SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 55 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston SC 29405

Policy for the Protection and **Restoration of Essential Fish** Habitats from Energy Exploration and **D**evelopment

Overview of First Draft Version Dated March 22, 2024

> SAFMC Habitat and EBM **Advisory Panel**

April 22, 2024 Charleston, SC

Connect: www.safmc.ne

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

Progress

Two online meetings – February 7 and March 18 Final Working Group Comments – March 22 Organization and Updating the Regs and Science

- Policy Context (formerly Introduction)
- Policy Goal
- EFH At Risk from Energy Exploration and Development -EFH User Guide



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNC 405 Flace Flace Drive, Date 2011, Merit Charleston 82 (2406) Call (843) 571-356 [T-dl-Fee (866) SAFMC-10] Face (843) 763-4220 [Contact: www.nafmc.net Carleyn.N. Belther, Ph.D., Charl Thinh Murphery, Vice Char John Camindah, Enzevieve Firetor

Progress (con't.)

- Threats to Marine and Estuarine Resources from Energy Exploration, Development, Operational, Site Decommission, and Structure Removal
- Threats to Marine and Estuarine Resources from Wind Energy Exploration, Development, Operational, Site Decommission, and Structure Removal
- SAFMC Best Management Practices for Energy Exploration, Development, Operational, Site Decommission, and Structure Removal
- Administrative, Biological, Licensing, Structural, Compensatory, Stakeholder Engagement, Research



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Progress (con't.)

• Appendix A

- Table 1. Non-fishing threats identified for the South Atlantic region and the policies that address these threats.
- Table 2. SAFMC policies and details for what each policy entails.



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 Feber Pines Drive, Sate 2011, brin: Charleson 302 2440, 1976 JAS20 | Connect: www.safinc.net 2014 (1945) 571-4665 [Tod Free Golds Darked-10] Para (1945) 769-4520 | Connect: www.safinc.net

n N. Belcher, Ph.D., Chair | Trish Murphey, Vice Chair Jarmichael Executive Director

Overall Approach

- Forward thinking and consider the uniqueness of our region
- Life cycle considerations
- New EFH considerations
- Exploration and R&D platforms
- Academic collaborations/SEAMAP
- Stakeholder engagement considerations



SOUTH A LIAN INC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COU 405 Faber Bics, Saite 201, Mice Faberator, 82 C394 (345) (Consect: www.safarc.ast Carl (945) 571-1546 [Tail Free (946) SAFMC-101 Fac: (945) 769-4520 (Consect: www.safarc.ast Carolyn N. Beicher, Bi.D., Chair [Tath Murphey, Vice Chair

Working Group Members

- Laurent Cherubin
- Stacy Crowes
- Anne Deaton
- Brian Hooker
- Kathleen Howington
- Paula Keener (Chair)

- Wilson Laney
- Brendan Runde
- David Whitaker
- Pace Wilber
- Jordan Wolfe
- Thomas Jones



SOUTH A LL2NTHC LUBERS WAS AN AGENTLENT COUL 405 Fiber Bare Dury, Suite 2011, ICC Hinderson 32 2019 Call. (343) 571-4566 [Toll-Free (366) SAFMC-10] Fax: (343) 769-4520 [Cennect: www.safmc.net Cardyn N. Beicher, Ph. D., Chair [Trinh Murpher, Vice Chair