



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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

AGENDA

Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel Meeting October 28, 2020 (via webinar)

Webinar Link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/835912921091040523>

Briefing Book Link: <https://safmc.net/safmc-meetings/current-advisory-panel-meetings/>

Public comment will be solicited at the beginning and at the end of the meeting. Those wishing to comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will recognize individuals to provide comment on the webinar.

Wednesday October 28, 2020

Introductions – Ray Rosher

Approval of Agenda – Ray Rosher

Approval of August 2019 AP minutes – Ray Rosher

Opportunity for Public Comment

1. Report from the Dolphin Wahoo Committee Chair
2. Update on recent regulations and status of amendments (*Attachment 1*)
3. Update on the SAFMC Citizen Science Program (*Attachment 2*)
4. Amendment 10: Revising Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures (*Attachment 3*)
5. Update on recent Dolphin Wahoo Participatory Workshops (*Attachment 4*)
6. Fishery Performance Report for Wahoo (<https://data.safmc.net/FPRAll/>, *Attachment 5*)
7. Discussion on the economic effects of COVID-19 and potential responses including a discussion on bag limit sales of Dolphin (*Attachment 6*)
8. Discussion on the potential for regional management and efforts to address climate change (*Attachment 7*)

9. Election of new Chair and Vice-Chair of the AP

10. Other Business

Opportunity for Public Comment

Adjourn

Advisory Panel Members:

Ray Rosher, Chair

Christopher Burrows, Vice Chair

Jonathon Reynolds

Tim Scalise

Wendell Barnett

Brice Barr

Robert Frevert

Richard Harris

Earl Harris, Jr.

Glen Hopkins

Jay Kavanagh

Fred Kinard

Daniel Owsley

Charles Yeomans

John Nappo

Bill Richardson

Harris Huddle

Attachments

Attachment 1: Update on recent regulation changes and status of amendments

Attachment 2: Presentation slides for the update on the SAFMC Citizen Science Program

Attachment 3: Discussion document for Amendment 10: Revising Dolphin Wahoo Management Measures

Attachment 4: Presentation slides for the update on recent Dolphin Wahoo Participatory Workshops

Attachment 5: Discussion questions for the Wahoo Fishery Performance Report

Attachment 6: Discussion document for the economic effects of COVID-19 and bag limit sales of Dolphin

Attachment 7: Presentation slides for scenario planning to address climate change

SAFMC Staff for the morning session

Staff Lead: John Hadley (John.Hadley@safmc.net)

Staff Support: Brian Chevront (Brian.Chevront@safmc.net)

Technical Support: Myra Brouwer (Myra.Brouwer@safmc.net)

SAFMC Staff for the afternoon session

Staff Lead: John Hadley (John.Hadley@safmc.net)

Staff Support: Christina Wiegand (Christina.Wiegand@safmc.net)

Technical Support: Julia Byrd (Julia.Byrd@safmc.net)

OVERVIEW

Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel

The AP will go over introductions, approve minutes from the August 2019 meeting, and approve the agenda for the current meeting. This will be followed by an opportunity for public comment.

1. Report from the Dolphin Wahoo Committee Chair

Description: Anna Beckwith, Chair of the Dolphin Wahoo Committee of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, will address the Dolphin Wahoo AP on prior AP recommendations and other items relevant to the AP meeting.

Requested AP action: None

2. Update on recent regulations and status of amendments (*Attachment 1*)

Description: John Hadley, SAFMC staff, will update the AP on the status of the following:

- Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10 (Revising Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures)
- Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 12 (Bullet Mackerel and Frigate Mackerel as Ecosystem Component Species)
- Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 13 (Changes to the Pelagic Longline Fishery)
- Snapper Grouper Amendment 29 (Best Fishing Practices Amendment)
- For-hire Electronic Reporting Amendment

Requested AP action: None

3. Update on the SAFMC Citizen Science Program (*Attachment 2*)

Description: Julia Byrd, SAFMC staff, will provide a brief update on the SAFMC's [Citizen Science Program](#) and pilot projects highlighting activities that have occurred over the past year. Pilot projects currently underway include [SAFMC Scamp Release](#) and [FISHstory](#). SAFMC Scamp Release works with commercial, for-hire, and recreational fishermen to collect information on Scamp discards using the mobile app, SAFMC Release. FISHstory uses historic dock photos to document species and length composition data in the charter and headboat fisheries from the 1940s-1970s prior to when dedicated catch monitoring programs began.

Requested AP action: Provide input as appropriate.

4. Revising Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures: Amendment 10 (*Attachment 3*)

Amendment 10 includes actions that would accommodate updated recreational data from the Marine Recreational Information Program by revising the annual catch limits and sector allocations for dolphin and wahoo. 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 certain unauthorized gears onboard, removing the operator card requirement, reducing the recreational vessel limit for dolphin, and allowing filleting of dolphin at sea onboard for-hire vessels north of the Virginia/North Carolina border. John Hadley, SAFMC staff, will familiarize the AP on the status of Amendment 10 and work

through the provided decision document for the amendment to gather the AP's comments and recommendations for the actions being considered.

The amendment is currently under development and working towards approval for public hearings at the December 2020 South Atlantic Council meeting, where the Council will also select preferred alternatives for each action. The target date for final approval of this amendment is the June 2021 South Atlantic Council meeting.

Requested AP action: Provide feedback and recommendations on management measures being considered for dolphin and wahoo.

5. Update on recent Dolphin Wahoo Participatory Workshops (*Attachment 4*)

Description: In March 2020, the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC), along with South Atlantic Council staff, conducted a series of participatory workshops with dolphin wahoo fishermen at locations in Virginia Beach, VA, Manteo, NC, and Beaufort, NC. These workshops gathered information on major factors affecting fisheries for dolphin and wahoo, risks to these fisheries, how changes in the ecosystem have affected fishing businesses and communities, and what targeted research is needed. A similar set of workshops was being planned for locations in South Florida and the Florida Keys for the late summer months of 2020 but have been delayed until 2021 due to complications related to COVID-19. An overview and preliminary findings from the North Carolina and Virginia workshops will be provided to the Committee by SEFSC staff.

Requested AP Action: Provide input as appropriate.

6. Fishery Performance Report for Wahoo (<https://data.safmc.net/FPRAll/>, *Attachment 5*)

Description: With input from the APs, Fishery Performance Reports (FPRs) have been developed for several fish species managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. The intent of the FPRs is to assemble information from AP members' experience and observations on the water and in the marketplace to complement scientific and landings data. The FPRs will be provided to the SSC, the Socio-Economic Panel (SEP), and the Council to assist in their discussions. Using an online application, John Hadley, SAFMC Staff, will provide an overview of landings trends and other background information and request the AP's input to develop the FPR for Wahoo.

Requested AP Action: Work through the provided questions to develop a FPR for wahoo.

7. Discussion on the economic effects of COVID-19 and potential responses including a discussion on bag limit sales of Dolphin (*Attachment 6*)

Description: The AP will have a discussion on the economic effects that have been experienced due to COVID-19. As part of this conversation the AP may want to examine potential ways that changes to management could mitigate some of these effects. Bag limit sales of Dolphin landed during for-hire trips may be part of this conversation, as this has been previously suggested by the AP and AP members. It is noted that this topic is challenging but also could offer economic benefits to for-hire businesses.

Requested AP action: Work through the discussion questions and provide input as appropriate.

8. Discussion on the potential for regional management and efforts to address climate change (*Attachment 7*)

Description: At their September 2020 meeting, the Council requested that the APs be provide regular updates on efforts to address management challenges related to climate change. Additionally, the Council discussed potential consideration of regional management for Dolphin and Wahoo if the need arises due to changes in the species' migratory patterns or regional abundance. Council staff will brief the AP on upcoming initiatives and gather the AP's initial recommendations on the need for regional management.

Requested AP action: Provide input as appropriate. Discussion questions are as follows:

- a) Are there specific management topics that the Council should consider regional management approaches for Dolphin or Wahoo?
- b) Are there regional management measures that the Council should consider to address climate change or changes in dolphin or wahoo migratory patterns?

9. Election of new Chair and Vice-Chair of the AP

10. Other Business

Opportunity for public comment

Adjourn