

**Final**  
**SUMMARY REPORT**  
**SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**  
**Full Council Session I (Closed Session)**  
**June 10, 2024**

The Council met in Closed Session on Monday, June 10, 2024, and discussed the following items:

**Legal Briefing**

Monica Smit-Brunello, NOAA General Counsel, provided the Council a legal brief relative to recent litigation affecting federal fisheries management.

**Review of Applications and Recommendations for Appointment**

The Council reviewed the recommendation for the SCDNR designee on the Recreational Permitting and Reporting Advisory Panel.

The Council reviewed applicants for open seats on the SEDAR Pool, Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and various advisory panels. The Council provided recommendations for new appointments and reappointments.

**For-Hire Reporting Advisory Panel**

The Council reviewed the draft structure and timing for appointments and discussed the draft charge for the new advisory panel.

The Council provided the following comments and recommendations:

- The charge should include improving compliance with existing reporting requirements and any new requirements that may be considered.
- Add “compliance” to the second to last sentence of the charge.
- Solicit for candidates who are familiar with other reporting programs.
- The AP will be temporary and *ad hoc*, not permanent.
- Candidates will be sought through an open solicitation and by recommendation of Council members.
- Potentially include someone from the Gulf region that is not necessarily dually permitted.
- The number of seats is not fixed.

**REVISED STRUCTURE OF THE AP:**

- Where appropriate, all members would be for-hire federally permitted captains that report through SEFHIER (i.e., possess a USCG Captain’s license and own, operate, or be a hired captain of a for-hire fishing business)
- At least 2 members from each South Atlantic state.
  - At least 1 member from each state selected from a SAFMC finfish AP (Snapper Grouper, Mackerel Cobia, or Dolphin Wahoo.)
    - At least 1 member not on an existing finfish AP.
- At least one member from each of the SAFMC finfish APs
- At least 1 member from the New England region.

- At least 1 member from the Mid-Atlantic region.
- At least 1 member from the Gulf of Mexico Region.
- At least 1 member dually permitted between the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic.
- At least 1 member dually permitted between the South Atlantic and Greater Atlantic Region.
- At least 1 member dually permitted to fish in a for-hire and commercial capacity.

**REVISED CHARGE FOR THE AP:**

The For-hire Reporting AP is tasked with providing stakeholder insight on improving the Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) Program for the charter and headboat components of the federal recreational Snapper Grouper, Dolphin Wahoo, and Coastal Migratory Pelagic fisheries, particularly improving compliance with existing requirements and any potential new requirements. The AP should consider lessons learned from self-reporting programs and discuss strategies that would enhance timeliness, accuracy, and quality of the data for SEFHIER. The AP should also consider ways to balance data and compliance needs with the reporting burdens associated with any recommendations that are put forward.

**2023 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year**

The Council reviewed nominees submitted for the Council’s Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award and provided recommendations.

**SEDAR 90 (SA Red Snapper) and SEDAR 94 (Hogfish) Participants and Observers**

The Council reviewed proposed participants and observers for upcoming SEDAR stock assessments and provided recommendations.

**The following draft motions are presented as recommendations for the Council’s consideration:**

**RECREATIONAL PERMITTING AND REPORTING TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL**

**MOTION:** APPOINT ELIZABETH GOODING TO THE RECREATIONAL PERMITTING AND REPORTING TECHNICAL AP.

**SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE**

**MOTION:** REAPPOINT ANNE MARKWITH, CHRIS DUMAS, KAI LORENZEN, FRED SERCHUK, ALEXEI SHAROV, JENNIFER SWEENEY-TOOKES TO THE SSC.

**SEDAR POOL**

**MOTION:** APPOINT CHAD ENGLERT, ERIC FINN, BRICE SEMMENS, AND BOB ZALES II TO THE SEDAR POOL.

**GENERAL ADVISORY PANELS**

**HABITAT AND ECOSYSTEM AP**

**MOTION:** APPOINT ERIN SPENCER TO THE HABITAT AND ECOSYSTEM AP.

LAW ENFORCEMENT AP

**MOTION:** REAPPOINT ALANA HARRISON AND KEVIN ROBERSON TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AP.

MACKEREL COBIA AP

**MOTION:** REAPPOINT ANTHONY BENEVENTO AND CHARLES GRIFFIN TO THE MACKEREL COBIA AP.

**MOTION:** APPOINT ALANA HARRISON, JOT OWENS, AND ROBERT WADDICK TO THE MACKEREL COBIA AP.

**MOTION:** REPLACE CHARLES PROUDFOOT WITH WILLIAM WEEKS ON THE MACKEREL COBIA AP.

SHRIMP AP AND DEEPWATER SHRIMP AP

**MOTION:** APPOINT LAURILEE THOMPSON TO THE SHRIMP AP AND DEEPWATER SHRIMP AP WITH TERMS STARTING AUGUST 12, 2024.

SHRIMP AP

**MOTION:** APPOINT BOB ZALES II TO THE SHRIMP AP.

SNAPPER GROUPE AP

**MOTION:** REAPPOINT JAMES PASKIEWICZ TO THE SNAPPER GROUPE AP.

**MOTION:** APPOINT SCOTT BUFF, STEPHEN RANNEY, AND HALEY STEPHENS TO THE SNAPPER GROUPE AP.

**MOTION:** REPLACE SELBY LEWIS WITH PAUL RUDERSHAUSEN AND RANDY BEARDSLEY WITH DAVID MOSS ON THE SNAPPER GROUPE AP. REMOVE SCOTT AMICK FROM THE SNAPPER GROUPE AP AND ADVERTISE AN OPEN SEAT IN GEORGIA TO BE FILLED IN SEPTEMBER.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

**MOTION:** RECOMMEND STAFF SGT LADUE AND GAME WARDEN BARNARD AS LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF THE YEAR.

**SEDAR 90 (SOUTH ATLANTIC RED SNAPPER) AND SEDAR 94 (HOGFISH)  
PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS**

**MOTION:** APPROVE PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS FOR SEDAR 90 LISTED IN TABLE 1. COUNCIL FUNDS WILL BE USED TO REIMBURSE TRAVEL AND PER DIEM FOR PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS THAT EXCEED THE REQUESTED NUMBER FROM SEDAR.

**Table 1. SEDAR 90 RED SNAPPER PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS**

P = Panelist, D= Data Provider (D travel not supported by SAFMC or SEDAR), and O=Observer (supported by SAFMC).

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>	<b>Function</b>
<b>SSC Members</b>		
Wally Bubley	SSC	<b>Data</b>
Anne Markwith	SSC	<b>Data</b>
Marcel Reichert	SSC	<b>Data</b>
Steve Turner	SSC	<b>Data/Assessment</b>
Dustin Addis	SSC	<b>Assessment</b>
Jie Cao	SSC	<b>Assessment</b>
<i>SSC Count</i>		<b><i>Data Workshop 4</i></b>
<i>Panelist (Travel Supported Through SEDAR)</i>		
<b>AP or Stakeholders</b>		
Paul Nelson	AP	<b>P</b>
Andy Piland	AP	<b>P</b>
<b>Technical Appointees – recommended by S90 Planning Team</b>		
TBD	ACCSP	<b>P</b>
Tracey Smart	SCDNR	<b>P</b>
Alan Bianchi	NCDMF	<b>P</b>
Julie Vecchio	SCDNR	<b>P</b>
Wiley Sinkus	SCDNR	<b>P</b>
Eric Hiltz	SCDNR	<b>P</b>
Elizabeth Gooding	SCDNR	<b>P</b>
Bev Sauls	FLFWC	<b>P</b>
Luiz Barbieri	FLFWC	<b>P</b>
Chloe Ramsey	FLFWC	<b>P</b>
Ted Switzer	FLFWC	<b>P</b>
Russ Brodie	FLFWC	<b>P</b>
Lauren Gentry	FLFWC	<b>P</b>
Brenden Runde	TNC	<b>P</b>
TBD	CIMAS	<b>P</b>
Will Patterson	UFL	<b>P</b>
Roger Brothers	GMRI	<b>P</b>
Dawn Franco	GADNR	<b>P</b>
<i>Panelist Count</i>		<b><i>15 (max 12)</i></b>
<i>Data Providers (not Supported by SEDAR)</i>		

Tiffanie Cross	FLFWC	D
Chris Bradshaw	FLFWC	D
Bridget Cermak	FLFWC	D
Ellie Corbet	FLFWC	D
Megan Schrandt	FLFWC	D
Julia Byrd	SAFMC	D
Council & Staff Observers		
Jessica McCawley	Council Rep	O
Judd Curtis	SAFMC	O
<i>Total</i>	<i>Panelist, SSC, and Observers</i>	<i>23 (max 20)</i>

**MOTION:** APPROVE PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS FOR SEDAR 94 LISTED IN TABLE 2.

**Table 2. SEDAR 94 HOGFISH PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS as recommended by the Planning Team**

P = Panelist, D= Data Provider (D travel not supported by SAFMC or SEDAR), and O=Observer (supported by SAFMC).

Name	Affiliation	Function
SSC Members		
Marcel Reichert	SSC	Data
Steve Turner	SSC	Data/Assessment
Genny Nesslage	SSC	Assessment
Kai Lorenzen	SSC	Review
Alexei Sharov	SSC	Review
<i>SSC Count</i>		
<i>Panelist (Travel Supported Through SEDAR)</i>		
AP		
Andy Fish	AP	P
Richard Gomez	AP	P
Stakeholders		
Eric Finn	Florida Fishermen	P
Chad Englert	Florida Fishermen	P
Brice Semmens	REEF	P
Council & Staff Observers		
Tom Roller (Jessica as back up)	Council Rep	O
Chip Collier	Council Staff	O

**DIRECTION TO STAFF**

- Develop a document for the September 2024 meeting to consider combining the Shrimp Advisory Panel and Deepwater Shrimp Advisory Panel and adding new seats for Virginia and Maryland. Membership changes would be considered at the December 2024 meeting.
- Review the LEOY Nomination and Award process during the December 2024 Council meeting.
- Advertise an open seat for a Georgia representative on the Snapper Grouper AP to be filled during the September 2024 Council meeting.

- Send notification letters to appointees and email notifications to those not selected by June 28, 2024.
- Conduct an orientation of new AP members before the September 2024 SAFMC meeting.
- Publicly advertise for the For-Hire Reporting AP with the intention to appoint AP members at the September 2024 SAFMC meeting. Engage state representatives, existing AP members, and other fishery management councils where appropriate to help identify potential candidates for the AP.