

NMFS Sector Monitoring and Reporting Workshop IV Action Item					
Overview		<p>NOAA Fisheries Service hosted a workshop on October 14 & 15, 2009, to work with fishing industry sector proponents and dockside & at-sea monitoring service providers on monitoring and reporting issues. Over the course of the workshop, the facilitator collected a list of action items and issues that were not addressed during the two days. This table compiles those action items and describes the current plan of action for responding to the issue or question. This report was last updated on October 23, 2009.</p>			
#	Subject	Issue/Question	Response	Owner	Due/Comment
SMWR Summary		<p>There were many questions regarding the Sector Manager's Weekly Report (SMWR). The Sector Manager must file a report weekly to update the sector's usage of its allocated catch entitlement (ACE). The SMWR is proposed to be due each Thursday at midnight to update the previous week's (Sunday-Saturday) fishing catch for the sector.</p> <p>Given the number of questions about the SMWR and the industry's keen interest in being involved with discussions on the technical details, NMFS has agreed to initiate a fast track working group. Greg Power from the Fisheries Statistics Office (FSO) will be the NMFS staff member responsible for driving the working group to discuss these questions and other SMWR programmatic details.</p>			
1	SMWR	The SMWR will be submitted electronically. What formats will NMFS support; e.g., MSEXcel, CSV, XML?	Comma separated value (CSV) is universally acceptable. Government will explore XML with working group	SMWR Working Group, Greg Power	Started on 10/19. Greg Power has organized the first tele-conference.
2	SMWR	The Sector Information Management Module (SIMM) is the system on which data inputs will be made available to the sectors and where the SMWR will be housed. Sectors need to build systems to communicate with the SIMM. NMFS was asked to distribute alpha and beta versions of data format from SIMM for that purpose. (What is the format for the sharing of the discard rates and discard data?)		John Witzig, FSO	Alpha by Oct 23, 2009, Beta by Dec 1, 2009
3	SMWR	Sector managers who have problems with data availability and timely submission of the SMWR should contact OLE as soon as issues arise, prior to the due date. For SMWR considerations, contact FSO.	Recommendation	No action	No action
4	SMWR	Quota (ACE) monitoring is a continuous process. As past weeks' data are updated the changes will be reflected in the cumulative totals. Such changes should be annotated. Prior reports will not have to be resubmitted with corrected data.	Agreement	SMWR Working Group, Greg Power	TBD
5	SMWR	The SMWR needs to include a way for sector managers to show ACE that has been traded in or out of the account. When the report format is updated, it shall be made available to the sectors directly and via the NMFS website.	Recommendation	SMWR Working Group, Greg Power	TBD

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6	SMWR	Clarify policies regarding ACE trades, i.e, timing of "when it counts". Other SMWR issues include corrections, authoritative sources, impact on cumulative total.	After approval by NMFS, ACE trades are effective at the date/time they were submitted and accepted by the ACE source-sector on the website.	Mark Grant will meet with FSO staff to help finalize policies as they relate to SIMM requirements. John Witzig, FSO, will lead the resolution of the data management issues. Jim StCyr is responsible for SIMM development.	TBD
7	SMWR	When a sector exceeds a certain percentage of its ACE, it must commence daily reporting. -Which prior day does a report address? -What relieves daily reporting (i.e. trading ACE)? -Create streamlined report form for daily reporting		SMWR Working Group, Greg Power	
8	SMWR	To what extent will Sector Managers be responsible for reconciling in-season catch data/ACE accounting when new/updated information becomes available?	This issue was addressed in the presentation by Mike Palmer (NEFSC) on Thursday. The algorithm is undergoing refinement and may be subjected to peer review. The final product will be added as a chapter to the Sector Manager's Handbook.	Mike Palmer, NEFSC	TBD
9	SMWR	Sectors are dependent upon NMFS for discard amounts and discard rates to be applied to sector trips. If NMFS changes discard information after it was initially made available, and an ACE overage occurs, who is culpable for the ACE overage?	NMFS needs to make a formal statement about the legal liability of sectors in this situation.	RO and OLE – Dan Morris	15-Nov-09
10	SMWR	When is the weekly report due compared to fishing activity? (one week delay to fix data?)		Working Group will consider the week delay	30-Oct-09
11	Outreach	When a sector's catch triggers the requirement to report daily, does reporting frequency change for a dealer who buys fish from sector vessels? Must the dealer shift to daily reporting?	No. There would be no required change to dealer reporting.	Maggie Mooney-Seus (RO) and John Witzig will collaborate on a dealer compliance plan.	30-Oct-09

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12	Outreach	Will NMFS provide guidance on reporting protocols to Sector Managers, making sure the fishermen know what they need to be reporting?	Reporting requirements under Amendment 16 will be detailed in a permit holder letter. NMFS will also use the agency website, CFN inserts, and other media to get this message out to industry members.	Maggie Mooney-Seus & Dan Morris	1-Mar-10
13	Other	Will sector membership information be made available to dockside monitoring providers?	Yes, NMFS will post sector rosters when the proposed rule is published. This will be updated by Greg	Mark Grant, SFD	15-Jan-10
14	Other	Not all trips made by sector vessels would be considered a sector trip. Would a dogfish trip count as a sector trip?	It depends on which dogfish fishery you are in	Mark Grant, SFD	23-Oct-09
15	Other	Bycatch of regulated groundfish on a trip outside Northeast fisheries would not be counted against sector ACE.	Agreement	No action	No action
16	Other	Stratification methodology must be spelled out for dockside monitoring and at-sea monitoring. How will monitoring providers be informed of gear?	Yes.	Wendy Gabriel and Amy VanAtten (NEFSC) will determine stratification for NEFOP/ASM selection. Merrie Cartwright (FSO) and Mark Grant (SFD) will do the same for DSM.	October 30, 2009 for ASM and DSM
17	Other	NMFS's project management needs to specify how the agency intends to continue to receive and resolve programmatic issues after 1 May 2010.		John Witzig and Greg Power, FSO	Ongoing
18	NEFOP	How does the requirement to notify the NEFSC observer program 48 hours prior to a trip affect the requirement for 72 hour notifications for trips to the US/Canada management area and under other management programs?	All Northeast groundfish programs requiring advanced notifications for observer/at-sea monitoring selection will now be set at 48 hours.	No action	No action
19	48 Hour Pre-Trip Notification NEFOP	What is the alternative to 48 hour advance notifications for vessels that take day trips? The whole day-boat issue needs to be figured out.	Day boats may call in their notification for all trips up to 10 days in advance.	No action	No action
20	48 Hour Pre-Trip Notification NEFOP	Under the notification requirement, what is the process for cancelling a trip scheduled for observation?		Gina Shields, Amy VanAtten, NEFSC	30-Oct-09

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21	48 Hour Pre-Trip Notification NEFOP	Does the 48 hour advance call-in notice apply to common pool?	Yes	No action	No action
22	NEFOP	Consider an alternative 48 hour advance call-in.	NEFSC staff at the workshop discussed their ability to select trips and deploy observers/monitors. They stated that 48 hours is the minimum they can work with.	No action	No action
<p>Hails</p> <p>Consistent with a requirement for dockside monitoring (DSM) in sectors, sector vessels are required to submit a trip start and trip end hail message for each trip. The messages allow DSM providers to know where and when the vessel will land so that a monitor can be deployed if the trip is selected. Also, a commitment from NMFS to provide 30% at-sea monitoring coverage during the first year of sector implementation has sparked a requirement for vessels to notify the NEFSC 48 hours in advance of an upcoming trip. Industry would like to consolidate these notification requirements with existing VMS reporting requirements. Also, they would like to be able to submit the notifications via VMS.</p> <p>There have been many questions about hails and the extent to which VMS can be used to meet the requirement. NMFS committed to providing final guidance on notifications. Dan Morris (NERO) will lead the effort to get the final information together and out to industry.</p>					
23	Hails	Can VMS declaration screen be expanded to fulfill hail requirements? Can we consolidate start hail and trip declaration?		Dan Morris, NERO, will consult with OLE, FSO, and SFD staff	6-Nov-09
24	Hails	The trip end hail must include estimated weights of fish that will be landed. This helps the DSM provider gauge how long the landing will take and deploy monitors accordingly. Also, it gives the Office of Law Enforcement another metric for assessing the trip end hail information relative to the actual landing event.	Discussed	No action	No action
25	Hails	As currently stated in most of the sector operations plans, for trips < 6hrs, vessels are required to report their estimated time of landing in the trip start hail, and the trip end hail is to be sent at the completion of fishing operations. Sectors need some flexibility to adjust these procedures should they be able to develop a system that works better for them and also meets all of the other recipients' (OLE, FSO, DSM provider) interests.	Issue caveat language that the sectors can incorporate into their draft operations plans.	Mark Grant, SFD	23-Oct-09

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26	Hails	Hailing process may change each year through annual submission of Ops plan	Agreement	No action	No action
27	Hails	Trip end hail data can come from Sector Manager if specified in SOP	Agreement	No action	No action
28	Hails	If a message is sent via VMS to NMFS and SM at the SAME time is that "direct" for the purpose of the regulation?	Yes	No action	No action
29	Hails	Does the estimated time of offloading need to be included in the trip end hail even if the estimated offloading time was provided in the trip start hail (for trips < 6 hours), even if the time is unchanged?	Yes	No action	No action
30	Hails	Industry is interested in the possibility of using VMS forms to submit the hails. Hails submitted via an electronic logbook need to be in a specific format, and industry is eager for NMFS to provide that detailed format.		Dan Morris, NERO, will consult with OLE, FSO, and SFD staff	30-Oct-10
31	Hails	NMFS needs to provide a complete description of the regulatory, technical, and policy requirements related to hails. The hail policy needs to include provisions for a trip cancellation notice and 3rd party solutions to missed hails. A Q&A document would be helpful.		Dan Morris, NERO, will consult with OLE, FSO, and SFD staff	30-Oct-09
32	VTRs	Restate policy on trip reporting (VTR and other) when the trip is cut short/no effort (e.g. mechanical failure).	Under the VTR program, if there is no fishing effort, the event is not considered a trip and no VTR report needs to be filed.	Barry Clifford, FSO	TBD
33	eVTRs	NMFS needs to resolve a number of policies, regulations, enforcement issues, and data management issues that currently preclude paper-free vessel reporting.	NMFS is working with GMRI and Industry to conduct a pilot study of electronic VTRs. The outcomes will help to address some of the outstanding issues.		On-going.
34	eVTRs	Even before VTRs for actual trips go paper-free, is it possible to submit negative reports ("Did not fish") reports electronically?		Barry Clifford, FSO	30-Nov-09
35	Enforcement	Sector Manager's role to be clarified with regards to OLE issues		Sue Williams (OLE)	1-Mar-10
36	DSM	The situation in which dealers hold lots of fish for long periods before weighing and culling is not addressed in the DSM standards.	NMFS must update the DSM policy to address this situation.	Merrie Cartwright, FSO; Mark Grant, SFD	30-Oct-09