

Overview

Law Enforcement Committee

Hilton Cocoa Beach Oceanfront
1550 N. Atlantic Avenue
Cocoa Beach FL

June 16, 2016

The committee will: (A) review and approve a preliminary agenda for the Joint Law Enforcement Advisory Panel and Law Enforcement Committee meeting to be held in August 2016; (B) review nominations for the 2015 Law Enforcement of the Year award and select the recipient; and (C) address other business as appropriate.

A. Joint meeting of the Law Enforcement Advisory Panel (LEAP) and Law Enforcement Committee (LEC)

The LEAP and LEC met separately during the Council meeting week in March 2016 in Jekyll Island, GA. Both groups discussed items that would require following up at a subsequent meeting and the LEAP requested an additional annual meeting. Hence, the two groups are scheduled to meet jointly on August 4-5, 2016 in Charleston, SC. Below is a draft list of agenda items:

- Draft language to describe what constitutes proper stowage of spearfishing gear to suggest to NOAA OLE for inclusion in regulations.
- Review the For-Hire Reporting Amendment and provide recommendations.
- Receive a report from NOAA GC on the use of Operator Cards in other regions. The March 2016 Summary Report for the LEC states: *A brief follow up to discussions at the September 2015 LE Committee meeting regarding NMFS Operator Cards was conducted. Some additional research will be carried out prior to the June Council meeting regarding the total picture across Councils pertaining to the use of, and means of issuing, Operator Cards for applicable fisheries. A brief report of these findings will be provided in June.* The LEAP & LEC chairs agreed that it would be more productive to present such a report at the joint meeting in August so the Council would receive feedback from both the LEAP and LEC at their September 2016 meeting.
- Receive an update from FWC on enforcement of regulations on the transport of fillets from The Bahamas?
- Updates from state representatives on JEA activities?
- Others?

COMMITTEE ACTION: Discuss preliminary agenda and provide guidance to staff.

B. Selection of 2015 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year (LEOY; Attachment 1) (CLOSED SESSION)

Nominations were sought for the 2015 LEOY award from the four state agencies, NOAA OLE, and the USCG. Five nominees were submitted and the nominations reviewed by LEAP

members who each voted for their top three candidates. The LEC will review the three nominations submitted by the LEAP and select a deserving officer to be presented with the 2015 LEOY award at the Council's September 2016 meeting in Myrtle Beach, SC.

C. Other Business

The Committee will address other items as appropriate.