



## D3 Crew Data Collection Expanded Discussion Paper (SSC only)

June 2023

### Action Memo

Council Staff: Sarah Marrinan  
Other Presenters: Mike Fey (PSMFC/ AKFIN; **lead**)  
Action Required: 1. Review discussion paper  
2. Recommend action as necessary

### BACKGROUND

In February 2023, the Council and its Advisory Panel considered an expanded discussion paper evaluating the implementation of a new data collection program to collect crew license data; crew compensation; and the number of crew positions on vessels operating in federal fisheries. This discussion paper was directed to evaluate the scale of data to be collected by fishery and area and outline a simple annual collection mechanism(s) and associated cost/burden. The Council also requested an evaluation of associated analytical value and ability of NMFS to collect quota lease costs as part of the annual quota applications administered by the NMFS Restricted Access Management Division, for those programs that currently do not report lease costs.

After reviewing the paper and listening to public testimony, **the Council requested the SSC also review the staff discussion paper on this issue and provide input to the Council on the proposed mechanism, value of the crew data to be collected, and any additional recommendations that would aid in a simple data collection process.** The Council's motion in February 2023 stated it is considering collecting a limited amount of data from vessels in federal fisheries relative to crew licenses/residency, crew compensation, and number of crew positions to support economic and community impact analyses required for Council actions and program reviews. The proposed collection mechanism is intended to remain simple and provide useable data by fishery across all commercial sectors, while minimizing reporting burden and costs to fisheries participants and NMFS.

As this paper has previously been reviewed by the AP and Council, it will only be reviewed by the SSC at this meeting.<sup>1</sup> Any SSC feedback will be provided to the Council through the SSC report and presentation. The Council may choose to take any additional action relative to this topic under agenda item E: Staff Tasking. If the Council chooses to move forward with a Crew Data Collection analysis, it would need to establish a purpose and need statement and set of alternatives.

This expanded discussion paper exists within a long history of data collection discussions at the SSC, Council and AP, the Council's Social Science Planning Team (SSPT) and through a series of workshops

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<sup>1</sup> The expanded discussion paper provided to the SSC for review this June 2023 meeting is nearly the same as the paper reviewed by the Council and AP in February 2023, with minor updates (i.e., titled Crew Data Collection, rather than titled Universal Data Collection).

with industry. The table below captures a more recent timeline of related actions and discussion. This table incorporates some of the recent history on the Council’s three current Economic Data Reporting (EDR) programs and amendments that have occurred. The relationship between the proposed Crew Data Collection and the existing EDRs is not clear at this time. However, any changes to the existing EDRs would also require regulatory action which includes an analytical evaluation of changing or removing those data collections. Based on requirements in the Paperwork Reduction Act, these data collection could not ask the same participates for duplicative crew information; therefore, any new Crew Data Collection must take this into account.

**Recent timeline of economic and crew data collection considerations, with relevant links**

*Additional attachments from each meeting are available through the relevant NPFMC eAgendas.*

| Dates      | Meeting  | Attachments  |
|------------|--|--|
| April 2018 | <p><b><u>Council meeting</u></b><br/>In response to discussion around regulatory reform EO as well as public testimony on burdensome reporting requirements, the Council tasks staff with a discussion paper on EDR requirements and data use.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Regulatory reform discussion paper</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Council motion</a></li> </ul>                               |
| April 2019 | <p><b><u>Council meeting</u></b><br/>The Council received a discussion paper on the EDR programs. In response, it passed a motion with two parts (issue #1 – specific changes; and issue #2 holistic changes which sought SSPT input and stakeholder engagement).</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Discussion paper on EDRs</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Council motion</a></li> </ul>   |
| May 2019   | <p><b><u>SSPT meeting</u></b><br/>The SSPT received a presentation on the EDR discussion paper. The group had extensive discussion highlighting issues with data coverage and consistency and suggested a day-long technical workshop.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">eAgenda</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">SSPT meeting report</a></li> </ul>   |
| June 2019  | <p><b><u>Council meeting</u></b><br/>The Council received the SSPT report and took no action.</p>  |  |
| Nov 2019   | <p><b><u>SSPT meeting</u></b><br/>The SSPT considered the EDR framework analysis and classification of data quality using the tiered framework. The group also discussed how work to map the data through performance metrics and into questions useful for decision-making could benefit a future workshop.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">eAgenda</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">AFSC EDR Framework paper</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">SSPT meeting report</a></li> </ul> |
| Feb 2020   | <p><b><u>Council meeting</u></b><br/>The Council received the Initial review draft analysis for EDR changes. The Council made changes to the purpose and need statement, added an alternative for removing EDR requirements, and released that analysis for public review.<br/>As a separate agenda item, the Council received a report from the SSPT on the Nov 2019 meeting.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Initial Review Analysis</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Council motion on EDR amendment package</a></li> </ul>                 |
| Aug 2020   | <p><b><u>EDR workshop</u></b><br/>The Council hosted the first meeting in a stakeholder workshop series. This meeting included stakeholders associated with all four EDR and covered big-picture topics.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">eAgenda</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Workshop summary</a></li> </ul>  |
| Sept 2020  | <p><b><u>SSPT meeting</u></b><br/>The SSPT held a teleconference to consider and respond to the first stakeholder meeting. The group determined it would be beneficial to continue the workshops by EDR program to allow for more specific feedback.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">eAgenda</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">SSPT meeting report</a></li> </ul>   |

| Dates         | Meeting   | Attachments  |
|---------------|---|--|
| Oct<br>2020   | <p><b><u>Council meeting</u></b><br/>Council staff provided the Council a brief update on the status of the EDR workshops.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">EDR status update for staff tasking</a></li> </ul>  |
| Nov<br>2020   | <p><b><u>EDR workshops</u></b><br/>The Council hosted separate workshop days for A80, crab, A91, and GOA trawl EDRs. These meetings raised specific questions around the purpose and need statements and specific information collected for each EDR.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">eAgenda</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Purpose and need statements</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Working draft alts</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Workshop summary</a></li> </ul> |
| March<br>2021 | <p><b><u>SSPT meeting</u></b><br/>The SSPT meeting to review the workshop summary and provide recommendations on EDRs.</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">eAgenda</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">SSPT meeting report and recommendations</a></li> </ul>   |
| April<br>2021 | <p><b><u>Council meeting</u></b><br/>Council received a presentation of the EDR stakeholder workshops, the SSPT reports and considered how to move forward on EDR Program modifications. Slight modifications made to alternatives.</p>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">EDR Workshops and SSPT Report</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Motion</a></li> </ul>  |
| Feb<br>2022   | <p><b><u>Council meeting</u></b><br/>Council took final action on changes to EDR, removing GOA Trawl EDR requirement. Council initiated discussion paper for data collection.</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Action Memo</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Council Motion 1</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Council Motion 2</a></li> </ul>  |
| Oct<br>2022   | <p><b><u>Council meeting</u></b><br/>SSC, Council and AP received presentation of Universal Data Collection Components Discussion Paper</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Action Memo</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Council Motion</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Discussion Paper</a></li> </ul>  |
| Feb<br>2023   | <p><b><u>Council meeting</u></b><br/>Council and AP received presentation of expanded Universal Data Collection Discussion Paper</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Action Memo</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Council Motion</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Discussion Paper</a></li> </ul>  |
| Jun<br>2023   | <p><b><u>SSC Meeting</u></b><br/>Universal Data Collection Discussion Paper to be reviewed by SSC with emphasis on collection mechanism and value of crew data</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">eAgenda</a></li> </ul>  |