

## Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

### Assessment Science Committee Call

Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Webinar with VoIP: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/244552957>

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#### *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 & Introductions (J. Sweka) 1:00 pm
  - a. Approval of Agenda
2. Updates on Ongoing Assessments (K. Drew, K. Anstead, J. Kipp) 1:05 pm
3. 2020 Data (J. Sweka) 1:30 pm
  - a. Recommendations for managing quotas this year
  - b. Best practices for assessments
  - c. Review MRIP guidance
  - d. Continue tracking survey changes
4. Data Standards for Opt-in Angler Panels (K. Drew) 2:20 pm
5. ASMFC/GSMFC Ageing Manual (J. Kipp) 2:50 pm
6. Stock Assessment Schedule 3:10 pm
  - a. Brief Update on Schedule (S. Murray)
  - b. MSEs and the Assessment Schedule (J. Kipp)
7. Advanced Stock Assessment Training Workshop (S. Murray) 3:40 pm
8. Other Business (J. Sweka) 3:50 pm
9. Adjourn 4:00 pm



## Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program

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To: ASMFC Assessment Science Committee  
From: ACCSP Recreational Technical Committee  
Date: October 2, 2020  
Subject: Data Standards for Opt-In Angler Panels

The Recreational Technical Committee (RTC) received a request from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) in 2018 on behalf of Citizen Science to develop data standards for private angler voluntary reporting programs (opt-in angler panels). These programs typically recruit participants from the recreational fishing community to report catches, fishing effort, and length data through a variety of means. Voluntary programs such as these have the potential to augment and fill vital data gaps for fisheries management, and data from these surveys are already used in fisheries management and stock assessments, particularly data on age or length from discards or released fish.

The request was tabled in 2018 and in the interim, ACCSP staff have participated in the SAFMC Citizen Science Committee activities to maintain coordination and awareness. The RTC has decided to revisit this item for further work in 2021. The RTC is interested in data use to supplement the MRIP probability-based sampling data, as well as data needs and uses that could address this request. The Assessment Science Committee (ASC) was determined to be the best suited to give direction on what data needs could be filled by this type of data collection. The RTC requests feedback and recommendations from the ASC on the items below.

### **Data Utility**

There are a variety of biases that can be introduced through voluntary surveys, which may affect how useful the data are for a stock assessment. These biases can range from the types of anglers most likely to participate to the potential barriers to participation. The RTC would like to know which data types (e.g., catch, effort, lengths) are the most resilient or least affected by the types of bias that can potentially be introduced through an opt-in survey, and which are the most useful as supplemental to the MRIP estimates for use in stock assessments.

### **Critical Data Elements**

The RTC would like feedback on which data elements are critical to include in the logbook design to ensure that the data types identified above can be utilized effectively.

### **Data Collection Reliability and Statistical Validity of Data**

Sampling design is a critical component of any survey. Typically, recreational fishing data collection is done through probability sampling which is intended to give a representative sample of a target population. Voluntary survey participants are selected through the angler's personal choices and decisions, which limits replicability and the ability to represent the target population. The RTC is looking for guidance on any data elements that can be collected to track factors like



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avidity to compare data from voluntary surveys to data collected through probability sampling by the Marine Recreational Information Program. In addition, the RTC would want to know of any recommended thresholds or percentages in sample size for this type of survey to be applied to the target population.

For further information please visit:

### **Reference Documents for ASC**

1. Volunteer-Data-Workshop-Summary-2012-MAFMC

<https://www.mafmc.org/workshop/volunteerself-reported-angler-data-workshop>

2. MRIP RET Review of iAngler and iSnapper Reporting Programs 05-10-2019

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/feature-story/noaa-fisheries-evaluates-role-opt-angler-reporting-apps-recreational-fisheries>