

**SUMMARY REPORT
FROM THE SSC SELECTION COMMITTEE MEETING
Jekyll Island, GA
March 3, 2009**

The SSC Selection Committee met Tuesday, March 3rd, 2009 at Jekyll Island, GA. Wilmington, NC. The Committee addressed the following items:

1. Membership

The committee entered closed session to discuss SSC membership, including the resignation of one member and two applications. The committee recommended that Council staff advertise for applications to fill an available SSC seat and that SSC applications will be considered in June 2009.

The committee discussed a letter from NCDMF about a concern of conflict of interest on the SSC with respect to stock assessments. The committee also discussed recent events concerning SSC stipends and will address this when guidance is available from NMFS.

2. National SSC Meeting

The Committee received a report from SSC Chair Carolyn Belcher regarding the National SSC meeting held in November 2008.

3. SSC Procedures

The committee considered several SSC procedural items. Staff presented an overview of each issue followed by SSC comment.

Conduct of business

The committee encourages the SSC to move toward consensus building with less reliance on motions and voting. This change is intended to foster SSC recommendations that provide more complete advice and guidance.

SSC Meeting Times

The committee agreed that the SSC may be better served by meeting outside of Council meetings. This will provide additional scheduling flexibility, additional meeting time, and increase time available for the SSC to prepare a written report. Staff was directed to consider scheduling that accommodates meeting preparation and other council activities. Meetings in June and December 2009 will continue as scheduled.

Length of Appointment

The committee recommended that SSC membership terms be set at 3 years, with 1/3rd of the membership reviewed each year. Staff was directed to develop a schedule of membership review based on time served, with the longest serving third of the membership reviewed in 2009.

Social-Economic Sub-Panel

The committee recommended establishment of a Social-Economic technical advisory panel as a sub-panel of the SSC to address social and economic issues. This will allow the council to establish a larger panel of social and economic experts without incurring excessive additional costs, while providing social and economic scientists a dedicated forum to address

social and economic issues related to council actions and develop advice and recommendations related to social and economic analyses presented to the Council. This panel will be chaired by an SSC member and will develop guidance for consideration by the Council and SSC.

SSC role in SSC applicant review

The Committee considered whether SSC members should play a role in reviewing applicants and filling SSC seats. Selection committee members expressed satisfaction with the current approach and noted that the SSC chair or other members could be brought in as needed during membership reviews. No changes to the policy were recommended.

Public Input at the SSC

The Committee considered whether a formal public comment period should be established for SSC meetings. Members did not note any problems with the current system which allows the chair discretion to call on observers as necessary. The committee was advised that the MSRA species that oral or written comment must be allowed on agenda items, and encouraged greater use of written comment regarding SSC agenda items.

MOTIONS

MOTION #1: RECOMMEND THE SSC MEET PRIOR TO FULL COUNCIL MEETINGS. Made by Boyles, second by Chevront, Approved.

MOTION #2: COUNCIL ESTABLISH 3-YEAR TERMS OF SERVICE ON THE SSC; USE STAGGERED TERMS BASED ON YEARS OF SERVICE (INTENT TO HAVE 1/3 ROTATE AT ANY ONE TIME AND FUTHER THAT THERE IS NO LIMIT TO THE LENGTH OF SERVICE). Made by Boyles, second by Robson, Approved.

MOTION #3: COMMITTEE RECOMMEND ESTABLISHMENT A SOCIO-ECONOMIC TECHNICAL ADVISORY PANEL (APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL) TO THE SSC TO BE CHAIRED BY AN SSC MEMBER AND TO CONVENE IN THE MOST COST EFFECTIVE METHOD AS NEEDED. Made by Shipman, second by Boyles, Approved.

MOTION #4: DIRECT STAFF TO:

1. ADVERTISE FOR THE OPEN SEAT ON THE SSC WITH THE INTENT TO FILL THE SEAT AT THE JUNE 2009 MEETING.
2. WORK TOWARDS HAVING THE SSC MEET PRIOR TO COUNCIL MEETINGS.
3. ADVERTISE FOR THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ADVISORY PANEL WITH THE INTENT TO APPOINT MEMBERS AT THE JUNE 2009 MEETING.
4. SSC/AP WORKSHOP – WORK TO SCHEDULE WORKSHOPS TO HELP THE SSC.

Motion made by Boyles, second by Shipman, approved.