



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

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MEMORANDUM

March 28, 2017

To: Atlantic Herring Management Section
From: Law Enforcement Committee
RE: Review of Atlantic Herring Draft Addendum I

The Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) reviewed management options contained in Atlantic Herring Draft Addendum I during a teleconference meeting on March 17, 2017.

The following were in attendance:

LEC: Capt. Steve Anthony (NC); Dep. Chief Kurt Blanchard (RI); Capt. Grant Burton (FL); Maj. Rene Cloutier (ME); Lt. Mike Eastman (NH); Lt. Col. Larry Furlong (PA); Lt. Tom Gadomski (NY); Capt. Jamie Green (VA); Maj. Rob Kersey (MD); Capt. Bob Lynn (GA); Capt. Doug Messeck (DE); Katie Moore (USCG); Asst. SAC Jeff Ray (NOAA OLE); Capt. Jason Snellbaker (NJ)
STAFF: Ashton Harp; Megan Ware; Mark Robson

The LEC reviewed all of the management options in the draft addendum and provides the following comments.

Issue 1. Harvester Reporting Requirements

The LEC recommends the most timely and accurate reporting possible to enhance enforcement efforts (*ASMFC Guidelines for Resource Managers on the Enforceability of Fishery Management Measures, Second Ed., 2015*). State access to federal reports is important for timeliness. Maine reported success in implementing state reports and was able to regularly review email reports for carrier vessels.

Issue 2. Days Out

The LEC did not offer any comments or recommendations on the options in the draft.

Issue 3. Weekly Landing Limit

The LEC recommends establishing weekly landing limits in pounds and truckloads. Maine reported no significant problems with implementing a weekly landing limit. Their officers typically monitor landings by truckloads rather than by poundage, a more efficient process. They used an estimate of approximately 40,000 lbs./truckload. With timely access to reports, weekly landing limits can be enforced.

Issue 4. Restrictions on Transfers at Sea

The LEC believes that Option B is more enforceable than Option C, but recognizes this may place a hardship on carrier vessels that have operated for many years.

Issue 5. Days Out for Small-Mesh Bottom Trawl Vessels

The LEC is comfortable with adoption of Option B and did not believe an additional program for small-mesh bottom trawl vessels would be overly confusing from an enforcement perspective.

Issue 6. Clarification of Days Out Procedure

The LEC did not have any comments regarding this issue.

The LEC appreciates the opportunity to provide enforcement advice to the Atlantic Herring Management Section regarding Draft Addendum I.