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Implementation of Amendment 7

HMS Advisory Panel Meeting; March 2015



Summary

- Correspondence with fishery participants on Amendment 7 requirements and development of outreach materials
- Contracts issued for electronic monitoring (i.e., cameras, etc) installation and video review; installations underway
- Vessel monitoring system (VMS) bluefin tuna catch reporting (after each pelagic longline set) operational
- On-line system to track individual bluefin quota (IBQ) operational
- Expansion of on-line system to record General, Harpoon and Charter/Headboat category catch operational



Correspondence & Outreach

- Sent letters to all eligible and ineligible PLL permit holders with detailed information on IBQ shares/allocation and on-line IBQ system, appeals, & electronic monitoring
 - Example letters at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfa/hms/documents/fmp/am7/index.html>
 - Sent letters to Purse Seine participants on 2015 quotas
- Amendment 7 compliance guide developed
- IBQ FAQs and troubleshooting guide developed
- Created dedicated Customer Service phone line



Electronic Monitoring Installation Schedule

Date Range	Name of Port
January 16 - 25	Cape Canaveral, Florida
	Panama City, Florida
February 14 - 23	Cape Canaveral, Florida
	Dulac, Louisiana
March 16 - 25	Wanchese, North Carolina
	Beaufort, North Carolina
April 14 - 23	Wanchese, North Carolina
	Dulac, Louisiana
May 11 – 17; and 19 - 25	To Be Determined
	Barnegat Light, New Jersey



Electronic Monitoring Installations (as of 3/6/15)*

Status	Number Vessels	Location
Completed	2	Fairhaven, MA
	2	Islip, NY
	11	Lake Park, FL
	3	Pompano Beach, FL
	11	Panama City, FL
	4	Dulac, LA
	4	Fort Pierce, FL
	1	St. Augustine, FL
Total	38	

* Electronic monitoring required as of 6/1/15



Electronic Monitoring Challenges & Solutions

- Diversity of pelagic longline vessels (e.g., drum location; steel-hull & fiberglass; electrical systems)
- Location of vessels in relation to scheduled installation ports
- Language barriers

- Solution: Flexibility. NMFS is working closely with the installation contractor - Saltwater, Inc. - to customize solutions, where feasible



VMS Bluefin Reporting (Jan & Feb, 2015)

- New software installed and operational
- 47 different vessels submitted reports
- 572 reports total (associated with pelagic longline sets)
including location, time, number of hooks, and
bluefin interactions
- 24 reports noted bluefin interactions
- Approximately 75% of vessels that submitted landings
declarations (“hail-ins”) submitted bluefin catch reports
(47 out of 63)
 - HMS Division staff are contacting dealers and vessels to
educate



Individual Bluefin Quota On-Line System

- On-line system to perform quota accounting and quota leasing is operational
 - Additional functions scheduled for April, May, June, August, September, October, and December 2015
- Customer service team fielding calls
 - 144 calls through 3/3/15
- 97% of bluefin landing documented through current dealer reporting system are recorded in the new IBQ system
 - HMS Division staff are contacting dealers and vessels to educate



Individual Bluefin Quota Appeals

- 10 appeals received
- Currently under review
- Deadline for submission of appeals was March 2, 2015



Amendment 7 Lawsuit

- Complaint from pelagic longline fishermen and related businesses, predominantly from North Carolina but also from New York and Florida
- Partial motion to dismiss filed
- Administrative record prepared
- Briefing schedule pending



Catch of bluefin by pelagic longline fleet

- As of 3/6/15; 6.7 mt landed
- 24 VMS reports noted interactions with bluefin
 - 19 VMS reports provided specific information on interactions
 - 1 dead discard reported via VMS
 - 16 live discards reported via VMS
 - 11 retained bluefin reported via VMS

*VMS reports through February

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End