

# FINAL

## **SUMMARY REPORT FROM THE DOLPHIN WAHOO COMMITTEE Atlantic Beach, NC**

**December 10, 2015**

The Dolphin Wahoo Committee met December 10, 2015 and received updates on the status of commercial and recreational landings for dolphin and wahoo species. The Committee received a report on the status of Dolphin Wahoo Amendments 7 and 8. Both amendments are at headquarters in Washington, DC under Secretarial review.

### Dolphin Wahoo Regulatory Amendment 1

The Committee discussed Dolphin Wahoo Regulatory Amendment 1. The committee provided some revisions to the Purpose and Need, but asked staff to work on it more ahead of Full Council to make sure the Need more accurately reflects what the Council is trying to achieve with this regulatory amendment. The committee discussed the one action in the regulatory amendment and chose a preferred alternative.

### Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10

The Committee decided that a substantial amount of time would be set aside at the March meeting for a complete discussion of issues that need to be considered for the dolphin fishery. The committee chair requested that 2½ to 3 hours be allotted for the Dolphin Wahoo Committee for the March 2016 meeting. In addition to the items mentioned in White Paper included in the briefing book, the committee wants to consider for-hire sales of dolphin. Delaying the discussion of the potential development of Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 11 will give staff more time to do more detailed analysis of the commercial dolphin fishery and bring that information to the March meeting.

### Other Business

There was no other business.

### **MOTIONS:**

**MOTION: ACCEPT THE PURPOSE AND NEED AS AMENDED.  
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE**

Note that later the Committee went back to review what they had decided regarding the Purpose and Need. Staff was instructed to come back to Full Council with a reworded “Need” statement. Below is the suggested revised Need Statement for the regulatory amendment. The Council will need to consider it and modify, as necessary.

**MOTION: ACCEPT THE PURPOSE AND NEED AS AMENDED.  
APPROVED BY COUNCIL**

FINAL

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## Final Purpose and Need

### **Purpose for Action**

The purpose of Dolphin Wahoo Regulatory Amendment 1 is to institute a commercial trip limit for the dolphin fishery.

### **Need for Action**

The need for this amendment is to maintain a dolphin fishery that lasts throughout the year in order to reduce the severity of social impacts caused by an early closure of the commercial dolphin fishery.

MOTION: ACCEPT THE LANGUAGE OF ACTION ONE AS STATED, WITH EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MODIFY THE NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 4, SUB-ALTERNATIVE 4D AS PREFERRED.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

***Establish a commercial trip limit for dolphin in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) in the South Atlantic Council's area of jurisdiction.***

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** There is no commercial trip limit for dolphin in the Atlantic EEZ. The commercial fishery for dolphin will remain open until the entire commercial portion of the ACL is met or projected to be met.

**Alternative 2.** A commercial trip limit for dolphin will be established once 65% of the commercial ACL is met.

**Sub-Alternative 2a:** 1,000 lbs trip limit

**Sub-Alternative 2b:** 2,000 lbs trip limit

**Sub-Alternative 2c:** 3,000 lbs trip limit

**Sub-Alternative 2d:** 4,000 lbs trip limit

**Alternative 3.** A commercial trip limit for dolphin will be established once 70% of the commercial ACL is met.

**Sub-Alternative 3a:** 1,000 lbs trip limit

**Sub-Alternative 3b:** 2,000 lbs trip limit

**Sub-Alternative 3c:** 3,000 lbs trip limit

**Sub-Alternative 3d:** 4,000 lbs trip limit

**Preferred Alternative 4.** A commercial trip limit for dolphin will be established once 75% of the commercial ACL is met.

**Sub-Alternative 4a:** 1,000 lbs trip limit

**Sub-Alternative 4b:** 2,000 lbs trip limit

**Sub-Alternative 4c:** 3,000 lbs trip limit

**Preferred Sub-Alternative 4d:** 4,000 lbs trip limit

FINAL

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**MOTION:** APPROVE DOLPHIN WAHOO REGULATORY AMENDMENT 1 FOR FORMAL SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT/CODIFIED TEXT AND GIVE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS AND RE-DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT. APPROVED BY COUNCIL (ROLL CALL)

Timing and Task Motion

**MOTION:** DIRECT STAFF TO COMPLETE DOLPHIN WAHOO REGULATORY AMENDMENT 1 FOR SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND PREPARE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BRING IT BACK TO THE COUNCIL IN MARCH FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF DOLPHIN WAHOO AMENDMENT 10. APPROVED BY COUNCIL

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