

OVERVIEW

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Committee Meeting

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

The Committee will: (A) Be provided a report on the November 15-16, 2016 Habitat Ecosystem Advisory Panel Meeting; (B) Be provided draft EFH Policy Statements for South Atlantic Food Web and Connectivity, South Atlantic Climate Variability and Fisheries, and an update on the Artificial Reef EFH Policy Statement development; (C) Be provided an update on habitat and ecosystem tools and modeling; and (D) Be provided a presentation on the Final Lenfest Fishery Ecosystem Task Force Report.

(1) Habitat Ecosystem Advisory Panel Report: Pat Geer, GDNR and Chair of the Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Advisory Panel, will provide a report on the November 15-16, 2016 Habitat Ecosystem Advisory Panel Meeting (**Attachment 1**).

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Committee will provide guidance to staff as appropriate.

(2) FEP II Development: EFH Policy Statements for South Atlantic Food Web and Connectivity and Fisheries and South Atlantic Climate Variability and Fisheries

Pat Geer, GDNR and Council staff, will review draft EFH Policy Statements for South Atlantic Food Web and Connectivity and South Atlantic Climate Variability and Fisheries for inclusion into FEP II. In addition, Pat Geer will provide an update on development of an Artificial Reef Policy Statement. (**Attachments 2-5**).

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:

Approve EFH Policy Statement for South Atlantic Food Web and Connectivity

Approve EFH Policy Statement for South Atlantic Climate Variability and Fisheries

Provide guidance to staff for completion as appropriate.

(3) Habitat and Ecosystem Modeling and Tool Development

Council staff will provide an update on activities supporting habitat and ecosystem tool development and modeling in cooperation with regional partners.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:

The Committee will provide guidance to staff as appropriate.

(4) Presentation on Lenfest Task Force Report

Dr. Felicia Coleman, with Florida State University and Task Force Member will provide the Committee a presentation on the Final Lenfest Fishery Ecosystem Task Force Report, Building Effective Fishery Ecosystem Plans.

The Committee will provide guidance/action on Habitat & Other Issues As Necessary.