

# **OVERVIEW**

## **Highly Migratory Species Committee Meeting**

Marina Inn at Grande Dunes  
8121 Amalfi Place  
Myrtle Beach, SC

September 15, 2016

The committee will (1) receive a presentation on a proposed rule that will change the commercial retention limits for blacknose sharks and non-blacknose small coastal sharks in the Atlantic Region; (2) receive a presentation on an upcoming draft HMS amendment that may modify and/or potentially create new Habitat Areas of Particular Concern for HMS species; and (3) discuss other business as appropriate.

### **1. Presentation on modifying the commercial retention limit for blacknose sharks and non-blacknose small coastal sharks in the Atlantic Region (Attachment 1)**

NMFS Highly Migratory Species (HMS) staff will give the HMS committee a presentation on a proposed rule to modify the commercial retention limit for blacknose and non-blacknose small coastal sharks in the Atlantic Region. This rule change will implement management measures for the commercial Atlantic small coastal shark fisheries intended to allow for the better utilization of available non-blacknose small coastal shark quota while also rebuilding and preventing overfishing of blacknose sharks. Public comment is currently being sought on the proposed rule and will be accepted through September 20, 2016.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:** Discuss the presentation and take action as appropriate.

### **2. Presentation on Draft Amendment 10 Essential Fish Habitat (Attachment 2)**

NMFS HMS staff will give the HMS committee a presentation on an upcoming draft HMS amendment that will potentially modify and/or create new Habitat Areas of Particular Concern for HMS species. The draft amendment is anticipated to be release in the early Fall of 2016.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:** Discuss the presentation and take action as appropriate.

### **3. Other Business**

The Committee will address other items as appropriate.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:** Discuss and take action as appropriate.