



# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Melvin Bell, Chair | Stephen J. Poland, Vice Chair  
John T. Carmichael, Executive Director

## AGENDA Dolphin Wahoo Committee

Wednesday, June 16, 2021, 1:30 P.M. to 3:45 P.M.

Thursday, June 17, 2021, 8:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M. (Times are subject to change)

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the March 2021 Dolphin Wahoo Committee minutes

1. Status of Amendments under formal review – NMFS SERO
  - a. Bullet Mackerel and Frigate Mackerel as Ecosystem Component Species: Amendment 12
2. Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures: Amendment 10 (*Attachments 1a – 1c*)
  - a. Overview – John Hadley
  - b. **Committee Action:** Review the amendment and consider recommending for formal review.
3. Project plan for future Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan amendments (*Attachment 2*)
  - a. Overview – John Hadley
  - b. **Committee Action:** Provide guidance on the timing and structure of management topics that the Committee has identified for future Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan amendments.

Other Business

Adjourn

### Committee Members

Anna Beckwith, Chair  
Art Sapp, Vice Chair  
Rick Bellavance  
Kyle Christiansen  
Lt. Robert Copeland  
Tim Griner  
Kerry Marhefka  
Steve Poland

Carolyn Belcher  
Mel Bell  
Chester Brewer  
Chris Conklin  
Tony DiLernia  
Dewey Hemilright  
Jessica McCawley  
Andy Strelcheck

Spud Woodward

**Attachments:**

**Attachment 1a:** Decision document for Amendment 10 (Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures)

**Attachment 1b:** Draft Amendment 10 (Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures)

**Attachment 1c:** Draft codified text for Amendment 10 (Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures)

**Note:** The draft codified text for Amendment 10 will be included in the Council's Late Materials Folder of the Briefing Book.

**Attachment 2:** Information paper on the project plan for Dolphin Wahoo related management topics that the Council has identified for future amendments to the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan

**Staff Lead:** John Hadley ([john.hadley@safmc.net](mailto:john.hadley@safmc.net))

# OVERVIEW

## Dolphin Wahoo Committee

The Committee will approve minutes from the March 2021 meeting and the agenda for the June 2021 meeting.

### 1. **Status of Amendments under Formal Review**

**Description:** NMFS SERO staff will update the Committee on the status of Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 12 that adds Bullet Mackerel and Frigate Mackerel to the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan as Ecosystem Component species. The amendment was submitted to NMFS on 12/04/20 and the final rule for the amendment will become effective June 9, 2021.

**Committee Action:** None.

### 2. **Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures: Amendment 10 (*Attachments 1a – 1c*)**

**Description:** Amendment 10 includes actions that accommodate updated catch level recommendations and recreational data from the Marine Recreational Information Program through revisions to the annual catch limits and sector allocations for Dolphin and Wahoo accordingly. The amendment also contains actions that implement various other management changes in the fishery including revising recreational accountability measures; accommodating possession of Dolphin and Wahoo on vessels with trap, pot, or buoy gear onboard; removing the operator card requirement, reducing the recreational vessel limit for Dolphin, and reducing the recreational bag limit or implementing a recreational vessel limit for Wahoo. Additionally, the amendment would implement revised goals and objectives for the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan.

Council staff will review actions and analyses in the amendment that incorporate input from the Committee’s March 2021 meeting.

**Status of Amendment:** The amendment is in its final stage of development and will be ready for the Council to consider approval for Secretarial review at the June 2021 meeting.

**Committee Action:** Review actions and analyses. Discuss and provide guidance on finalizing development of Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10. This could include recommending approval to send the amendment for Secretarial review.

### 3. **Project plan for future Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan amendments (*Attachment 2*)**

**Description:** During the discussion of Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10, the Committee requested information on the potential development of “a framework action or other appropriate action consider making the minimum size requirements currently in place for FL, GA, and SC apply throughout the management zone for dolphin” and “a framework or other appropriate action to consider exempting the charter fleet from the dolphin and wahoo vessel limits.” Additionally, in the timing and tasks motion for the Dolphin Wahoo Committee, the Council directed staff to also prepare information “regarding the use of pelagic longline gear in the Dolphin Wahoo fishery.” This topic was previously removed from Amendment 10 at

the Council's request during the June 2020 meeting, with the direction to address it at a later date through a separate amendment.

Council staff will review the Committee's previous guidance on the topics identified to help facilitate discussion of the Committee's plans for the next amendment(s) to the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan.

**Committee Action:** Provide guidance on the structure, general content, and timing of future amendments to the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan addressing the Committee's identified topics. This discussion will help inform the Executive Committee's discussion on the Council's scheduled work plan for the remainder of 2021 and 2022.

## **Other Business**