

SEABOB WORKING GROUP MINUTES

Date: July 8, 2020

Time: 09.14hrs

Chair: Randy Bumbury

In Attendance

Randy Bumbury - Chairperson

Saskia Tull Co-Chair SWG

Dawn Maison MSC Project Coordinator

Desha Husbands Fisheries Department

Mikhail Amsterdam Fisheries Department

Sopheia Edghill World Wildlife Fund Representative

Kadeem Jacobs Fisheries Department

Terrence Browne Fisheries Department

Corwin D'Anjou Fisheries Department

Brentnol Gibbs Pritipaul Singh Investments

Mahendra Ram Gopie Investment

Announcements

Matter Arising

No quorum for the last two meeting however some discussions were made by the technical committee that was pertinent to the SWG these include:

1. VMS- SASCO Company was identified to replace CLS to provide the services to the companies.
NHS had conducted tests on two different services.
Fisheries Department was written to seeking approval to use SASCO
No reply was forthcoming from the FD.

2. FD had requested that all companies submit their coordinates for vessels at sea since no data was being recorded. Gopie Investments Inc. and KB Enterprise were the errant companies.
3. The FD is to start collecting data on rays in the artisanal fishery.
4. Training for captains on observed and captured ETP species programme was submitted

Adoption of Minutes.

Minutes adopted by D. Maison

Seconded by D. Husbands

Discussion

A. Marine Stewardship Council Certification First Audit

- The first audit was complete virtually.
- Conditions 1 & 6 are now completed
- Conditions 2-5 are on target. Implementation should begin soon this was affected by COVID 19 pandemic.
- An additional condition was added because of the VMS not functioning.
- Letter sent from FD to GATOSP on the requirements for the new VMS system
- Recommendation 5 was also added which is an external review of the stock assessment done of the seabob fishery by an expert. CRFM to provide an external review to assist the FD with theirs
- Recommendations 1-4 needs to be implemented
- Next audit February 2021
- New client action plan to be submitted by July 14, 2020

B. CRFM-CSWG e-meeting

Three reports need to be submitted to CRFM by July 20, 2020

- I. HCR implementation strategy- Kadeem Jacobs
- II. Research and Development Plan- Mrs. Spellen and Staff
- III. Management Implementation Review Report. An extension of the deadline was requested for this report since a consultant had to be employed. CERMES was contracted by FAO to complete this task. Ms Kadesha Nedd is the focal point on this project.

C. HCR Implementation Meeting with GATOSP

- The HCR for 2020 has been completed and has been presented to GATOSP shortly.
- Days at sea was a concern for some members of GATOSP
- Nominal days instead of standardized days at sea will be used.
- Quarterly reaction to the HCR instead of annual
- Since the FD is for the first time is responsible for the closed season NHS raised concerns about their staff since the staff have union representation. FD to meet with the Labour Department so as to relieve NHS of further obligation.
- FD to meet GATOSP on the analysis of the HCR.

D. Closed Season

- Closed Season has been scheduled for August 2, 2020 for a duration of 8 weeks.
- Department of Fisheries to have 2 projects for the closed season. One which is the impacts on the use of sledge on the trawl.
- Letter to the industry on the closed season to be sent shortly.

E. Fathom Line remapping

NHS to submit coordinates to FD for MARAD so that they can proceed with the remapping process.

Reports

1. VMS Surveillance

- January - March- 10 activities were carried out
- 13 CCTV inspections were carried out at PSI and NHS. GII and KB Enterprises not done because of no equipment. *(Please see report attached)*

2. CPUE

Observed CPUE- 914kg *(Report Attached)*

3. Observer Programme and Last Haul

Three trips were completed for the year. No last haul for the year. *(Report attached)*

4. ETP

Problems with the observed and caught species are reoccurring. Training will be conducted during the closed season for captains at company level.

Any other business

- Reduction in vessels- the technical committee to prepare a proposal for the FD for the reduction of vessels in the fishery for sustainability measures.
- Participation by the industry at SWG meetings has been poor.
- Decision has been made to return to monthly meeting which will be held on the last Thursday of every month. Commencing in August.
- The new Chair for SWG is Mrs. Desha Husbands
- Mr.Randy Bumbury is proceeding on study leave. The SWG wished him much success and thanked him for a job well done.
- Mrs. Spellen was welcomed to the new position

Next Meeting

27 August 2020 | 09.00 hrs. To be announced

