

**JOINT MEETING OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE & ADVISORY
PANEL
JEKYLL ISLAND, GA
MARCH 3, 2010**

The Law Enforcement Committee convened jointly with the Law Enforcement Advisory Panel on Wednesday March 3, 2010. The Committee & AP received a presentation from staff on issues regarding area closures in the South Atlantic and other regions, including numbers of waypoints, use of Vessel Monitoring Systems and SAFMC online tools. The Council's preferred area closure alternative for Snapper Grouper Amendment 17A was also discussed as well as possible spearfishing restrictions within the closed area. John Gauvin, of the Better Use Cooperative in the Pacific Northwest gave a presentation on the fishing industry's participation in establishing area closures in the Aleutian Islands. The Committee & AP briefly discussed the possibility of adding an enforceability analysis of proposed regulations to plan amendments.

The Law Enforcement Committee and Advisory Panel made the following motions:

Motion # 1: Prefer the alternative(s) with the least number of waypoints of the available options
Approved by AP

Guidance to staff:

- The Law Enforcement AP would appreciate and encourage more frequent joint meetings with the Law Enforcement Committee.
- The Law Enforcement AP reiterates that the size of area closures should be limited to the minimum necessary to protect the resource. The Law Enforcement AP does not support proposing area closures that are larger than necessary in order to facilitate enforcement.
- The Law Enforcement AP recommends prohibiting spearfishing within the proposed snapper grouper closed area.
- The Law Enforcement Committee & AP do not support inclusion of an enforceability analysis in plan amendment documents.