

**Data Collection Committee
August 10, 2015
Johnny Greene – V. Chair**

Draft Public Hearing – Joint Electronic Charter Vessel Reporting Amendment

The committee reviewed the draft Joint Electronic Charter Vessel Reporting Amendment. Dr. Froeschke noted that additional description of the data elements and approval process for software and hardware used to report electronically is necessary to complete the analyses in the document. The committee discussed that the technical subcommittee that drafted the original guidelines and recommendations would be the appropriate group to develop these recommendations for the Council.

The Committee recommends, and I so move to request that the Technical Subcommittee of the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils on Electronic Logbook Reporting Guidelines in coordination with GulfFIN, ACCSP, SEFSC and Council staff, develop a standalone reference document that describes specific catch and effort reporting elements, data standards and protocols that can be used to standardize implementation of Southeast region-wide electronic monitoring initiatives.

The data standards and program protocols that should be developed include but are not necessarily limited to the following:

- Hardware (electronic tools and devices);**
- Process and flow;**
- Data integrity;**
- Data integration;**
- Minimum reporting elements;**
- Effort validation;**
- Catch validation;**
- Compliance tracking;**
- Non-reporting (expansion of estimates).**

The Committee also discussed **Action 3** that includes alternatives to require vessel or catch location reporting. The Committee requested that the IPT clarify the language in **Alternative 4** describing the option to report fishing location manually using an internet based map with pre-defined fishing grids representing potential fishing areas.

After further review of this action the Committee recommends, and I so move that in Action 3, to make Alternative 2 be the Preferred Alternative, with Sub-Alternatives 2a and 2b.

Alternative 2. Require federally permitted for-hire vessels to use a NMFS approved electronic device that automatically records vessel location at specified time intervals for later transmission:

Sub-Alternative 2a. In the Gulf (headboat)

Sub-Alternative 2b. In the Gulf (charter vessel)

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my report.