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# Fisheries Dependent Data Initiative

Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office Northeast Fisheries Science Center

Barry Clifford Fisheries Dependent Data Coordinator

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## **Today's Presentation**

- What is the FDDI?
- Purpose
- Background
- Modernize data collection
- Simplify reporting requirements
- Imagine a world of simplified reporting
- How do we get there?
- eVTR status
- Impact of MAFMC eVTR
- FDDI Status update
- Expectations

## FDDI - What Is It?

#### • FDDV = FDDI

- FDDI Vision Statement: Integrate and modernize fisheries dependent data systems to simplify fisheries reporting, improve data quality, and enhance monitoring and analysis to better support management decisions, advance scientific understanding, and streamline reporting systems in all fisheries.
- Long term, ongoing project
  - Modernize data collection programs
    - Design a flexible system capable of supporting existing and future needs
    - Develop a data collection system that produces comprehensive data
    - Through improved fisheries dependent data, improve fisheries monitoring
  - Simply industry's reporting requirements
    - Streamline
    - Consolidate
    - Eliminate redundant and repetitive data requirements



### Purpose

- The Fisheries Dependent Data Visioning (FDDV) initiative began in 2014
- Increasing demands on established fisheries dependent data collection programs highlighted the need for change
  - Existing data systems are independent
  - Different codes used in different systems
  - Difficult to integrate
  - Redundant reporting
- Objective:
  - Modernize fisheries dependent data systems
  - Simplify industry's reporting requirements

## Background

- January 2015 Fishery Dependent Data Visioning Recommendations document
- Identified characteristics of a modernized data collection program
- Guiding principles of the FDDV project:
  - Improve the overall quality of our fisheries dependent data through improvements to our data collection vehicles and back-end auditing functionality.
  - Require all federally permitted vessels to declare fundamental trip level information prior to each trip
  - Implement electronic reporting in all fisheries
  - Integrate all sources of data through an electronic universal trip identifier
  - Reduce redundant data collection and processing
  - Streamline reporting
  - Access data through a centralized warehouse



## **Modernize Data Collection**

- Primarily internal to GARFO, NEFSC, and ACCSP
- Design a system architecture that is flexible and dynamic
- Develop a data system that results in a single comprehensive data set
- Develop modernized data collection applications
- Results:
  - Integrate all sources of data through an electronic universal trip identifier
  - Produce a single comprehensive data set residing in a single repository
  - All users access the same data
  - Improved data available for science and management
  - Reduce redundant data collection and processing
  - Utilize technology to improve the quality of the data being submitted



## **Simplify Reporting**

- Impact to industry members
- Streamline reporting and collection programs
  - VTR, VMS, PTNS, IVR, Hails, etc.
- Reduce redundant and repetitive data collection
- Consolidate inter-agency reporting
  - GARFO, SERO, HMS, ACCSP
- Simplify how industry provides data
  - Develop intuitive applications
- Provide reporting alternatives
- How?
  - eVTR advancement



## Imagine a World of Simplified Reporting

- Fundamentally, existing data programs and requirements remain status quo
  - VTR
  - PTNS: Pre-Trip declarations
  - VMS: activity codes and catch reports
  - IVR: declarations and catch reports
  - Hail in / Hail out
- But, in a simplified world, vessel operators would not have to independently access all those systems
- And they do not need to fill out and submit paper VTR
- Instead...
  - Advanced eVTR applications would satisfy all reporting requirements
  - All existing data elements and information required by the existing individual systems, are instead satisfied through the use of advanced eVTR applications
- Result:
  - Eliminated the need to access and use numerous programs
  - Eliminated repetitive and redundant data submission
  - Fulfilled all reporting requirements
  - Integrated and comprehensive data

## How Do We Get There?

- Complex and challenging
- Preserve the integrity of historical data
- Remain mindful of existing limitations
- Incremental improvements and enhancements
- Change is required
  - Database and systems design and development
  - Changes in how and when industry reports
- Minimize impact to industry members
- Collaboration
  - Councils, SERO, HMS, ACCSP, Advisors, Stakeholders
- eVTR is the cornerstone of the modernization efforts



## eVTR Status

- eVTR was approved for all fisheries in 2011
  - 6 different applications available
  - iOS, Android, PC based
- Currently used by approximately 520 vessels (some overlap)
  - For-Hire: 400
  - Commercial: 200
- MAFMC: March 2018 implementation of eVTR in For-Hire fisheries
- MAFMC: potential expansion into commercial fisheries
  - Dec 2018 initiate framework action
  - April 2019 1<sup>st</sup> eVTR framework meeting (anticipated)
  - Oct 2019 2nd eVTR framework meeting (anticipated)
  - 2020 implementation (anticipated)

#### Potential Impact of MAFMC eVTR Requirements

- Vessels with only MAFMC FMP based permits
  - 53 vessels hold only a MAFMC for-hire permit
  - 111 vessels hold only a MAFMC commercial permit
  - 34 vessels hold only MAFMC commercial and for-hire permits
- Vessels with both MAFMC and NEFMC FMP based permits
  - 201 vessels hold both MAFMC and NEFMC for-hire permits
  - 3,673 vessels hold both MAFMC and NEFMC commercial permits
  - 727 vessels hold both MAFMC and NEFMC commercial and for-hire permits
- Vessels with only NEFMC FMP based permits
  - 11 vessels hold only a NEFMC for-hire permit
  - 1,585 vessels hold only a NEFMC commercial permit
  - 6 vessels hold only NEFMC commercial and for-hire permits

## **FDDI Status**

- Phased Implementation
- Technical Team NEFSC PTNS Development Team:
  - Designing and developing overarching architecture
  - Integration
    - Universal Trip Identifier
    - PTNS / Trip Management System
- Regulatory Team GARFO:
  - Identify regulatory changes
  - Identify pathway forward
    - eVTR Whitepaper
    - eVTR For-Hire lessons learned
    - Collaboration



## **Expectations**

- Long term project
- Incremental changes
- Ongoing advancements to system architecture and programs
- Near term changes in eVTR applications
- Continued investment of resources
- Continued collaboration

