From:	hullsseafood
To:	Mike Schmidtke
Subject:	RE: BSB pot
Date:	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 5:02:07 PM

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yes please do.
Thank You

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device

-------- Original message --------
From: Mike Schmidtke <mike.schmidtke@safmc.net>
Date: 2/13/24 4:57 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: James Hull Jr <hullsseafood@aol.com>, jessica.mccawley@myfwc.com
Subject: RE: BSB pot

Thanks, Jimmy. Do you want me to add that email to the written/emailed comments for Reg Am 36?

Michael Schmidtke, PhD

Fishery Scientist

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

4055 Faber Place Drive; Suite 201

North Charleston, SC 29405

(843) 302-8433

www.safmc.net

From: hullsseafood <hullsseafood@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 11:47 AM
To: jessica.mccawley@myfwc.com; Mike Schmidtke <mike.schmidtke@safmc.net>
Subject: BSB pot

Hi Jessica and Mike

I was not able to unmute my phone during last nights amed 36 discussions.

In trying to answer the questions from the Council, I wanted to speak.

My written comment gives my opinion to most of the questions. But in addition, If BSB pot endorsement holders are not allowed to fish Rope less gear in the Seasonal Whale closed area WILL YOU CONTINUE TO USE THE ROPE LESS GEAR IN OPEN AREAS?

answer NO

However I do support making rope less pot retrieval gear an option for use in current regulations of the BSB pot fishery. Other fisherman and fisheries may need to utilize the evolving technology.

I can explain.

It takes considerably longer to retrieve and repack ropeless set up

The rope less has been developed to protect Right Whales when they migrate to calf in the cold Winter water. And be used in those areas in the SA.

After the migration the Rope less method of Retrival is not necessary in the SA BSB fishery.

I will continue to use vertical line retrieval of pots in open areas .

There was comment from a recreational sector member who seemed to be opposed to Commercial BSB pot fishery. He basically claimed that anything helping the commercial fisherman would hurt him. That is nonsense. As you know Recreational sector has vast majority of BSB acl and of most other reef fish. Commercial BSB pot fisherman try to catch our ACL and stop directed fishing for BSB. The SSC and Council sets the ACL and quotas for each sector. We should be given every opportunity to harvest our quota efficiently and then move on to a different fishery. Commercial Fisherman do not directly target or continue to catch and release and dead discard closed fisheries. So hopefully Council members will discount Recreational sectors comments, blaming Commercial BSB for overharvesting or Overfishing BSB. When the new catch levels come out for BSB these open season for BSB will be very short.

But the Recreational sector will continue fish for BSB and dead discarding year round. They are causing the overfishing not the Commercial BSB pot fisherman. I am always willing to listen to others opinions.

Thanks for listening to me.

Jimmy

Sent from my T-Mobile 5G Device