# Development of Logbook to support EM for Catch Estimation DRAFT Project Plan

# **Background**

This project is part of the cooperative research that is being undertaken to assess the efficacy of using EM to complete catch accounting of retained and discarded catch in fixed gear fisheries off Alaska. A critical component this research is determining what data are necessary for catch estimation and the best source for each of these data elements.

An effective EM program to enable catch estimation will require timely and accurate data. The primary source for these data will be EM systems (video and sensors). However, there are likely to be some data elements required for catch estimation that will not be able to be collected via EM or may be more efficient to collect directly from the vessel operator. These data will need to be collected though a logbook, either electronically or on paper.

Data collected using paper and electronic logbooks (elogbooks) plays an important role in groundfish and halibut fisheries management in Alaska. Logbooks are important for: Alaska Fishery Science Center (AFSC) Fishery Management and Analysis Division observer data collection, which feed into catch estimation and stock assessment; NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, and US Coast Guard, enforcement efforts; management and stock assessment of the halibut stocks by International Pacific Halibut Commission (IPHC); stock assessment of the sablefish stocks by NMFS Auke Bay staff, and fisheries research by scientists at the IPHC, AFSC, and in other institutions.

There are a number of issues that can impact the usefulness of logbook data including: delays in compilation of logbook data due to collection of paper and data entry; data gaps, either because of incomplete or inaccurate data elements, or because some vessels are not required to submit logbooks.

Logbook data are required in some fisheries, and to move forward industry input is important. To the extent possible, logbooks should be designed to be flexible to different operating patterns and logistical capabilities of the different sectors, and should be structured so as to minimize the burden on fishing operations, while also meeting data needs.

## **Project Goals**

To goals of this project is to: 1) determine the type and quality of logbook information is needed to support implementation of EM to estimate catch in the small boat fixed gear in Alaska; 2) develop an efficient means of collecting those data, either through an elogbook and/or via a paper logbook that is key-punched after the trip.

# **Summary of current logbook requirements**

Paper logbooks are required to be completed and submitted to NMFS for Federally permitted vessels over 60 feet in length that are fishing for groundfish and IPHC regulations require vessels that are 26 feet and over in length fishing for IFQ halibut to complete an

IPHC defined logbook. In addition, some vessels less than 60 feet that fish for sablefish voluntarily complete paper logbooks, which are collected and data are provided to Auke Bay Scientists Vessels that are over 60 feet that participate in both the groundfish fishery and sablefish or halibut IFQ fishery during the same fishing year are required to complete the NMFS provided logbook with pages for multiple agencies.

## elogbook requirements

The use of the electronic logbook (elogbooks) on catcher/processors (CP) vessels has expanded in recent years. Starting in 2011, trawl CPs participating in the BSAI pollock fishery were required to submit elogbooks and have the additional requirement of entering their haul-specific catch of salmon in the elogbook. The elogbook requirement has also expanded to other CPs: trawl CPs participating in the Central GOA Rockfish fishery began using electronic logbooks in 2012 and longline CPs fishing for Pacific cod began using the electronic logbook voluntarily instead of submitting a paper logbook. In total, there are about 50 boats using the electronic logbook in 2014.

Starting in 2015, the elogbook requirements are expected to expand to all CPs and motherships that are required to use a flow scale. This will result in about 10 new vessels that will be required to use an elogbook.

# Data currently collected on logbooks

Attachments 1 and 2 provides examples of the current NMFS and IPHC fixed gear logbook for CVs. In general, vessels record haul-specific information in logbooks. This information includes vessel-specific information, management program, date and time of haul deployment and retrieval, spatial coordinates of haul deployment and retrieval, fishing depth, the type and amount of gear used, vessel estimates of total catch and species-specific catch, and species-specific discard.

There is currently a beta-version of the elogbook for CVs that is under development as part of the elandings project. The data collected in the elogbook mirrors the data elements on the paper logbooks and the current CV elogbook has been developed as a replacement for the paper logbook. It may be that all of the data currently being collected on the paper logbook are not necessary to support EM, and in which case, there could be a simplified version of the CV elog that would be used in conjunction with and EM system.

# How logbook data are used for fisheries management

Data collected using paper and electronic logbooks plays an important role in groundfish and halibut fisheries management. Logbook data are not directly used in by NMFS for catch estimation at this time. However, logbooks are accessed by observers while they are onboard a vessel to obtain data – and these data are incorporated into observer data and used in catch estimation and stock assessment. In particular, the logbooks provide information on effort (number of hooks and hook spacing), set location, and timing of fishing. The IPHC has had port samplers in the field collect halibut logbook information since the 1930s and has collected sablefish logbook for NMFS Auke Bay lab since the mid-2000. The weight per unit effort, gear, and location information from the logbook is essential for the annual halibut stock assessment. Logbooks are also an important data source for NOAA OLE and US Coast Guard in their enforcement efforts.

# **Project Tasks**

- Identify the minimum fields that are needed from logbooks to complement EM catch estimation.
  - Hold logbook sub-group meeting (including, at minimum, IPHC, NMFS, and OLE) to evaluate data currently collected on paper logbooks (Attachments 1 & 2).
  - Evaluate which data elements are require in logbook to support catch estimation
- Evaluate the efficiency of collecting the fields via EM versus using a logbook.
  - Using the list generated by the logbook sub-group meeting, evaluate which data elements could be collected via EM and which are necessary from the logbook.
  - For those fields to be collected via EM, design comparison tests with EM and logbook to evaluate the differences.
- Evaluate the efficiency gains of elogbooks versus paper logbooks.
  - Cost and accuracy comparisons of elogbook versus paper logbook and posthoc data entry
- Identify Quality Control procedures and automation methods to improve data accuracy.
  - o Elogbook
    - Verify the business rules that generate errors are appropriate (for example, might need to adjust business rules with gear)
    - what data elements could be collected with automation to reduce data entry errors (e.g. lat/lon from GPS instead of data entry)
    - what fields could be auto filled
  - o Paper logbooks
    - how could the logbooks be designed to minimize errors and increase accuracy
    - Incorporate QC procedures into entry of paper logbooks
- Incorporate user feedback and testing into elogbook
  - Provide test versions of the elogbook to vessels from multiple fisheries and parts of the state to incorporate broad input on EM development
  - o Incorporate more 'fishermen friendly' features to the extent possible
  - Provide training, users manuals, and outreach on elogbooks

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# IPHC HALIBUT LOGBOOK

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### C2 Track 4 Logbook Proejct Plan OCTOBER 2014

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Revised: 04/03/2012 COPY DISTRIBUTION: WHITE Vessel Copy: Keep in Logbook • GREEN IFQ Distribution • GOLDENROD Observer copy • BLUE Discard Report Submit to Processor • YELLOW NMFS Copy: Remit Expiration Date: 034-031/2015 **CATCHER VESSEL DFL** ADF&G VESSEL NO. **LONGLINE AND POT GEAR** OPERATOR NAME AND SIGNATURE FEDERAL FISHERIES PERMIT NO. GEAR TYPE (check one) START END REASON FEDERAL SIZE INACTIVE ☐ Pot ☐ Jig ☐ Troll ☐ Handline ☐ Hook & Line REPORTING AREA If Hook & Line, complete boxes immediately below. DENTIFICATION √ GEAR TYPE HOOK LENGTH **IFQ** CDQ **OBSERVER INFORMATION** GEAR EIXED HOOK OF SKATE Spacing ID (feet) NO. OF OBSERVERS ONBOARD Skate Operator IFQ Permit # IFQ Permit # CDQ Group # If same Α IFQ Permit # IFQ Permit # Halibut CDQ Permit # OBSERVER NAME & CRUISE # previous В page С IFQ Permit # IFQ Permit # check OBSERVER NAME & CRUISE # D MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ☐ CDQ ☐ Exempted ☐ Research ☐ AIP No. \_ Complete these boxes once per delivery LOCATION OF SET BEGIN & IPHC IFQ SABL NUMBER OF CDQ/IFQ CR CRAB DATE SET DATE HAULED TARGET HAIL WEIGHT BIRD BEGIN POSITION

LATITUDE

LONGITUDE FND OFFICE (Pounds) RD Round wt. WC Western cut EC Eastern cut GEAR SKATES OR POTS HALIBUT Buoy or Bag # AVOID GEAR SET# SPECIES DEPTH USE TIME HAULED Lost (lbs. or mt.) TIME SET (Pounds) ONLY  $\overline{S}$ BY CATCH For groundfish and Pacific herring, circle: lbs. or nearest 0.001 mt. For Pacific halibut, Pacific salmon, king crab, and Tanner crab, record in numbers DISCARD/DISPOSITION DATE SPECIES CODE PRODUCT CODE BALANCE FORWARD DAILY TOTAL CUMULATIVE TOTAL COMMENTS: ADF&G FISH RECIPIENT'S NAME or UNLOADING IPHC USE DATE TICKET NO. IFO REGISTERED BUYER ONLY DELIVERY