



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Jessica McCawley, Chair | Mel Bell, Vice Chair
Gregg T. Waugh, Executive Director

AGENDA

Executive Finance Committee

Town & Country Inn; 2008 Savannah Hwy.
Charleston, SC

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 – 3:45 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. (Times subject to change)

1. Priority ranking of Amendments for work schedule (*Attachments 4a-c*)
 - a. Overview – Dr. Brian Chevront
 - b. Committee Action: Discuss and provide guidance to staff – Jessica McCawley

Thursday, September 19, 2019 – 3:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. (Times subject to change)

Approval of Agenda – Jessica McCawley

Approval of June 2019 Committee minutes – Jessica McCawley

2. November 5-7, 2019 CCC Meeting (*Attachment 1*)
 - a. Overview – Gregg Waugh/Jessica McCawley/Mel Bell
 - b. Committee Action: Discuss and provide guidance to staff – Jessica McCawley – **ACTION**
3. Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization (*Attachments 2a-e*)
 - a. Overview – Gregg Waugh
 - b. Committee Action: Review and provide guidance to staff – Jessica McCawley – **ACTION**
4. Status of Calendar Year (CY) January-December 2019 Operational Budget (*Attachments 3a-c*)
 - a. Overview – Gregg Waugh/Kelly Klasnick
 - b. Committee Action: Review and take action as necessary – Jessica McCawley – **ACTION**
5. Council Follow-up and Priorities & Tiering – Priorities for 2020 (*Attachments 4a-c*)
 - a. Overview – Dr. Brian Chevront
 - b. Committee Action: Review and provide guidance to staff – Jessica McCawley

Other Business – Jessica McCawley

- a. Status of 5-Year Grant Application (**Attachment 5**) – Gregg Waugh/Kelly Klasnick

Adjourn – Jessica McCawley

Committee Members

Jessica McCawley, Chair
Chester Brewer
Steve Poland

Mel Bell, Vice Chair
Doug Haymans

Attachments

Attachment 1: Draft Agenda for November 2019 CCC Meetings

Attachment 2a: Senate Staff Working Draft

Attachment 2b: Draft Comments on Senate Staff Working Draft

Attachment 2c: Young Bill HR 3697

Attachment 2d: Wicker Bill S 2346

Attachment 2e: Hyde-Smith Bill S 2209

Attachment 3a: Updated 2019 CY (January-December) Operational Budget

Attachment 3b: General Activity Schedule (2019)

Attachment 3c: SEDAR Activity Schedule (2019)

Attachment 4a: Council Amendment Activities September 2019 (Excel)

Attachment 4b: SAFMC Amendments Summary September 2019

Attachment 4c: Council Follow-Up 073019

Attachment 5: SAFMC 5-Year (2020-2024) Grant

Staff: Gregg Waugh/Kelly Klasnick

OVERVIEW

Executive Finance Committee

The Committee will approve minutes from the June 2019 meeting and the agenda.

I. PRIORITY RANKING OF AMENDMENTS FOR WORK SCHEDULE

Description: Dr. Brian Chevront, Deputy Director for Management, will review amendments and their current schedule, and outline a draft list of items for 2020 (**Attachments 4a-c**).

Status of Actions: The Council approved items for the September and December 2019 meetings at the June 2019 Council meeting. A list of amendments for 2020 is needed to prepare the draft activity schedule and draft budget for review during an Executive Finance webinar on October 15, 2019 from 9 am to 12 noon and final review/approval at the December 2019 Council meeting.

Required Committee Action: review the material and develop a recommended list of amendments for 2020.

II. PRELIMINARY AGENDA FOR NOVEMBER 2019 CCC MEETING

Description: The November 5-7, 2019 CCC meeting will be held in Washington, DC. A preliminary list of topics is included as **Attachment 1**.

Status of Actions: The agenda is being negotiated between the Councils and NMFS. Once a draft agenda is available, it will be distributed. This is a good time for the Committee/Council to offer input on a preference for topics to be covered.

Required Committee Action: review and provide guidance.

III. MAGNUSON-STEVENSON ACT REAUTHORIZATION

Description: Testimony from Councils and other background information is available from the U.S. Regional Fishery Management Councils Website (<http://www.fisherycouncils.org>). Should the South Atlantic Council be asked to provide input, we will use the regional perspectives and consensus positions in the CCC Working Paper as the basis of our comments. Comments thus far are available from the website above. The Senate Staff Working Draft is included (**Attachment 2a**) and draft comments from staff for your consideration are also included (**Attachment 2b**).

Update from Dave Whaley:

On July 10, 2019, Congressman Huffman (D-California), Chair of the Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee of the House Natural Resources Committee, announced that he “will hold a series of roundtable discussions throughout the United States to engage diverse perspectives, interests, and needs of individuals who have a stake in management of our ocean and fisheries resources.” The press release announcing these roundtable discussions noted that the Chairman “is committed to holding at least one public forum in each of the regions managed by Fishery Management Councils under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, and to introducing a draft Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization bill, informed by this public process, by next Spring... Specific dates and locations will be announced soon so that stakeholders around the country can determine how best to participate in shaping next year’s Magnuson-Stevens reauthorization bill.”

On July 11, 2019, Congressman Young (R-Alaska) introduced H.R. 3697, a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to provide flexibility for fishery

managers and stability for fishermen, and for other purposes. The bill is similar to the bill that passed the House of Representatives in the 115th Congress. Note: Included as **Attachment 2c**.

There is also a new bill dealing with fisheries disaster assistance that was introduced by Senator Wicker recently (S 2346) (**Attachment 2d**) and a somewhat new bill introduced by Senator Hyde-Smith (S 2209) - the “Commercial Fishing and Aquaculture Protection Act - to establish a “safety net” for commercial fishermen and aquaculture producers (**Attachment 2e**). Both amend the Act, but neither reauthorize it.

Status of Actions: The Councils have been asked to comment on the Senate Staff Working Draft. **Required Committee Action:** review the Senate Staff Draft Wording and the draft comments, and provide guidance.

IV. STATUS OF CALENDAR YEAR (CY) JANUARY-DECEMBER 2019 OPERATIONAL BUDGET

Description: Kelly Klasnick and Gregg Waugh will present a status report on the Calendar Year (CY; January-December) 2019 Operational Budget and expenses through mid-August 2019 (**Attachment 3a**). There are two major inputs: (1) fixed costs – staff, office-related, state liaison grants, and some contracts; and (2) variable costs – driven by the activity schedules. The activity schedules (**Attachments 3b & 3c**) have been drafted to reflect Council priorities and this determines Council compensation, meeting related expenses, and travel expenses. The Council approves the Council activity schedule (**Attachment 3b**) and the SEDAR Steering Committee approves the SEDAR activity schedule (**Attachment 3c**). The SEDAR activity is included an information for the Council to use as we administer the SEDAR program.

Status of Action: The Council approved the CY 2019 operational budget at the June 2019 meeting..

Required Committee Action: review and take action as necessary.

V. COUNCIL FOLLOW-UP AND PRIORITIES

Description: Dr. Brian Chevront, Deputy Director for Management, will give the committee an overview of the Council Priorities spreadsheet (**Attachment 4a**) and the Amendments Summary (**Attachment 4b**) to be used for setting future Council and staff work priorities. The Follow-Up document (**Attachment 4c**) was updated based on decisions at the June 2019 meeting. The Follow-Up contains the detailed steps for each active amendment and amendments under formal review. This allows any Council member to see where each amendment is in the process. The Follow-Up is updated after each Council meeting after review and input from the SERO and Council staff. In addition, draft agendas are included for the next two upcoming Council meetings. This allows Council members to see what is on the agenda and make any suggestions to the Chair and staff.

Status of Follow-up & Priorities: The Committee/Council reviewed this material at the June 2019 meeting and approved priorities; now the list of amendments for 2020 needs to be developed.

Required Committee Action: discuss, modify/provide guidance, and approve the amendments for 2020.

Other Business

Kelly Klasnick and Gregg Waugh will update the committee on the status of the 5-year (2020-2024) grant application; cost by year is shown in **Attachment 5**. Based upon guidance received, the 2020 budget is to maintain level funding with the 2019 total, with each subsequent year increasing by up to 10%. We used 10% to give us the largest potential ceiling for funding. Actual funding amounts will be determined by NMFS each year and will differ from the projected amounts shown in **Attachment 5**.

The grant application was sent to NMFS on 8/20/19. We included the information below indicating the estimated cost of support provided by each State (**Attachment 5** has additional details). The application is being reviewed by NMFS, if any edits are needed the application package will be returned to SAFMC for updating and resubmission. The application will then be sent to the Grants Management Division (GMD) by Nov 1st; NMFS should do this step. Then funds will be released to us on or before January 1, 2020.

		Expected	
		Council Cost	State Contribution
Florida		\$ 58,750	\$ 138,848
Georgia		\$ 58,250	\$ 105,754
South Carolina		\$ 58,750	\$ 100,000
North Carolina		\$ 58,250	\$ 97,000
		\$ 234,000	\$ 441,602