



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Melvin Bell, Chair | Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Vice Chair
John T. Carmichael, Executive Director

AGENDA

Dolphin Wahoo Committee

Key West Marriot Beachside
Key West, FL

Thursday, June 16, 2022, 8:30 AM to 12:00 noon (Times are subject to change)

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the March 2022 Dolphin Wahoo Committee transcript

1. Status of Amendments under formal review – NMFS SERO
 - a. Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures: Amendment 10
 - b. **Committee Action:** The amendment was formally submitted to NMFS SERO on October 19, 2022 and related regulation changes went into effect May 2, 2022. No action is necessary from the Committee.
2. Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel Summary Meeting Report (*Attachments 1a and 1b*)
 - a. Summary report and AP input – Chris Burrows, AP Chair
 - b. **Committee Action:** Review AP input.
3. Modifications to the minimum size limit, recreational retention limits, and for-hire captain and crew bag limits for dolphin (DW Regulatory Amendment 3) (*Attachment 2*)
 - a. Overview – John Hadley
 - b. **Committee Action:** Provide guidance on the structure, general content, and timing of Regulatory Amendment 3.
4. Development of empirical Management Procedures (MPs) for dolphin (*Attachment 3*)
 - a. Presentation and overview – SEFSC
 - b. **Committee Action:** Provide guidance as appropriate.

Other Business

Adjourn

Committee Members

Kerry Marhefka, Chair
Carolyn Belcher

Spud Woodward, Vice Chair
Mel Bell

Rick Bellavance
Chris Conklin
Tim Griner
Dewey Hemilright
Trish Murphey
Andy Strelcheck

Chester Brewer
Lt. Robert Copeland
Judy Helmey
Jessica McCawley
Tom Roller
Laurilee Thompson

Attachment:

Attachment 1a: Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel (AP) Report – April 2022

Attachment 1b: Dolphin Fishery Performance Report – April 2022

Attachment 2: DW Regulatory Amendment 3 options paper on modifications to the minimum size limit, recreational retention limits, and for-hire captain and crew bag limits for dolphin

Attachment 3: Presentation on development of empirical management procedures (MPs) for dolphin

Staff Lead: John Hadley (john.hadley@safmc.net)

OVERVIEW

Dolphin Wahoo Committee

The Committee will approve the transcript from the March 2022 meeting and the agenda for the June 2022 meeting.

1. **Status of Amendments under Formal Review**

Description: NMFS SERO staff will update the Committee on the status of Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10 which revises the total ACL, sector allocations, sector ACLs, and recreational AMs for dolphin and wahoo. Amendment 10 also contains actions that will allow the retention of dolphin and wahoo when trap, pot, or buoy gear are onboard a vessel, remove the operator card requirement, and reduce the recreational vessel limit for dolphin from 60 fish to 54 fish. The amendment was submitted to NMFS on October 19, 2021 and regulations changes went into effect May 2, 2022.

Committee Action: None.

2. **Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel Summary Meeting Report (*Attachments 1a and 1b*)**

The Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel (AP) met on April 20-21, 2022 in Charleston, SC to discuss items pertaining to the Dolphin Wahoo fishery. The AP received updates on recent Council actions, development of Regulatory Amendment 3, and other relevant topics. In addition, the AP provided input to update a Fishery Performance Report on Dolphin. A summary report of the AP meeting and the AP's recommendations will be provided for the Committee's review.

Committee Action: Discuss and provide guidance as appropriate.

3. **Modifications to the minimum size limit, recreational retention limits, and reducing for-hire captain and crew bag limits for dolphin (DW Regulatory Amendment 3) (*Attachment 2*)**

Description: Per guidance received at the March 2022 Council meeting, this amendment will include measures that potentially extend the applicable range of the 20 inch fork length minimum size limit for dolphin, modify recreational retention limits for dolphin, and remove or reduce captain and crew bag limits for dolphin.

Council staff will review the Committee's previous guidance on draft options and preliminary analyses to help facilitate discussion of the Committee's plans for Regulatory Amendment 3.

Status of Amendment: The amendment was approved for scoping at the March 2022 but the Committee has not specified the timing of when scoping will occur.

Committee Action: Review the options paper, preliminary analyses, AP recommendations, and consider specifying when scoping should occur.

4. **Development of Empirical Management Procedures (MPs) for Dolphin (*Attachment 3*)**

Description: The Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) is planning to begin work on a management strategy evaluation (MSE) for the South Atlantic dolphin fishery. The goal of this project is to develop an index-based management procedure that may provide catch level and management advice that best achieves the multiple operational management objectives

of the fishery. SEFSC staff will brief the Committee on their research plan and ask for feedback on how the Council would like to be involved.

Committee Action: Provide feedback on the research plan and activities. Specifically the Committee will be asked:

1. How would the Council like to be involved in the dolphin MSE?
2. Would the Council like to formally appoint an MSE panel supporting this effort?
How will group members be equitably and representatively appointed?

Other Business