

**Data Collection Committee Report
June 8th, 2015
Joint GMFMC/SAFMC June 11th, 2015
Johnny Greene-V. Chair**

Draft Options Paper- Joint Electronic Charter Vessel Reporting Amendment-

The committee reviewed the charter vessel and headboat reporting requirements discussion paper (**Tab F, No. 4a**) including the current range of management alternatives for four proposed actions. The committee requested that staff make sure the document clearly defines charter vessels and headboats. Action 1 considers the frequency and mechanism of data reporting for charter vessels.

The Gulf Committee recommends, and I so move: For Action 1, to make Alternative 4 the preferred alternative for the Gulf of Mexico.

Alternative 4 requires that federally permitted charter vessels submit fishing records to the SRD for each trip via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware/software) prior to arriving at the dock.

The Gulf Committee recommends, and I so move to make Alternative 4 in Action 2 the preferred alternative for the Gulf of Mexico.

Alternative 4 requires that headboats submit fishing records to the SRD for each trip via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware/software) prior to arriving at the dock

For Actions 1 and 2, of the Alternatives under consideration, Alternative 4 would provide the most robust data validation protocols, minimize recall error in reports, and make these data available for use in science and management in the shortest time frame possible.

The Gulf Committee discussed Action 3 pertaining to catch location reporting requirements for Gulf and South Atlantic for-hire vessels but did not select a preferred Alternative at this time.

For Action 4, the Gulf Committee recommends, and I so move to move all of Action 4 to considered but rejected.

The Committee will need to consider the proposed Purpose and Need of the document during the joint Council session.

MRIP Fishing Effort Survey Transition Plan

The Committee received a presentation from Dave Van Voorhees regarding the MRIP transition plan that is moving the recreational effort survey from a telephone to mail based approach that approves response rates and sample frame coverage.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my report.