



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Jessica McCawley, Chair | Mel Bell, Vice Chair

Gregg T. Waugh, Executive Director

AGENDA

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Advisory Panel Meeting

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute
St. Petersburg, Florida**

October 22-24, 2019 (Times subject to change)

Tuesday, October 22, 2019 9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Approval of the Agenda – Anne Deaton, NC DMF

Approval of May 2019 Minutes (*Attachment 1*) – Anne Deaton, NC DMF

Opening Statements and Introductions – Anne Deaton, DMF and Roger Pugliese, SAFMC

1. NOAA Fisheries EBFM in the South Atlantic Region: Update on Activities Supporting FEP II Implementation Plan Two Year Roadmap

(*Attachment 2*) – Cindy Cooksey, NOAA Fisheries HCD, Todd Kellison, NOAA Fisheries SEFSC & Kevin Craig, NOAA Beaufort Lab

- a. NOAA and NOAA Fisheries activities initiated or undertaken addressing actions in Two Year Roadmap
- b. Status and Timeline: South Atlantic Ecosystem Status Report
- c. Status and Timeline: South Atlantic Climate Vulnerability Analysis
- d. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Anne Deaton

2. Energy Development Activities in the South Atlantic

- a. BOEM research and energy development activities- Update on Kitty Hawk project area research and development activities (*Attachment 3*) – Brian Hooker, BOEM.
- b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Anne Deaton

12:00 Noon - 1:30 P.M. Lunch

3. Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Plan

- a. DEIS FKNMS Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review (*Attachments 4-7*) – Beth Dieveney, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNM)
- b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Anne Deaton

4. Status Reports:

Ecosystem Considerations: Prey supporting Dolphin Wahoo Fisheries

Update: Bullet and Frigate Mackerel as Ecosystem Component Species to the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan (*Attachment 8*)

South Atlantic Ecopath with Ecosim Model

Update on Development of Next Generation Ecopath with Ecosim Model (*Attachments 9-11*) – Luke McEachron, FWRI and Lauren Gentry, FWRI

Wednesday October 23, 2019 9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Day 2 Overview– Anne Deaton

5. Mapping/Characterization of South Atlantic Deep Water Ecosystems: 2019 Activities

- a. 2019 ocean exploration expedition in the South Atlantic region on NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* “Windows of the Deep.” And the 2019 “Deep Search” research expedition on NOAA Ship *Ronald H. Brown*. (*Attachments 12-14*) – Kasey Cantwell, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research and Heather Coleman, Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program
- b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Anne Deaton

6. Fishery Independent Research in the South Atlantic Region: SERFS Update

- a. Southeast Reef Fish Survey (SERFS): 2018 Update Sampling Activities and Relative Abundance (*Attachment 15*) – Marcel Reichert, SCDNR

7. SAFMC Citizen Science Program Research Prioritization

- a. Citizen Science Research Prioritization –*Webinar Presentation (Attachments 16-19)* – Julia Byrd, Citizen Science Program Manager, SAFMC
- b. Member Discussion and Recommendations – Anne Deaton

12:00 Noon - 1:30 P.M. Lunch

8. State Panel Breakout Sessions and Web Services Access / Training

Group A: (NC/SC/At Large) Breakout (1:30-3:00 pm) then Training (3:00-4:30pm)
Group B: (GA/FL/At Large) Training (1:30-3:00 pm) then Breakout (1:30-3:00 pm)

Breakout Session: Input on State Activities addressing FEP II Implementation (*Attachments 20-21*)

- i. Identify State activities initiated or undertaken addressing actions in FEP II Roadmap
- ii. State activities associated with climate change and extreme event planning

Training Session: Access to updated Webservices and running Ecospecies query (*Attachments 22-23*) – Tina Udouj, FWRI and Lauren Gentry, FWRI

Thursday October 24, 2019 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Day 3 Overview– Anne Deaton

9. State Panel Breakout Session Report Out

State activities initiated or undertaken addressing actions in FEP II Roadmap
State activities associated with climate change and extreme event planning

Other Business – Anne Deaton

Adjourn – Anne Deaton

Attachments

1. Habitat Ecosystem AP Minutes May 2019
2. NOAA Fisheries EBFM in the South Atlantic Region: Update on Activities Supporting
3. BOEM Renewable Energy and Environmental Studies Program Update.
4. FKNMS to SAFMC: DEIS FKNMS Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review.
5. DEIS FKNMS Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review.
6. FKNMS Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review Summary 2019
7. Presentation: DEIS FKNMS Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review.
8. Bullet and Frigate Mackerel as Ecosystem Component Species to the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan
9. Ecopath with Ecosim Model of the South Atlantic Region: A Path Forward – Sept. 2019
10. South Atlantic Region Ecopath Model : Diet Update
11. Ecospace Development Update
12. Windows to the Deep 2019: Exploration of the Deepsea Habitats of the Southeastern United States (EX1903 Legs 1 and 2).
13. Deep Search 2019 Mission Plan and Highlights
14. Exploring the Southeast US: Results from "Windows to the Deep 2019" and "Deep Search" Research Cruises
15. Southeast Reef Fish Survey: 2018 Update Sampling Activities and Relative Abundance
16. Citizen Science Program: Background & Overview
17. South Atlantic Research and Monitoring Prioritization Plan for 2020-2025 June 14, 2019
18. SAFMC Citizen Science Program – Citizen Science Research Priorities June 2018
19. Citizen Science Research Priorities –Pres to Snapper Grouper AP June 2019
20. SAFMC Fishery Ecosystem Plan II Summary and Two Year Roadmap
21. Web User Guide for EcoSpecies Online Species Information System
22. SAFMC Policy Statement: South Atlantic Climate Variability and Fisheries and Essential Fish Habitats.
23. Web Services User Guide: SAFMC Habitat and Ecosystem Viewer - Integrating Management Resources

Staff: Roger Pugliese, Senior Fishery Biologist

OVERVIEW

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel will approve minutes of May 2019 (*Attachment 1*) and agenda.

Tuesday, November 6, 2018 Through Thursday November 8, 2018

1. NOAA Fisheries EBFM Activities for the South Atlantic Region: Status and Timelines for Completion of Deliverables supporting FEP II (*Attachment 2*)

Description: Todd Kellison, NOAA Fisheries SEFSC and Kevin Craig, NOAA Beaufort Lab will provide the Panel with an update on the status and timelines for completion of the South Atlantic Ecosystem Status Report, the South Atlantic Climate Vulnerability Analysis and South Atlantic Multi-Species Production Modeling in support of the NOAA EBFM Implementation Plan for the South Atlantic.

Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate.

2. Energy Development Activities in the South Atlantic (*Attachment 3*)

Description: Brian Hooker, BOEM will update the Panel on general research and energy development activities with a focus on Renewable Energy and the Kitty Hawk wind project area.

Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate.

3. Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Plan (*Attachments 4-7*)

Description: Beth Dieveney, Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary will review the DEIS for the FKNMS Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review. Members are asked to provide comment on the four major plan actions/goals highlighted below:

1. Expand the sanctuary boundary:

- protect connected habitats

2. Update sanctuary-wide regulations:

- be consistent with state regulations
- provide additional authority to address threats to sanctuary resources

3. Modify and create new marine zones:

- provide targeted habitat protections
- protect additional habitat types
- protect wildlife including ESA listed coral species
- facilitate research and restoration
- manage human uses and impacts

4. Revise the management plan:

- advance understanding
- improve sanctuary resource condition
- reduce threats and impacts
- enhance stewardship
- advance collaboration and partnership

Interactive Story Map Prepared by FKNMS on Alternatives:

<https://noaa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=006cb13e93f64f52a59236fadacd2be5&folderid=4562c243ce3b41719f471c7226d05bf5>

Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate.

- 4. Status Report: Ecosystem Considerations: Prey supporting Dolphin Wahoo Fisheries**
Description: (*Attachment 8*) An update will be provided on Council action associated with the consideration of Bullet and Frigate Mackerel as Ecosystem Component Species to the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan.

Status Report: South Atlantic Ecopath with Ecosim Model (*Attachments 9-11*)

Luke McEachron, FWRI and Lauren Gentry, FWRI will update the Panel on development of next generation Ecopath with Ecosim Model.

- 5. Mapping/Characterization of South Atlantic Deep Water Ecosystems: 2019 Activities** (*Attachments 12-14*)

Description: Kasey Cantwell, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research and Heather Coleman, Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program will provide an overview of the May 30 through July 12, 2019, NOAA and partners two-part, telepresence-enabled ocean exploration expedition in the South Atlantic region on NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* “Windows of the Deep.”

<https://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/okeanos/explorations/ex1903/welcome.html>. In addition, highlights from the April 9 to 30, 2019, NOAA and partners at the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the U.S. Geological Survey “Deep Search” research expedition on NOAA Ship *Ronald H. Brown* to collect critical baseline information about deepwater habitats offshore the U.S. Mid- and South Atlantic coasts.

<https://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov/explorations/19deepsearch/welcome.html>.

Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate.

- 6. Fishery Independent Research in the South Atlantic Region** (*Attachment 15*)

Description: Marcel Reichert, SCDNR will update the Panel on SERFS.

Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate.

- 7. Review Citizen Science Research Priorities** (*Attachments 16-19*)

Description: Julia Byrd, Citizen Science Program Manager, SAFMC, will provide the Panel with an overview to receive input and guidance supporting the SAFMC Citizen Science Program and Research Prioritization Process. Citizen science research priorities developed by the Citizen Science Action Teams during 2017/2018, adopted by the SAFMC in June 2018 are to be updated every two years in conjunction with the Council updating their Research and Monitoring Plan (*Attachment 17*). The current Citizen Science research priorities, organized by topical area are presented in *Attachments 18-19* and will be reviewed along with examples of potential projects to get feedback on the current citizen science priorities and recommended updates. The Habitat and Ecosystem Panels input will be included in an overall Citizen Science Projects Advisory Committee review with updated Citizen Science Research Priorities to be presented to the Council for their review and potential adoption at their December 2019 meeting.

Consider the following questions when providing comments on each priority:

- Is this type of data feasible for you to collect while out fishing? If not, what type of data may be reasonable for you to collect?
- Is this type of data collection more appropriate for a smaller, more targeted project and group of participants or a larger, broader project and group of participants?
- Do you think projects that require learning new skills (e.g. otolith removal) and more training are of interest to fishermen? Would fishermen be more interested participating in projects using existing skill sets and minimal training?
- Are there any priorities that should be removed or added to this list?
- Are there any additions/deletions to the species under the applicable priorities?

Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate. Members will also need identify two members to serve as Habitat and Ecosystem Panel representatives on the Citizen Science Projects Advisory Committee in the review of the overall draft document.

8. State Panel Breakout Sessions and Web Services Access / Training

Description: (*Attachments 20-23*)

Panel Members will participate in both a State Breakout Session and a Training Session.

Panel Members will participate in a State breakout session being conducted to identify State activities initiated or undertaken addressing actions in FEP II Roadmap including State or other partner activities associated with climate change and extreme event planning.

Panel Members will shift to a Training Session which is being conducted to provide hands on access and report creation using the updated Webservices and running Ecospecies query.

Tina Udouj, FWRI and Lauren Gentry, FWRI will guide members through the effort.

Group A: (NC/SC/At Large) Breakout (1:30-3:00 pm) then Training (3:00-4:30pm)

Group B: (GA/FL/At Large) Training (1:30-3:00 pm) then Breakout (1:30-3:00 pm).

Note: Two videos 1) showing how to access the Ecospecies system and create reports and 2) how to access Web Services and create map products from SAFMC Habitat and Ecosystem Web Services are being developed and will be made available to members in advance of the Training Sessions.

9. State Panel Breakout Session Report Out

Members will participate in a round tables discussion and report out session to highlight State and partner activities initiated or undertaken addressing actions in FEP II Roadmap including State activities associated with climate change and extreme event planning.