



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Jessica McCawley, Chair | Mel Bell, Vice Chair
Gregg T. Waugh, Executive Director

Revised AGENDA **Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management** **Advisory Panel Meeting**

Sirata Beach Resort
St. Petersburg Beach, Florida

November 6-8, 2018 (Times subject to change)

Tuesday, November 6, 2018 9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Approval of the Agenda – Anne Deaton, NC DMF

Approval of May 18, 2018 Minutes – Anne Deaton, NC DMF

Opening Statements, Introductions and Day 1 Tasks – Anne Deaton, DMF and Roger Pugliese, SAFMC

- 1. NOAA Fisheries EBFM Activities for the South Atlantic Region** (*Attachments 1-2*)
 - a. NOAAs EBFM Implementation Plan – Milestones to Address Actions in FEP II Implementation Plan and Two-Year Roadmap – Karla Gore, NOAA Fisheries SERO
 - b. Update on South Atlantic Ecosystem Status Report - Cynthia Cooksey, NOAA Fisheries Habitat Conservation Division
 - c. Update on South Atlantic Climate Vulnerability Analysis – John Quinlan, NOAA Fisheries SEFSC Miami
 - d. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Anne Deaton
- 2. National Fish Habitat Activities- Regional Partnerships** (*Attachments 3-4*)
 - a. South Atlantic Fish Habitat Regional Partnership (SARP) Ongoing Activities and State of the South Atlantic Habitat Assessment Proposal– Jessica Graham, SARP
 - b. ACFHP Science and Data Initiatives – Lisa Havel, ASMFC/ACFHP
 - c. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Anne Deaton

12:00 Noon - 1:30 P.M. Lunch

- 3. Ecosystem Considerations: Prey supporting Dolphin Wahoo Fisheries** (*Attachments 5-7*)
 - a. Ecological importance of frigate and bullet mackerel as prey for dolphin and wahoo – Steve Poland, NC DNR and Jeff Buckel, NCSU
 - b. Panel Member Discussion and Recommendations – Anne Deaton
- 4. South Atlantic State Natural Events of 2018**
 - a. Roundtable Discussion of Habitat and Environmental Impacts – State Sub-Panel Chairs

5. **Navy's Atlantic Fleet Testing and Training Area** (*Attachments 8-11*)
 - a. Final EIS: Navy and NOAA Fisheries Cooperation – Laura Busch, US Navy and Cynthia Cooksey, NOAA Fisheries HCD

Wednesday November 7, 2018 9:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Day 2 Tasks – Anne Deaton

6. **Fishery Independent Research Supporting EBFM and Developing South Atlantic Ecosystem Model** (*Attachments 12-14*)
 - a. Update on Regional Fishery Independent Research – Marcel Reichert, SCDNR
 - b. Supporting South Atlantic Ecosystem Model Development – Tracy Smart, SCDNR
 - c. Enhancing Spatial Presentation of Species Distribution – Tina Udouj, FWRI
7. **Deep Water Ecosystem Characterization - NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program** (*Attachment 15*)
 - a. Overview of NOAA's deep-sea coral and sponge research to inform habitat protection in the South Atlantic – Heather Coleman, NOAA Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program
 - b. NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* 2018 South Atlantic Cruise Results in the Context of Mapping and Characterization across the South Atlantic Region – Kasey Cantwell, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research
 - c. Overview of the Complexity of Habitats and Species living in the Deepwater Ecosystem – Kasey Cantwell and Heather Coleman

12:00 Noon - 1:30 P.M. Lunch

8. **Energy Development Activities in the South Atlantic** (*Attachments 16-18*)
 - a. Status Report on BOEM Activities in the South Atlantic - Brian Hooker, BOEM
 - Offshore Oil and Gas
 - Marine Minerals
 - Environmental Studies
 - Renewable Energy Leasing and Path Forward
 - b. Presentation on Kitty Hawk North Carolina Offshore Wind Development - Craig Poff Development Director, Kitty Hawk Offshore Wind
9. **Afternoon Member Breakout Session**
Break out Groups – NC/SC/At Large Members and GA/FL/At Large Members
Presenters and Facilitators:
Web Services Report Creation Supporting Review - Tina Udouj, FWRI
Enhancing EFH information to Address Non-Fishing Threats and Deepwater Ecosystems Information Supporting Conservation and Management - Heather Coleman, NOAA Fisheries and Kasey Cantwell, NOAA OE
Member Input:
 - a. Refining FEP II Dashboard, Digital Dashboard and Webservices to:
 - Enhance EFH information, its presentation and availability to enhance NEPA and permit review addressing non-fishing threats.

- Enhance presentation of and linkages to ongoing research efforts including NOAA Ocean Exploration Program and NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* mapping and characterization of deep-water ecosystems.
- b. Interactive Session on Habitat and Ecosystem Webservices Report Development

Thursday November 8, 2018 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

Day 3 Tasks – Anne Deaton

10. Debrief - Member Input during Breakout Sessions

- a. Overview of Input on Refining EFH and access for NEPA and permit review

11. SALCC Conservation Blueprint

- a. Webinar - Refinement of Conservation Blueprint Simple Viewer – Hillary Morris, SALCC/NCSU

12. South Atlantic Ecopath Model

- a. Webex – Update on Development of Next Generation Ecopath Model– Tom Okey, UVic

Other Business – Anne Deaton

Adjourn – Anne Deaton

Attachments

1. Draft NOAA Fisheries SA EBFM Implementation Plan May 2018
2. SAFMC Two Year Roadmap March 2018
3. ACFHP SE Mapping Methodology Draft
4. Species Habitat Matrix Summary Report
5. Trophic Dynamics of Pelagic Fishes in the United States Inferred from Diet and Stable Isotope Analysis. Steve Poland 2018 Thesis
6. Feeding Ecology of Blue Marlins, Dolphinfish, Yellowfin Tuna, and Wahoo from North Atlantic Ocean and Comparisons with Other Oceans. Rudershausen et.al. 2010
7. MAFMC to SAFMC Frigate and Bullet Mackerel March 18
8. Navy to SAFMC FEIS AFTT
9. Busch Presentation FEIS Navy Atlantic Fleet Testing and Training Area (AFTT)
10. Final EIS Navy Atlantic Fleet Testing and Training Area Vol I-V
11. Final AFTT Record of Decision Oct18
12. SERFS Trends Report to SAFMC June 2018
13. SCDNR: Data Inputs for SALCC Funded SA Ecopath Model
14. SAFMC Habitat Ecosystem Web Services User Guide
15. Okeanos Explorer: Windows to the Deep 2018
16. BOEM Environmental Studies 2018 Quarterly Report
17. Sand Survey Activities for BOEM: Draft EIS June 18
18. SAFMC Online Comments: BOEM Renewable Energy Path Forward
19. Input on Proposed Non-Fishing Impacts Workshop

Staff: Roger Pugliese, Senior Fishery Biologist

OVERVIEW

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Advisory Panel

The Advisory Panel will approve minutes of May 2018 (*Attachment 1*) and agenda.

Tuesday, November 6, 2018 Through Thursday November 8, 2018

- 1. NOAA Fisheries EBFM Activities for the South Atlantic Region** (*Attachments 1-2*)
Description: Karla Gore, NOAA Fisheries SERO will provide an update on NOAA's Draft EBFM Implementation Plan for the South Atlantic Region addressing Actions in FEP II Implementation Plan <http://safmc.net/download/SAFMC-FEP-II-Implementation-Plan-March-2018.pdf> and Two-Year Roadmap <http://safmc.net/download/SAFMC-FEP-II-Two-Year-Roadmap-March-2018.pdf>. Cindy Cooksey, NOAA Fisheries Habitat Conservation Division will provide an update on development of a South Atlantic Ecosystem Status Report. John Quinlan, NOAA Fisheries SEFSC Miami will provide an update on development of a South Atlantic Climate Vulnerability Analysis.
Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate.
- 2. National Fish Habitat Activities- Regional Partnerships** (*Attachments 3-4*)
Description: Jessica Graham, Southeast Aquatic Fish Habitat Partnership (SARP) will provide an overview of ongoing activities and the proposed South Atlantic Fish Habitat Assessment. Lisa Havel, ASMFC will provide an overview of science and data initiatives of the Atlantic Coast Fish Habitat Partnership (ACFHP).
Links: National Fish Habitat Partnership: <http://www.fishhabitat.org/>
SARP: <https://southeastaquatics.net/>
Southern Instream Flow Network: <https://southeastaquatics.net/sarps-programs/sifn>
ACFHP: <http://www.atlanticfishhabitat.org/>
SECAS – <http://secassoutheast.org/about>, Blueprint - <http://secassoutheast.org/blueprint.html>
- 3. Ecosystem Considerations: Prey supporting Dolphin Wahoo Fisheries** (*Attachments 5-7*)
Description: Steve Poland, NC DNR (with input from Jeff Buckel, NCSU) will review the ecological importance of frigate and bullet mackerel as prey for dolphin and wahoo.
Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate.
- 4. South Atlantic State Natural Events of 2018**
Description: State Sub-Panel Chairs will provide initial presentations or open discussion on the impacts of extreme natural events of 2018.
Panel Member Action: Members will provide input as needed.
- 5. Navy's Atlantic Fleet Testing and Training Area** (*Attachments 8-11*)
Description: Laura Busch, US Navy and Cynthia Cooksey, NOAA Fisheries HCD will provide an overview of cooperation in developing the Final EIS and addressing EFH concerns.
Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate.
- 6. Fishery Independent Research Supporting EBFM and Developing South Atlantic Ecosystem Model** (*Attachments 12-14*)

Marcel Reichert, SCDNR will update members on regional fishery independent research activities. Tracy Smart, SCDNR will provide an overview of fishery independent research compiled supporting South Atlantic ecosystem model development. Tina Udouj, FWRI will provide members an overview of ongoing efforts using fishery independent research to enhance spatial presentation of species distribution.

Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as needed.

7. Deep Water Ecosystem Characterization - NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program (*Attachment 15*)

Description: Heather Coleman, NOAA Deep Sea Coral Research and Technology Program will provide members an overview of NOAA's deep-sea coral and sponge research to inform habitat protection in the South Atlantic. Kasey Cantwell, NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research, will provide members a review of NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer 2018 South Atlantic cruise results in the context of mapping and characterization across the South Atlantic Region. Kasey Cantwell and Heather Coleman will provide an overview of the complexity of habitats and species living in the deepwater ecosystem.

Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate.

8. Energy Development Activities in the South Atlantic (*Attachments 16-18*)

Description: Brian Hooker, BOEM will provide members a status report on BOEM activities in the South Atlantic region with a focus on renewable energy leasing and development. Craig Poff, Development Director, Kitty Hawk Offshore Wind, will provide members an introduction to industry planning and opportunity for early coordination on Kitty Hawk North Carolina offshore wind development.

Panel Member Action: Members will discuss and provide input as appropriate.

9. Afternoon Member Breakout Session (*Attachments 14 and 19*)

Description: Break out Groups – NC/SC/At Large Members and GA/FL/At Large Members Presenters and Facilitators: Tina Udouj, FWRI will provide a demonstration of Web Services report creation supporting review. Heather Coleman, NOAA Fisheries will provide an introduction to efforts underway to enhance EFH information to address non-fishing threats. Kasey Cantwell, NOAA OE will set the stage for member input on enhancing access, availability and use of deep water ecosystems information supporting conservation and management and NEPA review.

Member Input:

Refining FEP II Dashboard, Digital Dashboard and Webservices to:

Enhance EFH information, its presentation and availability to enhance NEPA and permit review addressing non-fishing threats.

Enhance presentation of and linkages to ongoing research efforts including NOAA Ocean Exploration Program and NOAA Ship Okeanos Explorer mapping and characterization of deep-water ecosystems.

Interactive Session on Habitat and Ecosystem Webservices Report Development supporting

Panel Member Action: Members will provide input during breakout sessions.

10. Debrief - Member Input during Breakout Sessions

Description: Overview of input on refining EFH and access for NEPA and permit review

11. SALCC Conservation Blueprint

Description: Hillary Morris, SALCC/NCSU will join the members by Webinar and provide an overview of the refinement of the SALCC Conservation Blueprint Simple Viewer.

12. South Atlantic Ecopath Model

Description: Tom Okey, UVic will join members by Webinar and provide an update on development of next generation Ecopath Model.