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

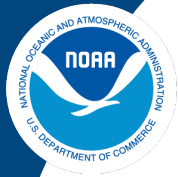
Public Hearing  
June - August 2023

# 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

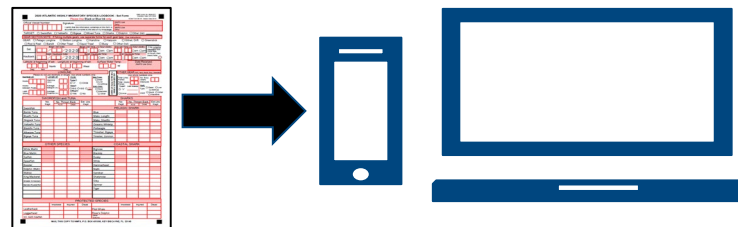
# Vessel Reporting:

## 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:

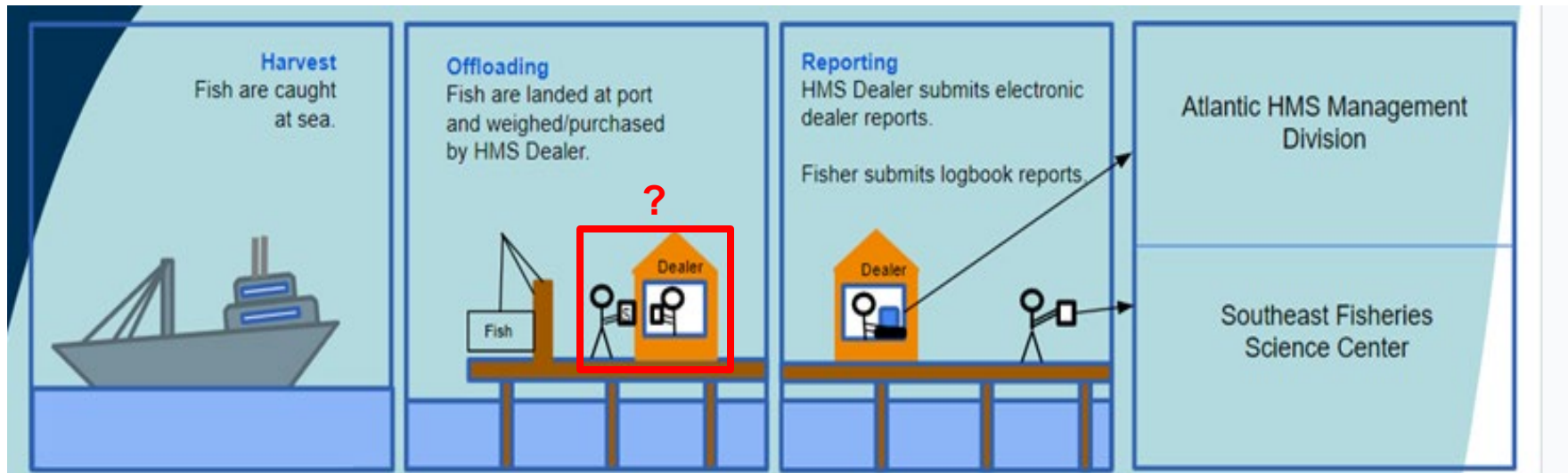
- A1. Weighout slip requirement.
- A2. Reporting requirements for smoothhound shark permit holders.



# 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.)



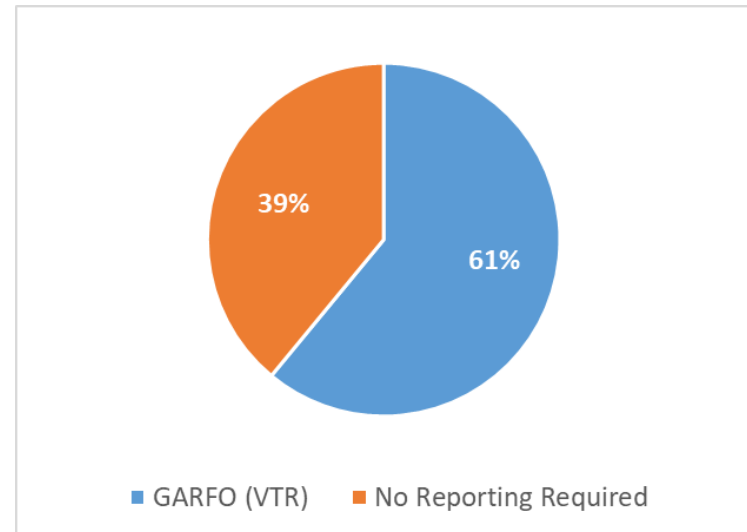
# Vessel Reporting:

## 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**



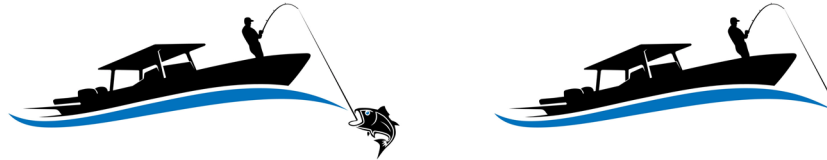
# Vessel Reporting:

## 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
<b>B1</b>	Continue reporting BFT landings and dead discards on trips where BFT are caught, via website or app. Remove reporting via telephone
<b>B2</b>	Report BFT landings and dead discards, but via electronic logbook required for all trips with effort targeting BFT, regardless if fish are caught
<b>B3</b>  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



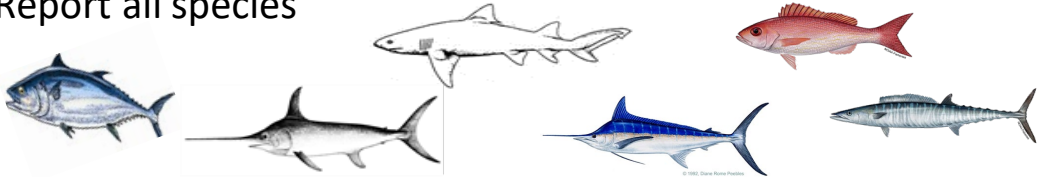
# Vessel Reporting:

## 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
<b>C2</b> <b>No-fishing reports</b> 	<b>C2a</b>  <b>Status quo</b>	Do not require a “no-fishing report”
	<b>C2b</b>	Require a “no-fishing report”
<b>C3</b> <b>Costs and earnings information</b> 	<b>C3a</b>	Report for each trip
	<b>C3b</b>	Report only if vessel selected for reporting
	<b>C3c</b>	Report via surveys
<b>C4</b> <b>Geospatial information</b> 	<b>C4a</b>  <b>Status quo</b>	Do not require geospatial information
	<b>C4b</b>	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
<b>D1</b>	Submit <u>prior to landing</u>
<b>D2</b>	Submit within <u>24 hours</u> of offloading/completing a trip
<b>D3</b>	Submit within <u>48 hours</u> of offloading/completing a trip
<b>D4</b>	Complete reports to the extent possible <u>prior to landing</u> and submit within <u>24 hours</u> of offloading/completing a trip
<b>D5</b>	Complete reports to the extent possible <u>prior to landing</u> and submit within <u>48 hours</u> of offloading/completing a trip
<b>D6</b>	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
<b>E1</b> <b>Status quo</b>	Report BFT landings and dead discards, and non-tournament landings of billfish and swordfish
<b>E2</b>	E1 + Report <u>pelagic sharks</u>
<b>E3</b>	E1 + Report <u>all sharks</u>
<b>E4</b>	E1 + Report <u>bigeye, albacore, yellowfin, and skipjack (BAYS) tunas</u>
<b>E5</b>	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"><li>• Award promotional items, for example hats or t-shirts, to those who self-reported</li><li>• Award certificates to those who self-reported</li><li>• Reward top reporters with a chance to meet and be recognized by NOAA Fisheries or NOAA leadership</li><li>• Develop a reporting leaderboard that fishermen could join into and receive badges or in-app achievements</li></ul>
F2	Block permit issuance for non-reporting





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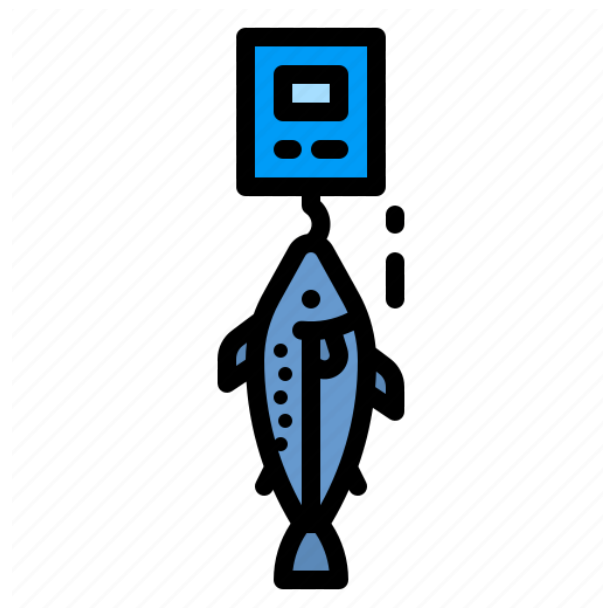
# Dealer Reporting:

## 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
<b>G1 Status Quo</b>	Require individual fish weights for BFT. Other species can be reported individually or in aggregate
<b>G2 Report individual fish on dealer reports</b>	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
<b>G3 Technical change</b>	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
<b>H1</b> <b>Electronic reporting</b>	Offer voluntary method of electronic reporting via online portal
<b>H2</b> <b>Technical change</b>	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
<b>H3</b> <b>Technical change</b>	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 published May 12, 2023 (88 FR 30699)
- 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!