



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Charlie Phillips, Chair | Captain Mark Brown, Vice Chair
Gregg T. Waugh, Executive Director

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT JUNE 2018

The Council's priorities for 2017/18 are included as Attachment 3b in TAB 11, Executive Finance Committee. Detailed information on the status of each FMP/Amendment and upcoming meetings is contained in the Council Follow-Up (Attachment 3a in TAB 14, Executive Finance Committee). There will be a number of new items that need to be accommodated within our list of priorities, so we will need to discuss them and get guidance on modifications to the Council's priorities.

Also, in Executive Finance we will be looking at a draft 2018 budget (see Attachments 2a and 2b in TAB 14, Executive Finance Committee) that includes the items approved by the Council in December 2017 to reduce our costs in 2018. We expect level funding in 2018 (same base level as 2017) plus approximately \$100,000 additional funding for regulatory reform. We may know our final 2018 funding level at the June 2018 meeting, and we need to get the Council's guidance on activities (see Attachments 2c and 2d in TAB 14, Executive Finance Committee). In the interim, we will be operating under the draft 2018 budget.

Charlie, Mark, and I will be attending the Council Coordinating Committee (CCC) meeting May 22-24, 2018 and a report will be available at the June Council meeting. During that meeting, the three of us are planning to meet with our counterparts from the New England and Mid-Atlantic Councils to talk about how we address species (data collection, assessment, and management) as they continue to shift their distribution northwards. This is an effort Michelle Duval initiated with the Mid-Atlantic Council's leadership.

This has been a very busy time since our March 2018 Council meeting.

- MRIP APAIS Review meeting
- SEDAR 51 Gulf Gray Snapper
- Outreach training about the reporting requirements in our charterboat reporting amendment were conducted in South Carolina and Georgia
- NOAA/State Directors meeting
- National Saltwater Recreational Fishing Summit – John Carmichael, Kelsey Dick, and John Hadley gave presentations; Mark Brown and Gregg Waugh attended
- Personnel Committee, Snapper Grouper AP, Mackerel Cobia AP, Law Enforcement AP, Shrimp/Golden Crab AP, and Habitat AP meetings
- Gulf Council meeting – John Carmichael gave presentation
- SEDAR 57 Data Scoping
- Citizen Science A-Team Calls
- SEDAR 61 Data Webinar

- MREP Science Workshop
- ASMFC – South Atlantic Board for Cobia discussions; Gregg attended
- MARFIN Project Proposal Review
- Scientific and Statistical Committee
- Scoping on Snapper Grouper Amendment 42 (Sea Turtle Release Gear)
- SEDAR Cobia Stock ID Workshop
- CCC Legislative Committee Conference Call meeting
- Public hearings on Visioning Amendments were conducted via webinar and listening stations with Council members present
- SC Governor’s Cup
- SEDAR Steering Committee
- CCC May 2018 meeting
- CCC Communications Group
- SARP and SECOORA meetings
- Gulf Council SSC
- Gray’s Reef National Marine Sanctuary
- SEDAR Cobia Stock ID Review Workshop
- Outreach Work

Our State Department representative, Deirdre Warner-Kramer, will be attending our June meeting to discuss WECAFC. Please welcome her and make sure to share any information about the Council, especially areas where the State Department may be able to assist.

Also, we have three more Council members that will be leaving us this year. The June 2018 meeting will be the last Council meeting for Charlie Phillips, Ben Hartig, and Zack Bowen; we wish them well after many years of service to the Council; they will be missed. We expect to have a new representative from the State of North Carolina and Steve Murphey, DMF Director, will be attending a portion of our meeting; please make sure you meet Steve. Finally, as you know Mike Collins will be retiring at the end of December 2018 and we will miss his steady hand, calm demeanor, and ability to search out cost savings. We will be conducting interviews prior to our September meeting with the goal of having someone hired to spend November and December with Mike for training and to go through one Council meeting.