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Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) on Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Electronic Reporting Requirements

HMS Advisory Panel Meeting
May 11, 2023

Outline

- Overview and Need for Action
- Vessel Reporting
 - Commercial Atlantic HMS and Southeast Coastal Fisheries Logbooks
 - Atlantic Tunas General and Harpoon Category Permits and Swordfish General Commercial Permit Reporting
 - HMS Charter/Headboat Permit Reporting
 - Timing Requirements
 - HMS Angling Permit Reporting
 - Measures to Improve Reporting Compliance
- Dealer Reporting
- HMS Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) Program Reporting
- Request for Public Comments

Overview and Need for Action

- Streamline and modernize logbook reporting.
- Expand logbook reporting to for-hire and commercial vessel owners via electronic logbooks.
- Collect additional vessel and dealer information for fishery management.
- Incentivize HMS reporting compliance.
- Offer an electronic reporting platform for HMS EFP Program permit holders.



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Vessel Reporting:

Option A: Commercial Atlantic HMS and Southeast Coastal Fisheries Logbooks

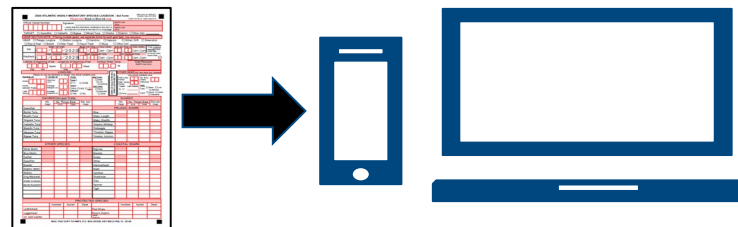
Vessel Reporting:

A. Commercial Atlantic HMS and Southeast Coastal Fisheries Logbooks

- Considering electronic logbook submission for HMS vessel owners reporting in the Atlantic HMS or Coastal Fisheries logbooks.
 - Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office (GARFO) permit holders required to report via electronic vessel trip report (eVTR).
 - South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Councils considering electronic logbooks.
 - Would allow for submission of single electronic report that could satisfy overlapping requirements.

- Management Options:

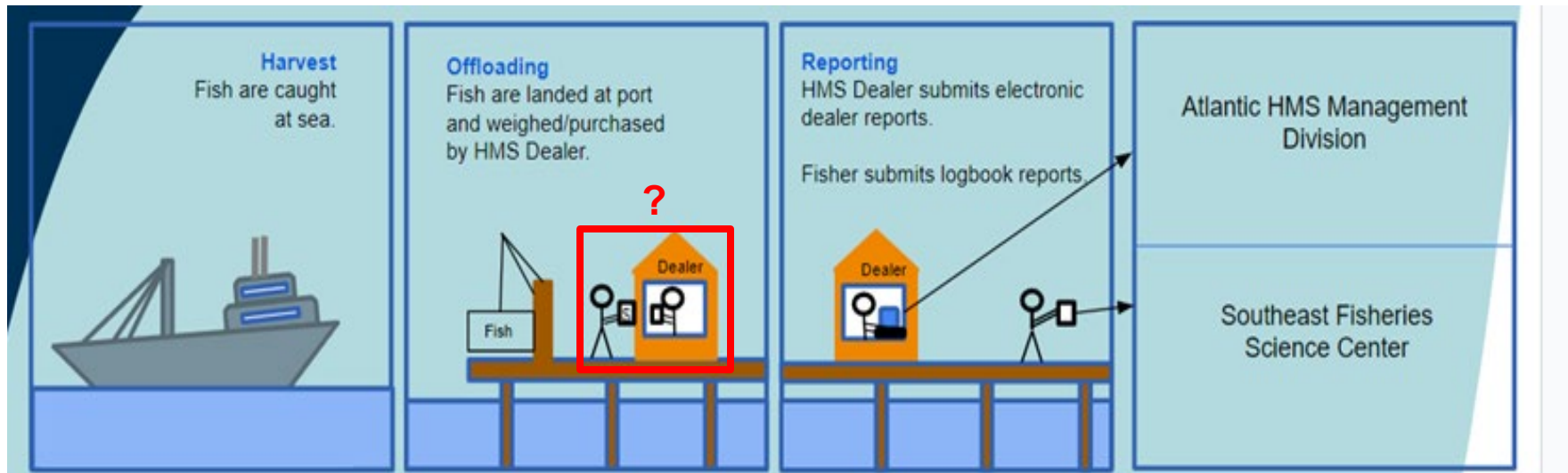
- A1. Weighout slip requirement.
- A2. Reporting requirements for smoothhound shark permit holders.



Vessel Reporting:

A. Commercial Atlantic HMS and Southeast Coastal Fisheries Logbooks

- **Option A1.** Weighout slip requirement.
 - Information currently received via paper weighout slips:



Vessel Reporting:

A. Commercial Atlantic HMS and Southeast Coastal Fisheries Logbooks

Issues that NOAA Fisheries is reviewing regarding current, paper weighout slips under Option A1:

- Entity (e.g., dealer, captain, crew member) that creates weighout slips.
- Mechanism or approach for creating weighout slips.
- Timing of creation of weighout slips (e.g., first port or every port of offloading).
- Fish included or not included on weighout slips (e.g., fish of low quality that are not sold to a dealer, kept for personal consumption, etc.)
- Approaches for easing time and cost burden associated with weighout slips (e.g., standardized format, electronic submission, etc.)



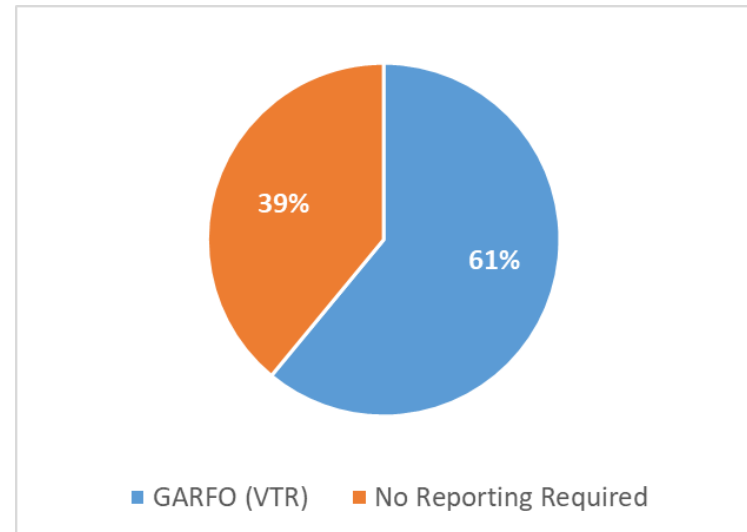
Vessel Reporting:

A. Commercial Atlantic HMS and Southeast Coastal Fisheries Logbooks

- **Option A2.** Reporting requirements for smoothhound shark permit holders.

- A2a. Status quo.

61% of smoothhound permit holders have GARFO permits and are required to report via eVTR. Others would not be required to report.



- A2b. Include the smoothhound shark permit in the requirement to submit an electronic logbook.





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Vessel Reporting:

Option B: Atlantic Tunas General and Harpoon Category Permits and Swordfish General Commercial Permit



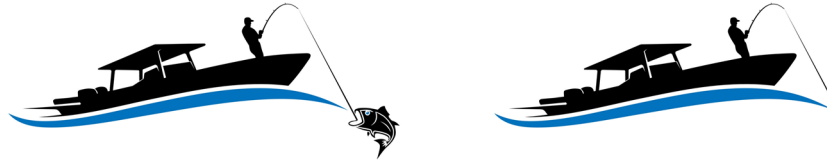
Vessel Reporting:

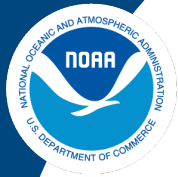
B. Atlantic Tunas General and Harpoon Category Permits and Swordfish General Commercial Permit

- Considering implementing a more comprehensive electronic logbook, beyond current electronic catch reporting.
 - More detailed effort and catch data to determine catch-per-unit-effort and improve reporting to the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT).
- Management Options:
 - B1. Continue current reporting of bluefin tuna (BFT) landings and dead discards on trips where BFT are caught.
 - B2. Expand trip reporting requirements related to currently reported species (e.g., BFT) via electronic logbook.
 - B3. Expand species and trip reporting requirements via electronic logbook.

Vessel Reporting:

B. Atlantic Tunas General and Harpoon Category Permits and Swordfish General Commercial Permit

Options	Electronic Logbook Requirements
B1	Continue reporting BFT landings and dead discards on trips where BFT are caught, via website or app. Remove reporting via telephone
B2	Report BFT landings and dead discards, but via electronic logbook required for all trips with effort targeting BFT, regardless if fish are caught
B3 Expand species and trip reporting requirements via electronic logbook	B3a. Require reporting of all Atlantic HMS caught 
	B3b. Require reporting of all species caught, including non-HMS 
	B3c. Require reporting for all trips, regardless if fish are caught 



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Vessel Reporting:

Option C: HMS Charter/Headboat Electronic Logbook



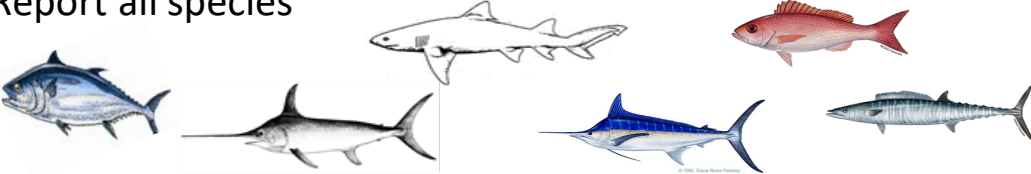
Vessel Reporting:

C. HMS Charter/Headboat Electronic Logbook

- Require vessel owners to submit electronic logbooks via an approved system to streamline reporting requirements across regions.
 - Electronic for-hire logbooks in place for New England, Mid-Atlantic, and South Atlantic fisheries.
- Management Options:
 - C1. Species reporting requirements.
 - C2. No-fishing reports.
 - C3. Costs and earnings information.
 - C4. Geospatial information.

Vessel Reporting:




C. HMS Charter/Headboat Electronic Logbook

Options	Sub-Options	Species Reporting Requirements
C1	C1a Status quo	Report only BFT landings + discards; landings of swordfish and billfish 
	C1b	Report all Atlantic HMS 
	C1c	Report all species 

All sub-options would require reporting on all trips regardless of where the fish were caught.

Vessel Reporting:

C. HMS Charter/Headboat Electronic Logbook

Options	Sub-Options	Reporting Requirements
C2 No-fishing reports 	C2a Status quo	Do not require a “no-fishing report”
	C2b	Require a “no-fishing report”
C3 Costs and earnings information 	C3a	Report for each trip
	C3b	Report only if vessel selected for reporting
	C3c	Report via surveys
C4 Geospatial information 	C4a Status quo	Do not require geospatial information
	C4b	Require submission of information such as latitude and longitude of fishing effort / area



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Vessel Reporting:

Option D: Timing Requirements for Submission of Electronic Logbooks

Vessel Reporting:

D. Timing Requirements for Submission of Electronic Logbooks

- NOAA Fisheries is considering timing requirements* for HMS permit holders in electronic:
 - Atlantic HMS or Coastal Fisheries logbooks (Option A)
 - Atlantic Tunas General and Harpoon Category permits and Swordfish General Commercial permit logbook (Option B)
 - HMS Charter/Headboat logbook (Option C)

*Taking into account current requirements for vessel owners with HMS, GARFO, and/or SERO permits under different reporting programs.

Vessel Reporting:

D. Timing Requirements for Submission of Electronic Logbooks

Option	Timing Requirements
D1	Submit <u>prior to landing</u>
D2	Submit within <u>24 hours</u> of offloading/completing a trip
D3	Submit within <u>48 hours</u> of offloading/completing a trip
D4	Complete reports to the extent possible <u>prior to landing</u> and submit within <u>24 hours</u> of offloading/completing a trip
D5	Complete reports to the extent possible <u>prior to landing</u> and submit within <u>48 hours</u> of offloading/completing a trip
D6	Submit within <u>7 days</u> of offloading (commercial) or <u>once per week</u> (charter/headboat)



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Vessel Reporting:

Option E: HMS Angling Permit Reporting Requirements

Vessel Reporting:

E. HMS Angling Permit Reporting Requirements

- NOAA Fisheries is considering modifying species-specific reporting requirements for HMS Angling vessel owners.
 - Data received on additional species could aid in, for example, ICCAT reporting and shark management under Amendment 14.

Option	Species-Specific Reporting Requirements
E1 Status quo	Report BFT landings and dead discards, and non-tournament landings of billfish and swordfish
E2	E1 + Report <u>pelagic sharks</u>
E3	E1 + Report <u>all sharks</u>
E4	E1 + Report <u>bigeye, albacore, yellowfin, and skipjack (BAYS) tunas</u>
E5	Report <u>all HMS including discards</u>



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Vessel Reporting:

Option F: Measures to Improve Reporting Compliance for Vessel Owners with HMS Open Access Permits

Vessel Reporting:

F. Measures to Improve Reporting Compliance for Vessel Owners with HMS Open Access Permits

- Non-compliance with reporting requirements presents a challenge to track landings in real-time and analyze trends.
- Recent survey of BFT anglers found that incentives were the highest ranked strategy to improve reporting.

Option	Measures to Improve Reporting Compliance
F1	<p>Provide reporting incentives (awards, certificates, prizes, leaderboard)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Award promotional items, for example hats or t-shirts, to those who self-reported• Award certificates to those who self-reported• Reward top reporters with a chance to meet and be recognized by NOAA Fisheries or NOAA leadership• Develop a reporting leaderboard that fishermen could join into and receive badges or in-app achievements
F2	Block permit issuance for non-reporting





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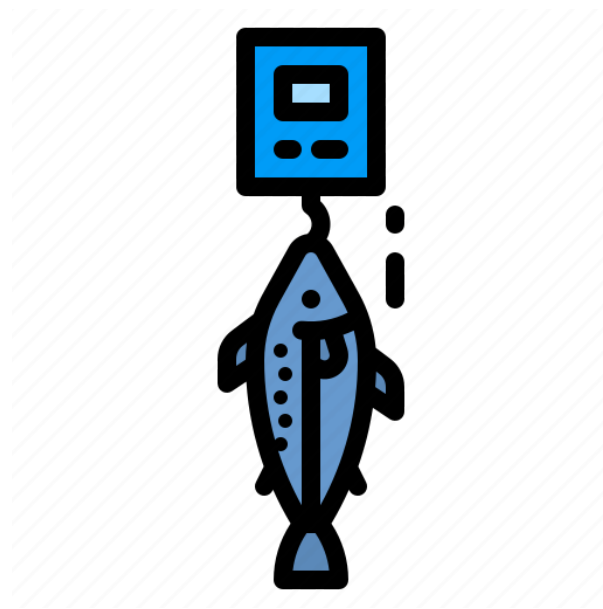
Dealer Reporting:

Option G: Individual Fish Reports and Technical Change in BFT Reporting Requirements

Dealer Reporting:

G. Individual Fish Reports and Technical Change in BFT Reporting Requirements

- Individual weight information for certain HMS stocks important for future stock assessments.
- Improves trip revenue estimates.
- Important for ICCAT reporting.



Dealer Reporting:

G. Individual Fish Reports and Technical Change in BFT Reporting Requirements

Option	Individual Fish Reporting Requirements
G1 Status Quo	Require individual fish weights for BFT. Other species can be reported individually or in aggregate
G2 Report individual fish on dealer reports	G2a Require <u>all HMS</u> to be reported individually on federal dealer reports
	G2b Require <u>swordfish, BAYS tunas, and pelagic shark species</u> to be reported individually on federal dealer reports
G3 Technical change	Remove required submission of bi-weekly BFT report*

*This information is already collected under other dealer BFT reporting requirements.





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HMS EFP Program Reporting

Option H: Electronic Reporting for the HMS EFP Program and Technical Changes

EFP Program Reporting:

H. Electronic Reporting for the HMS EFP Program and Technical Changes

- HMP EFP Program currently requires submission of interim (Excel spreadsheet) and annual (PDF) reports via email or mail.
- Data is manually entered by NOAA Fisheries staff.

Option	EFP Reporting Requirements
H1 Electronic reporting	Offer voluntary method of electronic reporting via online portal
H2 Technical change	Change required submission of interim reports within 5 days to a timeline as specified by NOAA Fisheries in the terms and conditions of a permit
H3 Technical change	Remove requirement to notify NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement prior to a collection trip (i.e., public display permits)





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Request for Public Comments

Request for Public Comments

- ANPR filed May 10, publishing May 12
- Comment period closes on **August 18, 2023**
- Please submit comments at <https://www.regulations.gov> (Search “NOAA-NMFS-2023-0047”)

Public hearings:

- June 6, 2023 – Fort Lauderdale, FL
- June 13, 2023 – Webinar
- June 14, 2023 – Toms River, NJ
- June 21, 2023 – Manteo, NC
- July 27, 2023 – Webinar
- August 3, 2023 – Belle Chasse, LA
- August 9, 2023 – Gloucester, MA



For More Information

- Action webpage:

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/action/advance-notice-proposed-rulemaking-electronic-reporting-requirements>



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Thank you!