced notification of landing, 3 to 24 hours prior to landing, through VMS or the IFQ system. Notifications are recorded in a database and sent to law enforcement and port side samplers. Only a portion of trips are met and validated.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
For the IFQ system only - The notifications are compared to the landing transaction. A landing transaction requires a link to the notification, although some are not linked due to VMS failures. Unlinked notifications/landings are audited by IFQ staff and linked manually. Any discrepancy is brought to fishermen's attention for correction. Failure of correction or failure to follow the regulations results in the case being forwarded to law enforcement.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

No

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
For the IFQ system only - VMS is used to validate if a vessel left for a commercial reef fish trip. We have now instituted VMS notification requirements for all commercial vessels, not just IFQ. We are in beginning stages of utilzing notifications from VMS for validation.

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
For IFQ system - All commercial reef fish permitted vessels are required to hail-out and submit pre-landing notifications. This is used to track and validate information in the IFQ system.

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

No

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
For the IFQ system - The data is audited daily to check for linkages between notifications and landings. This will catch any landing transaction that was not entered into the system as well as identify when VMS units are malfunctioning or user error in reporting a notification. Quarterly, we monitored for cost recovery fees. An annual report is created that describes the program including, users, user behavior, pounds landed, and price information.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
For the IFQ system - Both federal and joint enforcements agents (State JEA) are used to validate landings through the advanced landing notification system. Inspections are up to the agent/officer.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

We require offloadings to only occur between 6am and 6pm, in order to aid law enforcement in validation. Additionally, the IFQ system is fully electronic and fishermen must obtain allocation prior to fishing.

#14

INCOMPLETE

Collector:	Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started:	Thursday, January 31, 2019 9:12:16 AM
Last Modified:	Thursday, January 31, 2019 11:07:25 AM
Time Spent:	01:55:09
IP Address:	161.11.160.156

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

NYS DEC

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

No

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We compare a small percentage of State trips to dealer reports when the species landed is uncommon or indecipherable. Discrepancies are resolved via telephone with the fisherman, dealer, or both. Federal dealer landings and federal trips are compared for quota-managed species to validate landing ports. Discrepancies are resolved via correction requests through NMFS's JIRA system.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
State reports/vessels are compared to federal VTRs to prevent double-reporting. Double-reported trips are deleted from the State's system.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

No

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

NY requires monthly "negative" trip reports from fishermen and weekly "negative" purchase reports from dealers.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

All State trips are audited for blank/missing fields, impossible sail versus landing dates, impossible species versus gear types, etc.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

No

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

Respondent skipped this question

#15

INCOMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 31, 2019 1:33:38 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 31, 2019 1:40:39 PM
Time Spent: 00:07:00
IP Address: 167.21.41.11

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

Delaware Fish and Wildlife

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

No

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

No

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

No

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

No

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
During the conversion from raw data to published data, the conversion program looks for missing data.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Our enforcement does boardings and inspections at their discretion. The primary fisheries are Striped Bass and Horseshoe Crabs.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

We validate landings for Striped Bass through Striped Bass weigh stations, and compare to IVR reports for Black Sea Bass and Horseshoe crabs.

#16

COMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 31, 2019 8:48:28 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 31, 2019 2:08:43 PM
Time Spent: 05:20:14
IP Address: 160.93.0.208

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

New Jersey Division Fish and Wildlife

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
All dockside monitoring/sampling is completed by the Bureau of Law Enforcement.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
This process is used for a variety of species during data request, but specifically applied to Atlantic menhaden quota monitoring. Comparing fisherman trips to dealer reports allows for easy identification of discrepancies and the appropriate methods to correct these outliers. Approximately 25% of our landings data is covered under this method of validation.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We require all of our federal permitted fisherman to send in the blue "state" copy of their VTR. If these federally permitted fisherman have a no harvest for a given month they are still required to send in a no harvest on a NJ harvester trip report. VTR's make up about 10% of all reports submitted to NJ Fish and Wildlife.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
NJ Fish and Wildlife requires vessels to contact the Bureau of Law Enforcement 2 hours prior to landing.

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
NJ Fish and Wildlife requires both state and federal commercial fisherman to submit negative trip reports. Negative trip reports account for approximately 50% of all reports received. If a report is not received the fisherman is contacted.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Bureau of Marine Fisheries enter all fisherman trips electronically when received. The database is QC'd by referencing the paper report at a later date. Dealer reports are compared and QC'd by referencing fishermen reports.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?	**Yes,** If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.: The bureau of law enforcement does validate landings data by performing boarding's and inspections.
Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.	**Respondent skipped this question**

#17

INCOMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 31, 2019 1:56:50 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 31, 2019 2:20:37 PM
Time Spent: 00:23:46
IP Address: 159.247.3.230

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

CT DEEP

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

No

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Yes, all non-electronic dealer reports are entered into SAFIS by our staff and then manually compared to fisherman reports. All dealer reports are then compared and merged with the fisherman data to produce our final annual harvest estimates. We attempt a 100% records match.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
If there are reports submitted by 'state only' permitted dealers, they are compared with Federal VTR's if they purchased from a federally permitted boat. We attempt a 100% records match.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
It is species dependent. Generally, when trip limits are high, we have a call-in to our law enforcement dispatch. ie. Quota monitored species

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Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
By the 10th of the following month, we require both state permitted dealers and fisherman to submit a monthly report regardless of fishing activity.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Yes, prior to a fisherman transferring their license, we conduct a data audit. If there are discrepancies we work to resolve them. Additionally, there are also audits conducted at the annual merge of logbook and dealer data.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Yes, law enforcement does conduct various inspections/boarding's with commercial fisherman. Less than 5%.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

None.

#18

INCOMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Thursday, January 31, 2019 3:06:04 PM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 31, 2019 4:23:07 PM
Time Spent: 01:17:03
IP Address: 155.206.49.100

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

NMFS

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Data discrepancies discovered at the regional office are sent to the observer group at the center for investigation.

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

Yes

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
We utilize a trip matching application that compares federal vessel trip reports to dealer reported landings. Investigate the trips flagged with errors or omissions, confirm what was reported with industry and initiate corrections to the trips confirmed with errors. All federal trips are audited and audit output is prioritized for investigation by the QA team.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
State partners are involved in the regional audit program by reviewing certain audit outputs. Examples include dealer reported port / state combinations and unknown vessel information included in the dealer reports. When confirmed by the state or corrections are provided the data is then updated.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
VMS data is utilized to confirm areas fished as reported on the VTR. It is also used to confirm activity codes declared by the vessel.

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
The regional QA team does not use these to validate landings data but other groups do use these reports to validate information submitted by vessels.

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
only negative purchase reports by
dealers

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Federal dealer and vessel reports are data streams included in the matching application. Also included are AMS trip information, observer and sector where applicable. Trips flagged with errors are assigned to the QA team for investigation and outreach. Source streams that are identified with errors or omissions are then updated with the correct information.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
Not sure, that would need to be addressed by
OLE

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

The QA matching application is comprehensive, other end users such as the quota monitoring team using DMIS identify issues for investigation by the QA team. Science center staff also send issues to the QA team when something is identified through their analyses.

#19

INCOMPLETE

Collector: Web Link 1 (Web Link)
Started: Wednesday, January 16, 2019 9:15:32 AM
Last Modified: Thursday, January 31, 2019 4:41:16 PM
Time Spent: Over a week
IP Address: 149.168.204.10

Page 1

Q1 What agency do you represent?

North Carolina DMF, License and Statistics, Trip Ticketing Program

Q2 Does your agency use onboard observers to validate trip data?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
NC has an Observer Program but their data is not used to validate Trip Ticket landings data.

Q3 Does your agency use dockside monitoring/sampling to validate landings data?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
NC has dockside biological sampling to obtain biological data (length frequency, weight, age, sex, etc.) from the commercial fishery but does not use this data to validate Trip Ticket Program landings data.

Q4 Does your agency compare fishermen trips to dealer reports to validate landings data?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
NC does have a small program that compares eel log book reporting to trip tickets. There is also a shellfish lease program that validates reports submitted from lease holders to their respective trip ticket data but these are not applied to all fisheries statewide. There are also several situations where a fisherman may request their associated data in trip tickets and if they find that the data is not what they expected the data is reviewed in a QA QC capacity normally at a trip level. Values are corrected/updated if necessary.

Q5 Does your agency conduct interagency comparisons to validate landings data (i.e., comparing a state report to a federal VTR)?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

NC does have a small program that directly compares eel log book reporting to trip tickets. For quota monitored species NC receives QM logs that are validated against received trip ticket data on a yearly basis. For Summer Flounder and Black Seabass North of Cape Hatteras, NMFS validates landings annually with our quota monitoring program. The shellfish lease program also uses trip tickets to validate production reports submitted from lease holders to their respective trip ticket data but these aren't applied to all fisheries statewide. All federal dealers report trip tickets electronically and the data they submit are sent to NC trip ticketing program and the federal database at the same time. Due to this validating all trip tickets with NMFS does not occur. However, NMFS can and does pull NC trip ticket data from ACCSP and SAFIS when needed. In all comparison situations if corrections are determined to be necessary, the trip ticketing data is updated.

Q6 Does your agency use VMS to validate reported trip data?

No

Q7 Does your agency require pre-trip notifications or hail outs to validate landings data?

No

Q8 Does your agency require negative trip reports?

Yes,

If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:

Submittal notifications are received when a dealer has not or will not be processing transactions. The absence of landings values or zeros are then verified with this submission. Seafood dealers also have the ability to close themselves out seasonally. NC does not obtain negative trip reports from fishermen.

Q9 Does your agency conduct data audits?

Yes,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
The Trip Ticket Program implements 4 major stages of editing. Prior to data entry we implement a screening procedure where data control clerks review all trip tickets submitted to make sure they are legible and clear to read. Any missing entries are forwarded to the port agents for further clarification. For electronic tickets there are basic rules built into the entry system that avoids allowing certain errors to be submitted. However, certain exceptions are allowed to be submitted so no data loss occurs. These tickets are flagged. There is a review and corrections are made on a daily to weekly basis. The second level is monthly warnings reports which are reviewed and critiqued by our port agents. The third and fourth levels are a 6month review and a final yearly review of all the data with multiple levels of audits that check the varying types of data collected with increased precision. When there are discrepancies NC port agents will investigate by reviewing other influential portions of the data to come to a decision on how the potential error shall be resolved and/or by contacting the dealer directly. Also ad hoc questions come up during non-formal reviews. These possible inconsistencies are dealt with on a case by case basis.

Q10 Does your agency use law enforcement to validate landings data (i.e., boardings/inspections by Natural Resources Police)?

No,
If yes, please briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.:
NC Marine Patrol does not truly validate landings with trip ticket database or vis versa but they do preform inspections at fish houses reviewing dealer recorded trip tickets compared to what is visible. Red Drum landings reported to the Trip Ticket Program are also given to Marine Patrol to spot check that transactions were accurate. NC also has an alternative platform observing program where Marine Patrol will report to the Observer Program what was landed.

Q11 Please briefly describe any validation methods used by your agency that were not previously included. Briefly explain your process, the percentage of landings data covered by this method, and how you resolve any data discrepancies.

Specie specific data reviews are done prior to stock assessments on the SEDAR and FMP levels regularly. If data are incorrect it is changed in the database. The portion of data reviewed is based on the need.
Other data review projects and questions arise throughout the year that may result in data being updated. For example, the NC Hurricane Florence assistance program has helped to validate some landings with dealers directly for three months of the last two years. If there was a dispute on the accuracy of the trip ticket data there was an effort to determine what the trip ticket records should be and corrections were made when necessary this included speaking with the dealers directly, reviewing the original submissions via log, determining value verification like license numbers and license transfer status etc.

Plan for Condensing Technical Committees

Why change the structure of ACCSP's Technical Committees?

- The TCs are burdensome for both Partners and Staff.
    - Members often represent their agency on multiple committees, meaning a heavier ACCSP-related workload and less time for each committee.
    - Staff spend a lot of time organizing meetings, putting together meeting materials, and getting new members up to speed.
    - As members of committees often overlap, time is wasted by all parties presenting the same information to each group so that the non-overlapping members are informed.

- They are an inefficient means of gathering input from partners.
    - Often only 1 employee's perspective is provided for an entire agency.
    - Each partner has a representative on each committee. Representation is sometimes unfamiliar with technical requirements, making it challenging to liaise with partner organizations.

- Progress on tasks is slow.
    - Infrequent communication/engagement (only 1-2 meetings/year) means the committees spend a lot of time reviewing tasks/projects and recapping previous decisions.
    - Passing issues between TC's delays response time.
    - Membership turnover slows committees down.

- The current division of the TCs is obsolete.
    - The modules used to be more separate than they are now. For-hire and commercial data collection needs and methods are converging, and integrated reporting vision includes linkages to biological and at-sea observer data.

How can we adjust the structure of the TCs to address these challenges?

- Condense all existing TCs (with current membership) into one broader TC to provide a broader range of perspectives at the outset of a project.
    - The Program will not be limited to working within the confines of one TC for a given project.

- Use a combination of ad-hoc and standing working groups to accomplish projects and routine tasks. Full TC will meet to discuss cross-disciplinary items and then standing and ad hoc workgroups will break out to cover specific items.

- Increase in efficiency in that discussions won't need to be passed from group to group and work will be able to happen faster.
- Examples of ad hoc WGs:
  - Integrated Reporting Group
  - Aquaculture WG

- Examples of standing WGs: (Provided only for illustrative purpose)
  - Trip Reporting
  - Dealer Reporting
  - Sampling (biological, bycatch, etc.)
  - IS policy (change management)
  - Standard Codes

- Solicit volunteers from the ACCSP Technical Committee for a project, rather than relying on a previously designated representative. This is intended to increase engagement.
  - This allows TC members to volunteer for projects that are either a) interesting to them and/or b) important to their respective agency.
  - This approach would further clarify partner priorities.
  - Additional volunteers from partners are welcome and flexibility in membership is key. Equal representation is not always paramount, because not all tasks are of equal importance to the partners.

- Adopt a more task-oriented and organized approach to projects.
  - Develop project charters at the outset to define the scope and objectives of the working group, and to identify relevant stakeholders.
  - Once projects are complete, report results to the broader TC. Then dissolve working group to provide closure.

Electronic Monitoring Standards Discussion at Commercial Technical Committee Meeting

The committee had been previously been tasked with discussing this, and it was determined that the time had not been right to move on this then, but it is now time. There is now movement at the federal level, at FIS and NFWF. The following points were noted during the discussion:

- The focus should be on the data collected from the videos, rather than the storage of the videos.
- There are a number of programs as alternatives to at-sea monitoring. There are multiple utilities across and within fisheries for EM.
- Some of the data currently being received are not standardized. Much of the data being collected are from another source, and that data standards exist there. It will be necessary to link these data to trips and other reports.
- The hope is that standards will help reduce the costs of developing projects and technology.
- HMS is using EM and matches up to the trip and dealer reports. There is a clear protocol defined for reviewing subset of videos, and a protocol for how the agency should use it. It is recommended to loop groups like OLE into any further discussion.
- The development of standards will be difficult, but will cut through the non-essentials for new programs.
- ACCSP wouldn’t address protocols for how an agency reviewed their footage, but would focus on the standardization and storing of the information coming out of the video review.
- State EM was discussed.
    - S. Iverson: VA considered tracking VA vessels for oysters, but encountered significant pushback.
    - R. Watts: Noted that scallop and urchin fisheries require a location tracker, and that menhaden and herring might consider in the future.
    - A. Webb: MA is considering the use of location tracking, but not EM video cameras.
- The differences were highlighted between location tracking and EM. The question was posed whether the standards for location tracking and video sampling should be handled separately, or together as a unified standard. .

The committee is currently in the process of populating a workgroup to address this.

Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program
1050 N. Highland Street, Suite 200A-N | Arlington, VA 22201
703.842.0780 | 703.842.0779 (fax) | www.accsp.org

TO: ACCSP Coordinating Council and All ACCSP Committees

FROM: Michael S. Cahall, ACCSP Director

SUBJECT: ACCSP Request for 2020 Proposals

The Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (Program or ACCSP) is issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) to Program Partners and Committees for FY20 funding.

ACCSP's Funding Decision Document (FDD) provides an overview of the funding decision process, guidance for preparing and submitting proposals, and information on funding recipients' post-award responsibilities. Projects in areas not specifically addressed in the FDD may still be considered for funding if they help achieve Program goals. These goals, listed by priority, are improvements in:

1a. Catch, effort, and landings data (including licensing, permit and vessel registration data);
1b. Biological data (equal to 1a.);
2. Releases, discards and protected species data; and,
3. Economic and sociological data.

Project activities that will be considered according to priority may include:

- Partner implementation of data collection programs;
- Continuation of current Program-funded partner programs;
- Funding for personnel required to implement Program related projects/proposals; and
- Data management system upgrades or establishment of partner data feeds to the Data Warehouse and/or Standard Atlantic Fisheries Information System.

Proposals for biological sampling should target priority species in the top quartile (Attachment II) of the Biological Priority Matrix. Proposals for observer coverage should align with fisheries affecting the top quartile priority species (Attachment III) of the Bycatch Priority Matrix. Brief descriptions of the current levels of biological or bycatch sampling by any of the Partners would be helpful to the review process. Projects for recreational catch and effort data should target the priorities set by the Recreational Technical Committee (Attachment IV).

Proposals to continue Program-funded partner projects ("maintenance proposals") may not contain significant changes in scope (for example the addition of bycatch data collection to a dealer reporting project), and must include in the cover letter whether there are any changes in the current proposal from prior years' and, if so, provide a brief summary of those changes.

Additionally, in FY16 a long-term funding strategy policy was instituted to limit the duration of maintenance projects. Maintenance projects are now subject to a funding reduction following their fourth year of maintenance funding. For maintenance projects entering year 5 in FY20, a 33 percent funding cut will applied to whichever sum is larger: the project's prior two-year-average base funding as defined in FY16, or the average annual sum received during the project's subsequent four years of full maintenance funding. In year 6, a further 33 percent cut will be applied and funding will cease in year 7. See Appendix A of the FDD for a list of those maintenance projects entering year 5 and the maximum funding available to them for years 6 and 7.

All project submissions must comply with the Program Standards found here. Please consider using this successful project proposal as a template. Overhead rates may not exceed 25% of total costs unless mandated by law or policy. Items included within overhead should not also be listed as in-kind match.

Submissions will be reviewed in accordance with the FDD (Attachment I), ranking criteria (Attachment VI), and funding allocation. Current funding allocation guidelines are 75% for maintenance projects and 25% for new projects within the Program priorities.

Attachment V provides a timeline for the FY20 funding process. The final decision on proposals to be funded for FY20 will be made in October 2019. Project awards will be subject to funding availability and, if there is a funding shortfall, awards may be adjusted in accordance with the FDD. Successful applicants will be notified when funding becomes available.

Project Investigators will be required to report progress directly to the Program's Operations and Advisory Committees in addition to meeting the standard Federal reporting requirements.

Please submit initial proposals as Microsoft Word and Excel files no later than **June 10, 2019** by email to Mike Cahall (mike.cahall@accsp.org). If you have any questions about the funding decision process, please contact your agency's Operations Committee member (http://www.accsp.org/committees), Mike Cahall (703-842-0781), or Ali Schwaab (703-842-0780).

RELEVANT ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT I	FY2020 Funding Decision Document
ATTACHMENT II	FY2020 Biological Priority Matrix
ATTACHMENT III	FY2020 Bycatch Priority Matrix
ATTACHMENT IV	FY2020 Recreational Technical Committee Priorities
ATTACHMENT V	FY2020 Timeline for Proposal Review
ATTACHMENT VI	FY2020 Ranking Criteria Document