



# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Melvin Bell, Chair | Stephen J. Poland, Vice Chair  
John Carmichael, Executive Director

## AGENDA Full Council Session II Via Webinar

**Monday December 7, 2020, 1:30 P.M. to 2:30 P.M. and 5:00 P.M. (Times subject to change)**

Adoption of Agenda – Mel Bell

Approval of Minutes – Mel Bell

1. Liaison and guest introductions – Mel Bell
2. Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rule (*Attachments 1a-1c*)
  - a. Overview – Mike Schmidtke
  - b. SSC Recommendations – Genny Nesslage, SSC Chair
  - c. **Council Action:** Provide guidance to staff.
3. Draft Amendment 14 to the 2006 Consolidated Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fishery management Plan (FMP) (*Attachments 2a and 2b*) – Guy` DuBeck, NOAA Fisheries HMS

### **Attachments:**

**Attachment 1a:** ABC Control Rule amendment presentation

**Attachment 1b:** ABC Control Rule options paper (March 2019)

**Attachment 1c:** NMFS Guidance on carry-over and phase-in provisions

**Attachment 2a:** HMS FMP Draft Amendment 14 presentation

**Attachment 2b:** HMS Draft Amendment 14

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# OVERVIEW

## Full Council Session II

### 1. Introductions

Mel Bell, Council Chair, will introduce individuals attending the meeting as liaisons and other guests.

### 2. ABC Control Rule (*Attachments 1a-1c*)

Council staff will give a presentation (*Attachment 1a*) describing development of the ABC Control Rule Amendment, including actions and alternatives considered to this point. Amendment development was paused awaiting guidance from NMFS, which was issued in July 2020 (*Attachment 1c*). The SSC also further discussed their recommendations on the amendment at their October 2020 meeting. Genny Nesslage, SSC Chair, will deliver the SSC's recommendations. Given the information provided since the original options paper (*Attachment 1b*), the Council may want to consider adjusting the direction for certain aspects of the amendment.

**Council Action:** Discuss the concepts presented and provide direction to staff on a range of actions and alternatives, as well as contextual information that should be included in the amendment.

### 3. Draft Amendment 14 to the HMS FMP (*Attachment 2*)

NOAA Fisheries recently announced the availability of Draft Amendment 14 to the 2006 Consolidated Highly Migratory (HMS) Species Fishery Management Plan (FMP). Amendment 14 will establish a new framework for the establishment of acceptable biological catch (ABCs) and annual catch limits (ACLs) for Atlantic shark fisheries, consistent with the National Standard 1 guidelines. Specifically, the preferred management options in Amendment 14 for Atlantic sharks are:

- Create a tiered ABC control rule.
- Allow consideration of phase-in ABC control rules for any modifications in ABC.
- Actively manage all sector ACLs (commercial and recreational).
- Establish an ACL for each Atlantic shark management group, without commercial ACL quota linkages.
- Allow carry-over, and only for underharvest of the commercial quotas (landings only) under certain conditions.
- Compare a three-year average of fishing mortality estimates to the overfishing limit to determine overfishing status.

Guy` DuBeck, NOAA Fisheries Highly Migratory Species Management Division staff, will deliver a presentation on Draft Amendment 14 to the Council.

**Council Action:** Discuss the concepts presented and comment on the actions included in the amendment. Written comments on the amendment are due by December 31, 2020.