



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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

AGENDA

Joint Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management, Shrimp, and Golden Crab Committees

Westin Jekyll Island
110 Ocean Way
Jekyll Island, GA 31527

Monday, March 5, 2018 – 2:30 P.M – 5:30 P.M. (Times subject to change)

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Committee

Approval of Agenda – Doug Haymans

Approval of December 2017 Committee minutes – Doug Haymans

1. SAFMC Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) II Implementation Plan and Road Map
(Attachments 1-2)
 - a. Overview of Draft FEP II Implementation Plan and Road Map – Roger Pugliese
 - b. Committee Action: Review and Approve Implementation Plan and Road Map
2. SAFMC FEP II/Dashboard *(Attachments 3-8)*
 - a. Overview of Section Updates and FEP II/Dashboard – Roger Pugliese
 - b. Committee Action: Review, Provide Guidance and Approve as Needed – Doug Haymans
3. Habitat and Ecosystem Tools and Model Development *(Attachments 9-13)*
 - a. SAFMC EcoSpecies System and Habitat Ecosystem Tools– Roger Pugliese
 - b. South Atlantic Ecosystem Modeling – Roger Pugliese
 - c. Ocean Observing: Partnering to Address Council needs
 - d. Committee Action: Provide Guidance as Needed – Doug Haymans
4. Council Actions on Habitat
 - a. Committee Action: Provide Guidance and Action as Needed – Doug Haymans

Joint Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management, Shrimp and Golden Crab Committees

5. Allowable Fishing Areas *(Attachment 14)*
 - a. Overview – Chip Collier
 - b. Committee Discussion and Direction to Staff – Doug Haymans (Habitat) /Charlie Phillips (Shrimp)

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

Shrimp Committee

Charlie Phillips, Chair

Mel Bell, Vice-Chair

Roy Crabtree

Doug Haymans

Wilson Laney

Jessica McCawley

LCDR Jeremy Montes

Golden Crab Committee

Ben Hartig, Chair

Jessica McCawley, Vice-Chair

Chris Conklin

Tim Griner

Charlie Phillips

Attachments

Attachment 1. Draft FEP II Implementation Plan

Attachment 2. Draft FEP II Road Map

Attachment 3. For FEP II Dashboard: South Atlantic Food Webs and Connectivity

Attachment 4. For FEP II Dashboard: South Atlantic Climate Variability and Fisheries

Attachment 5. For FEP II Dashboard: Shallow Water Coral

Attachment 6. For FEP II Dashboard: Artificial Reefs

Attachment 7. For FEP II Dashboard: Live Hard Bottom Habitat

Attachment 8. Updated FEP II Dashboard Layout

Attachment 9. EcoSpecies Revised User Manual

Attachment 10. SECOORA Strategic Plan

Attachment 11. SECOORA Buildout Plan

Attachment 12. IOOS Strategic Plan

Attachment 13. SALCC Annual Report

Attachment 14. Options Paper - Allowable Fishing Areas

Staff: Roger Pugliese, Chip Collier and Brian Chevront

OVERVIEW

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Committee

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

1. SAFMC Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) II Implementation Plan and Road Map – (Attachments 1-2)

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

Status: The draft FEP II Implementation Plan was provided in the initial December Briefing Book. An updated draft based on revisions provided during the November Advisory Panel meeting was posted to the meeting website in the late materials folder for the Habitat and Ecosystem Committee. The Committee deferred approving the Plan to provide additional time for review and input. The revised draft is a refined document based primarily on a collaborative Council member review.

Required Committee Action: Review, revise and approve the FEP II Implementation Plan and Road Map.

2. SAFMC FEP II and FEP II Dashboard (Attachments 3-8)

Description: Roger Pugliese will provide an update of the operationalized FEP II Dashboard, review draft FEP II Sections awaiting approval for activation on the Dashboard

Status: The Committee has previously 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 new FEP II Dashboard operationalized and integrated into the Council website essentially is a living FEP II continually being refined.

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.

3. Habitat and Ecosystem Model Development and Tools (Attachments 9-13)

Description: Roger Pugliese will provide an update on development of the next generation South Atlantic ecosystem model (Ecopath/Ecosim/Ecospace) supported by SALCC funding. As a follow-up, staff will present an overview of collaboration on Ocean Observing in the region. In addition, he will highlight the availability of a refined User Guide for the EcoSpecies providing access to detailed species information online an integral part of FEP II.

Status: 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 with input from Howard Townsend, Chief ecosystem modeler for NOAA Fisheries, who 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, and from Tom Okey, University of Victoria, who provided a summary of development of the newest generation of a South Atlantic ecosystem (Ecopath/Ecosim/Ecospace) model. Development has advanced including coordination with NOAA Fisheries SEFSC to draw on recent production modeling efforts. The SAFMC Ecospecies system continues to advance supporting access to detailed species information via links through both the Managed Species and Tools pages of the FEP II Dashboard.

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

4. Council Actions on Habitat

Description: Habitat issues may arise that may require a timely response by the Council. 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.

Joint Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management, Shrimp and Golden Crab Committees

The Shrimp and Golden Crab Committees will approve of minutes from meetings.

5. Allowable Fishing Areas (*Attachment 14*)

Description: A draft options paper will be presented including options to adjust allowable fishing zones based on previous minutes from Golden Crab and Deep-water Shrimp Advisory Panels. The golden crab fishermen requested additional access areas in the Northern Zone, where there have been some reports of fishing in the past. The rock shrimp fishermen requested the eastern edge of the Oculina Bank Extension be revised to allow access to historical fishing areas. The draft options paper includes data on landings and location of predicted and observed coral habitat.

Status: The Council had postponed development of this amendment until new research could be gathered. Mapping was conducted on the eastern edge of the Oculina Bank Extension and additional mapping may be collected this summer in the area of interest for golden crab fishermen.

Required Committee Action: Review and provide guidance to staff.

Other Business