



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston SC 29405

Call: (843) 571-4366 | Toll-Free: (866) SAFMC-10 | Fax: (843) 769-4520 | Connect: www.safmc.net

Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Chair | Trish Murphey, Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

AGENDA

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Advisory Panel Meeting

Town and Country
2008 Savannah Hwy
Charleston, SC 29407

Other than the starting and ending times of the meeting, times indicated on the agenda are approximate, and the order of business may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that discussions may start earlier or later than indicated.

Public comment will be solicited at the beginning and at the end of the meeting. Those wishing to comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will then recognize individuals to provide comment.

Tuesday, November 1, 2022 – 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Agenda – Cindy Cooksey

Approval of November 2021 AP Transcript – Cindy Cooksey

Update on Coral Amendment 10 Disapproval - Roger Pugliese

1. NOAA Fisheries HCD EFH Consultation Update

- a. SE Consultation Updates – Large Scale Infrastructure (*Attachment 1*) – Pace Wilber, NOAA Fisheries HCD
- b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Cindy Cooksey

2. NOAA Fisheries EFH 5 Year Review

- a. Considerations and responsibilities in an EFH 5 Year Review – David Dale, Pace Wilber and Cindy Cooksey, NOAA Fisheries HCD
- b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Cindy Cooksey

3. EFH Policy Statement on Beach Dredging and Filling, Beach Renourishment and Large-Scale Coastal Engineering

- a. Review revised draft policy statement (*Attachment 3*) - Cindy Cooksey
- b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations on Policy Update – Cindy Cooksey

Wednesday, November 2, 2022 9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Day 2 Overview - Cindy Cooksey, NOAA HCD

4. BOEM Offshore Wind Activities in South Atlantic Region (*Attachments 4a-4c*)

- a. Update on BOEM Research and Energy Development Activities: Focus on Renewable Energy - Kitty Hawk Wind/ Avangrid Renewables and Carolina Long Bay/ Duke Energy Renewables and Total Energies - Brian Hooker, BOEM, Spencer Hanes and Nathan Craig, Duke Energy, Jen Banks, Total Energies, and Amanda Mayhew, Avangrid
- b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Cindy Cooksey

Note: The presentation “Consideration of Underwater Sound During Offshore Wind Developments” – BOEM Center for Marine Acoustics- ([Dosits](#)) is provided as *Attachment 4d* and will be played during a break in the session, or at lunch.

5. EFH Policy Statement on Energy

- a. Overview of structure and components of Council Energy Policy (*Attachment 5*) – Roger Pugliese and Cindy Cooksey
- b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations on Initiating a Policy Update – Cindy Cooksey

6. Mapping/Characterization of South Atlantic Deep Water Ecosystems

- a. NOAA/BOEM/USGS/academia DEEP SEARCH collaboration on Mapping and Characterization of Deepwater Lophelia Reef Habitat on the Blake Plateau (*Attachments 6a-6c*) – Kasey Cantwell, Heather Coleman and Tom Hourigan
- b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Cindy Cooksey

7. East Coast Climate Scenario Planning Update

- a. Presentation on Scenario Planning Initiative (*Attachments 7a-7e*) – Roger Pugliese
- b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Cindy Cooksey

Thursday, November 3, 2022 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Day 3 Overview - Cindy Cooksey, NOAA HCD

8. Regional Research and Tools supporting EFH Conservation

- a. Status of the SAFMC Habitat Blueprint – Roger Pugliese and Myra Brouwer
- b. Regional Surveys and Tools:
 - a. Update on Regional Surveys and Enhancing the Capabilities of the SEAMAP-SA Biological Surveys Integrated into the SECOORA Data Portal (*Attachments 8a-8b*) – Kevin Spanik, SCDNR and Tracey Smart, SCDNR
- c. SAFMC Website and Tools – Roger Pugliese
- d. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Cindy Cooksey

- 9. Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Restoration Blueprint (*Attachments 9a-9e*)**
Presentation FKNMS Blueprint – Beth Dieveney, NOAA, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary
- a. Panel Member Recommendations – Cindy Cooksey

Other Business

Adjourn

Attachments:

1. NMFS Habitat Consultation Summary
3. SAFMC EFH Policy Statement on Beach Dredging and Filling, Beach Renourishment and Large-Scale Coastal Engineering
- 4a. BOEM Presentation on Renewable Energy Research and Development in the SA region. *
- 4b. Kitty Hawk Wind Area Background*
- 4c. Carolina Long Bay Background*
- 4d. Consideration of Underwater Sound During Offshore Wind Developments
5. SAFMC EFH Policy Statement on Energy Exploration and Development
- 6a. Presentation: Comprehensive Overview of Deep Sea Coral Research in the South Atlantic Region
- 6b. NOAA Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program Southeast Deep Coral Initiative (SEDCI) 2016-2019: Final Report
- 6c. DSC Report to Congress
- 7a. Presentation: East Coast Climate Scenario Planning Initiative
- 7b. Update on East Coast Scenario Planning Initiative for NRCC
- 7c. Climate Scenario Planning Scoping Summary
- 7d. Climate Scenario Planning Workshop Summary
- 7e. Climate Scenario Planning Draft Narratives
- 8a. Presentation: Regional Fishery Survey Summary
- 8b. SEAMAP/SECOORA Fishery Independent Survey Data Portal
- 9a. SAFMC Comments DEIS for FKNMS
- 9b. FKNMS Presentation on the Conservation Blueprint
- 9c. Proposed Rule FKNMS Conservation Blueprint
- 9d. FWC Presentation to SAFMC on FKNMS Proposed Rule
- 9e. SAFMC Request for Comment Extension.

*Note: Will be posted when available.

OVERVIEW

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel will approve minutes of November 2021 and agenda for the current meeting.

Tuesday November 1, 2022 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

Status of Amendments Under Development

Description: Roger Pugliese will provide members and update on the disapproval of Coral Amendment 10 and subsequent Council action.

1. NOAA Fisheries HCD EFH Consultation Update (*Attachment 1*)

Description: Pace Wilber, NOAA Fisheries HCD will provide an update on Southeast EFH Consultation activities focused on large scale infrastructure. This will provide AP members and the Council with a view of HCD activities and a view of significant developing issues in the region of interest to the Council.

AP Action: Members comment on which areas may be a priority requiring additional engagement or possible input or guidance from the Council with input from the Panel.

2. NOAA Fisheries EFH 5 Year Review

Description: David Dale, Pace Wilber and Cindy Cooksey, NOAA Fisheries HCD will lead discussion on considerations and responsibilities in an EFH 5 Year Review and clarification on whether FEP II constitutes the last 5-Year Review.

AP Action: Members provide comments.

3. EFH Policy Statement on Beach Dredging and Filling, Beach Renourishment and Large-Scale Coastal Engineering (*Attachment 3*)

Description: Cindy Cooksey, NOAA Fisheries HCD, will review and highlight components of the updated Policy Statement developed through the collaboration of members of the Sub Committee.

AP Action: Review and recommend the updated Beach Dredge and Fill, Renourishment and Large-Scale Coastal Engineering Policy Statement be approved by the Council.

Wednesday November 2, 2022 9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Day 2 Overview - Cindy Cooksey, NOAA Fisheries HCD

4. BOEM Offshore Wind Activities in South Atlantic Region (*Attachments 4a-4c*)

Description: Brian Hooker, BOEM, will provide an update on BOEM research and energy development activities with a focus on renewable energy. Spencer Hanes and Nathan Craig, Duke Energy, and Jen Banks, Total Energies will provide an update on Carolina Long Bay

[Wind](#). A representative with Avangrid Renewables will subsequently provide an update on development of the Kitty Hawk Offshore [Wind](#).

AP Action: Members are asked to discuss the ongoing activities and highlight needed research or fisheries analyses needed to support future consideration of wind development in the region. Also, members are asked to comment on the how future efforts could minimize impact on essential fish habitat, associated fisheries and the value of providing new research platforms or fishing opportunity for Council managed species.

5. EFH Policy Statement on Energy (*Attachment 5*)

Description: Roger Pugliese and Cindy Cooksey will provide an overview of structure and components of Council Energy Policy.

AP Action: Considering the rapidly developing renewable wind/ energy in our region recommends the Council direct the panel to update and refinement of the EFH Policy Statement on Energy Exploration and Development.

6. Mapping/Characterization: South Atlantic Deep Water Ecosystems (*Attachments 6a-6c*)

Description: Kasey Cantwell, Heather Coleman and Tom Hourigan will provide an overview of the NOAA/BOEM/USGS/academia DEEP SEARCH collaboration on mapping and characterization of Deepwater Lophelia Reef Habitat on the Blake Plateau.

AP Action: Panel members provide comments on the research and mapping conducted in the South Atlantic region and recommendations additional research or avenues the Council may consider in the long-term conservation of these newly discovered deep-water Lophelia habitats.

7. East Coast Climate Scenario Planning Update (*Attachments 7a-7e*)

Description: Council staff will provide members an overview of the East Coast Climate Scenario Planning initiative and preliminary results of the scoping process.

AP Action: Provide input on how the efforts can advance our coordination, understanding and planning to address future conditions associated with climate change in the region and coastwide.

Thursday November 3, 2022

9:00 am – 12:00 noon

Day 3 Overview - Cindy Cooksey, NOAA Fisheries HCD

8. Regional Research and Tools Supporting EFH Conservation (*Attachments 8a-8b*)

Description: The Council had deferred habitat activities and work on the Blueprint due to schedule and Council priorities. Council staff is reinitiating review and discussion on the Blueprint. To support long term habitat and species information needs supporting the Council habitat conservation efforts, Kevin Spanik and Tracey Smart, SCDNR, will provide the Panel with updates on regional surveys and integration biological surveys into the developing SEAMAP-SA/SECOORA Data Portal. In addition, Council staff will provide a brief overview of the Habitat Section of the new website and available tools as well as an overview of the original structure of the FEP II Dashboard.

AP Action: Members are asked to consider input on the new Habitat page any refinements or modifications to the original FEP II Dashboard which is under review.

9. Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Restoration Blueprint (*Attachments 9a-9e*)

Description: Beth Dieveney, NOAA, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary will make a presentation to the Panel on the FKNMS Restoration Blueprint and the proposed rule supporting it. The Council met on Sept 21 and received a presentation and has requested extension to submit comments and will review draft comments in December 2022.

AP Action: Panel members are requested to provide comments and recommendations for Council consideration in preparing a Council comment on the FKNMS Blueprint.