

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL



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September 8, 2005

Dr. William Hogarth
Assistant Administrator
NOAA Fisheries
1315 East West Highway, SSMC3/14636
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Dr. Hogarth:

The South Atlantic Council, at the June 16-17, 2005 meeting in Cape Canaveral, Florida, approved a motion reiterating our interest in NOAA Fisheries (the National Marine Fisheries Service) pursuing opportunities as appropriate and as they arise to conserve *Sargassum* beyond the EEZ. This is consistent with our position presented in the approved South Atlantic Council Fishery Management Plan for Pelagic *Sargassum*:

International Protection of Sargassum and the Sargasso Sea: Because of the importance of the extra-jurisdictional pelagic Sargassum occurring in the Sargasso Sea outside the EEZ, the United States should pursue all other options under the Magnuson-Stevens Act and other laws to protect Sargassum in international waters.

Thank you for your attention to this request and please keep the Council informed of any opportunity that may arise or action taken to protect *Sargassum* outside the U.S. EEZ.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Louis Daniel III".

Dr. Louis Daniel III
Chairman

cc: Council Members and Staff
Dolphin Wahoo AP
Monica Smit-Brunello
Nancy Thompson and John Merriner