



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Charlie Phillips, Chair | Captain Mark Brown, Vice Chair
Gregg T. Waugh, Executive Director

AGENDA

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management

DoubleTree by Hilton Atlantic Beach Oceanfront
2717 W. Fort Macon Road
Atlantic Beach, NC 28512

Monday, December 4, 2017 – 9:00 A.M – 11:00 A.M. (Times subject to change)

Approval of Agenda – Doug Haymans

Approval of June 2017 Committee minutes – Doug Haymans

1. Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Advisory Panel November Meeting Summary (*Attachment 1*)
 - a. Overview of Advisory Panel Summary and Recommendations – Roger Pugliese
 - b. Committee Action: Provide Guidance and Approve as Needed
2. SAFMC FEP II Implementation Plan and Road Map (*Attachment 2*)
 - a. Overview of Draft FEP II Implementation Plan – Roger Pugliese
 - b. Developing FEP II Implementation Plan Road Map
 - c. Committee Action: Review and Approve Implementation Plan
3. SAFMC Draft FEP II/Dashboard and Tools (*Attachments 3-10*)
 - a. Overview of Draft FEP II/Dashboard and FEP II Tools – Roger Pugliese
 - b. Committee Action: Review, Provide Guidance and Approve as Needed
4. Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy (SECAS) and South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) (*Attachments 11-13*)
 - a. Update on SECAS and SALCC (Conservation Blueprint 2.2 and Implementation Strategy) – Mallory Martin, SALCC
5. Council Actions on Habitat – Doug Haymans

Other Business – Doug Haymans

Adjourn – Doug Haymans

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Committee

Doug Haymans, Co-Chair

Wilson Laney, Co-Chair

Robert Beal

Mel Bell

Mark Brown

Michelle Duval

Tim Griner

Jessica McCawley

Attachments

- Attachment 1.** Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Advisory Panel: November 2017 Meeting Summary (*posted following Advisory Panel meeting*)
- Attachment 2.** Draft FEP II Implementation Plan (*version provided Advisory Panel – a revised version will be posted following the Advisory Panel meeting, prior to the Council meeting*)
- Attachment 3.** Final Draft Section for Approval – South Atlantic Food Webs and Connectivity
- Attachment 4.** Final Draft Section for Approval – South Atlantic Climate Variability and Fisheries
- Attachment 5.** Final Draft Section for Approval – Shallow Water Coral
- Attachment 6.** Final Draft Section for Approval – Artificial Reefs
- Attachment 7.** Draft Section for Review and Approval – Live Hard Bottom Habitat (*posted following Advisory Panel meeting*)
- Attachment 8.** FEP II Dashboard Layout
- Attachment 9.** Townsend Pres NOAA Fisheries Ecosystem Modeling/Tools SSC Oct17
- Attachment 10.** Okey Pres South Atlantic Ecopath Model Development SSC Oct17
- Attachment 11.** SECAS Summary and Links
- Attachment 12.** SALCC Conservation Blueprint 2.2 Status
- Attachment 13.** SALCC Draft Implementation Strategy Summary

Staff: Roger Pugliese

OVERVIEW

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Committee

The Committee will approve of minutes from June 2017 meeting and agenda.

1. November Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Advisory Panel Meeting Summary – (*Attachment 1*)

Description: Roger Pugliese will review a summary and recommendations developed during the November meeting of the Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Advisory Panel.

Status: The Advisory Panel will review the draft FEP II Implementation Plan and have been tasked to identify their top three actions under each policy as the roadmap for the next two years. The list of actions constituting the FEP II Implementation Plan and Road Map will be finalized for review and approval in March 2018.

Required Committee Action: Provide guidance to staff and approve recommendations provided by the Advisory Panel as needed.

2. SAFMC FEP II Implementation Plan and Road Map – (*Attachment 2*)

Description: Roger Pugliese will review the revised draft FEP II Implementation Plan and timing for completion of the Road Map.

Status: An FEP II Implementation Plan Development process was approved by the Committee and Council during the June 2017 meeting. An FEP II Implementation Team was engaged and developed an initial draft of the Plan which was reviewed in September and guidance provided for revision. Council members followed up with additional general guidance and specific guidance to the Implementation Plan Team and the Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel for revision and update. Sub-Panel Chairs were provided the detailed comments and markup documents to advance the effort to revise the draft. The latest draft Plan in the initial December Briefing Book is based on input from Team, Panel and staff members efforts to address detailed recommendations provided by Council. An updated Implementation Plan draft based on revisions provided during the November Advisory Panel meeting will be posted to the meeting website in the late materials folder for the Habitat and Ecosystem Committee.

Required Committee Action: Review, revise and approve the FEP II Implementation Plan and discuss and provide guidance to staff on development of a road map.

3. SAFMC FEP II, FEP II Dashboard and Tools (*Attachments 3-10*)

Description: Roger Pugliese will provide an overview of the operationalized FEP II Dashboard, review draft FEP II Sections awaiting approval for activation on the Dashboard and review the status and further development of the next generation South Atlantic ecosystem model (Ecopath/Ecosim/Ecospace) discussed at the October SSC meeting.

Status: The Committee reviewed draft FEP II Sections and provided guidance on update and revision. Those Sections have been revised and will be activated on the FEP II Dashboard following approval. The conceptual structure of an online operational FEP II webpage was provided at the June Committee Meeting. The new FEP II Dashboard operationalized and

integrated into the Council website essentially is a living FEP II. A South Atlantic ecosystem model under development through funding provided by the South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) was discussed during the October SSC meeting. Howard Townsend, Chief ecosystem modeler for NOAA Fisheries, reviewed their efforts to advance ecosystem modeling and tool development nationally with an intent to provide focus and support efforts in the South Atlantic region. Tom Okey, University of Victoria, provided a summary of development of the newest generation of a South Atlantic ecosystem (Ecopath/Ecosim/Ecospace) model. The SAFMC Ecospecies system continues to advance supporting access to detailed species information through links through both the Managed Species and Tools pages of the FEP II Dashboard.

Required Committee Action: Review and approve draft FEP II Sections and FEP II Dashboard and provide guidance to staff on further refinement of the Dashboard.

4. **Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy (SECAS) and South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) (*Attachments 11-13*)**

Description: Mallory Martin, SALCC coordinator, will make a presentation to the Committee highlighting recent activities of State and regional partners supporting the Southeast Conservation Adaptation Strategy (SECAS) and provide a status report on the latest South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) Conservation Blueprint 2.2 and development of a Draft Implementation Strategy.

Status: A workshop on SECAS was held at the October Southeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies (SEAFWA) to advance coordination between southeast states and regional partners. The SALCC partners have collaborated in development of a regional Conservation Blueprint 2.2. In addition, Mallory will report on development of a draft SALCC Implementation Strategy which integrates inputs from the Councils approved policies in FEP II and the SAFMC Snapper Grouper Blueprint.

Required Committee Action: Discuss and provide guidance to staff as needed.

5. **Council Actions on Habitat**

Description: Habitat issues may arise that the Council may require a timely response. This item serves as a place holder to provide flexibility to address such habitat issues.

Required Committee Action: Discuss and provide guidance to staff as needed.

Other Business