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**SUMMARY REPORT
OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
REGARDING DOLPHIN AND WAHOO
Wilmington, NC
December 6, 2013**

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council met December 6, 2013 and reviewed the work by the Dolphin Wahoo Committee.

The Council approved the following motions:

ACTION 1

MOTION 1: MODIFY DOLPHIN WAHOO AMENDMENT 7 TO ALLOW DOLPHIN WAHOO FILLETS BE BROUGHT INTO THE US EEZ CONSISTENT WITH BAHAMIAN BAG LIMITS, AS LONG AS THE SKIN IS ON THE FISH, THERE ARE VALID BAHAMIAN CRUISING AND FISHING PERMITS ONBOARD, AND EXPLORE A HAIL IN OR VMS PROVISION.

Approved by Committee

MOTION 2: SET BAG/POSSESSION LIMITS FOR DOLPHIN AND WAHOO BROUGHT INTO THE US EEZ FROM THE BAHAMAS TO ALLOW TWO FILLETS PER FISH, FOR A MAXIMUM OF 36 FILLETS, OR 18 FISH INTACT (OR ANY COMBINATION).

Approved by Committee

MOTION 3: SEND COMPREHENSIVE ALLOCATION/AM AMENDMENT TO SCOPING.

Approved by Committee

The Council gave the following direction to staff:

1. Run the modified DW Amendment 7 by LE AP.
2. Explore sale of fish from The Bahamas caught under these provisions.
3. Cannot bring dolphin/wahoo caught in The Bahamas into the US if those species are currently closed or prohibited under US law.
4. Confer with FWC biologists, managers, LE, and legal representation regarding:
 - Sale issues for dolphin and wahoo recreationally caught in The Bahamas
 - Prohibited species (queen conch, Nassau grouper)
 - Possession limits
 - What to do during US EEZ closures

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- Problems with the bag/vessel limits in fish vs. # lbs and that the Bahamian limits are multispecies and not all those species are regulated by the Council
 - No check out from Bahamas
 - Hail in – how and with whom would they do that?
 - Use caution in granting exemptions
5. Do not consider changes to wahoo allocations in the Comprehensive Allocation/Accountability Amendment.

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