

MAFMC Commercial eVTR Omnibus Framework

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NEFMC meeting
June 13, 2019
S. Portland, ME



New England
Fishery Management Council

MAFMC eVTR Framework discussion

- Karson Coutre (MAFMC staff)—FMAT coordinator

Supporting materials:

- [Doc. I2a MAFMC eVTR Action Plan](#)
- [Doc. I2b eVTR FW Discussion Document](#)
- [Doc. I2c Scenarios for NEFMC engagement in eVTR FW](#)
- [Doc. I2d March 19, 2019 eVTR FMAT Summary](#)
- [Doc. I2e March 25, 2019 MAFMC AP Summary](#)
- [Doc. I2f May 10, 2019 eVTR FMAT Summary](#)

MAFMC eVTR Framework discussion

Goals for today:

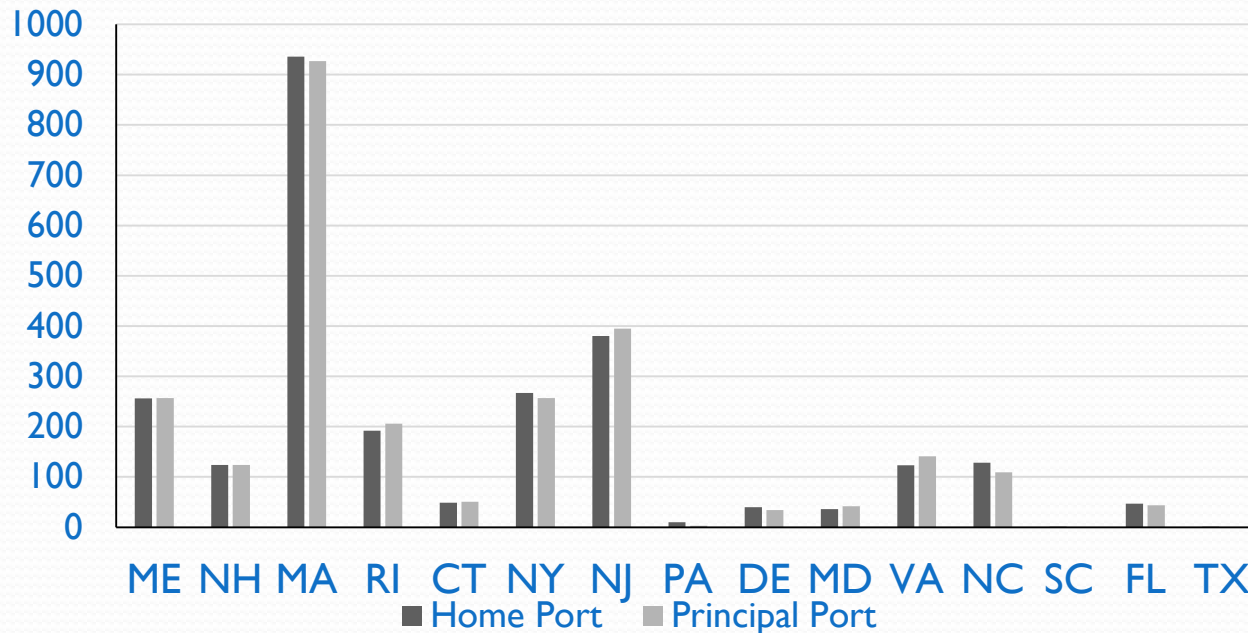
- Brief overview of on-going MAFMC eVTR Omnibus Framework
- Consider options for NEFMC engagement and affected NE permit holders
- Revisit discussion/tabled motion from April 2019 meeting, decide how to move forward

Background: MAFMC eVTR action

- Initiated Dec. 2018
- Proposed action: require electronic VTR submission for commercial vessels with permits for MAFMC-managed species. Unify VTR submission timelines
- Goal: Reduce reporting burden/redundancies of paper VTR, improve reporting efficiency, decrease error.

Scope of eVTR Framework

- Focused on commercial vessels with permits for MAFMC-managed FMPs → inclusive of vessels with permits for **both** MAFMC and NEFMC-managed FMPs



The number of vessels that held MAFMC commercial permits in 2018 summarized by home port and principal port ([Doc. I2b](#), Fig. 1)

MAFMC Alts. under development

Approved by MAFMC April 2019 (see [Doc.12b](#))

Alternative I—Modify administrative requirements to require commercial fishing vessels with Federal permits for MAFMC-managed species to submit VTRs through electronic means.

- Alt. Ia—Ie Sub-Ops consider range of eVTR submission deadlines (i.e. no change, 24 hr, 48 hr, 72 hr, weekly)

Note: MAFMC has not discussed Alternatives since approval at April 2019 meeting

Outreach efforts

- In-person workshops and training webinars being planned for Fall 2019-Spring 2020
- Andy Loftus (MAFMC contractor) coordinating outreach efforts
- Outreach efforts will cover both New England & Mid-Atl.

Implementation considerations

- eVTR available to commercial fleet since 2013, but usage is low
- Input from GARFO: extend implementation to smooth transition to eVTR, avoid bottlenecks

Table 4—VTR numbers were reported by GARFO for vessels issued a Mid-Atlantic commercial permit (not including monkfish) in 2018 ([Doc.12b](#)).

# of Commercial VTRs Submitted in 2018	
Paper	70,394
Electronic	7,172

Paths forward for NEFMC

- NEFMC action required to include jointly-managed FMPs (i.e. dogfish/monkfish) in eVTR Framework
- Scenarios for potential NEFMC engagement in eVTR Framework (see [Doc.12c](#)):
 1. Decline joint action with MAFMC
 2. Initiate joint action for dogfish and monkfish
 3. Initiate joint action for either dogfish or monkfish
 4. Engage in joint action that would apply to permits for all NEFMC-managed FMPs

Scenario 1: decline joint action

NEFMC does not move forward with MAFMC to include dogfish/monkfish in joint eVTR action.

- MAFMC continues development of action but eVTR requirements do not apply directly to dogfish/monkfish permit holders.
- **90%** of NEFMC permit holders affected by eVTR action (i.e. NEFMC permit holders that hold a MAFMC permit, excluding dogfish and monkfish)

Scenario 2/3: initiate joint action

2. Include dogfish and monkfish in eVTR action

- **94%** of NEFMC permit holders affected (i.e. NEFMC permit holders that hold a MAFMC permit, including dogfish and monkfish)

—OR—

3. Include either dogfish or monkfish in eVTR action

- Dogfish only: **93%** of NEFMC permit holders affected (i.e. NEFMC permit holders that hold a MAFMC permit, including dogfish, excluding monkfish)
- Monkfish only: **92%** of NEFMC permit holders affected (i.e. NEFMC permit holders that hold a MAFMC permit, including monkfish, excluding dogfish)

Scenario 4: initiate action for NE

NEFMC engages in joint action and includes all NEFMC-managed permits.

- **100%** of NEFMC permit holders affected by **eVTR action** (i.e. total of 2,929 NEFMC and MAFMC permit holders not including lobster-only)



Questions?

April 16, 2019 tabled motion

1. Mr. Reid moved and Mr. Bellavance seconded:
That the Council initiate a framework action to develop a commercial eVTR reporting requirement jointly with the MAFMC for Spiny dogfish and Monkfish.

- 1a. Mr. Pappalardo moved and Mr. Stockwell seconded:
to table the motion until the June Council Meeting.
The motion to table *carried* on a show of hands (8/6/1).