

OVERVIEW

Ecosystem-Based Management Committee Meeting

Hilton New Bern/Riverfront
100 Middle Street
New Bern, NC

The Committee will: (A) receive an update on CE-BA 2 development and changes since the September 2010 meeting; (B) receive a report on the Scientific and Statistical Committee recommendations; (C) receive a report on the Habitat Advisory Panel recommendations; (D) provide guidance to staff on actions and alternatives for analysis in CE-BA 2 and approve for public hearings; and (D) receive updates on ecosystem-based activities.

Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 2

Changes to the actions and alternatives in the CE-BA2 were made according to Council guidance from the September 2010 meeting. The SSC met in Charleston on November 8-10, 2010 and received an overview of CE-BA 2. Based upon clarification that the Council was seeking on the SSC's recommendation for ABC for octocorals, the SSC rationalized that their recommended value was intended to include South Atlantic and Gulf state and federal waters, combined. Staff provided an overview of CE-BA 2 actions and alternatives to the Habitat Advisory Panel on November 16, 2010. An overview of their recommendations on CE-BA 2 will be provided. During a meeting of the Gulf Council in October, the Gulf Council selected as a preferred alternative to remove octocorals from the Coral FMP, currently included within their Generic ACL/AM Options Paper. The Committee will review the SSC's input on ABC for octocorals, select preferred alternatives, and approve the document for public hearings.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Review alternatives in CE-BA 2, modify document as necessary, select preferred alternatives, provide guidance to staff, and approve for public hearings.

Ecosystem Coordination Activities

The Committee will further review recommendations from the Habitat Advisory Panel relative to ecosystem activities. Roger Pugliese will update the Council on continued development of SECOORA/ Ocean Observing Systems, the South Atlantic Alliance, the South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative, Southeast Aquatic Resource Partnership, SEAMAP and Council Ecosystem tools.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Action as may be necessary.