

OVERVIEW

Joint Dolphin Wahoo/Snapper Grouper/Mackerel Cobia Committee Meeting

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

December 6, 2016

Following approval of the agenda and the September 2016 minutes, the committee will (1) receive an update on commercial and recreational dolphin and wahoo landings versus the respective ACLs, (2) receive an update on the status of Dolphin Regulatory Amendment 1, (3) receive an update on the status of the 2015 commercial yellowtail snapper catch, (4) review the draft amendment and decision document for DW Amendment 10/SG Amendment 44 (Dolphin and Yellowtail Snapper Allocation) and decide whether to approve for public hearings, (5) review and provide direction to staff on the draft options document for DW Amendment 11/SG Amendment 45/CMP Amendment 31 (For-Hire Limited Entry), and (6) discuss other business as appropriate.

1. Update on commercial and recreational dolphin and wahoo catches versus the ACLs *(Attachment 1 and Attachment 2)*

NMFS SERO staff will present to the committee an update on 2015 and preliminary 2016 commercial and recreational landings of dolphin and wahoo from the Atlantic Ocean.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee discussion and action as necessary.

2. Update on the status of Dolphin Wahoo Regulatory Amendment 1

NMFS SERO staff will provide the committee an update on Dolphin Wahoo Regulatory Amendment 1 (sent to NMFS on 2/16/16), which would establish a commercial trip limit for dolphin of 4,000 pounds whole weight after 75% of the commercial sector annual catch limit (ACL) has been reached during the fishing year.

3. Status of 2015 Commercial Yellowtail Snapper Catch *(Attachments 3a & 3b)*

NMFS SEFSC/SERO staff will provide a presentation *(Attachment 3a)* to the committee regarding the status of finalized 2015 commercial yellowtail snapper landings and a discrepancy that occurred between the landings reported by the Commercial Landings Monitoring (CLM) System and the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP). Jessica McCawley will present the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission materials *(Attachment 3B)* documenting what happened and providing the revised landings.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee discussion and action as necessary.

4. Review the draft amendment and decision document for DW Amendment 10/SG Amendment 44 (Dolphin and Yellowtail Snapper Allocation) and decide whether to approve for public hearings (*Attachment 4 and Attachment 5*)

The committee will review the draft amendment and decision document for Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10/Snapper Grouper 44 which covers allocation options for the ACLs of dolphin and yellowtail snapper, redefining Optimal Yield (OY) for the dolphin fishery, and potentially modifying the allowable gears for the possession of dolphin or wahoo. The committee will decide whether to send the amendment out for public hearings that will take place in January and February of 2017.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Provide direction to staff and approve for public hearings.

5. Review and provide input on the draft options document for DW Amendment 11/SG Amendment 45/CMP Amendment 31 (For-Hire Limited Entry) (*Attachment 6 and Attachment 7*)

Staff will review the public comments received on the control date (*Attachment 6*). The committee will review a draft options document for Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 11/ Snapper Grouper Amendment 45/ Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 31 (*Attachment 7*) that examines potential options for implementing limited entry in the for-hire sector. This amendment would potentially establish a limited entry permit system for the three for-hire permits under the purview of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council: the Snapper Grouper For-Hire Permit, the Dolphin-Wahoo For-Hire Permit, and the Coastal Migratory Pelagics For-Hire Permit.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Provide direction to staff.

6. Other Business

The Committee will address other items as appropriate.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Committee discussion and action as necessary.