

SUMMARY REPORT
SOPPs COMMITTEE MEETING
Stuart, Florida
June 9, 2009

The SOPPs Committee met the afternoon of June 9, 2009 in Stuart, Florida. The minutes from the March 2009 SOPPs Committee meeting were approved. The Committee received presentations on the following agenda items:

1. Review proposed rule on Council procedures

Bob Mahood directed the committee to Attachment 1, which is the proposed rule that addresses Council procedures and provides guidance to the Council in modifying the SOPPs. He indicated this is the full version and that it had modified in Attachment 2 in an effort to make it easier for the committee to review and make comment.

2. Develop comments for the proposed rule on Council procedures

Bob directed the Council to Attachment 2, which includes the proposed modifications to the Part 600–Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions. The committee reviewed each of these provisions individually. Staff made recommendations on provisions that deserved comment and committee members discussed these and other provisions and provided direction to staff. Overall, the proposed rule tracks the recent amendments to the Magnuson-Stevens Act and does not significantly change how the Council operates. However, there are several provisions that need to be clarified. Staff was directed to prepare a letter for the Chairman’s signature commenting on the proposed rule.

3. Develop recommendations for revisions to SOPPs

The committee determined that until the final rule has been completed, the Council will not be able to complete work on up-dating its SOPPs. Bob pointed out that the SSC Selection Committee had provided good direction for addressing changes to a number of issues related to our SSC. In the interim, staff will continue to work on drafting modifications to the SOPPs and have a completed draft for the September Council meeting.

There were no motions.