



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston SC 29405
Call: (843) 571-4366 | Toll-Free: (866) SAFMC-10 | Fax: (843) 769-4520 | Connect: www.safmc.net

Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Chair | Trish Murphey, Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

AGENDA

Habitat and Ecosystem Committee

The Shores Resort & Spa
2637 South Atlantic Avenue
Daytona Beach Shores, FL 32118

Tuesday, June 11, 2024 – 10:30 am – 12:00 pm. (Times subject to change)

Approval of Agenda

Approval of minutes (December 2023)

1. Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel (HEAP) Report (*Attachments 1a and 1b*) – Stacie Crowe, SCDNR (AP Chair)
2. Annual Habitat Report (*Attachment 2*)
 - a. Review the draft for 2023 report addressing habitat activities throughout the Southeast region.
Committee Action: Provide guidance as appropriate.
3. Coral Management (*Attachments 3a and 3b*)
 - a. Coral Amendment 10 – Update on the ongoing resubmission process
 - b. Coral HAPC Expansion Discussion
Committee Action: Provide guidance as appropriate
4. Approve agenda topics for Fall 2024 Habitat and Ecosystem AP Meeting (*Attachment 4*)
 - a. Review workplan
Committee Action: Review and approve list of agenda items.

Other Business

Adjourn

Habitat and Ecosystem Committee

Trish Murphey, Chair
Laurilee Thompson, Vice Chair
Robert Beal
Carolyn Belcher
Gary Borland
LT Marisa Kraiss
Amy Dukes
Tim Griner
Judy Helmey
Kerry Marhefka
Jessica McCawley
Tom Roller
Robert Spottswood, Jr.
Andy Strelcheck
Spud Woodward

Attachments

Attachment 1a: Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel Report (April 2024)
Attachment 1b: Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel Report Presentation (April 2024)
Attachment 2: Draft Annual Habitat Report 2023
Attachment 3a: Coral 10 Resubmission Update
Attachment 3b: Deepwater Coral HAPC Expansion Discussion
Attachment 4: Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel Workplan

Staff Contact: Kathleen.howington@safmc.net

OVERVIEW

Habitat and Ecosystem Committee

The Committee will approve minutes from the December 2023 meeting and the agenda for the current meeting.

1. Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel Report (*Attachments 1a and 1b*)

Description: Stacie Crowe SCDNR, (AP Chair) will review the April 2024 Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel Report.

Required Committee Action: Consider HEAP recommendations and provide guidance to staff.

2. SAFMC Annual Habitat Report (*Attachment 2*)

Council staff will review the draft annual report meant to address habitat activities during 2023, as outlined in the Habitat Blueprint.

Required Committee Action: Review the 2023 Habitat Activities Report and provide feedback to finalize the report.

3. Coral Management (*Attachments 3a and 3b*)

Council staff will provide an update on the Coral 10 resubmission progress. Council staff will also provide a general overview of recent deep water coral modeling and mapping and request feedback on how the Council wishes to use it for management.

Required Committee Action: Discuss the resubmission of Coral Amendment 10. Discuss potential management actions resulting from deepwater coral modeling work and provide guidance to staff.

4. Agenda Items for Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel Spring 2024 Meeting (*Attachment 4*)

Council staff will review the Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel Workplan that includes the following items to discuss in the Fall 2024 HEAP meeting.

- EFH 5-year review - finalized
- Tools and Partners Evaluations for the Habitat Program
- Review Progress on the Habitat website.
- Review progress on the Habitat Program Communication Strategy
- Review the long-term impacts of windfarms and decommissioning.
- Review EFH consultations number and types for the South Atlantic.

Other topics of interest

- Inclusion of wind energy in the Energy Exploration, Development, Transportation and Hydropower Re-Licensing policy
- Review of tide gate and living shoreline projects and discussion on future impacts
- Revision of [Alterations to Riverine, Estuarine and Nearshore Flows](#) policy to address impacts from fresh water discharges and impediments to river flow
- Space program impacts on habitat (if the information is available).

- Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) updates
- Improving EFH tier structure
- Army Corps of Engineers Project for Reefs
- Offshore wind infrastructure coverage and artificial reef footprint

Other Business