Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting Update

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https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/recreational-fishing-data/southeast-hire-integrated-electronic-reporting-program

Dedicated website

- Frequently asked questions
- News and announcements
- Guides and tools
- Information for Gulf of Mexico
  - VMS Information
  - Important Forms
  - Validation Survey
- Information for South Atlantic
- Information for software vendors

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SEFHIER Implementation

Logbooks & Declarations
Jan 2021

Validation Survey
Oct 2021

VMS Positioning
March 2022
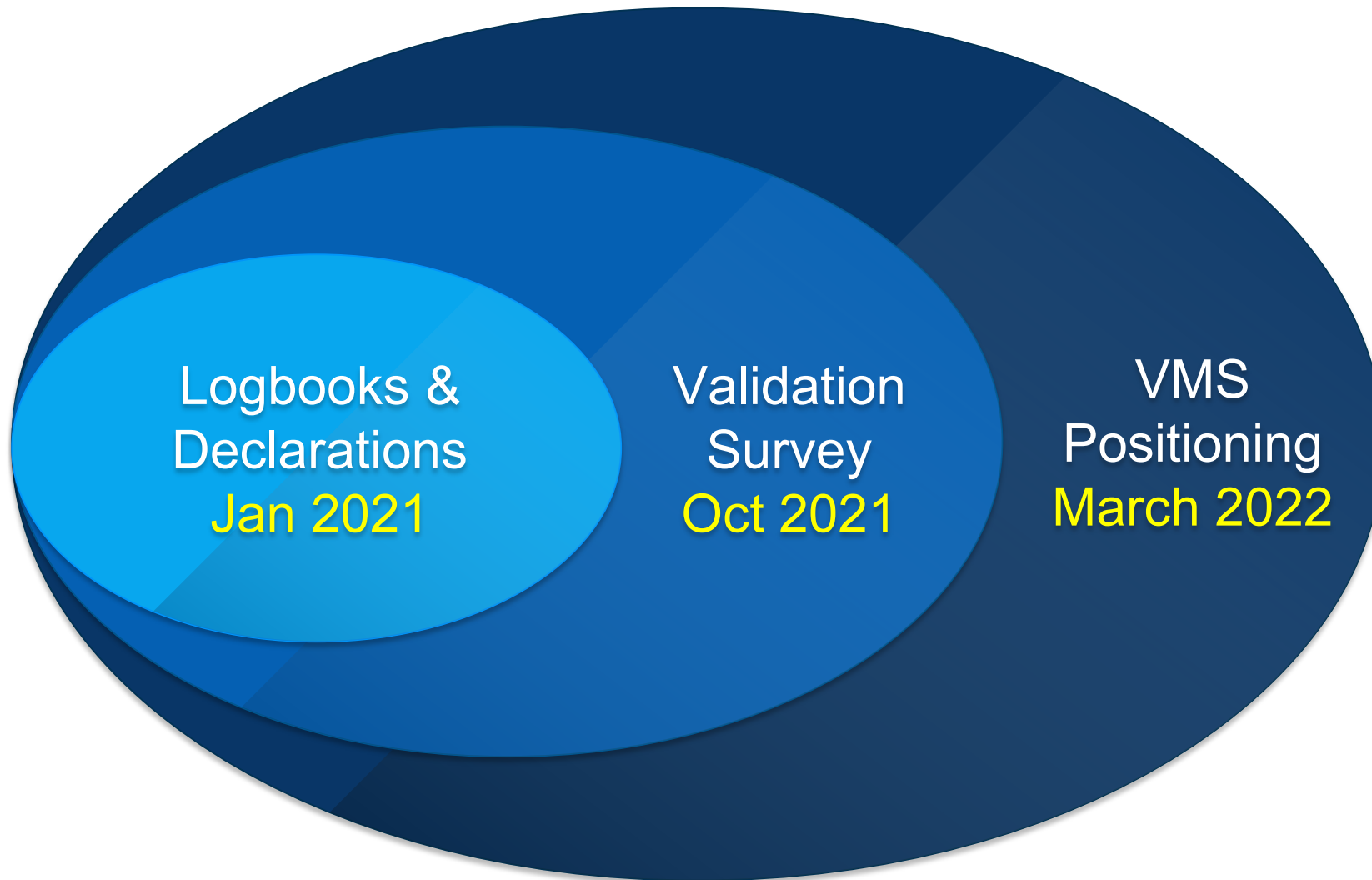
Gulf Program Compliance

61% VESL;
38% eTrips Mobile;
1% VMS

As of March 8:
171 dually permitted comm.
342 new installs
Many on order

Accounts may
have more than
one vessel

All regions:
Pending/missing logbooks;
Missing Declarations;
Customer Service

44,300 declarations

33,800 logbooks

513 VMS units installed

950 Accounts

~1310 permitted vessels

> 8000 calls

Compliance

Help Desk
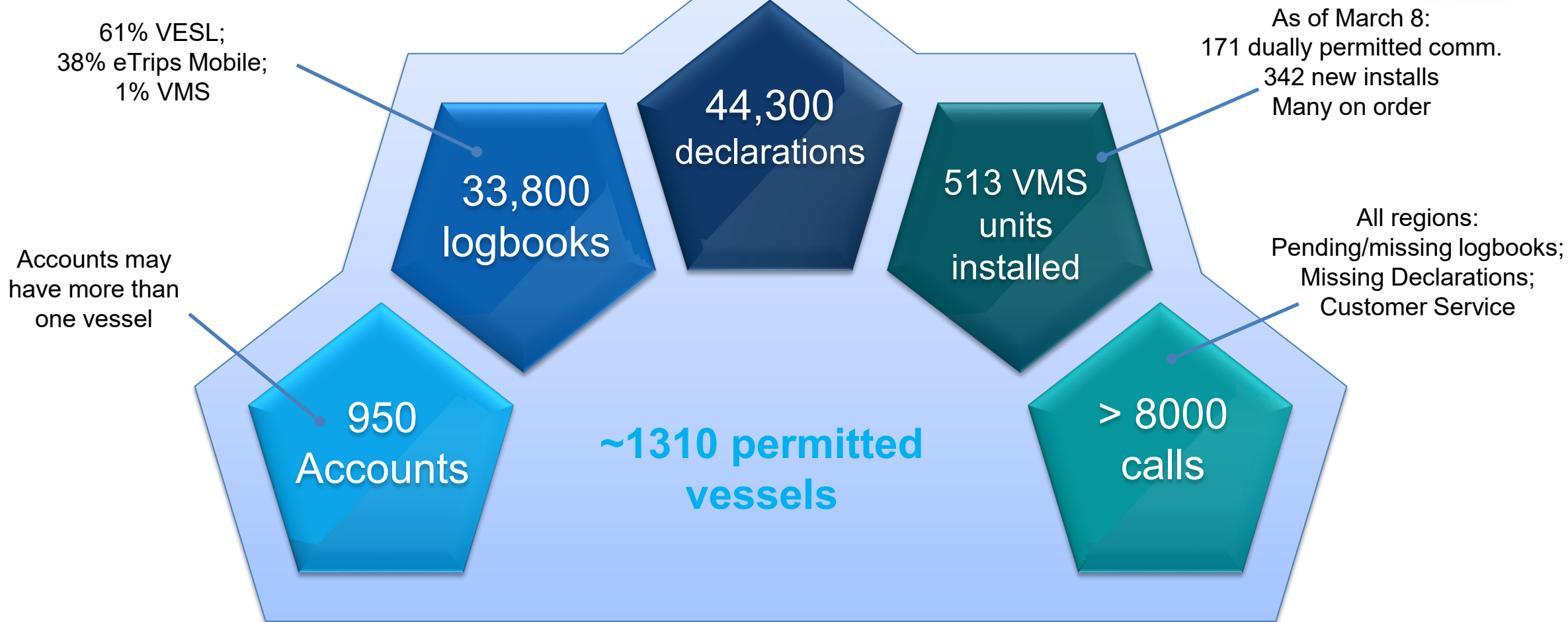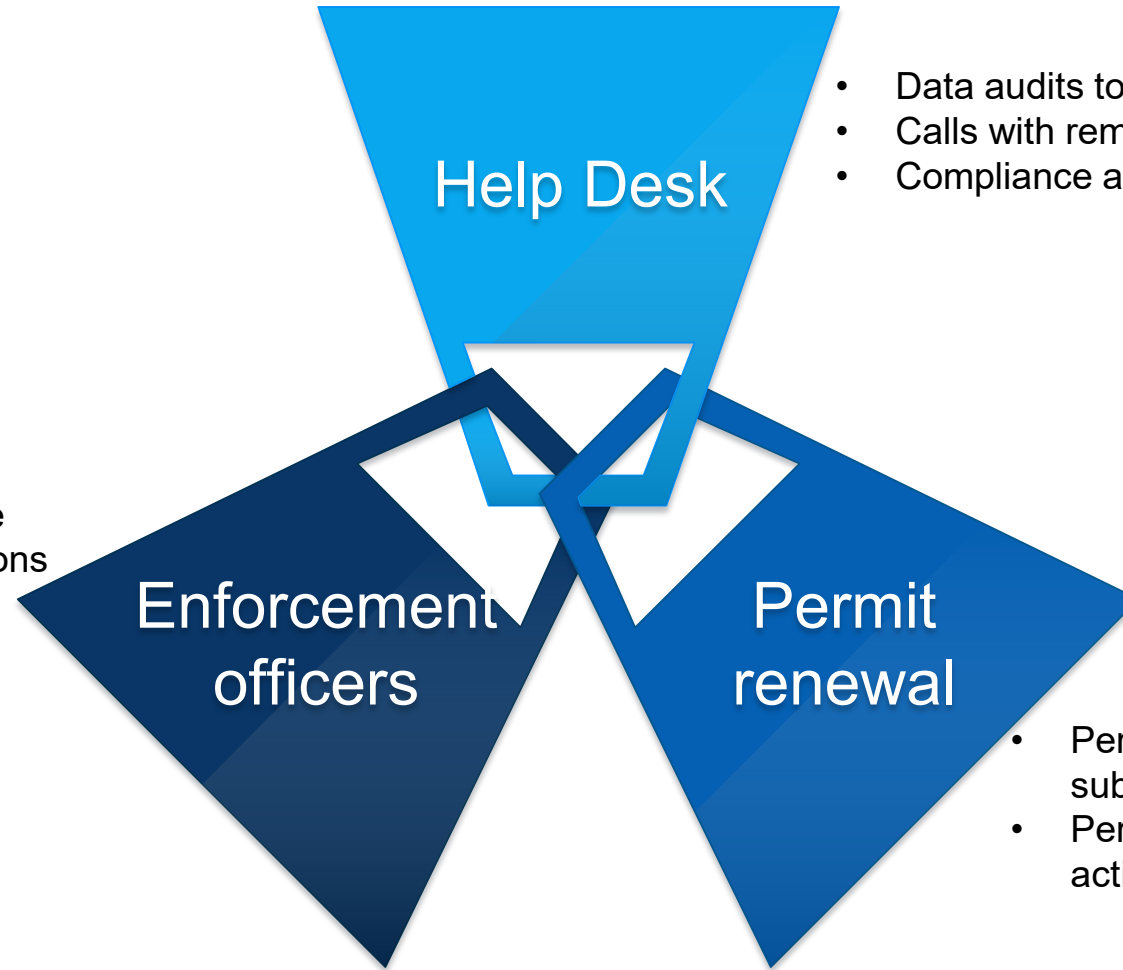
- Data audits to identify missing information
- Calls with reminders to submit information
- Compliance assistance for those with technical issues

- Compliance assistance
- Tickets and investigations

Enforcement officers

Permit renewal

- Permit renewal will require all logbook submissions
- Permit renewal will require activated VMS with active transmission or power-down exemption

Validation Intercept Survey

Year	Draw	Completed	Zero Interaction	Percentage Completed
2021 (Oct-Dec)	227	199	62	88%
2022	292	257	149	88%

- Draws used MRIP or state supplied sites to start
  - Known that draws may not be as representative for federal vessels
- Updating draw framework as we get more information from the program of actual landing sites
  - Some landing sites only accessible by water (islands with no bridge)
- Fishermen must answer validation survey if they hold a federal permit

Validation handout

Better Data, Better Fishing

You and your clients make it possible

For-hire captains, crew, and clients are important sources of recreational fishing data.

By providing data necessary for stock assessments and management actions, you are helping support the health and future of recreational fishing.

For-hire fishing in the Southeast supports:

- $1+ billion sales
- $340+ million income
- 10,500+ jobs

Source: NOAA Fisheries.

Recreational fisheries catch monitoring is typically based on two or more census and sampling surveys (see examples below). The gold standard is a complemented census and sampling survey design.

- An example of a **Census Survey** design is a mandatory logbook.
- An example of a **Complemented Sampling Survey** design is a telephone, access point, or dockside survey.
- An example of a **Complemented Census and Sampling Survey** design is a mandatory logbook census with access point or dockside surveys.

Complemented Census and Sampling survey designs estimate final landings using a Capture-Recapture statistical method. Logbooks represent the capture phase, and dockside surveys the recapture phase. This method accounts for unreported catch (e.g., catch from unreported trips, or misreported catch).

Photo: Amanda Nalley/FL FWC.

New Federal For-Hire Reporting Requirements

The **Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting Program** established more comprehensive reporting requirements for the Gulf region's federally permitted charter boats and modified reporting requirements for the region's federally permitted headboats. These requirements include declarations, logbooks (capture), approved landing locations, and intercept survey participation (recapture). This capture-recapture two-survey design ensures a robust method for recreational catch and effort monitoring.

What information is asked during the dockside intercept?

Vessel operators will be asked for information such as general location, hours fished, number of anglers, species and number kept and released, and if time allows, length and weight measurements.

How will the data be used together?

Trip-level reporting is expected to provide more accurate and reliable data, which will lead to improved management and monitoring of Gulf species. Trip-level data will be used along with the intercept survey to produce estimates of annual catch.
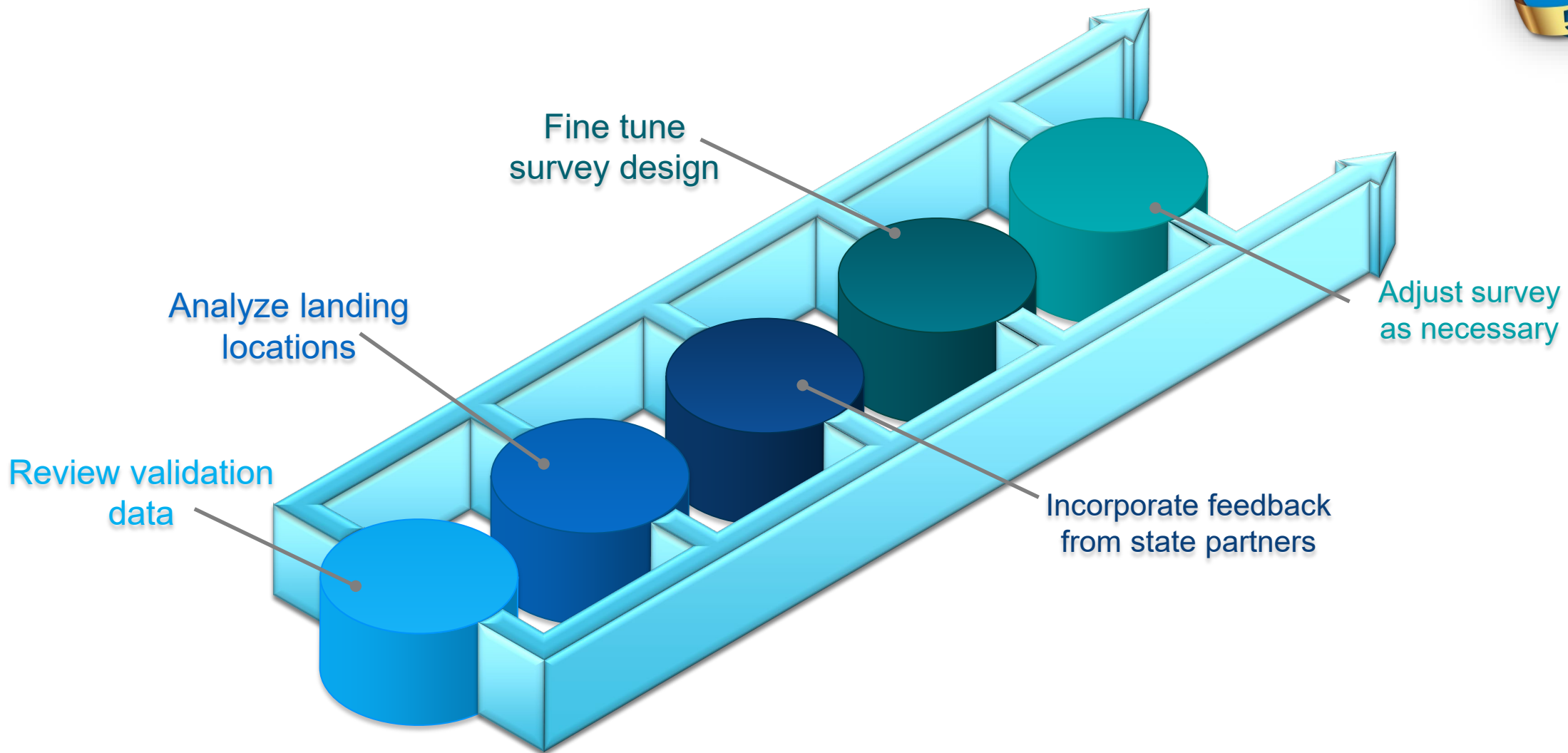
When will the data be used?

Once this program is certified and calibrated to existing data collection, the data may be used to estimate catch. Existing data collection methods will continue to be used for management until that time.

Why should I participate in multiple programs?

A new data collection system will usually result in different values than a past program due to design differences or changes in the fishery. Side-by-side comparisons of the two programs over multiple years are done to calibrate the programs to each other and ensure extreme events (e.g., hurricanes, pandemics, red tides) do not influence the conversion factor. With proper calibration, data from a new program can be used to produce accurate estimates of current catch, provide estimates of historical catch, make informed management decisions, and highlight the impact and importance of catch to coastal economies.

Validation Next Steps

Review validation data

Analyze landing locations

Fine tune survey design

Incorporate feedback from state partners

Adjust survey as necessary

Upcoming Changes to SEFHIER

Changes to when declarations needed

Streamline declarations for dual permit holders

Equipment Failure Exemption Amendment

Updated FAQs

VMS reimbursement fund analysis