



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Advisory Panel Meeting November 14-15, 2017 Florida FWRI, St. Petersburg, Florida

The Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Advisory Panel met November 14-15, 2017 at Florida FWRI in St. Petersburg, Florida. Issues addressed during the meeting included: Energy Development Activities in South Atlantic Region; SALCC Conservation Blueprint 2.2, Implementation Strategy and SECAS Update; Fishery Independent and Dependent Research Supporting EBFM; Draft FEP II Implementation Plan and Roadmap; Aligning Threats and Policies: Creation of a Threat Matrix; SAFMC FEP II Dashboard; Active Sessions for Member Access and Input on Dashboard, Tools and Systems supporting FEP II and Member Input on Documents and Products for FEP II; South Atlantic Ecosystem Modeling Workgroup Activities; and NOAA Fisheries Beaufort Lab Ecosystem Activities.

The Panel approved a revised agenda and minutes for the May 2017 Panel meeting.

Energy Development Activities in South Atlantic Region

Description: Brian Hooker, BOEM, provided an update on primarily BOEM research and Alternative Wind Energy activities in the Region.

Presentation:

http://safmc.net/download/Briefing%20Book%20HabitatEcosystemAP%20Nov%2017/Late%20Documents/1a_PresHookerBOEMUpdateforHabEcoAPNov17.pdf

SALCC Conservation Blueprint 2.2, Implementation Strategy and SECAS Update

Description: Rua Mordecai provided an overview of the SALCC Conservation Blueprint 2.2, Implementation Strategy and SECAS update.

Links: SALCC Conservation Blueprint 2.1: <http://www.southatlanticcc.org/blueprint/>

SECAS – <http://secassoutheast.org/about>, Blueprint - <http://secassoutheast.org/blueprint.html>

SALCC BP Implementation Strategy - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DwPFRsNQZKY>

Presentation:

http://safmc.net/download/Briefing%20Book%20HabitatEcosystemAP%20Nov%2017/Late%20Documents/2a_PresMordaciSALCC&SECASUpdateforHabEcoAPNov17.pdf

Fishery Independent and Dependent Research Supporting EBFM

Description: Marcel Reichert, SCDNR provided an update on regional fishery independent research. Roger Pugliese noted that fishery dependent needs are identified in the Council 2018-2022 research needs document provided as briefing material for the meeting.

Presentation:

[http://safmc.net/download/Briefing%20Book%20HabitatEcosystemAP%20Nov%2017/Late%20Documents/3a_PresReichertUpdate%20Fish%20Indep%20Surveys-Hab%20AP%20Nov%202017\(BB\).pdf](http://safmc.net/download/Briefing%20Book%20HabitatEcosystemAP%20Nov%2017/Late%20Documents/3a_PresReichertUpdate%20Fish%20Indep%20Surveys-Hab%20AP%20Nov%202017(BB).pdf)

Draft FEP II Implementation Plan and Roadmap

Review Draft FEP II Implementation Plan and development of two-year roadmap.

Description: Roger Pugliese provided an overview the FEP II Implementation Plan and request to the Panel to identify priorities for actions presented in the Plan to be accomplished in the next two years.

Members provided input during the active sessions on the Implementation Plan while identifying priorities for the next two-years.

Aligning Threats and Policies: Creation of a Threat Matrix

Description: Cindy Cooksey discussed developing a Threat Matrix based on Council Policies for incorporation into the FEP II Dashboard. Panel members provided input on items for the Matrix during the Active Session.

Presentation:

http://safmc.net/download/Briefing%20Book%20HabitatEcosystemAP%20Nov%2017/Late%20Documents/6a_PresCooksey%20Aligning%20Threats%20and%20Policies_Nov2017.pdf

SAFMC FEP II Dashboard

Description: Roger Pugliese reviewed the structure of the comprehensive SAFMC FEP II Dashboard including documents, links and tools. The Dashboard is now accessible directly through the reconstructed Habitat Conservation Fishery Ecosystem Plan II page on the Website.

(<http://safmc.net/fishery-ecosystem-plan-ii-introduction/>)

Members discussed the FEP II Dashboard and highlighting the value of having so much information easily accessible online. In addition members recommended State partners provide additional links to information on State managed species, habitats and fisheries for integration into the Dashboard.

Active Sessions

Member Access and Input on Dashboard, Tools and Systems supporting FEP II

Members used the FWRI lab to access through the FEP II Dashboard, the Ecospecies Species Information System and new online capabilities of the Habitat and Ecosystem Atlas and Dashboard including SA Fisheries the spatial presentation of fishery independent data.

Habitat and Ecosystem Atlas User Guide: <http://safmc.net/download/SAFMC-Atlas-Viewer-User-GuideNov17.pdf>

Ecospecies User Guide:

http://safmc.net/download/Briefing%20Book%20HabitatEcosystemAP%20Nov%2017/Late%20Documents/A15_EcoSpeciesWebUserManual_2017updates.pdf

Member Input on Documents and Products for FEP II

Members were provided guidance on further consolidation of Chapters 5-7 focus on Council actions and priority actions for the next two years. In addition, members also provided input on threats matrix and provided some preliminary input on the South Atlantic Mapping Strategy to be continued in the Spring 2018 meeting.

South Atlantic Ecosystem Modeling Workgroup Activities

Description: Roger Pugliese and Marcel Reichert, SCDNR provided a brief update on ecosystem modeling and the developing South Atlantic Ecopath/Ecosim/Ecopace model discussed during the October SSC meeting.

Presentations on Ecosystem Modeling made to SSC:

<http://safmc.net/download/OkeySAEcopathPresSSCOct17.pdf>

<http://safmc.net/download/TownsendEcoModelingPresSSCOct17.pdf>

NOAA Fisheries Beaufort Lab Ecosystem Activities

Description: Todd Kellison, NOAA Fisheries Beaufort Lab reviewed efforts underway to develop a South Atlantic Ecosystem Status Report and Multi-Species Production Modeling.

Presentation:

http://safmc.net/download/Briefing%20Book%20HabitatEcosystemAP%20Nov%2017/Late%20Documents/7a_PresKellisonBeaufortLabESR&multispeciesmodelingHabEcoAPNov17.pdf

Chairman Election

Description: Members nominated or identified individuals for Chair or Vice Chair of the Panel.

Members will be contacted by the outgoing Chair to confirm willingness to serve and elections will occur in advance of the Spring 2018 meeting. Members also discussed and agreed to established two-year terms.