



# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston SC 29405  
Call: (843) 571-4366 | Toll-Free: (866) SAFMC-10 | Fax: (843) 769-4520 | Connect: www.safmc.net

---

Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Chair | Trish Murphey, Vice-Chair  
John Carmichael, Executive Director

## **AGENDA** **Full Council Session I**

Town & Country Inn and Suites  
2008 Savannah Highway  
Charleston, SC 29407

**Monday, September 16, 2024, 1:30 pm to 5:00 pm**

**Tuesday, September 17, 2024, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm**

- Call to order and introductions
  - Oath for new Council members
  - Law Enforcement Officer of the Year (2023) Award
  - Adoption of agenda
  - Approval of minutes (June 2024)
1. Agency Reports
    - a. NOAA Office of Law Enforcement (*Attachments 1a and 1b*)
    - b. US Coast Guard
    - c. Council liaisons (*Attachment 1c*)
    - d. State agencies
  2. Staff Report
    - a. General (*Attachment 2a*) – John Carmichael
    - b. Stakeholder engagement meetings (*Attachment 2b*) – Christina Wiegand
    - c. Revised Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) workgroup approach (*Attachment 2c*) – Judd Curtis
  3. Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary update (*Attachment 3*) – LeAnn Hogan, Office of National Marine Sanctuaries
- Shrimp advisory panel re-structuring– Allie Iberle
4. NMFS Reports
    - a. Southeast Regional Office (*Attachment 4*)
    - b. Southeast Fisheries Science Center

5. Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission (WECAFC) Flyingfish and Dolphinfish Workgroup Update (**Attachment 5**) – Rachel O’Malley, NOAA Fisheries Office of International Affairs, Trade, and Commerce
6. Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) Program Improvement Amendment (**Attachments 6a and 6b**) – John Hadley & Myra Brouwer
7. Update on the East Coast Climate Scenario Planning Initiative (**Attachments 7a-7e**) – John Carmichael
8. Review of allocations for species meeting the time-based criteria in the SAFMC Allocation Review Trigger Policy (**Attachments 8a and 8b**) – John Hadley

**Attachments:**

**Attachment 1a:** NOAA OLE Report

**Attachment 1b:** NOAA OLE presentation

**Attachment 1c:** Gulf Council Liaison Report

**Attachment 2a:** Staff Report

**Attachment 2b:** Stakeholder Engagement Meetings Update

**Attachment 2c:** Revised SSC Workgroup Approach

**Attachment 3:** Hudson Canyon Update Presentation

**Attachment 4:** Protected Resources Update

**Attachment 5:** WECAFC Update Presentation

**Attachment 6a:** SEFHIER Improvement Amendment Decision Document

**Attachment 6b:** SEFHIER Improvement Amendment Summary Presentation Slides

**Attachment 7a:** East Coast Climate Change Scenario Planning (E3CSP) Presentation

**Attachment 7b:** East Coast Climate Coordination Group (E3CG) Final Action Items (May 2024)

**Attachment 7c:** E3CG Charter

**Attachment 7d:** E3CSP Core Team Guidance

**Attachment 7e:** E3CSP Initial Action Menu (June 2023)

**Attachment 8a:** Allocations Review Discussion Document

**Attachment 8b:** Allocations Review Summary Presentation Slides

**Staff Lead:** John Carmichael ([john.carmichael@safmc.net](mailto:john.carmichael@safmc.net))

# **OVERVIEW**

## **Full Council Session I**

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

**Description:** Representatives will provide reports to the Council.

**Council Action:** None

**2. Staff Report, Update on Stakeholder Engagement Meetings, Revised SSC Workgroup Approach (*Attachments 2a-2c*)**

**Description:** Council staff will brief the Council on activities since the June 2024 meeting, including planning for stakeholder engagement meetings scheduled for early 2025, and revisions to the workgroup approach used by the SSC.

**Council Action:** None.

**3. Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary Update (*Attachment 3*)**

**Description:** LeAnn Hogan, Eastern Region Operations Coordinator with the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, will provide a status update on the proposed designation of a national marine sanctuary in Hudson Canyon including an update on the designation process, the draft designation documents, the Sanctuary Advisory Council and upcoming actions.

**Council Action:** None.

**• Shrimp Advisory Panel Re-Structuring**

**Description:** Council staff will provide the outcome of discussions during the Council's closed session regarding potential re-structuring of the advisory panel(s).

**Council Action:** Determine whether to maintain the current structure of the APs or modify it.

**4. NMFS Reports (*Attachment 4*)**

**Description:** Representatives from the Southeast Regional Office and the Southeast Fisheries Science Center will provide updates to the Council on items requested following the June 2024 Council meeting and other relevant topics.

**Council Action:** None

**5. Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission (WECAFC) Flyingfish and Dolphinfish Workgroup Update (*Attachment 5*)**

**Description:** The [Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission \(WECAFC\)](#) is a regional fisheries body that acts in an advisory capacity to promote the effective conservation, management, and development of living marine resources in the Wider Caribbean. It has 34 members, including the United States. WECAFC's Flyingfish-Dolphinfish Working Group held its first meeting in San Juan, PR, on June 4-5, 2024, with representatives of Barbados, Colombia, Dominica, France, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, United

States, and Venezuela. This briefing will provide a readout to inform the Council and answer questions.

**Council Action:** None.

**6. Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) Program Improvement Amendment (*Attachments 6a and 6b*)**

**Description:** At the June 2024 meeting, the Council received [feedback](#) from the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office and Southeast Fisheries Science Center that data being collected through the SEFHIER program and for-hire logbook cannot be used for management due to low compliance and lack of validation. The letter included a list of recommendations to render the data collected through SEFHIER useful for management. The Council directed staff to initiate work on an amendment to address these shortcomings focusing on incorporating actions that can be taken in the near-term without an amendment, and considering actions and alternatives being explored by the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Council staff will present a draft purpose and need for the amendment and a list of potential actions and alternatives for the Council to consider.

**Council Action:** Review timing of amendment development, the draft Purpose and Need statements, list of potential actions and range of alternatives, and timing of when the newly formed For-Hire Reporting AP should initially review the amendment.

**7. Update on the East Coast Climate Scenario Planning Initiative (*Attachments 7a-7e*)**

**Description:** Scenario planning is a tool that helps people and organizations prepare for uncertain futures. In late 2020, East Coast fishery management organizations initiated a scenario planning exercise to explore jurisdictional and governance issues related to climate change and shifting fishery stocks along the Atlantic Coast. The scenario planning work occurred through a structured, multi-step process over a two-year period (2021-2023), concluding with a Summit workshop in February 2023. The Council will be provided with a summary of progress since the Summit, addressing the creation of 2 standing groups to manage implementation activities and identification and prioritization of action items.

**Council Action:** None.

**8. Review of allocations for species meeting the time-based criteria in the SAFMC Allocation Review Trigger Policy (*Attachments 8a and 8b*)**

**Description:** At the December 2023 meeting, the Council approved their [Allocation Review Guidelines](#) and updated their [Allocation Review Trigger Policy](#). The guidelines specify how the Council's sector allocations will be reviewed and documented while the policy specifies when allocations reviews will occur. One of the criteria that the Council chose to trigger an allocation review is time-based, noting that each species will have its sector allocations reviewed at least once every seven years.

Several of the [allocations for species that the Council manages](#) currently meet the time-based criteria for review. As such, the Council will work to review allocations for these species over several meetings. For this meeting, the Council will review the current sector allocations for Atlantic Spadefish and the three species that make up the Jacks

Complex (Almaco Jack, Lesser Amberjack, and Banded Rudderfish). In accordance with the guidelines, a summary allocations report will be developed based on the Council's discussion and presented to the Council for approval at the December 2024 meeting.

**Council Action:** Provide direction on whether the existing sector allocations for Atlantic Spadefish, Almaco Jack, Lesser Amberjack, and Banded Rudderfish are sufficient.