

Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel
Wahoo Fishery Performance Report
Discussion Questions
October 2020

The Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel (AP) is being asked to provide information to develop a fishery performance report (FPR) for Wahoo. The purpose of the FPR is to assemble information from AP members' experience and observations on the water and in the marketplace to complement scientific and landings data. The FPR for Wahoo will be provided to the Council, Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), and the Socio-Economic Panel (SEP) to inform future management.

Questions for the Advisory Panel

The AP is asked to provide the following information about Wahoo based on your expertise and experience:

1) Catch levels over the past 10 years:

- When/where are Wahoo available, and has this changed? Has the seasonality, timing, or geographic range of Wahoo catches changed?
- Has the size of the fish changed?
- Have there been effort shifts to or from Wahoo?

2) Social and economic influences:

- For the commercial sector, how has the dockside and retail/restaurant price and demand for Wahoo changed?
- For the recreational sector, how has demand for charter and private vessel trips targeting Wahoo changed?
- Among the species you target, how important are Wahoo to your overall business (charter, commercial, or retail)? How important are Wahoo to trip satisfaction on recreational trips?
- What communities are dependent on the Wahoo fishery?
- Have changes in infrastructure (docks, marinas, fish houses) affected fishing opportunities for Wahoo?
- How have fishermen and communities adapted to changes in the Wahoo fishery?

3) Environmental/ecological/habitat influences:

- Have you noticed any unique effects of environmental conditions on Wahoo? If so, please describe.
- Do you perceive that abundance of Wahoo has changed over the past ten years? If so, how has it changed?
- What do you see now in terms of recruitment? Where are the small fish? Are large and small fish found in the same locations?
- Have you noticed any change in the species caught with Wahoo over the years or seasonally?

4) Management measures:

- Are the general recreational retention limits appropriate (i.e. 2-fish per person, no vessel limit, no size limit)?
- Are the general commercial retention limits appropriate (i.e. 500-pound trip limit, no size limit)?
- Are there new management measures that the Council should consider or are there existing management measures that should be changed for Wahoo? (such as size limits, trip limits, bag limits, seasons, allowable gears, etc.)

5) Other:

- What else is important for the Council to know about Wahoo?