



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Dr. Michelle Duval, Chair | Charlie Phillips, Vice Chair
Gregg T. Waugh, Executive Director

AGENDA

Spiny Lobster Committee Meeting

Sawgrass Marriott
1000 PGA Tour Boulevard
Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida

Monday, June 12, 2017 – 1:30 to 2:30 P.M. (Times subject to change)

Approval of Agenda – Jessica McCawley

Approval of March 2017 Spiny Lobster Committee minutes – Jessica McCawley

1. Status of 2016-2017 Catches vs. ACL
 - a. Presentation (**Attachment 1**) – Kari MacLauchlin
 - b. Committee discussion and action as necessary – Jessica McCawley

2. Spiny Lobster Regulatory Amendment 4 (**Attachment 2a**)
 - a. Public comments summary (**Attachment 2b**) – Kari MacLauchlin
 - b. Overview of Decision Document (**Attachment 2c**) – Kari MacLauchlin
 - c. Committee Action: Select preferred alternatives; modify the document as needed; review codified text (**Attachment 2d**) and approve for formal review – Jessica McCawley

3. Updates to align Federal Regulations with FWC Regulations (**Attachment 3**)
 - a. Presentation– Jessica McCawley
 - b. Committee discussion and action as necessary – Jessica McCawley

Other Business – Jessica McCawley

Adjourn – Jessica McCawley

Spiny Lobster Committee

Jessica McCawley, Chair
Ben Hartig, Vice Chair
Chester Brewer

Chris Conklin
Roy Crabtree
LT Tara Pray

Attachments

Attachment 1: Spiny Lobster landings for 2016-2017

Attachment 2a: Spiny Lobster Regulatory Amendment 4

Attachment 2b: Summary of public comments for Regulatory Amendment 4

Attachment 2c: Decision Document for Regulatory Amendment 4

Attachment 2d: Codified text for Regulatory Amendment 4

Attachment 3: Protocol and Procedure for Enhanced Cooperative Management of Spiny Lobster

Staff: Kari MacLauchlin

OVERVIEW

Spiny Lobster Committee

The Committee will approve of minutes from March 2017 meeting and the agenda.

1. **Status of 2016-17 catches v. ACL – (Attachment 1)**

Description: Council staff will present an overview of 2016-2017 landings (commercial and recreational) for spiny lobster. Spiny lobster harvest in the EEZ off Florida and in Florida waters is closed from April 1 through August 5, except for the two-day recreational sport season at the end of July. Spiny lobster harvest in the EEZ off Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina is open all year. *Attachment 1* includes landings from 1991-1992 through the 2016-2017 landings, as of April 25, 2017. Updated landings data for 2016-2017 may be available during the Committee meeting.

Required Committee Action: Discuss and take action as necessary.

2. **Spiny Lobster Regulatory Amendment 4 – (Attachments 2a-2d)**

Description: Regulatory Amendment 4 (*Attachment 2a*) includes actions to revise the biological parameters and overfishing limit (OFL), acceptable biological catch (ABC), and annual catch limit (ACL) for spiny lobster based on recommendations from the South Atlantic SSC and the Gulf SSC. The amendment also includes an action to prohibit traps for recreational harvest of spiny lobster in the South Atlantic. The Gulf Council is expected to approve the amendment for formal review at their meeting June 5-9, 2017.

Council staff will review public comments received, including comments from the webinar hearing held on May 9, 2017 (*Attachment 2b*). Next, the Committee will review the actions and current preferred alternatives through the decision document (*Attachment 2c*) and review the codified text (*Attachment 2d*).

Status of Amendment: Scheduled for final approval by both Councils in June 2017.

Required Committee Action: Select preferred alternatives; modify the document as needed; review codified text and approve for formal review.

3. **Updates to align Federal Regulations with FWC Regulations – (Attachment 3)**

Description: FWC staff will present the recommended changes to the Code of Federal Regulations to align federal regulations with state regulations for spiny lobster. The Spiny Lobster Fishery Management Plan includes a protocol and procedure for Enhanced Cooperative Management for spiny lobster, including circumstances under which NMFS can update the federal regulations with no formal action required from the Councils. *Attachment 3* includes the protocol and procedure for Enhanced Cooperative Management in the Spiny Lobster FMP, as amended.

Required Committee Action: Discuss and take action as necessary.

Other Business