

AKFIN Advisory Committee Meeting

May 31, 2018

ADFG

eTablet Project: Gail Smith

tLandings was originally developed for the groundfish fisheries to help tenders report on landings data. One of the key requirements was to allow processors the ability to export their landings data for import to their own proprietary systems. ADFG recently rolled out a new version of the tLandings application on a table based platform. Another goal of the platform was to create a unified dataset that would support all of the partner agency. While the application was developed for groundfish, the biggest benefit is found in the salmon fisheries as there's about 200K salmon tickets completed in a year.

The new tLandings application allows for offline data entry, storing the data on a thumb drive and requires a new package with ruggedized tablet from Microsoft along with a storage device and printer.

COAR Historical Project: Melissa Loggy

ADFG is working to digitize the historical COAR reports back into the 1950's which requires scanning and performing a data entry process to capture the data in Excel. This data is being cross-referenced and ground-truthed against the fish tickets. The goal is to eventually load this to the database where it might be joined up to the present-day COAR data source.

There's an understanding that the COAR has changed quite a bit over the years and that all data will not be available in a standardized manner.

National Pacific Research Board (NPRB) Grant: Jen Shriver

ADFG received a grant from the NPRD to help in a data rescue effort for the Board of Fisheries documents and decisions, along with the Historic News Releases. The BOF docs have been mostly scanned and tagged and the news releases are in the process of being archived as well. The goal will be to get these uploaded to the ADF&G database and delivered publicly via SharePoint.

GIS Products: Sabrina Larsen

They are working through a process to standardize statistical areas and build a master layer that includes all of the historical references for statistical areas. For many years the COAR and fish ticket stat areas were internally defined and might move from year-to-year as geographic boundaries naturally changed. Alternately, regulatory areas do NOT change, so the goal was to create a file that would better place a historic statistical area into a regulatory area. With this, boundaries for these areas have been cleaned up

The new metadata includes information on where in the regulations the area definitions can be found. The Maps and GIS links are new to the F&G site. Rather than managers being able to arbitrarily change a statistical area for management purposes, now there's a process that requires the manager to go through a petition process that is reviewed and approved by the Board of Fish.

Science Lab: Kevin McNeel

Three age labs process approximately 10K paired structures annually. They have an automated QC process with ages that can be cross-referenced to other known groundfish weights and lengths.

Standards are based on the Committee of Age Reading Experts (CARE) determining the data integrity, estimating margins of error . Collaborating and sharing of age structures through the CARE group.

AKFIN

YODA, CG Projects: Bob Ryznar and Rob Ames

Demo of the enforcement application that allows enforcement officer to manage their incident data. AKFIN is working with NMFS OLE (Office of Law Enforcement) to integrate multiple sources to assist agents in identifying potential fishing violations. We currently scan for five violation types, with additional violations types in development. The app allows for data sources such as elandings, VMS and permit level data to be integrated to find potential violations that are difficult to identify manually. After initial identification, OLE officers investigate to determine if it was a violation and the appropriate action(s) to take.

AKFIN also provides an annual dataset to the coast guard in Silver Spring, which is used to assign personnel to do safety inspections.

Stock Assessment and Answers Demo: Rob Ames

AKFIN Answers is an online reporting tool that allows authorized users direct access to the AKFIN database from any location with internet access. The demo focused on the stock assessment dashboard, specifically how the dashboard initially included reports of fisheries dependent data to its evolution to include fisheries independent data. Fisheries independent data such as Longline survey, RACE data, and more recently the federal and state crab survey. Future work will focus on the development of a comprehensive metadata solution as well as the incorporation of additional fisheries independent data for a more complete one-stop-shop solution for stock assessors.

APEX and the AKFIN Data Infrastructure: Camille Kohler

APEX is an Oracle development platform used to build out some of the key pieces of AKFIN's data infrastructure to include importing database comments and metadata, managing user application logins, and monitoring APEX reporting activity. This will receive a facelift in the coming year as we look towards:

1. Extending report auditing to other reporting environments (i.e. Answers, ad hoc requests)
2. Improving communication with data users with regards to data status
3. Informing our data stewards of the reporting statistics for their datasets of interest

AKFIN is also working to broaden the range of both confidential and public APEX reports using this low-code development environment that allows us to generate reports in a quicker fashion and has fewer licensing restrictions than Oracle Answers.

APEX Public Reporting: Jean Lee

AKFIN is using Oracle's APEX reporting to develop public-facing reports with the goal of making non-confidential data more widely available in an accessible online format. Reports currently planned or in development include: Groundfish Economic SAFE data tables; annual groundfish specifications data; cooperative revenues to support determination of small entity status for RFA/IRFA analyses. Public reports may have different tiers of access: 1) full public access; or 2) guest login required. AKFIN is interested in working with agency partners to develop public-facing reports based on agency data.

Communities Working Group: Jean Lee

AKFIN has established a workgroup to further develop the AKFIN community profiling datasets, which report data on commercial, recreational, and subsistence fishing by community. The workgroup is currently comprised of AKFIN staff and staff from the AFSC Economics and Social Science Research Program but is open to any agency staff that would like to provide feedback on development. Please contact Jean Lee (jean.lee@noaa.gov) for details.

JIRA Issue Tracking: Jean Lee

AKFIN is currently developing an issue tracking system using the JIRA platform to track and resolve issues that arise in agency data sources. Data issues may be ad hoc in nature (e.g., errors identified by data users and passed on to AKFIN and agency staff) or system-generated, based on existing business rules. AKFIN data stewards are individuals from partner agencies who serve as primary points of contact for resolving issues in specific data sources. We hope to roll this application out in July 2018.

Pacific States E-Journal of Scientific Visualizations (PSESV): Ben Fissel (AFSC)

The [Pacific States E-journal of Scientific Visualizations \(PSESV\)](#), currently under development, provides a platform for publishing novel, peer-reviewed scientific visualizations of fisheries-related data relevant to the regions served by PSMFC. The journal is overseen by Ben Fissel and Steve Barbeaux (AFSC, editors in chief), with AKFIN staff providing technical guidance and support. The journal is currently soliciting articles for its first issue; contact Ben Fissel (ben.fissel@noaa.gov) if you are interested in submitting.

NPFMC Activity: Michael Fey

AKFIN continues to support NPFMC staff's analytical work. The scope of work has increased to include GIS. The maps are generated by PSMFC personnel with AKFIN staff serving as a liaison for staff. The data support provided has been extended to include IFQ documents that were previously supported by NMFS AKR.

The major change in support is the development of web applications to support the NPFMC. This is a new effort of support. There are two applications created; Research Priorities and Comments. The applications are supported by the Oracle database and AKFIN staff. There is also an initiative to house the council documents in the database. This would be a replacement to the Council's current Granicus software.

Currently IFQ reports are being developed for the AKFIN website. These reports are updates to the IFQ program review and provide some of the data that was previously published by NMFS RAM division in the report to the fleet.

NMFS

Change to CAS Discard Estimates: Cathy Tide

At the end of 2017 changes were made in the Catch Accounting System for discard estimates of selected species groups. Instead of estimating discards at the species group level, the estimates are now being made at the individual species level, similar to what was implemented previously for sharks. These changes have been applied to the 2010-current CAS data.

Incorporating Electronic Monitoring into CAS: Cathy Tide

A regulated EM program began in January 2018 for hook-and-line and pot gear with EM data from the hook-and-line vessels being incorporated into CAS. A number of fixed gear vessels have volunteered to be in the EM pool. If selected for EM coverage on a trip, the vessel operates with the EM system on. At the completion of the trip, the vessel sends the video storage device to NMFS. NMFS has worked with Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC) to review the video. Among other things (like data and image quality info and haul level information), the number, species, and disposition of fish – meaning retained or discarded – are determined.

This information is sent to the Observer Program where it is incorporated into their database. The Observer Program then passes the data to us along with their 'regular' observer data. CAS aggregates the EM hauls with similar characteristics (like where they were fishing, when they were fishing, what they were fishing for, etc.) and uses the species catch and composition data to calculate discard rates for the groundfish, PSC, and non-target species on EM reviewed hauls for the hook-and-line vessels.

Update to Catch Accounting System Model: Brian Lieb

The Catch Accounting System CAS is now modeled as a dimensional schema and has built-in versioning so that they can do multiple runs of the estimation process and run comparative analyses between them. With this dimensional model they're now running cross-dimensional analyses to identify trips as well as to improve their extrapolation processes.

Next Meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for May 30th, 2019 in Juneau.

General feedback

- *How can we help users navigate through the AKFIN data service?*
- *How can AKFIN better share:*
 - *Metadata*
 - *Overview of tools and capabilities*
 - *Overview of available reports and datasets*
- *How do people submit data to AKFIN for reporting?*
- *Do we need to establish a process for requesting new data be added to the AKFIN system?*
- *Should we do more sharing with the plan teams, marketing the ability to produce similar numbers is the best selling point?*
- *Could we do some basic communications with the plan teams or other members of our user community?*
- *Would we consider lunchtime talks at the science center?*

Attendees

Ben Fissel, AFSC
Bob Ryznar, AKFIN
Brian Garber-Yonts, AFSC
Brian Lieb, AKRO
Camille Kohler, neXus Data
Cara Rodgveller, ABL
Cathy Tide, AKRO
Craig Farrington, CFEC
Diana Evans, NPFMC
Gail Smith, ADFG
Jean Lee, AKFIN
Jennifer Shriver, ADFG
Kevin McNeel, ADFG

Larry Talley, AKRO
Lee Hulbert, ADFG
Marysia Szmkowiak, AFSC
Mellisa Loggy, ADFG
Michael Fey, AKFIN
Phil Witt, ADFG
Rachel Smith, ADFG
Rob Ames, AKFIN
Sabrina Larsen, ADFG
Sarah Marrinan, NPFMC
Scott Miller, AKRO
Jordan Watson, AFSC