Industry Interview: Data Needs and Uses

Northeast Federal Fishery Dependent Data Visioning Workshop
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Workshop Goals:

• **Goal #1**: Provide context for the current data collection and storage systems, and identify benefits and challenges associated with fisheries dependent data collections and outputs.

• **Goal #2**: Characterize current and future data needs of industry, science, management, and enforcement.

• **Goal #3**: Identify desired characteristics of data collections and systems.

• **Goal #4**: Identify tools and approaches that would help meet fishery dependent data needs most effectively.
Presentation Outline:

Industry Responses:

• Data Themes

• What data should be collected

• Future Date Needs & Uses

• Challenges to Data Collection and Reporting
Interview Team

- Jonathon Peros – GMRI
- Rachel Long – GMRI
- Dan Salerno – Contractor
- Peter Moore – Contractor
- Cate O’Keefe – SMAST

** Data and responses in this presentation came directly from the industry interviews and may not be representative of the views of all industry members, NOAA, or the interview team**
# Ideal Fishery Dependent Data System: Themes From Industry (see handout)

## FDD Themes from Industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry Issues with Current System</th>
<th>Industry Suggestions for an Ideal System</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Efficiency</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Duplicate/unnecessary reporting</td>
<td>Eliminate redundancies (ex: data in VTR &amp; VMS) or collection of data that is not utilized</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submitting duplicate information in various reports is redundant and time consuming to those submitting reports (industry) and those who process them (government).</td>
<td>Overlapping fields could be eliminated across the reports or be combined in a single report.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Data flow is complex and unpredictable</td>
<td>Develop a single, central integrated data reporting system</td>
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<td>Data bounces around many times before processed and accessible for use.</td>
<td>Having the data in one central place will speed up the process and allow it to be processed and accessible more quickly.</td>
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<td><strong>Flexibility</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>‘One size fits all’ doesn’t work in fisheries reporting</td>
<td>Tailor systems to the needs of individual fisheries or fishermen</td>
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<tr>
<td>All fisheries do not need to be collecting the same information in the same format.</td>
<td>Create a flexible data system that can capture operational differences and varying data needs across all Greater Atlantic fisheries; accept both paper and electronic reporting.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Difficult to implement new &amp; innovative ideas</td>
<td>Compatible with emerging technologies or innovative ideas</td>
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<tr>
<td>It is a difficult and long process to implement new ideas that have the potential to improve the current system or the fishery.</td>
<td>Have the flexibility to accept data from alternative data collection methods or software providers, such as EM and eVTR, or utilize a 3rd party to manage the FDD system.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Responsiveness</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>In need of improved communication between:</td>
<td>Provide training in areas such as data use &amp; new technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Industry &amp; government</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Governmental departments</td>
<td>Better communication with fishermen as to how FDD is being used has the potential to encourage fishermen to support the data they are being asked to collect; providing training opportunities for fishermen to use new technologies has the potential to increase the uptake of electronic reporting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is lack of awareness of data use and new technologies in the fishing industry.</td>
<td>Streamline Federal data collection systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>There is little understanding as to how data is being used between governmental departments.</td>
<td>Better intergovernmental communication regarding data needs and uses will help to streamline the FDD system.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- **Accessibility**
- **Timeliness**
- **Accuracy**
- **Efficiency**
- **Flexibility**
- **Responsiveness**
Industry Interview: What data should be collected?

- Data on gear configuration
- Environmental Data
  - Tides/moon, bottom temperature
- Fine scale spatial information in real-time
- Economic information
- Information about discards
- Precise fishing locations, higher spatial resolution
- Time at sea
- Price
- Catch
- Dealer
- Tow-by-tow/haul-by-haul data
Why Collect Unrequired Data?

- Better data, better science, better management
- Personal fishing information
- Fine scale observations
- Verify landings history
- Business planning
- Bycatch reduction
- Economic information
- Compare fishing conditions
Interview: Future Data Uses/Needs

• *Real-time & Fine Scale Management*
  – Finer scale data
  – Environmental data

• *Better discard estimates with real-time data & accessibility*
Interview: Future Data Uses/Needs

- **Traceability**
  - Seafood industry wants to know where the fish came from.
Interview: Future Data Uses/Needs (cont.)

- **Characterize ecosystem and climate change**
  
  Data should be collected passively and should not be another task for the fishermen.
  
  - Fine-scale data
  
  - Environmental data
    
    - Temperature (bottom), Dissolved Oxygen, Salinity, pH

- **Marine Spatial Planning**

  Industry data is needed to participate in the process.
  
  - Catch data linked to area and time.
  
  - Finer-scale effort and location data.
Challenges to Data Collection and Reporting
Dealer Reporting Frequency

**Weekly Reporting**

- **Advantages:**
  - Stay current with paperwork
  - Quick and easy to do

- **Disadvantages:**
  - Weekend landings difficult with Tuesday deadline
  - Mismatch with state reporting
  - Edits to SAFIS not timely
  - Incomplete SAFIS entries
  - SAFIS is slow and crashes often

**Daily Reporting**

- **Advantages:**
  - Reduce paperwork back up
  - Dictated by volume of landings
  - Accessibility timeliness

- **Disadvantages:**
  - No benefits to daily reporting
  - Too burdensome
  - Too costly
  - SAFIS too slow and clunky
Industry Interview: Data Collection Challenges

- Fatigue
- Weather
- Short tows
Industry Interview: Data Collection Challenges

• Several simultaneous responsibilities

• Conditions - wet gloves, hands
Industry Thoughts:

- "More data does not necessarily mean better fisheries management."

- “Industry not looking for more work – Automate collections to reduce inputs/effort.”
Industry Thoughts:

• “Be careful not to broad brush a system that is not right for every fishery. Things should be scaled to the size of the fishery or the amount of catch.”
Thank you.