



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Melvin Bell, Chair | Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

AGENDA **Full Council Session I**

Town and Country Inn
2008 Savannah Hwy
Charleston, SC

Monday, September 12, 2022 **8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon (Times subject to change)**

Call to order and introductions

Oath for new Council member

Adoption of agenda

Approval of transcript (June 2022 Council sessions I & II)

1. Reports (NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, US Coast Guard, state agencies, Council liaisons) (*Attachments 1a-1c*)
2. Update on Dolphin Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) stakeholder workshops – TBD, NMFS SEFSC
3. Input from Golden Crab and Spiny Lobster Advisory Panels (*Attachment 2*) – Christina Wiegand
4. Commercial Electronic Logbook Amendment (*Attachments 3a-3c*) – Myra Brouwer
5. National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy Update (*Attachments 4a and 4b*) – Russell Dunn, NMFS
6. Acceptable Biological Catch Control Rule Amendment (*Attachments 5a-5c*)
 - a. Overview and public hearing presentation – Mike Schmidtke
7. Update on Climate Change Scenario Planning Initiative (*Attachments 6a-6d*) – Roger Pugliese

Attachments:

Attachment 1a: NOAA OLE Report

Attachment 1b: NOAA OLE presentation

Attachment 1c: Gulf Liaison Report (*will be posted by 9/7*)

Attachment 2: Golden Crab and Spiny Lobster Advisory Panel Report

Attachment 3a: Commercial Electronic Logbook Update Presentation

Attachment 3b: Commercial Electronic Logbook Questions & Answers

Attachment 3c: Commercial Electronic Logbook Data Fields (Excel spreadsheet)

Attachment 4a: National Recreational Fisheries Policy Update Presentation

Attachment 4b: National Recreational Fisheries Policy Discussion Guide

Attachment 5a: ABC Control Rule Amendment Decision Document

Attachment 5b: Draft ABC Control Rule Amendment

Attachment 5c: ABC Control Rule Amendment Presentation (*will be posted by 9/7*)

Attachment 6a: Climate Scenario Planning Update Report to NRCC

Attachment 6b: Climate Scenario Planning Workshop Report

Attachment 6c: Draft Climate Scenario Narratives (Pre-Deepening Webinar

Version) **Attachment 6d:** Summary Climate Scenarios Presentation (*will be posted by 9/7*)

Staff Lead: John Carmichael (john.carmichael@safmc.net)

OVERVIEW

Full Council Session I

1. **Reports (*Attachments 1a-1c*)**

Description: NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, US Coast Guard, state agencies, and Council liaisons will provide reports to the Council.

2. **Update on Dolphin Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) stakeholder workshops**

Description: The Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) is planning to begin work on a management strategy evaluation (MSE) for the South Atlantic dolphin fishery. The goal of this project is to develop an index-based management procedure that may provide catch level and management advice that best achieves the multiple operational and regional management objectives of the fishery. As part of developing the MSE, the SEFSC will be holding a series of stakeholder workshops along the U.S. Atlantic coast to in part discuss dolphin management.

At the June 2022 Council meeting, SEFSC staff briefed the Dolphin Wahoo Committee on their research plan. During this discussion as well as the discussion of Dolphin Wahoo Regulatory Amendment 3, it was noted that the stakeholder workshops may also provide feedback on management topics within the amendment and may substitute as scoping for the amendment. It appears that these workshops will not be fully completed by the December 2022 meeting, which is the next time that the Council is scheduled to review the amendment. To clarify direction to staff, the Council will be asked how to proceed with the timing and development of Regulatory Amendment 3.

Required Council Action: Provide guidance to staff on how to proceed with scoping and development of Regulatory Amendment 3. Specifically, since the Dolphin MSE stakeholder workshops will not be completed by the December meeting, does the Council want:

- Staff to hold specific scoping meetings for the amendment ahead of the December 2022 meeting (would likely occur sometime in early November)?
- Wait until March 2023 to next review Regulatory Amendment 3 to allow for feedback from comments received during the stakeholder workshops?
- Other?

3. **Golden Crab and Spiny Lobster Advisory Panel Reports (*Attachment 2*)**

Description: The Spiny Lobster Advisory Panel met in Key Largo, Florida on June 29, 2022, to discuss areas closed to traps via Spiny Lobster Amendment 11 and to update their fishery performance report. The Golden Crab Advisory Panel met in Key Largo, Florida on June 30, 2022, to complete a fishery performance report.

Required Council Action: None

4. **Commercial Electronic Logbook Amendment (*Attachments 3a-3c*)**

Description: This amendment is being developed jointly with the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council to require commercial logbooks be submitted via electronic reporting

forms instead of the currently used paper-based forms for the following FMPs: South Atlantic Snapper Grouper, Atlantic Dolphin Wahoo, Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Coastal Migratory Pelagics, and Gulf Reef Fish. The IPT has determined a full plan amendment to each affected FMP would be needed. A Categorical Exclusion would be prepared to satisfy NEPA. The IPT compiled a list of questions and answers for the Councils pertaining to program modifications and implementation (*Attachment 3b*) and a spreadsheet to compare current data fields and modifications that would be required for implementing an electronic logbook (*Attachment 3c*).

Required Council Action: Review draft purpose and need and revised timeline for amendment development.

5. **National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy Update (*Attachments 4a and 4b*)**

NOAA recognizes the need for the National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy adapt with a changing climate and the evolving needs of recreational fisheries and anglers. This discussion will provide a concise overview of the existing policy, describe the process and timeline for updating the policy, and solicit inputs for doing so from the Council.

Required Council Action: Provide input as appropriate.

6. **Acceptable Biological Catch Control Rule Amendment (*Attachments 5a and 5b*)**

Description: This amendment considers revisions to the Acceptable Biological Catch Control Rule for the Dolphin Wahoo, Golden Crab, and Snapper Grouper FMPs, including the incorporation of phase-ins of ABC changes and carry-overs of unused portions of annual catch limits. At the June 2022 Council meeting, the Council approved the amendment for public hearings. An online public hearing was held on August 24, 2022, and another hearing will be held during the Council meeting public comment session on September 14, 2022.

Required Council Action: Review draft amendment and analyses to date and select preferred alternatives.

7. **Update on Climate Change Scenario Planning Initiative (*Attachment 6a-6d*)**

Description: Roger Pugliese, Core Team Member representing the Council, will provide an update on the current Phase, recent developments (*Attachment 6a*) and an overview of the Narratives (*Attachment 6d*) for Climate Scenarios developed during the Climate Scenario Planning Initiative. The effort has completed Part 1 of Phase 4, Scenario Creation, where on June 2022, a group of over 70 stakeholders attended a [Scenario Creation Workshop](#) to develop an initial set of scenarios, describing several different possible futures facing East Coast fisheries out to 2042. A [Scenario Creation Workshop Summary](#) (*Attachment 6b*) and the [Draft Scenario Narratives](#) (*Attachment 6c*) are provided for background.

The effort has just completed Part 2 Phase 4 Scenario Deepening, where two [Scenario Deepening webinars](#) were held in August 2022. These webinars offered all interested stakeholders an opportunity to review, validate, and add details to the draft scenarios developed during the Scenario Creation Workshop.

The Initiative is moving into the Applications Phase which starts with Fishery Manager Brainstorming Working Sessions which are being scheduled after the Council meeting in September/October 2022. The purpose is to begin to identify the issues, ideas, and options

that should be discussed at scenario planning conversations at Council and Commission meetings during Fall 2022, and subsequently at a Summit Meeting in early 2023.

Required Council Action: None