Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) State Implementation Workshop

Joint ASMFC/ACCSP workshop to provide information on an increased level of state involvement in conducting MRIP Access Point Angler Surveys (APAIS)

May14, 2014
2:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Alexandria, Virginia

Agenda

The times listed are approximate; the order in which these items will be taken is subject to change; other items may be added as necessary.

1. Welcome and Introductions — 2:00 p.m.
   - Bob Beal, ASMFC
2. Overview of State Implementation of MRIP — 2:05 p.m.
   - Mike Cahall and Geoff White, ACCSP
3. Overview of Budget and Costs — 2:25 p.m.
   - Dave Van Voorhees, NOAA Fisheries Science & Technology
4. Gulf States Experiences — 2:45 pm.
   - Dave Donaldson, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
   - Luiz Barbieri, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission
5. Atlantic States Experiences — 3:05 p.m.
   - Kathy Knowlton, Georgia Coastal Resources Division
   - Doug Mumford, North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries
   - Kevin Sullivan, New Hampshire Fish and Game
6. Break — 3:35 p.m.
7. Question and Answer Session with Presenters — 3:45 p.m.
8. Adjourn — 5:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel Old Town, 901 N. Fairfax Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 703-683-6000

MRIP State Implementation Workshop – Briefing Materials
May 14, 2014 2-5pm, Alexandria VA

The goal of the Commissioners workshop on state implementation of the *Marine Recreational Information Program (*MRIP) is to provide information on a proposed greater level of state involvement in MRIP. While MRIP has many components, the focus of this workshop is transitioning responsibility for field intercepts, the Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS), from a federal contractor to state agencies. The transition was requested by several states and has been supported by MRIP. State involvement currently varies along the Atlantic seaboard, with 6 states conducting the APAIS data collection while in the remaining 7 states data collection is performed by the contractor.

Goals of State Conduct of MRIP APAIS

- Build more cooperative ownership of recreational data
- Support field data collection via state staff with vested interest in fisheries
- Maximize data quality and efficiency of data collection
- Maximize angler participation and minimize refusal rates
- Successful transition must maintain or improve data quality

Under the proposed transition of MRIP-APAIS to state conduct, the NMFS will retain primary responsibility for overall survey design, calculation of catch and effort estimates, and public data dissemination. The selection of ASMFC and ACCSP as survey coordinator would be similar to how the Gulf of Mexico accomplishes MRIP data collection under a cooperative agreement with coordination through the Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission. If ASMFC and ACCSP are selected as the central coordinator of the APAIS, their central responsibilities for Maine to Georgia would include tasks of data entry, compilation, quality control checks & edits, and formatting for data delivery to NMFS.

States may participate in field data collection tasks at their individual level of preference, following the surveys standard data collection protocols. Thirteen Atlantic coast states are eligible to take over the onsite intercept portion of MRIP. Pennsylvania does not participate in MRIP and Florida has taken over this portion of the MRIP survey already through the Gulf States Commission program. Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia currently conduct the APAIS as sub-contractors to the federal contractor. Caution should be taken to avoid requiring the states to take on more than they can handle at one time. For that reason, the initial phase of state implementation of MRIP will only address the site intercept portion of the survey. The states will not be required to conduct the weekly for-hire phone validation with captains. However, states that choose to conduct the for-hire phone portion of the survey would still be able to do so with financial support from MRIP. Georgia, North Carolina, and Maine already administer the phone surveys at the state level.

The workshop will focus on the following key questions:

- How did this proposal develop and what is the timeline?
- How do other regions accomplish recreational survey data collection?
- What has the GSMFC experience been?
- What are the benefits to the federal program of APAIS state conduct instead of a contractor?
- What are the expected benefits to the states conducting the APAIS field survey?
- What is the perspective of states conducting field sampling already?
- What changes to data quality (sample size, PSE) should be expected in the short term?
- What ability will the states have to modify the MRIP protocols?
- What is the proposed funding path and what funding is needed to support state conduct?
- What are the consequences if federal funding decreases, or costs rise, in the future?
- What state support can be requested during a ramp-up period?
- What options exist for states with hiring limitations?
- What is the final decision making process and timeline?

*** For more information, please see supplemental materials for ACCSP-MRIP Transition plan Jan 2014. (document name: STATE CONDUCT OF MRIP APAIS - Transition Planning Commissioner wksp.docx)

STATE CONDUCT OF MRIP APAIS

--- TRANSITION PLAN --- January 14, 2014 ---

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Recreational catch information is derived through an Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS) that is part of the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP). At present, APAIS is administered by the NOAA Fisheries and coordinated by a contractor. State involvement varies along the Atlantic seaboard. In October 2013, The ACCSP Coordinating Council supported the development of a transition plan towards a cooperative agreement between the NOAA FISHERIES and ASMFC/ACCSP (hybrid option) for the state conduct of the MRIP APAIS. NOAA Fisheries would retain primary responsibility for survey design, catch and effort estimation, and public data dissemination. ASMFC/ACCSP would act as the central coordinator of the APAIS, including tasks of data entry, compilation, quality control checks & edits, and formatting for delivery to NOAA FISHERIES. States may participate in field data collection tasks at their individual level of preference, following the surveys standard data collection protocols. This agreement will replace the current NOAA FISHERIES-contract company arrangement for data collection and will supply the catch data needed to produce catch, effort, and landings estimates of the marine recreational fisheries of the Atlantic Coast (i.e. there will not be an overlapping benchmark data collection period). After the implementation date of the Cooperative Agreement, the ASMFC/ACCSP will be responsible for all MRIP APAIS data collections on the Atlantic Coast as described in the agreement. Successful transition of MRIP APAIS survey conduct must maintain or improve data quality.

Several options for administration of the APAIS survey were developed, with a goal of moving toward option 4 where all states perform the field survey with agency staff. At this time only two states have noted the need for additional staffing support via options 2-3. This document includes draft roles, responsibilities, tasks and timelines for review and direction by the ACCSP Operations Committee.

Based on the identified steps and time to develop the appropriate agreements, staffing capabilities, and training, a timeline was developed for survey transition on January 1, 2016. Work shall continue to develop the Cooperative Agreement statement of work, state selection of options and budgets. A draft timeline is:

- Jan-May 2014: Development of state implementation plans and Cooperative Agreement Statement of work (agreement by states on portions of survey to conduct, supervisory models, budget items, etc)
- June 2014: Draft State Budgets and implementation plans due to ASMFC/ACCSP. Initiate approval of Cooperative Agreement between NOAA FISHERIES-ASMFC with statement of work and budget. (5 months)
- Oct-Nov 2014: Finalize Cooperative Agreement between NOAA FISHERIES-ASMFC with statement of work.
- Jan-Mar 2015: Final state budgets due to ASMFC, grant package to NOAA Fisheries (processing ~3 months)
- Jul-Dec 2015: Transition preparation by ASMFC, ACCSP, and States
- Jan 2016: ASMFC/ACCSP begins responsibility for recreational data collection Maine through Georgia.

ACTIONS from Recreational Technical Committee (RTC) to ACCSP Operations Committee (OPS) Jan 21, 2014:

The RTC recommend the states reconfirm the selection of preferred administrative option (page 4).

The RTC recommends to the Operations Committee that the ASMFC, ACCSP, and MRIP and the states approve of the direction and timelines noted in the transition planning document, and initiate development of a cooperative agreement with ASMFC for implementation of the MRIP APAIS with ASMFC/ACCSP as the central coordinator for the Atlantic Coast from Maine to Georgia with data collection beginning January 1 2016.

INTRODUCTION: This document is intended to outline and develop the options for transferring the conduct of the MRIP APAIS from a direct MRIP Contract to a Cooperative Agreement between NOAA Fisheries and the ASMFC/ACCSP. Specifically this document should identify the tasks, responsibilities, costs, and timelines necessary to accomplish the transition in an efficient way, minimizing any negative impacts on data collection, with a goal of implementing the transition on January 1, 2016.

A high level of input and coordination are expected among MRIP, ASMFC, ACCSP, and State personnel. Supporting information for each state's preferred implementation option will need to be drafted by the states. Each agency will need to develop internal plans for actual costs, survey supervisory staff, field staff roles and responsibilities. This information will be critical to help MRIP, ASMFC and ACCSP determine the chances of success and appropriate timeline to transition to a new model of state conduct of MRIP APAIS. As these developments occur, proper contingencies for survey implementation and long term funding should be developed (possibly through the funding process). All timelines, tasks, and costs are preliminary and open to revision. Please consider this a collective starting point for discussions and topics requiring additional details. As background information is gathered and preferred options are recommended, Agency directors are expected to select the final transition parameters in consultations with ACCSP, ASMFC, and NOAA Fisheries staff.

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Goals of State Conduct of MRIP APAIS

- Build more cooperative ownership of recreational data and data collection program
- Support field data collection via state staff with vested interest in fisheries
- Maximize data quality and efficiency of data collection
- Maximize angler participation and minimize refusal rates
- Successful transition must maintain or improve data quality

Major Tasks, Responsibilities (Timeline in Appendix E):

MRIP / ASMFC / ACCSP

- Approval of concept, development of transition plan and administrative options for Atlantic States
- ASMFC/ACCSP/MRIP Coordinate options for agency roles, responsibilities and funding vehicles
- Recommend Timeline – consider January 1, 2016 for transition to state conduct
- Clarify options for funding & supervisory structure with expected state enrollment, including state conduct of FHS effort survey option (3 states currently conduct FHS effort).
- Determine logistics, budget and administration costs for central staff (ASMFC/ACCSP)
- Identify or develop performance measures for improved data
- Identify or develop process to modify base sample size/allocation
- IDENTIFY RISKS and contingencies to funding and state implementation
- Identify or develop process for additional state assignments, including central processing costs for data collected from assignments levels above base.
- Identify or develop training programs for supervisors and field staff
- ASMFC/ACCSP/MRIP – Define and execute Cooperative Agreement
- Set special survey conduct requirements and draft state implementation plans
- Consider options for Large Pelagics Survey (LPS) as methodology under review. MRIP/ASMFC/ACCSP acknowledges the need for further discussion of potentially including the LPS in terms of increased state conduct, but do not wish to include it in development of the 2016 options at this time

States (via RecTech Committee)

- Recommend Timeline – January 1, 2016 for transition to state conduct
- Clarify options for per-state staffing participation level (full, supervisors only, none) and compile states election into each participation level.
- Provide input on ASMFC, ACCSP, States, MRIP APAIS survey Roles and Responsibilities
- Provide input on FHS effort survey state conduct enrollment (which states want to conduct this?)
- Determine and provide actual state costs to perform base sampling (APAIS, HB, FHS validations, FHS effort).
- Recommend sample allocation level (transition base sampling at wave/mode or alternate options/needs). If different from historical base, a state's request to alter sample allocation would need to be justified. Those sample allocations could be evaluated when the MRIP PSE project and allocation models are completed.

Administration Alternatives (States identify interim transition and long-term)

A phased approach is possible under a cooperative agreement. While transition to central coordination should be on one date, a state may develop from option 2 through option 4 over time.

OPTION 1 (Status Quo): NOAA FISHERIES procures a vendor to conduct field data collection tasks of APAIS. Vendor acts as central data coordinator for Maine through Georgia. Some states sub-contract to conduct survey with state personnel. State compensation determined by vendor-state sub-contract negotiation. Contractor directly performs field survey for some states, and is responsible to NOAA FISHERIES for all data collected within the contract scope (2014: ME to GA and PR).

OPTION 2: Cooperative Agreement between NOAA FISHERIES-ASMFC. ASMFC/ACCSP is the survey administrator and central data collection coordinator for Maine through Georgia. Some states directly perform field survey funded through ASMFC statement of work. State compensation negotiated annually. Field data collection in some states accomplished via ASMFC/ACCSP procurement of an experienced contractor. This option would prevent defaulting to Option 1 (status quo) if all states cannot commit to the preferred option 4. The duration of the transition period would be negotiated among all parties.

OPTION 3: Cooperative Agreement between NOAA FISHERIES-ASMFC. ASMFC/ACCSP is the survey administrator and central data collection coordinator for Maine through Georgia. Some states directly perform field survey funded through ASMFC statement of work. Some states provide office space for supervisors and field staff hired by ASMFC/ACCSP. Remaining states hire state supervisors to actively run the field survey in their state. ASMFC/ACCSP hires field staff, housed and supervised locally within the state to accomplish data collection. State compensation negotiated annually.

OPTION 4: Cooperative Agreement between NOAA FISHERIES-ASMFC. ASMFC/ACCSP is the survey administrator and central data collection coordinator for Maine through Georgia. ALL states directly perform field survey with state supervisory and field staff funded through ASMFC statement of work. State compensation negotiated annually. This is the long term preferred option (GULFIN model)

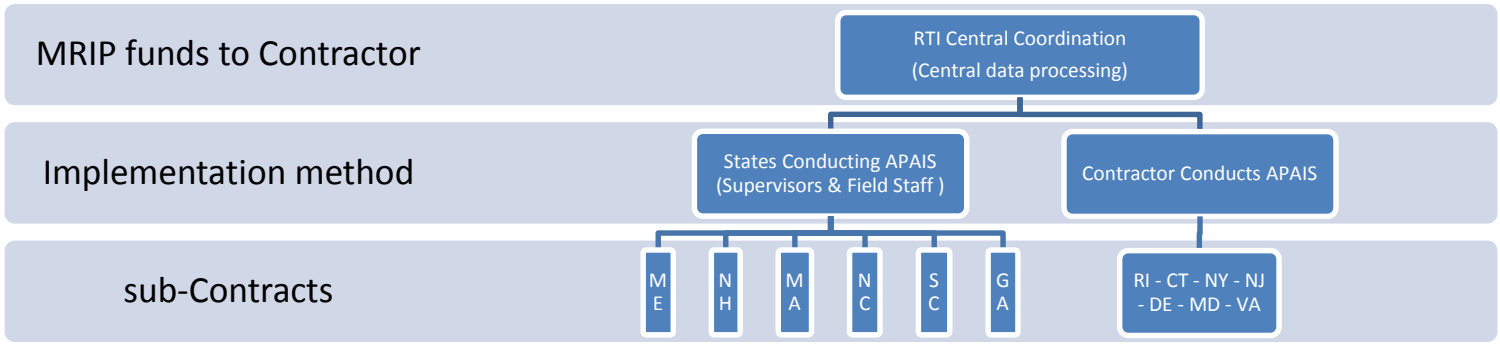
State Supervisory / Field Staffing Commitment Models.

X = model for 2015 based on 2012 State Directors Questionnaire. Green = state intent for budget planning based on December 2013 RTC conference call.

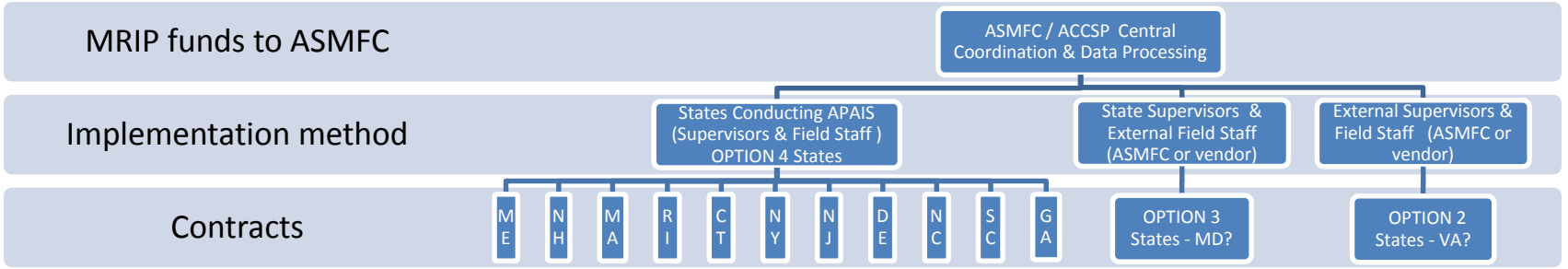
State	OPTION 4: State Supervisors and Field Staff (PREFERRED)	OPTION 3: State Supervisors with ASMFC/Contractor Field Staff	OPTION 2: ASMFC/Contractor Supervisors and Field Staff (least preferred)
ME	X - 2013 Activity Level		
NH	X - 2013 Activity Level		
MA	X - 2013 Activity Level		
RI	X - (based on survey)		2013 Activity Level
CT	X – Dec 2013 intention		2013 Activity Level
NY	X - (based on survey)		2013 Activity Level
NJ	X - (based on survey)		2013 Activity Level
DE	X – Dec 2013 intention	X - (based on survey)	2013 Activity Level
MD	X – Possible	X - (based on survey), INTERIM OPTION	2013 Activity Level
VA		X - (based on survey), Ck w/Director	2013 Activity Level, INTERIM OPTION
NC	X - 2013 Activity Level		
SC	X - 2013 Activity Level		
GA	X - 2013 Activity Level		

Funding and Supervisory Flow (relates to Administrative Options above):

Current funding Model (2013) – Administrative Option 1



Proposed model (2016): Administrative options 2, 3, 4 (with state participation identified)



NOTES:

- **Implementation method provides options for supervisory flow**
- **Proposed Contracts options identify states primary preference as indicated in December 2013 ACCSP RTC conference call**
- **States shall develop internal plans for desired supervisory structure and costs to conduct MRIP APAIS sampling**

PROPOSED Roles and Responsibilities: (needs agreement by all parties)

The MRIP Program consists of at least 3 major surveys: the intercept survey (APAIS) discussed here for state conduct, the Private boat / Shore angler effort survey (CHTS), and the For-Hire effort Survey (FHS). For Maine through Georgia, the roles and responsibilities are defined as the following:

Agency level Roles and Responsibilities:

NOAA Fisheries / MRIP

- Lead design of the survey(s) and protocols
- Maintain consolidated registries for anglers, sites, and vessels
- Perform central calculation of estimates, store and present data to the public
- Within Cooperative Agreement statement of work, direct funding to ASMFC for Recreational Data Collection Maine to Georgia

ASMFC/ACCSP

- Under Cooperative Agreement statement of work, coordinate recreational data collection Maine to Georgia, perform data processing and delivery to NOAA Fisheries.
- Execute sub-contracts & payments (to states & potentially contractor)
- Provide administration (hiring, pay, benefits, office space) to ASMFC/ACCSP staff, and to supervisors and field staff of states that request assistance.
- Operational contact for APAIS implementation
- Central coordinating body for Atlantic States (ME-GA)
- Perform data entry, QA/QC of intercept data
- Delivery of intercept data to NOAA Fisheries

STATE or Agent (State staffing of field survey variable, may include some contractor tasks)

- Develop budget for APAIS costs, with in-kind and requested support for actual implementation costs
- Contract with ASMFC for APAIS data collection tasks
- Provide office space, supervisory staff, field staff
- Manage staff assignments
- Procurement and storage of equipment
- Conduct data collection assignments according to MRIP Protocol
- Provide data to ASMFC/ACCSP for processing
- Participate in QA/QC of data

Survey / Staffing level Roles and Responsibilities

APAIS – Intercept Survey for Private-Rental Boat, Shore, Charter Boat, and Head Boat modes

- **NOAA Fisheries / MRIP**
    - Lead design of the survey(s) and protocols
    - Maintain intercept site registry web application, and perform site assignment draws
    - Perform central calculation of estimates, store and present the data to the public

- **ASMFC/ACCSP (central coordinator)**
    - Submits aggregate state add-ons to MRIP for site assignment draws
    - Receive site assignment draws from MRIP and distribute to States
    - Collects data forms from states and performs data entry
    - Performs data QA/QC (including fishdumps), and tracking of changes.
    - Submits data to NOAA Fisheries at schedule set by statement of work (currently monthly for data collection monitoring and QC, estimation by 2-month wave)
    - Tracking of assignment completion and field staff training/proficiency as necessary
    - Reimburse travel for state participation in data review meetings (1 person/state/meeting)
- **State Agency Personnel**
    - Provide add-on sample allocation requests to ACCSP for site assignment draws
    - Provide supervisors and field staff
    - Update data in Site Registry Web application
    - Data collection, initial QA/QC and submission to ACCSP
    - Participate in QA/QC (including fish-dumps) and data review meetings at schedule set by statement of work (currently 3 per year)
    - Training of samplers on procedures and fish identification
    - Provide For-Hire Vessel directory changes as identified by field staff
    - Conduct FHS prevalidation visits
- **Contractual Field Staff (where appropriate)**
    - Receive site assignments, collect and submit data to supervisor
    - Training of samplers on procedures and fish identification (shared for states using Agent)
    - Provide Vessel directory changes as identified by field staff
    - Conduct FHS prevalidation visits

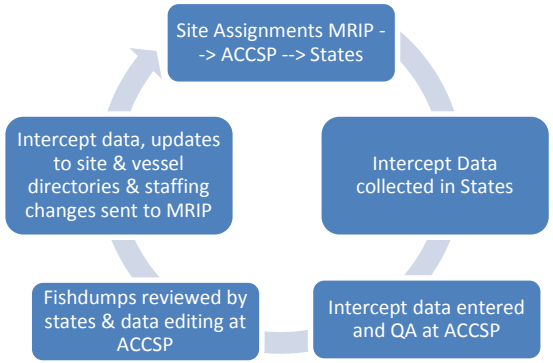
For Hire Effort Survey (FHS) – POSSIBLE CHANGE

- **NOAA Fisheries / MRIP**
    - Compile state vessel registries, Implement survey (via contractor, currently Quantech)
    - Calculate estimates, store and present the data to the public
- **ASMFC/ACCSP**
    - No role in design or implementation of the For-Hire survey
    - Provide secondary presentation of the effort estimate data
    - Direct funds to the states choosing to conduct FHS effort survey
- **State Personnel**
    - Conduct FHS effort survey (only those states choosing this)

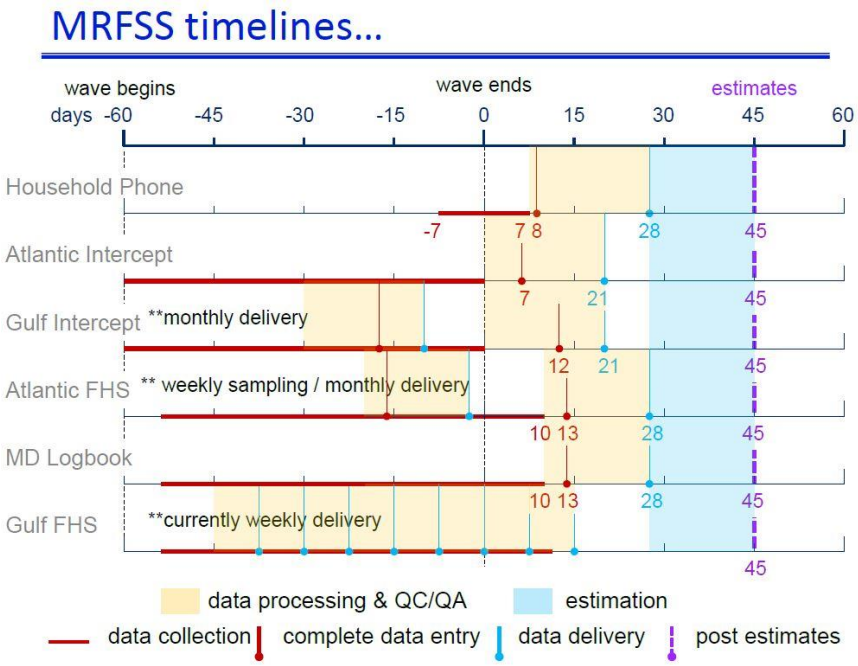
Private/Shore Angler Effort Survey - NO PLANS TO CHANGE ADMINISTRATION

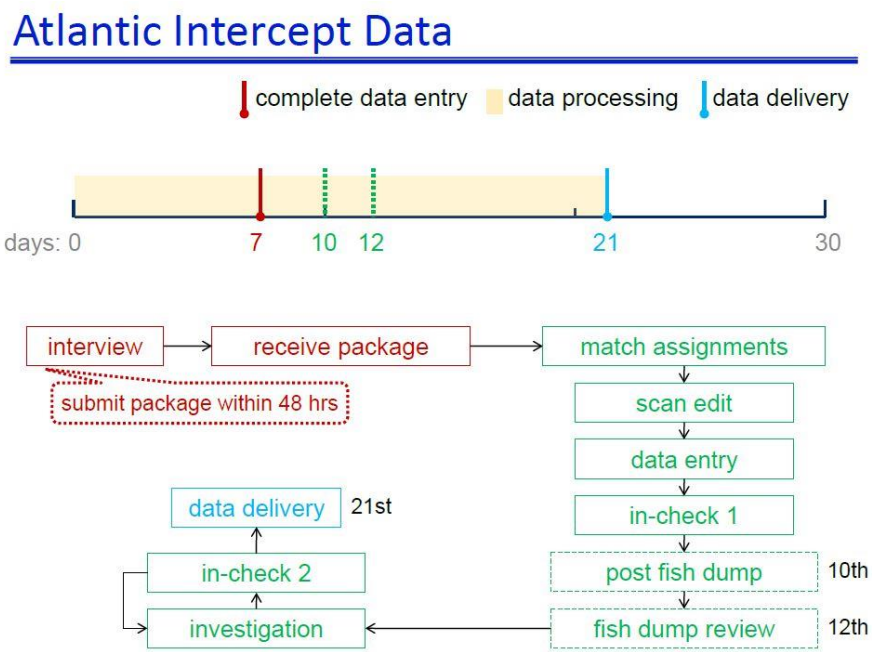
- **NOAA Fisheries / MRIP**
    - Compile state angler registries, implement Private boat / Shore angler survey (via vendor)
    - Calculate estimates, store and present the data to the public
- **State Personnel**
    - Maintain angler registry lists and submit to MRIP on appropriate timeline

APAIS Intercept Data Flow (by wave) and Data Collection Timelines:



- Generalized data flow diagram
- Details of deliverables in Cooperative Agreement statements
- Timelines below from Workshop Presentation, March 2011





COASTWIDE BASE SAMPLING LEVELS

NOTE TO RTC: Estimated annual base assignments by wave as provided by MRIP Nov2013. Base site-assignment values are expected to be shifted (among mode, wave, state) in future years, and adjusted for improved precision as needed and funds are available.

2013 NMFS BASE SAMPLE SIZE

NUMBER OF ASSIGNMENTS TO BE DRAWN AND COMPLETED

	SHORE MODE						CHARTER BOAT MODE						PRIVATE/RENTAL BOAT MODE						HEAD BOAT # BOAT-Trips to Samp				
	WAVE						WAVE						WAVE						WAVE				
STATE	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	2	3	4	5	6
CT		23	34	23	19	18		12	15	21	23	21		24	50	65	50	47	0	6	8	6	0
ME		0	25	35	14	0		0	14	24	15	0		0	29	49	31	0	0	4	8	4	0
MA		26	54	40	33	32		11	20	29	34	32		37	108	113	86	80	0	12	20	12	0
NH		0	20	16	13	0		0	14	16	14	0		0	31	27	19	0	0	6	8	6	0
RI		24	32	25	21	20		14	14	21	18	17		20	38	44	37	35	0	8	12	8	0
DE		20	30	20	15	14		12	14	19	18	17		23	41	42	35	33	4	8	10	8	4
MD		33	45	35	25	23		16	20	29	27	27		48	93	97	82	77	4	10	14	10	4
NJ		52	68	53	40	37		15	24	38	38	36		51	149	160	143	134	6	14	16	14	6
NY		30	55	44	33	31		14	27	37	37	34		46	154	120	124	116	6	12	14	12	6
VA		30	41	29	25	23		12	14	23	27	25		53	133	96	73	68	4	8	10	8	4
GA		20	22	16	14	13		8	8	16	15	13		26	28	31	26	25	0	0	0	0	0
SC		22	33	21	18	17		12	13	20	17	17		33	48	41	35	32	4	6	8	6	4
NC-BB	20	26	39	41	35	42	10	12	15	18	11	11	30	34	76	83	57	59	8	14	16	10	8
NC-MM	25	26	44	40	31	14																	
TOTAL	45	332	542	438	336	284	10	138	212	311	294	250	30	395	978	968	798	706	36	108	144	104	36

NOTES: After the base sampling levels are set the discussion can be held on adjustments to sample size base or add-on levels.

APPENDIX A: GSMFC/MRIP Cooperative Agreement Statement of Work

Removed for document length, available upon request

APPENDIX B: ASMFC/ACCSP State conduct of MRIP APAIS costs

ASMFC/ACCSP shall identify the costs associated with transition to, and ongoing activities of central coordinating body for MRIP APAIS. Costs shall include staffing, planning, equipment, and data processing.

Goal Date: Jan 1, 2016 Funds needed: June 1, 2015

- Logistics of central staff (ASMFC/ACCSP)
  - ASMFC Grants admin: Manages cooperative agreement, state grants, and field staff hiring.
  - ASMFC/ACCSP Director (**x**% in kind): manages personnel, oversees the budgets and statements of work for each state, and participates in the MRIP management process
  - ACCSP SysAdmin (**x** % in kind): maintain servers, scanners, workstations
  - Recreational Program Manager (1): manages converting paper field sheets to electronic data, responsible for QA/QC of electronic data, provides clean data to NOAA Fisheries, signs off on subcontract deliverables (from states and contractors)
  - Recreational Survey coordinator(s): ensure daily aspects of survey run properly. 6-7 states per person
  - Recreational Data Acquisition/analyst(1): runs ICR scanner to convert paper field sheets to electronic data, performs initial validation, and raises issues to the program manager

APPENDIX C: Template for State Conduct Actual Costs

States shall develop budgets associated with the state conduct of the MRIP APAIS survey. Budgets shall cover actual costs, identifying transition and ongoing costs, as well as in-kind and requested support for survey implementation costs. Costs for field sampling of APAIS by mode, For-Hire validations and For-Hire effort survey conduct shall be included as separate items. These costs should represent base sampling levels (number of NOAA FISHERIES supported site-assignments in 2013/2014) and include number of supervisory staff, field staff, sample costs and in-kind contributions.

It is recognized that initial cost projections will need to be modified as sample sizes, agency roles, and staffing tasks are adjusted. However, identification of relative costs associated with major survey tasks to include implementation model, staffing levels, and budget needs will be necessary to provide realistic implementation plans to Agency Directors. Timelines for state hiring / ramp up should be included where necessary.

APPENDIX D: SUBCONTRACT STATEMENT OF WORK (Draft Template)

APPENDIX E: Timeline Requirements

State Conduct of MRIP – Transition Timeline Requirements (For 2016 Implementation….)

The draft timeline is presented to inform the discussion of the necessary steps to complete a smooth and accurate transition of MRIP APAIS survey conduct. Successful transition must maintain or improve data quality.

- Oct-Dec 2013 – ACCSP Coordinating Council Supports state conduct of MRIP APAIS, requests transition plan, ASMFC/ACCSP/MRIP Staff and RTC Chair/v-Chair develop initial draft of plan. RTC collects background information, modifies plan, provides options
- Jan/Feb 2014 – OPS & Coord. Council modifies transition plan & sends to ASMFC, ACCSP, MRIP for direction
- Jan-May 2014: Development of state implementation plans and Cooperative Agreement Statement of work (agreement by states on portions of survey to conduct, supervisory models, budget items, etc)
- June 2014: Draft State Budgets and implementation plans due to ASMFC/ACCSP. Initiate approval of Cooperative Agreement between NOAA FISHERIES-ASMFC with statement of work and budget. (5 months)
- Oct-Nov 2014: Finalize Cooperative Agreement between NOAA FISHERIES-ASMFC with statement of work.
- Jan-Mar 2015: Final state budgets due to ASMFC. Grant Package to NOAA FISHERIES (processing 3 months)
- May-Jun 2015: Grant Completed, funds available to ASMFC, ASMFC begins Hiring of central staff, creation of State/Survey contracts, states have funds available to begin hiring process as necessary.
- Jul-Oct 2015: Acquisition of staff, equipment, training of state supervisors and field staff as appropriate.
- Oct-Dec 2015: Training data collection and processing for state and central data staff. State field staff participates in wave 6 survey for training(as necessary), ACCSP staff perform data entry/processing test runs. Sample Draws done for NC Wave 1 2016
- Jan-Feb 2016: State Conduct of APAIS begins. NC begins data collection, ACCSP begins production data processing. Sample Draws for Wave 2 2016 distributed MA to GA
- Mar 2016: MA to GA begin fielding survey, ACCSP data processing and delivery to NOAA FISHERIES
- May 2016 forward: ME and NH begin fielding survey, Ongoing – State conduct of MRIP APAIS with ASMFC/ACCSP data delivery to NOAA FISHERIES according to schedule identified in statement of work.