

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

FULL COUNCIL SESSION

**Town & Country Inn
Charleston, South Carolina**

September 20, 2019

SUMMARY MINUTES

Council Members

Jessica McCawley, Chair
Anna Beckwith
Dr. Kyle Christiansen
Dr. Roy Crabtree
Dr. Carolyn Belcher
Stephen Poland
David Whitaker

Mel Bell, Vice Chair
Chester Brewer
Chris Conklin
Tim Griner
LCDR Jeremey Montes
Art Sapp
Spud Woodward

Council Staff

Gregg Waugh
Dr. Brian Chevront
Julia Byrd
Cierra Graham
John Hadley
Kelly Klasnick
Cameron Rhodes
BeBe Harrison

John Carmichael
Myra Brouwer
Dr. Chip Collier
Dr. Mike Errigo
Kim Iverson
Roger Pugliese
Christina Wiegand
Allie Iberle

Other Observers and Participants

Susan Boggs
Frank Helies
Dr. Erik Williams
Pat O'Shaughnessy
Monica Smit-Brunello
Dr. Wilson Laney

Dewey Hemilright
Dr. Jack McGovern
Erika Burgess
Duane Smith
CLT James Bruce
Jocef Santiago

The Full Council Session of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council convened at the Town & Country Inn, Charleston, South Carolina, on Friday, September 20, 2019, and was called to order by Chairman Jessica McCawley.

MS. MCCAWLEY: We will call to order Full Council. There is no closed session for a legal briefing, and we're going to do a voice identification around the table. Let's start over there with Jack.

DR. MCGOVERN: Jack McGovern, NOAA Fisheries.

DR. WILLIAMS: Erik Williams, Southeast Fisheries Science Center.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Monica Smit-Brunello, NOAA General Counsel.

DR. BELCHER: Carolyn Belcher, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Coastal Resources Division.

DR. CHRISTIANSEN: Kyle Christiansen, recreational representative, Georgia.

MR. WOODWARD: Spud Woodward, Georgia.

LT. BRUCE: Lieutenant James Bruce, Southeast Regional Fisheries Training Center, United States Coast Guard.

LCDR MONTES: Lieutenant Commander Jeremy Montes, Coast Guard.

MR. HEMILRIGHT: Dewey Hemilright, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council liaison.

MR. WAUGH: Gregg Waugh, council staff.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Jessica McCawley, Florida.

MR. SAPP: Art Sapp, Florida.

MR. BREWER: Chester Brewer, Florida.

MR. WHITAKER: David Whitaker, South Carolina.

MR. BELL: Mel Bell, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, Marine Resources Division.

MR. POLAND: Steve Poland, North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries.

MR. CONKLIN: Chris Conklin, South Carolina.

MS. BECKWITH: Anna Beckwith, North Carolina.

MR. GRINER: Tim Griner, North Carolina, commercial.

MS. BOGGS: Susan Boggs, Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council liaison.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thanks, everybody, and welcome, Susan. Thanks for hanging in there with us this week. The first order of business is Approval of the Agenda. Are there any changes or additions to the agenda?

MR. WAUGH: Under Other Business, we have two SSC reps, state reps, that are being replaced, and so we'll need a couple of motions to deal with that.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thanks for the reminder. Any other changes or additions to the agenda? Any objection to approval of the agenda? Seeing none, the agenda is approved by consensus. All right. The next order of business is the minutes from the June council meeting. Are there any changes to those minutes? Any objection to approval of the minutes? Those minutes are approved.

Next up, we're going to give some awards, and so what we're going to do, since I'm up here on crutches, is I am going to spend some time reading the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award, and the recipients can stand, and then I am going to go into -- We have some staff service awards, and I'm going to read those as well, and then we will go to the back of the room to take pictures, over there by the flags. We had to move the flags so we had a bigger area, and there's no microphone back there, and so we'll do the photos with the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year recipients first, and then we'll so some staff photos afterwards.

If the crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Cormorant could stand up. Thank you. The deserving recipients of the 2018 South Atlantic Council Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award are the crew of the Coast Guard Cutter Cormorant. The Cormorant is an eighty-seven-foot coastal patrol boat homeported in Charleston, South Carolina.

The vessel and crew are one of a handful of U.S. Coast Guard units primarily dedicated to offshore fisheries enforcement. They operate from Myrtle Beach, South Carolina to Key Biscayne, Florida, and her twelve-member crew include four boarding officers, two boarding team members, and two living marine resource enforcement officers. The Cormorant's Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Pat O'Shaughnessy, the Cormorant's Executive Petty Officer Chief Petty Officer Jason Bouchelle, and members of the crew are here with us today.

While conducting their law enforcement mission, the Cormorant's crew has distinguished itself through its tenacity, initiative, and professionalism in fisheries enforcement, and, during 2018, the Cormorant completed forty-three commercial fishing vessel boardings, resulting in the issuance of eleven notices of violation, four fisheries violations, and one Captain of Port Ordered termination of a commercial fishing vessel.

Two of the fishing violations were major, one resulted in a NOAA citation for over 800 pounds of illegally-caught black sea bass. The other involved the crew of a fishing vessel attempting to destroy evidence before the boarding team embarked the vessel. The crew recovered twenty-one out-of-season fish from the water, including snowy grouper and wreckfish, and NOAA is currently pursuing criminal charges in this case. Furthermore, and true to her motto of "Always ready", the crew responded to a late-night call for assistance from a disabled fishing vessel ninety miles offshore and towed the vessel to safe harbor.

The Cormorant's consistent willingness to go beyond the call of duty has resulted in impressive operational successes and an increased local awareness of both safety and fishery regulations. Her can-do attitude, dedication to excellence, and interagency cooperation undoubtedly contributes to a safer and more sustainable fishing fleet in the South Atlantic region.

I am going to read the wording that's on the award that we will take some pictures with in a minute. On behalf of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, I proudly present the 2018 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award to the crew of the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Cormorant for their distinguished service and outstanding achievements in fisheries law enforcement, and so congratulations, you guys, and we'll take a picture in a second. (*Applause*) This is great. I don't think we've had an entire vessel before, and so this is definitely a historic event for us.

Before we take some photos, now we're going to do some service awards, and so we have a number of these awards. I am going to read them. The first one is a Certificate of Appreciation for Roger, in recognition of his thirty-three years of service to the council as a Fishery Biologist and Senior Fishery Biologist, and so this is for his distinguished service and outstanding contribution in the conservation and management of our nation's marine fisheries resources, and so congratulations, Roger, and thank you for all of your work. If you will just stand by, we're going to take some pictures with you by the flags, but thank you so much, Roger.

Next up, we have Cindy, and this is a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of the twenty-five years of service to the council as an Administrative Assistant and Travel Coordinator, and this is for her distinguished service and outstanding contribution to the conservation and management of our nation's marine fisheries resources. Thank you so much.

Next up, we have Kim, who is hiding in the back, and so this is a Certificate of Appreciation for Kim, in recognition of her twenty years of service to the council as a Public Information Officer, and this is for her distinguished service and outstanding contribution to the conservation and management of our nation's resources. Thank you, Kim.

Next we have Myra, and this is in recognition of her sixteen years of service to the council as a Fisheries Scientist and for her distinguished service and outstanding contribution to the conservation and management of our nation's fisheries resources. Myra is also hiding in the back.

Then a Certificate of Appreciation to John Carmichael, and this is in recognition of sixteen years of service to the council as a Fisheries Scientist and Deputy Director, and this is also for his distinguished service and outstanding contribution in the conservation and management of our nation's marine fisheries resources. Thank you so much, you guys. (*Applause*) All of the award recipients, if you could proceed to the back, we're going to take a minute to take some photographs. Thanks, everybody. Now we are going to move into the Executive Director's Report, and I am going to turn it over to Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: Thank you, Madam Chair. I am not going to go through what's in there. You have all of the information, and I would just call your attention to the first agenda, draft agenda, for the CCC meeting, and we'll touch on that very briefly under Executive Finance. If you have any questions, let me know about that.

As everybody has experienced, it was very busy since our June meeting, and we held a number of AP meetings, and we did outreach on snapper grouper, and we continue to prepare for the mandatory charter vessel reporting, and we have produced our third electronic logbook. I attached the news release naming Jeff White as the ACCSP Director and Julie Simpson as Deputy Director, and we work very closely with ACCSP, and Mike Cahall retired, and we recognized him at the May CCC meeting here, and Jeff and Julie will be able to continue that program extremely well. I would like to express my thanks to Cierra. Cierra designed the staff awards, and Kelly helped with that as well, and the only other item is some changes in our coral grant, and Chip is going to talk about that.

DR. COLLIER: Thanks, Gregg. The Coral Reef Conservation Program provides funding to the regional fishery management councils in order to manage shallow-water and mesophotic corals, and they have gone through some restructuring, and so we are also going to go through some restructuring on how we get funding for that grant. We are still in conversations with National Marine Fisheries Service on how exactly we're going to do this, but we might be developing a request for proposals, to really focus in on some shallow-water coral issues, and so you guys might be seeing those proposals come out, or at least the request from us come out, and that's in order for us to get our grant prepared for the November call for proposals from the Coral Reef Conservation Program.

All of this is coming up pretty quickly, and, ideally, we would be getting comments from you guys on exactly what we're going to include, but, given the timeline, it might not be possible, and so we're going to go forward looking at some of the research recommendations that we have from the Coral as well as other APs and try to get those involved and talk with the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, making sure that we're going to not duplicate efforts with them, and also get something that would be useable for them, and we've been in contact with FWC as well, in order to make sure that we're going to get some science that will be useful for them, and so I'm just giving you an update that, if you see a request for proposals for coral coming from the council staff, that's exactly what it's in reference to.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Thanks to you both, Gregg and Chip, and then, Chip, if you want to stay up here, and I see that next on our list is a report-out on the first two years of MyFishCount, and then BeBe is going to come up and talk about the outreach on that.

DR. COLLIER: Thank you. We've been working on MyFishCount for a couple of years, and this is a pilot project that you guys have requested the staff do, and we're looking at essentially recreational reporting and what it could mean in the South Atlantic region or for the snapper grouper fishery, and this is based on a completion report that we sent to the National Marine Fisheries Service, I guess last month, or maybe the month before.

It's a long completion report, and I wouldn't recommend reading it all, especially the code that's in the end. That's not very exciting to read, but I did want to provide all the information that was used for this. We're only going to be going through a couple of portions of it. We're going to focus on the app development, the app structure, promotion, some of the results, and discussions and conclusions.

As you know, we started working on MyFishCount back in 2017, and it was first available in September of 2017. At this point, we were kind of piloting the project, and it was only available

as a website. If you guys remember, this was the emergency opening for red snapper, and we got it prepared pretty quickly for that, and you can see that we have a spike in number of fishermen that actually joined the program.

From November of 2017 all the way up through May of 2018, there was a pretty big lull, and what we were doing is we were actually working on developing the app, so it could be available to a smartphone. Once we had that in there, you can see the number of participants pretty much doubled, from 400 to almost 800, and it kind of leveled off, once again, after the red snapper season.

Even though it appears to level off, there was still another 200 participants that joined, and so it's been a growing program, and we're excited about it, and some of this information has been used in management already, and it was used in the consideration of the reopening of the red snapper season back in 2017, when the fishermen reported that they could not fish, due to weather.

In order to get all of these people involved, we definitely had to do a lot of promotion, and it was not only through our staff, but it was through a variety of media. We presented at tackle shops, fishing clubs, scientific meetings, management meetings, social media, and you can see three of the people that were primarily responsible for MyFishCount, especially in the first two years, and it was Abhishek in the bottom left, and in the middle is Kelsey Dick, and then, on the right, is Mike Christopher. Abhishek Mishra is the code developer for MyFishCount, and Kelsey Dick was the Outreach Coordinator, and then Mike Christopher is Elemental Methods, and he was the Program Manager.

One thing that we learned, through the promotion, is it generally takes about three times, or three contacts with a fisherman, in order to really sell them on a program like this. The first time, they realize it's going to be more work for them. The second time, they're willing to listen to we need better data to manage our fisheries, and then, the third one, they are agreeing to it, and they see the writing on the wall that they want better data in order to manage their fisheries.

The app structure, it's a pretty simple structure, and it basically adds three layers to it. You start a trip, and you log your catch, and then you end a trip. On each of these, we tried to keep the questions down to less than ten, and so you could go through it pretty quickly. The log of the catch, that one is not -- It seems simple. You can just log one catch. However, on a snapper grouper trip, you can have up to seventy fish caught on a trip, and so you might log that catch seventy times. We did develop a quick-log function to reduce the number of times that you would have to go back to that, and we also have a duplicate function, and so you wouldn't have to enter all the information. You could just change a few pieces in there.

I am going to be going into some of the results, and what I want to caution you guys on this is these are results for MyFishCount users. Do not expand this beyond what I am saying today. Don't take it to the entire fishery or anything like that. This is just for users that reported in MyFishCount.

One of the important things, when you're considering an app structure, or a voluntary reporting method, is you want to make sure you're getting good distribution of fishing effort and making sure it's matching what typically goes on in the fishery, and so what I have supplied here is a map of the departure locations for reports in MyFishCount. Now, these reports are not only completed

trips, but these were for abandoned trips. It's 704 trips that were reported over these two years, and, the larger the dot, it means the more often you have reports in that location.

The top five departure cities were in northeast Florida, and it makes sense, if you think about that. That's the heart of the red snapper fishery, and MyFishCount has been associated with the red snapper season, although it's not just for red snapper, and it could be used for a variety of species, and that's generally what it is associated with.

The next one is a very nice color palette, and it can be confusing in the beginning, and so let me go over what this graph actually means. What we are looking at is, is there a difference in the number of anglers among people that report from private or public-style departure points, and so we have a variety of choices. You can depart from a private boat ramp, private dock, or a private marina, and you can do the same thing for public, and so we provided all of those opportunities, and the fishermen indicated, when they were leaving from private docks, they were more likely to have four, five, or six anglers, compared to a public dock, where they were more likely to have two or three anglers.

If you look at the blue there, that means it was more positive, and then the size of the circle means how much the difference -- How big the difference was. These two were significantly different between private and public. We also looked at other metrics of effort, and so time that these people were away, and I looked at something else, and I'm drawing a blank on that right now, but the time away and the other effort metrics didn't vary. It was just the number of anglers.

Another thing that you guys have been talking about for red snapper season was, if the red snapper season is open, they are going to leave Friday, Saturday, or Sunday, and fishermen are going to take off, and I believe Dr. Christiansen brought up that point at the last council meeting, and so, if you look at Fridays here, we have, not only for abandoned trips -- Well, for completed trips, Friday was the most commonly-reported day. That could be due to weather, or it could be due to fishermen were actually trying to go out more on that day. As far as abandoned, Saturday was the most common abandoned day.

Another important thing to consider is the amount of time that it's going to take to complete a report, and so we have the abandoned and completed trips and how long it took fishermen to report it, and what we looked at was when they initiated a trip and then when they ended the trip, and so we're actually able to calculate how long it takes. For an abandoned trip, it took around a minute, and so these guys can enter it pretty quickly, and what they would typically do, if it was a bad-weather weekend, and this was very common for the North Carolina and South Carolina fishermen, is they would enter three trips at once, and so Friday, Saturday, Sunday. If it was a three-day blow, they didn't go.

However, when it's a completed trip, it does take more time, and it's dependent on the number of fish that you report. It was most common to report from five to nine minutes. However, there are some trips that are greater than ten hours, and these are likely trips where the fishermen were reporting out on the water, and that's really what we want to see. We want these people using it in live situations, and, that way, they're going to report all the fish and know the exact time and location of where they caught those fish, and we can get the best information from those trips.

We also wanted to give you guys an indication of what kind of length distribution we're seeing in MyFishCount, and what I have presented here is black sea bass length distribution reported. In MyFishCount, we only have nineteen fish reported for black sea bass, and red snapper has many more fish, but I wanted to show you that, not only are we getting information on red snapper, we're getting it for other fish.

The top panel, we have the lengths from MyFishCount. Underneath that, we have lengths that were measured in MRIP, and then we also have another MRIP lengths, and this is imputed lengths, and so, when MRIP does some of their information, or develops some of their length information, they actually impute what the length of the fish would be on some of these trips. Then the final one is they do the expansion factor, and so this would be balanced off of the FES numbers.

You can see that I also have a red line on there for the minimum size limit for black sea bass, and, in MyFishCount, there is typically not as many small fish reported in MyFishCount, and that could be the result of, one, fishermen don't want to tell you that they're keeping illegal fish, or, two, it could be that MyFishCount users are typically fishing further offshore, and black sea bass are typically larger offshore, and that could be the result of it.

That shows up in two different ways. One is the minimum size that you're seeing on the left, and also the maximum size that you're seeing on the right. MyFishCount users typically had larger fish, not only for black sea bass, but also for red snapper and vermilion snapper, and all of those graphs are provided in the report, if you want to see them there.

Some of the discussion and conclusions are we piloted this project, and fishermen are voluntarily willing to report their information, and they actually provided a lot of information. Some of the fields, such as the length of fish, whether or not they descended the fish, different pieces of information like that, they were reporting up to 30 percent of the fish -- Information for 30 percent of those fish, and so it is a tool that they are willing to use, and one of the really nice pieces that I think we developed for this is the data is able to be submitted to the regional database, ACCSP, and so we have -- Once you verify the information, it can be sent to ACCSP and stored in their repository, and, once again, the information has already been used in management.

The next things we're going to be working on is retention and recruitment, and this is crucial for electronic reporting projects, whether it's voluntary or mandatory. You've got to talk to the anglers, and you've got to keep them involved and make sure that they're reporting and they know why they're reporting. The second part is validation is needed. We don't know exactly what our information means right now. We hope it's representative of the fishery, but we want to make sure that it truly is.

Going into acknowledgments, this project couldn't have been done without the fishermen and their willingness to supply information. That's been great, communicating with anglers about why we're doing it, how we can improve management. It's been a really good project. The fishing industry has been very involved with it, ASA and CCA and the Teddy Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, Keep Florida Fishing, Yamaha Marine, West Marine, and FishSmart.

The media has been touting MyFishCount, and they have written several different articles, and there is actually one of the articles that I have listed in there is the L&H Boats blog, and they actually rated MyFishCount as the number-one fishing app, and that was not paid for. We want to

thank our partners with NMFS. They provide funding and supervision for the project, and we also want to thank ACCSP for working with us to develop a recreational regional database for the data.

Also, our state partners of NC DMF, South Carolina DNR, Georgia DNR, and Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission for helping us with this and promoting the app. Finally, I want to thank our MyFishCount team of Elemental Methods, Angler Action Foundation, and South Atlantic staff. In particular, I want to thank Abhi and Mike Christopher and Kelsey Dick, as well as the new team that is coming on in order to manage the project, with BeBe Harrison leading the way. With that, I will take any questions, if you guys have any. If not, we will go into the future.

MS. MCCAWLEY: I see hands in the air. First, before we get into that, a little-known fact. Last year, for the red snapper season, Martha Guyas in my office -- We actually shot a video where we talked about the upcoming Atlantic red snapper season, and we talked a lot about MyFishCount, and I'm glad that not very many people have seen that video, and let me just say that. I am going to go to Spud, and so we'll take questions on MyFishCount, and we also forgot to take questions on Gregg's report, and so, if you have anything for Gregg, and so questions on either of those things, and we'll take them now.

MR. WOODWARD: Thank you, Madam Chair. Thanks for that presentation, Chip. Would you go back to that slide with the length frequency histograms on the black sea bass? Do you know the MRIP measured -- Is that just private rental boat mode, or is that all modes combined together?

DR. COLLIER: I looked at just private, in order to keep it similar to MyFishCount. In MyFishCount, you have the ability to report for charter boat and headboat as well, and this is subset to just the private trips.

MR. WOODWARD: Thank you.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Are there more questions? I had a question about -- I guess, on the app, there are some things that are mandatory and some things that people can report voluntarily, and so, the use of descending devices, is that a mandatory field or a voluntary field?

DR. COLLIER: I will go back to the first slide, the slide where it shows the app structure, and, in general, the way we did this was start a trip, and almost all of these are mandatory. We identified certain fields that we needed as well as end a trip, and all of those are mandatory. Within the log a catch, pretty much all of that is voluntary, except for the species and released or kept. Those are the only two required fields on that. All of the other stuff is optional.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Okay. Are most people filling out a lot of these optional fields, or are there some people that are literally just logging a trip and that's it?

DR. COLLIER: It varies. It's around 30 percent of the fish have additional information beyond kept or released.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Okay. Thanks, Chip. Are there other questions?

MR. SAPP: That L&H blog, are you talking about the charter boat in Miami, the L&H? Is Jimmy David involved in this thing?

DR. COLLIER: I don't know if he's involved, but it was just a blog that I found that was mentioning MyFishCount.

MR. SAPP: He's got an exceptional following there, and he might be somebody we can work with. I know him quite well.

MS. MCCAWLEY: You mean an influencer like yourself? Are there more questions for Chip before we talk about the outreach portion of this? Are there any questions for Gregg on the Executive Director's Report? All right. Thank you so much, Chip. This is super cool and very exciting, and I'm glad that people really haven't seen that video that I was in.

DR. COLLIER: Now we're going to bring up BeBe Harrison to go over the future of MyFishCount, and you guys can see how it's going to be changing.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thanks, BeBe.

MS. HARRISON: Thank you, Madam Chair and council. I am excited to be here, and so I'm nervous. It's my first time.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Don't worry.

MS. HARRISON: Welcome to the future, I guess, of MyFishCount. This will be available for you to see, and so I'm not going to read everything, but, basically, the goals for the next few months are going to be, like Chip said, recruit and retain, and I know a lot of you are probably familiar with the phrase "R3", recruitment, retention, and reactivation, and, basically, we're going to be doing that for the app as well, and so it's getting new folks to download the app, keeping the ones we have, and getting the ones that have just downloaded it, but haven't participated, to be active.

At the end of the year, at the end of this session where I will be here, the goal is to hand this MyFishCount over to the Angler Action Foundation, and that was formerly the Snook & Gamefish Foundation. This next stretch is going to be to build it up, so that we can hopefully have a lot of information coming in, and then Angler Action is going to be able to run with it.

Some of the events that we have done were ICAST, and we've done some West Marine, and I've been here for four months, and so I've been trying to cram a lot in, and I'm going to continue to do that and do the best I can for you all, but we participated, like I said, with the red snapper season, and we did some West Marine visits, and we'll continue to do more of those. Then ICAST, and this was at ICAST, and making sure that I was going around and recruiting people to download that app, as many people as I could. Boaters Exchange in Florida, they've been really active in helping us get some descending device information, best practices information, and MyFishCount, and so they've been great, and then continuing with other tackle shops.

Here are some of the stats, and I think you've already seen most of this, but, all four states, we really appreciate the coordination. It was great having the outreach from the states for MyFishCount as well as just the participation with the numbers and working together, and it was a very successful cooperative stretch there.

The largest red snapper reported in the app was thirty-eight inches, and the heaviest was 29.8 pounds, which I have a funny story about, and, as you can see, like Chip said, there are other species that are reported, and it's for any species, and, when I tell people, I say from bluegill to blue marlin, because there are -- Anything you can find along the coast is in there for you to be able to report. 360 fish were reported during the mini-season, 127 trips, and 268 anglers reported those.

Just a little note that, between the two, we did an update through Constant Contact to all of the participants, all the app users, saying here are our numbers from the first portion of the mini-season, and it kind of kicked them into gear. There were some that had not reported yet, and, once they got that message, they began to report. On that heaviest, I had someone email me and ask if he had the biggest fish for the season, and I said, well, this is just in the app, reported in the app, and he said, well, I just want to know, because I'm going to get my bonus on his boat, and it turns out that he did get a bonus on his boat. I confirmed it for him.

We do have some upcoming events, and here are some happy customers there. This was, I believe, in Brunswick, but we have some upcoming events. We have the DNR open house here in South Carolina and the CoastFest in Georgia. North Carolina is having like a mini-summit for their sportfishing industry, and so we're going to check that out, and the ASA Sportfishing Industry Summit, and I will be presenting in both the fisheries and the outreach sessions at the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies Conference, and then we'll have tons more tackle shops and West Marines and fishing clubs as well.

This is kind of the overview of what we have coming up or what we have planned. We're developing an information kit to hand out, so that you could take it, or I could give it to industry partners, and we could give it to tackle shops and clubs and things like that, and the website will be updated, and I'm anticipating it to be live in mid-October, and we currently have just started a Facebook page, which some of you have found already, and we have an Instagram page that we just started, and we'll be starting our MyFishCount Message, which is a monthly update with incentives, a training toolkit, and we'll continue to work with states and R3 and other fishing initiatives that they have in their states.

Back to the incentives really quickly is we have gotten some donations, and the first one that we'll be launching is from Gilz Performance Apparel, I believe is what they're called, and I am modeling their shirt today, but they're going to do a gift certificate, and it's going to allow us to incentivize this app, and so the first thing that they will have to do is have three friends, three fellow anglers, download the app, and we'll continue to do things like that that will get more involvement. It's not necessarily log the most number of fish, but other aspects that we can try to increase participation with.

The information kit is going to have all of the background information and things for you to hand out, that you can talk to people in your state about and point them in the right direction to learn more, and I am going to see if I can't play this for you. There we go.

MS. MCCAWLEY: I am sorry to say that I actually recorded two videos for last year's season. One was on Atlantic red snapper and one was on Gulf red snapper. The Gulf one was a little bit

more exciting. It had a more exciting background, but, yes, I hope that you guys can't find either one of these videos.

MS. HARRISON: I will be sure to get a clip of you saying the line. This is the view of what the cover of the new website is going to look like. We're going to just kind of bulk it up -- Streamline the look and bulk it up with more information, and we're going to update the training video, because we have incorporated a lot of the comments from anglers and people using the app, and so there will be another update for the app that will also be, hopefully, coming out around mid-October. We will do a new training video that helps walk people through it, and hopefully it will be a little -- It will just kind of increase the user-friendliness of it.

There is the social media pages. If you have it, if you will follow and share, we would greatly appreciate it, because we know that all of you are influencers, because you wouldn't be here if you weren't, and then there is some of the pretty logos that Chip had already mentioned a lot of these, but we are going to -- For the goals in the transition, we are going to be tracking all of the contacts that we're making now with folks that are supportive of MyFishCount, and we're going to try to increase, like I said, with R3 and create some new partnerships with people like Gilz Apparel and other sportfish industry partners that will try to push this forward through their websites and their influence as well, and West Marine has been a prime example. They are pushing out MyFishCount for us on their website as well, but we hope to hand over a strong population of active app users.

Then these two guys wanted to tell you how you can help, but we would love for you to be able to suggest some large events in your state, and, like we said, the CoastFest and open houses and things like that, but, if there's a large event that draws an outdoor crowd, I would love to have that input, and you can recommend fishing industry partners. I really like using those partners within the four states, and there are a lot of those, and then, if you could suggest influencers, we would really appreciate that, that would be willing to speak in support, and then here is our newest video. Thank you very much.

MS. MCCAWLEY: I have also learned today that Chris is also an influencer. Are there any questions for BeBe? I was going to say that I haven't seen that new -- If you can back up, I haven't seen that new Angler Action Foundation logo, that specific logo, yet, and so it's pretty neat. I am used to the Snook & Gamefish, and I'm used to talking about iAngler, which is what we've been talking about for years in Florida, and so, yes, I hadn't actually seen that new logo. Lots of hands in the air. We'll go around the table.

DR. WILLIAMS: I just had a question about data access. What is the current access to the data, and then what is the plan when it's handed off, in terms of access to the data?

DR. COLLIER: Like I had mentioned, it's going to be in the ACCSP repository, and so it should be available to any of our partners. I am not certain if it's going to be publicly available and how that would work, because, right now, it's voluntary, and so there is not the rule of three for that, but we are keeping the rule of three if anybody requests the information, and so we want to keep the information as confidential as possible. We do have some limitations on exactly how exact we're going to get with the location that the fishermen provide us, and I think, on the website, we mention that it's not going to be any smaller than a two-by-two-square-mile area.

MR. WAUGH: Just to put Monica's mind at ease, these items that are being donated are being donated to the Angler Action Foundation, and they are handling the distribution of said donated items. They are not coming to the council.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Thank you. You were reading my mind.

MS. BOGGS: Of course, in the Gulf, all of our states have been working and getting certified data collection systems, and is this something -- I know the council is promoting this, but is this something that the council is looking to get certified to use in conjunction with MRIP to help with your fish counts?

DR. COLLIER: Right now, we can't really certify this program, because the council hasn't kind of indicated what direction that they would like to go. If you go a voluntary direction, that's going to be a much different certification process than if it's a mandatory program, and so that needs to be discussed in Amendment 46, and that's why this whole program has even started. It's figuring out where the council would like to go in Amendment 46, and this is piloting what an electronic program would look like.

MR. CONKLIN: I am not seeing CCA and ASA's logos on here, but I heard them mentioned, and so that's good. Also, we get a lot of people asking us -- Often, the people I've gotten to download the app and stuff, they say, well, what is this going to do for us, and I know that Chip had touched on some things about it's been used already, but I am wondering -- I am glad that Erik is interested, and is there any utility to this, and how, if, and when could it be used in a stock assessment, or could it at all?

DR. WILLIAMS: That's a very good question, and that's sort of where the rubber meets the road, in some ways, but, in general, this kind of self-reported data, we have to take a close look at it, and, as Chip did with his slides, compare it to other data collection programs and see if we can notice any differences or biases. In fact, the black sea bass example that Chip presented, you will see one of the biases that we're always concerned about is that we have self-reported fish like this, and even carcass collection programs, and you see a bias towards bigger fish.

That doesn't mean that we can't use that in stock assessments, but we just have to somehow account for that, and so that's where it gets a little tricky, is trying to adjust for that bias, and so, yes, I am hopeful, and that's why I asked about the data access, because I think, if this takes off, it has the potential to enhance our stock assessments, especially -- The other thing I will say about citizen science data, and I've said this before, is the value comes when you really get a lot of participants, because then you overcome all those little biases and those quirks where people are reporting ridiculous things. The central tendency of the data gets really strong when you get large sample sizes, and so it overcomes all those other little problems.

DR. COLLIER: This data is not only going to be useful for stock assessments, but it can also be used in management, when we're looking at bag limit analyses and different things like that, and another part that fishermen often ignore is, right now, we don't know really important areas where recreational fishing occurs, and if something like energy development or oil rigs are trying to go offshore, this information -- If they are providing location information, we can verify that this is an important recreational fishing location, and, therefore, that area might be -- We might be requesting that they shift outside of that area, and so recognizing important fishing areas is going

to be important in the future. Energy development is coming off of our coast, and so we need to know important recreational fishing locations.

MR. BELL: This may be in the weeds a little bit, but I know, as a data collector with a relationship with ACCSP, we operate under certain protocols, and so, in this case, you've got moving towards a private entity, and I assume there is an MOU, or would be an MOU or MOA or something, that establishes the standards they meet or how it feeds into ACCSP.

Then just a question for the future. If this really takes off and we get the participants, like Erik said, get the big numbers and all, and it's really useful and it's going, if there are regulatory requirements to utilize or participate in something like this, with private entities being involved in that, is there contractual issues or things? I am just thinking way down the line, perhaps, but it's a little different, and I'm not aware of other -- I am not aware of other areas where you have a private entity like that collecting data that might be required by law or something, and that's maybe thinking into the future a good ways, but, initially, I guess, there would be some sort of MOU or MOA as to how this is going to work?

DR. COLLIER: We are envisioning something like what occurs with Bluefin or Harbor Lights, and so they're the app developers and the maintainers of the programs, and then the data is submitted to ACCSP, and so that's one thing that was developed through the initial pilot project, is the API, which I believe is the application program interface, and that's how the app communicates with the database, in order to make sure that it's submitting valid data.

MS. MCCAWLEY: In Florida, the FWC is getting data from the Angler Action Foundation that we're using in snook, seatrout, redfish, and other stock assessments, and so we have a whole MOU and everything else with them, and we designed how the data was going to come in, so that it can just be dumped into our database and we can use that directly in stock assessments.

DR. CHRISTIANSEN: Just wondering, when you guys talk about when it grows to a certain point, or when you get to a certain point, you're going to be able to use it, and do you have specific numbers or amounts in mind? I mean, that's very vague on, well, when it gets to a certain point, we think we can use it, and are you looking at 1,000 users or 10,000 users or 50,000 users? At some point, do you have a plan to actually utilize this, when it gets to that point, or is this just all blowing smoke?

DR. WILLIAMS: Thanks, Kyle, and obviously that was addressed to me. I don't know what the magic number is. Part of it is, with statistics, and this gets a little technical, but, honestly, this is the true answer about statistics. It's the variance that we worry about, and that's what dictates how many samples you kind of need, and so you don't know in advance what the variance is going to be until you start to look at the data, but, off the top of my head -- Whenever we look at like logbook programs, we want to shoot for that like 5 percent level as like a common target that we use for logbook data, as to whether it's representative or useful, and so, if we could get to like 5 percent of anglers, which, based on the latest MRIP numbers, would be quite a huge number, and so I don't know if we can get there.

Again, the other thing is it depends on the species, too. I mean, if we get a ubiquitous species like black sea bass and get a lot of reports for that, then we can maybe at least use it for black sea bass,

but maybe other species it won't be as useful, and so sorry, and it is kind of a wishy-washy answer, but --

DR. CHRISTIANSEN: One other, and this is just thrown out to the council, and we had spoke about this at lunch the other day, but you're seeing multiple apps show up for this, and is it an idea or is there an opportunity to utilize all the apps or get information from all of them, because, usually, and this is me talking, I'm not going to report on five different apps. I am going to have one, and I'm going to report on one, and so, when you add the half-dozen different ones out there that there are now, and then, in a couple of years, there is going to be more, and, when you add them together, then you do have a large sampling. You are not just looking at MyFishCount. There's a lot of these things that are coming out out there.

DR. WILLIAMS: That's an excellent point, too. I mean, it comes down to the degree in which the sampling is occurring in a similar way, and so it depends on how they're asking for the fish reports, and hopefully they are asking for them in a similar way, and, basically, they're asking for all their fish that are caught on a trip to be reported, and, if that's what is happening, then we can easily merge those databases. A perfect example is the state carcass collection programs. Each state does it slightly differently, but we merge all of that data together.

DR. COLLIER: To add on to what Erik just said, some of the information that we're collecting is beyond just length distribution, which, I mean, that's some of the important information, but it's also we're looking at usage of circle hooks and different hook types as well as using descending device and depth, and so that information -- Even though the length information might not be used, that other information might be used, and so it could be considered in a variety of ways through the stock assessment process.

MR. WAUGH: Coming back to Mel's question, part of it was to be determined by the council, and this whole effort is similar to what was done with the charter boat reporting. We worked with ACCSP and partners to develop an app, and the council decided to require reporting, and so that was one vehicle, and it's the same analogy here. This is one vehicle that has been designed to report data straight into ACCSP, so that the agency and other partners have access to it.

That app can easily be modified to issue a permit, and that's one of the big concerns about dealing with the recreational side, is how do you issue all those permits. Well, that can be done easily on the app. It gives you the opportunity to explore public and private partnerships, where the Angler Action Foundation could possibly run that, and this is new territory, and we've talked some with Monica before about that, but they could run that and charge the administrative fee and issue the permit and the data goes straight into ACCSP. The utility of this is going to depend on if the council just leaves it up to voluntary reporting or at some point if you pick up that amendment and make it mandatory, maybe for the EEZ or something, and that could certainly drive up usage.

MR. CONKLIN: It seems like a good bit of the value in this is not only getting samples and trip information during the red snapper mini-seasons, but, over and throughout the course of the year, for people to report what's going on with these fish that we don't know much about throughout the year, and so I think that has a lot of utility.

MR. POLAND: Kind of to that point and to a point that Chip made a little bit earlier about other uses of this data outside of assessments, in North Carolina a couple of years ago, or maybe even

five or six years ago, we started commenting on seismic testing through the Coastal Zone Management Act process, and the permittees, at that time, were interested in testing in areas where we know, anecdotally, and just know from on-the-water experience, that there is a lot of recreational fishing effort, but, when we were preparing our comments, we didn't have any quantitative information, or even any just voluntary qualitative information, to really pull from and provide those comments with a little bit of background and rationale, and so I could see how certainly something like this, as far as just general locations where these recreational fisheries occur offshore, would certainly help with that in the future, when we have to comment on things like seismic testing and permits and that kind of stuff offshore.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Anything else on this? Do you have something else, BeBe?

MS. HARRISON: Yes, one more thing. This is probably, for me, the most important slide, but I just wanted to reiterate the R3 connection, and I am fairly certain that every state has someone working on that. An example for South Carolina is the tagging program and their family fishing clinics are going to be prime locations for us to partner, and we've met with them, and we're going to be working together, but anything like that, where you can start people out from the beginning using the app -- As soon as they are learning how to fish, as soon as they start fishing, if they are just taking up offshore fishing or just starting with fishing in general, and that's our opportunity to -- Like Kellie Ralston said, it's like putting on the seatbelt. If you train them to do it now, they will continue to do it, and so, if we can catch them right at the beginning, that's one of my goals, and so I appreciate all of your help with that. Thanks.

MR. HEMILRIGHT: I am curious. Would it be possible, like somehow maybe working with the states, to add another question to recreational folks that have to buy a license to use a fishery app, or something like that, to gauge -- The only way that this is going to work, and it probably won't be in my fishing time, but maybe it will, is to continually get folks engaged, like you're doing now, get them used to that they're probably going to have to report down the road, in the future, and just trying to get a sense of how to first pose the question to them.

Where is the first time they're going to have the question posed to them about a fishery app that brings them knowledge and maybe will help them search a little more, and so, maybe by the issue of a fishery license or something like that, you can ask them, do you use a voluntary fishery app now to report your fish, and maybe that's some way just to start getting them a little bit familiar, because everybody buys a license, and so they've had to see the question, and so maybe that's a way to start to break it to them, so to speak.

MS. MCCAWLEY: I thought where you were going with that, Dewey, was does someone use an app to get the regulations, and that's -- But it sounds like maybe you're going in a little bit different direction.

MR. HEMILRIGHT: I know everybody, I guess, has to buy a fishing license.

MS. MCCAWLEY: That's not exactly true.

MR. HEMILRIGHT: Would you say a majority, 75 percent maybe, has to in the states?

MS. MCCAWLEY: I would be careful with that number in Florida. There's a lot of over-sixty-five people that don't have to have a license in the State of Florida.

MR. HEMILRIGHT: All right. Well, I'm just saying that you've got to start somewhere, and so I would say, if you've got 50 -- A lot of folks, and I won't put a number on that. Take that back. A lot of folks have got to do that, and so, if you put something on there to say, hey, just to show them that there could be a fishery app, and they're like, what's this, man, and I had to answer this question about do I report on a fishery app, and, I mean, it's just some way to tease them, to start chumming them up, that maybe, ten years down the road probably, it will happen. Sorry for asking a simple question.

MS. MCCAWLEY: That's okay.

MR. SAPP: I think Dewey and I come from a very similar era, where, if you caught something, the last thing you wanted anybody to know was that you did catch something. The simple reality is, if you're thirty-five years or younger, you're already reporting on the internet. You're on social media bragging about it, and it's just the way it is nowadays. It's so contrary to everything that our age was taught and the way it had always been, and so I truly don't see this being difficult, talking especially to youth, into reporting on this app. The only difficult part is it seems they are less than energetic, and so the fact that they're going to now be reporting on two or three apps, Facebook and Instagram and whatever all the other ones are and then now this one, but I believe this can and will work, if we push it hard enough.

DR. COLLIER: Within the app, we actually -- It's set up, but we haven't activated the portion of it, where you can actually report to Instagram or your Facebook account.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. This has been a really good discussion and an exciting presentation and a great video. Anything else on this particular topic? Thanks, Chip. Thanks, BeBe, and thanks, Gregg, for the Executive Director's Report. Next up, we're going to bring Julia up to give us a citizen science update.

MS. BYRD: Good morning, everyone. Chip and BeBe are a tough act to follow, but I just wanted to give you a quick update on what's been happening with the council's Citizen Science Program. I know John gave you an update at the June meeting, and so I'm just going to try to concentrate on what's been done since June, and we're hoping to have a committee meeting in December, and so I'm going to kind of try to keep it brief today and can kind of give you guys more details at your upcoming meeting in December.

First, I just wanted to go over some kind of programmatic activities that have been going on over the past few months. This summer, we formed the Projects Advisory Team, which is a team that was laid out within the citizen science SOPPs, and it has representative from a lot of the species APs, as well as the Habitat and I&E APs, and this group will be meeting for the first time, via webinar, on October 3, and the goal for this first meeting is just kind of an introductory meeting, and then also to have the review and update the citizen science research priorities, and so they'll be recommending updates for those.

We will also have an Operations Committee meeting via webinar this October, and it's October 25. This is the group that is responsible for policies and procedures for the overall Citizen Science

Program, and so tentative topics for their agenda are to also review and provide recommendations to update the citizen science priorities, and they're going to be talking about program evaluation, and then we'll give them an update on what's been happening with the projects that have been going on over the past year or so.

These two groups will be kind of recommending updates to the citizen science research priorities, and then we'll be presenting that updated research priorities document to you guys in December, for your review and consideration, and we've also been working with Rick Bonney on program evaluation metrics for the overall Citizen Science Program, and so we're going to be talking about this with the Operations Committee, and so we'll hopefully be able to update you on those as well in December.

We have also been doing some program promotion over the past few months. At the council's booth at ICAST, the Citizen Science Program was featured, and the two pilot projects, which I will talk about in a few minutes, were featured there as well. We're going to be participating in open houses and CoastFest and the North Carolina industry summit as well, and we're going to be presenting on some of our pilot projects at upcoming conferences in the area and trying to talk to some fishing clubs and fishing groups as well.

Then, additionally, in late June, we did a presentation for the Federal Community of Practice for Crowdsourcing and Citizen Science, and, basically, that's a group made up of federal agency folks from all around the country that are working to kind of build the capacity for citizen science within the federal workforce, and so they had a meeting that focused on trying to integrate citizen science into decision-making, and so they asked us to present as part of a panel, and so we did that, and it was really kind of cool, because we got asked to do that based on connections and people that we had met at the citizen science conference that we participated in in March of this year.

Then we've also been developing some outreach materials. Cameron put together a citizen science kind of program brochure, and we've developed some kind of promotional items for a few of our pilot projects, and so, in addition to like all of those programmatic activities, we've also been working on our two kind of pilot projects that I just wanted to give you a quick update on.

The first is the SAFMC Scamp Release Project, and so this is a project where we're hoping to work with commercial, for-hire, and recreational fishermen to collect information on released scamp grouper via a mobile app that we developed, SAFMC Release, and so I know you guys have heard updates on this over the past several meetings, and so I'll just talk about what's been happening since June.

We finally launched the app at the end of June, and we developed a website and training materials and some promotional materials in advance of that, and we're currently trying to recruit fishermen to participate in the project, and so data collection is starting to get underway, and we're developing and refining our evaluation metrics for the project, and, as far as promotion goes, we did a news release when the app first launched, and it was pushed out through our social media, and a lot of state agencies and state Sea Grant partners helped push that information out.

We have tried to send out the information through other kind of newsletters, through kind of state agency tagging programs and newsletters, like North Carolina Fishermen's Association, through CCA newsletters and things like that, and there was an article in *Saltwater Sportsmen*, in the

September issue, about the project, and I know several of you guys have either kind of signed up for the app or shared contact information of fishermen who bottom fish in kind of water deep enough to catch scamp with us, with me, and I have also taken -- When I was in southern North Carolina visiting family, I took a few days to go to fish houses and charter docks and tackle shops, and so, through all of the ways we have tried to reach out to people, really, what is getting people to sign up for the app is one-on-one contact, and so either in-person or via phone calls or via email or kind of a mix of all three.

I really appreciate those of you who kind of shared contacts for fishermen with me. It's great to be able to say that -- I know Chris reached out to a bunch of people for me, and I can say, hey, Chris Conklin gave me your contact information, and that kind of helps you get kind of a foot in the door, and so I really appreciate all the help that you guys have given that way, and, if any of you guys know any other people who fish for scamp or encounter scamp, please -- I would love to get their contact information, and I also have some promotional materials, if you're willing to kind of share information through your kind of fishing communities, and that would be great.

We have a couple of additional grants that we're working on relative to this project too that I wanted to let you all know about. The first one is a grant through ACCSP that we submitted in conjunction with North Carolina DMF, and so North Carolina DMF was interested in kind of modifying our SAFMC Release app to collect information on released flounder, and so they're working to do that now, and then what this proposal will do will kind of be to merge those two apps into one, under the ACCSP SAFIS umbrella, and so how that would work is, when you open the app, you would be able to tell the app -- There would be different profiles for different projects, and so you would tell the app that I'm offshore fishing in South Atlantic waters, and the relative questions would pop up on your phone, or, if you're inshore fishing in North Carolina, you could tell the app that, and those questions, corresponding questions, would pop up on your phone.

The exciting thing is that, the more we've been talking about this app, there are more kind of partners along the Atlantic coast who see similar problems, in that they need more information on released fish, in order to make kind of science and management decisions, and so there's been more and more interest for other folks in using this app, and then I actually -- Someone from the west coast got in touch with me this week, who is also interested in checking out the app, and so it's pretty cool that something that we developed as part of our kind of pilot citizen science project has been gaining so much kind of interest, not only along the Atlantic coast, but on the west coast as well.

Then the second project grant proposal that we're working on for this pilot project is we're working with state Sea Grant agencies, in particular Bryan Fluech with Georgia Sea Grant, and he is kind of spearheading this effort with me, as well as Scott Baker with North Carolina Sea Grant and South Carolina DNR, and what we're hoping to do is charter some fishing trips, about one fishing trip in each of the South Atlantic states, and we'll bring project partners and outdoor writers together to go offshore bottom fishing, targeting scamp, and hopefully we'll kind of show them how to use the app and explain why we want to collect this data and why the data is important, and then, hopefully, it will create some press buzz about the project and we can get more people excited and involved, and I know Bryan Fluech with Florida Sea Grant did a similar project, when he worked down in Florida, and there was a lot of success, and there were a lot of articles written about that, and so we're hoping that this can create some press buzz for us too, and we're hoping to submit this proposal by the end of the month. Then we should find out about the ACCS proposal

by the end of this year, and then, hopefully, this second proposal through the Waitt Foundation later this fall as well.

Then the other project that we have going on right now is the FISHstory pilot project, and this is the project that is using historical headboat photos from the 1940s to 1970s from Daytona Beach, Florida, to try to get a better idea of species compositions and length compositions prior to when the fishery-dependent data collections we had in place got started, and so, for this project, Rusty Hudson has been providing all the photos. They are from his family's headboat fleet in Daytona Beach, Florida, and so all of the scanning of all of these historic photos has been completed and archived.

We have, I think, close to 1,400 photos from headboats over this 1940 to 1970 time period, and we also have been able to hire a project coordinator, Allie Iberle, who is sitting over there, and so, if you all haven't had a chance to meet her, I would encourage you to meet her. Hiring her has really helped this project kind of take-off and get underway. She just finished her master's, and she actually did her master's work under Chip, and so we are really excited to steal her for this project.

In addition to hiring Allie, we have formed a project design team that is made up of fishermen and scientists and kind of outreach experts, to help provide guidance throughout the development of this project, and we have held kind of two meetings so far, and we'll be holding another one next week.

For the species composition part of the project, we're using an online platform called Zooniverse, and so, right now, we're in the process of building the project interface and the training materials that will be used to train kind of citizen scientists to help us identify the fish in these photos, and so, in December, we'll give you guys a demonstration of the Zooniverse project and kind of walk you through the different kind of workflows and data collection that we're doing through that part of the project.

Right now, we're also trying to recruit species ID experts for a validation team, and so we're going to be asking folks to help validate the species that are identified by our citizen scientists, and we're trying to get a mix of both fishermen and scientists on that validation team, and so, if any of you guys are interested, or know people who might be interested, please let Allie know, because we're actively trying to recruit some folks for that validation team right now.

That's just what is kind of going on, in a nutshell, with the program. We also are trying to kind of get a few other projects that are developing right now, and so we'll give you kind of a bigger update on everything in December, but I will stop for now and see if anyone has any questions.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Any questions? These are super-cool projects, and I really like that FISHstory project, and I'm super excited about it, and I know Rusty has tons of photos.

MS. BYRD: Oh my gosh, yes. He is very excited about this project, too. We're excited to work with him on it. I know he's been trying to get these photos analyzed for years and years and years.

MS. MCCAWLEY: I know.

MR. BELL: Not a question, but thanks, Julia. As you all can see, there's a lot going on, and so citizen science has been around for a while, in different capacities, but we're moving into an area that we're kind of like leading, I suspect, in terms of the nation, this taking citizen science into the fisheries realm, particularly in our area, and so this is great stuff, and it's got tremendous potential, and, as you can see, younger folks are more adaptive to some of these technologies and things, and this is sort of the future, and so the ability to kind of move into this area and involve the public, involve them in ways that involves technology, they are very comfortable with it, because they grew up with it and those sorts of things, and this has great potential, and so thanks, Julia, for all your hard work, and I know it's a lot of coordination and a lot of stuff going on, but we've got a good program, and we should be proud of it. Thanks.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thanks, Julia. All right. Next up, we're going to move into some presentations from NMFS, the SERO office, and so, first up, we're going to talk about the status of commercial catches versus ACLs for species that we haven't already discussed this week, and I'm going to turn that over to Rick DeVictor.

MR. DEVICTOR: Looking down the list, I think we covered most of the species through the committees. There is one left, and that would be golden crab. Currently, we're at 12 percent of the ACL, which is a two-million-pound ACL, and you can see that information in Attachment 4 of your committee materials.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right, and so, next up, I believe that we have Andy Strelcheck on the line, who is going to give us a presentation on the Southeast Geographic Strategic Plan. Do you want to take a five-minute break and we'll get this figured out? Then we'll go over to Jack. Since Strelcheck is not on the line, we're going over to Jack to do the Southeast Geographic Strategic Plan.

DR. MCGOVERN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Actually, I think Roy was going to give this presentation, but he's on a call, and so I'm going to give the presentation.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Isn't that convenient that he slipped out?

DR. MCGOVERN: Yes, and so I think this is in Tab 10, Attachment 5, and it has the goals and strategies of the plan there, and I'm going to be brief, because the council has seen this, and they have commented on it. Four or five years ago, the Science Center and the Regional Office each prepared individual strategic plans, and those plans are expiring now, and so Headquarters completed a national strategic plan in July, and that national plan allows for regional plans to be developed and tiered off of that national plan.

Previously, there were ten strategic plans, and now there are going to be five strategic plans, and the Southeast Regional Office and the Science Center together are doing a geographic strategic plan, and so now there is a strategic plan for the Southeast, the Greater Atlantic Region, Alaska, West Coast, and the Pacific Islands.

This slide explains why we have strategic plans, and, as I said, the strategic plan that we have for the Southeast mirrors the national plan, but it allows for a deeper level of detail specific to our region, and it guides our priorities and activity planning for the Science Center and the Regional

Office, and it unifies our planning between both of us, and it highlights the challenges that are unique to the Southeast Region for the Regional Office and the Science Center.

This shows the components of the geographic strategic plan, and there are four components. The first part is a joint letter from Roy and Clay, and the second part has the missions and mandates as they pertain to our region, including a summary of the organizations and facilities and employees. The third part is the regional landscape, and it discusses what regional issues we face and the challenges that we need to address and the risks that we foresee for our region. Then the fourth part has the strategic goals, and each strategic goal has five to six strategies, and these are the same strategic goals and strategies that are in the national plan, except for they have approaches for accomplishing these strategies that are unique to our area.

These are the three strategic goals in the geographic plan, as well as the national plan, and they are to amplify the economic value of commercial and recreational fisheries, while ensuring their sustainability; to conserve and recovered protected species, while supporting responsible fishing and resource development; and to improve organizational excellence and regulatory efficiency.

Here is the timeline for the development of this strategic plan. Andy and Clay are actually the leads on it, and they began drafting the plan and getting input in May and June. In July, they sent it out to the Gulf Council, South Atlantic Council, and the Caribbean Council for comments, and comments were to be received by July. Between July 25 and August 20, they addressed council input and finished drafting the plan and then sent it out again for council comment on August 21. Then they received council comments last week. Now we are in the process of working with the Science Center to finalize the plan, and the schedule for it to be finalized is October 1. That completes the presentation.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thanks, Jack. Any questions for Jack on this? Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: Just more a comment to thank Andy and the rest of the folks. They are under a tight time constraint, and they provided an opportunity for us to comment, and I got comments from several council members, and they were provided back to Andy and the team working on this, and they were quite responsive in addressing those and altering the document, and I just wanted to say thanks for the consideration and the opportunity to comment.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Anything else? Then thanks, Jack. Next up is I believe we have a presentation on data-related reports. I am not sure who is going to give that. Rick.

MR. DEVICTOR: This is a standing thing that we have on the Full Council agenda to update you on the progress of these two items, and so, just real quickly, first, going through the for-hire amendment, as you know, it would amend the CMP plan, the dolphin wahoo plan, and the snapper grouper plan. If implemented, the owner or operator of a charter vessel with a federal charter vessel/headboat permit would be required to submit weekly electronic reports through NMFS-approved software and hardware.

Of course, the council submitted this, and we published a proposed rule, and the Secretary of Commerce has approved it, and now we're working on the final rule to that action. There's a lot that's been going on behind the scenes. You've had presentations from what we call the SEFHIER

group before, and I won't go through all the details, and I will just point out a few things that we've been working on.

The development plan is on our website, and I will be happy to send around the address to go see that. This has taken years to produce, and it talks about the development of the SEFHIER program, and we finished that, and, essentially, I look at it as the blueprint of the program, and so it talks about where the data is going to be housed and the data elements and the location reporting and compliance and budget considerations, and so that's on the website, and that's all finished up.

We have been working with ACCSP, and we have at least one call a week with them to get eTRIPS ready. As you recall, the council specified, in the amendment, the data that they want collected, and so we're getting that just right on eTRIPS, because it looks like that's going to be the approved system when we put this into place, and, of course, we'll look to VESL and others, and we're working with them to try to get those approved, too.

Finally, outreach, and outreach is going to be a big part of this, and we anticipate quite a few calls coming in when this goes into place, and so it's going to be a big lift from our staff. We're getting a 1-800 number ready, and we're getting ready for the emails, and so there's a lot going on there. I guess the bottom line is we are working hard on this to get this in place, and we're working on the final rule.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Thanks, Rick. Before we go into the rest of the next presentations, can we take a ten-minute break, if people need to check out, and they can check out, and then we'll come back. Thanks, everybody.

(Whereupon, a recess was taken.)

MS. MCCAWLEY: We are going to get going again. Next up, we are going to give a presentation, I think by Vivian, on the status of the commercial electronic logbook program. Is it Brett? I get confused about which one of them is going to give us which presentation every time.

All right. Since we can't find Vivian or Brett, then we're going to move on in the agenda for now. If we can get them, we'll come back, and so there are no exempted fishing permits, and so I think we're going to move into committee reports. First up is the Snapper Grouper Committee, and so clearly I should stop eating snacks and find this committee report.

MR. KLASNICK: One second, if I could, Madam Chair. Let's try Brett one more time. Brett, are you there?

MR. PIERCE: Yes, I'm here.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right, Brett.

MR. PIERCE: Okay. My name is Brett Pierce, and I am the lead at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center for commercial electronic logbooks, and I want to take the time to provide an update on the commercial logbooks, but, first, I would like to start by taking a little time and discussing how we use our current commercial logbooks in the Southeast, and then I will make the transition into our e-log update.

Commercial logbooks in the Southeast are a valuable tool that collects data that is not necessarily collected from any other reporting source that we have, whether that be observer data, trip ticket data, or commercial landings data. We primarily use landings data to monitor quota, but it doesn't contain the useful catch and effort data that commercial logbooks contain.

Our current Southeast commercial logbooks are self-reported catch and effort data, providing more detailed information than the dealer-reported trip ticket data, including the ability to capture more than one fishing area, as well as finer spatial data and more detailed data. The observer data does collect a lot of the same data as our commercial logbooks, but it is lacking with respect to both the spatial distribution of our Southeast fleet as well as the number of vessels in the Southeast.

To give you a little bit of numbers, the Gulf of Mexico reef observer program has about 5 percent coverage, and the Southeast gillnet fishery has anywhere between 4 and 11 percent, and the shark bottom longline fishery has anywhere between 3 and 12 percent for any given year, and some of the data that we do collect on the commercial logbook is a lot of catch and effort data, and we do collect spatial data as well, and, the way our current logbooks are set up, we have the ability to capture some landings data as well. Some of the other data reporting sources can be used to help validate our commercial logbooks, and this includes the TIP program and the trip ticket program and commercial landings, and so we do use a lot of different data sources to validate the commercial logbooks, and vice versa.

What do we use commercial logbooks for in the Southeast? Well, it goes into quite a few datasets that are produced for SEDARs. One of those are the indices of abundance. Specifically, within the indices of abundance, we calculate CPUE, and we can take that CPUE and use it in combination with discard rates, which are taken from discard logbooks, and also the observer data, and we can use the CPUE and discards together to estimate a total discard rate throughout the entire fleet, or within a given fishery.

Another way that logbooks are used is when it comes to commercial landings, specifically with landings proportioning. A lot of times, commercial landings come in as unclassified, such as unclassified snapper or unclassified grouper, and this means we have to take the logbook data and create a species composition for a particular fishery and then apply that to landings data, to get kind of a de facto species composition for a lot of those unclassified species that may come in through commercial landings.

To give you a little bit of history on our commercial logbook program, the Southeast logbooks that we use today have gone through a lot of transitions and additions to get to where we sit with our current format, beginning in 1986 with the pelagic longline, and the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic fisheries implemented logbooks in 1990 and 1992, respectively, and the federally-managed shark was implemented in 1993, and, most recently, the king and Spanish mackerel logbook in 1998.

Within each of these iterations and logbook implementations, the logbooks themselves have undergone a lot of changes specifically within themselves. For example, we changed the way that we ask for area, and we have changed the way that we calculated area within some of these logbooks. We have added questions, and we've removed questions, and we've done things like

add in more specific gear questions to the logbooks, depending on what the council advises and what some of our assessment scientists need from the commercial logbooks.

With all of these changes, there is still a need for finer spatial resolution, especially with catch and effort data, that includes fewer errors and that improves the inputs into things like single-species stock assessments, multispecies fisheries and fisher choice models, as well as economic models. With the amount of data that we have collected and that we would like to collect, having more specific data and a higher volume of data can improve a lot of management approaches and allow for different management options. With finer spatial data, we can start to include more specific ecosystem-based management approaches, just because we have better quality data at a higher volume.

Current logbooks, the way they're set up now are limited in providing this type of data that we need, that we feel we need, to move forward. Pelagic logbooks require multiple sheets to collect data at a set level, and coastal fisheries are only collecting data at a trip level, currently. Using electronic logbook reporting would be timelier, and it would contain fewer errors, especially in machine-generated variables like date, time, and location. A couple of other points with this slide is finer spatial resolution in the snapper grouper reef fish fleet would be essential for future assessments, by incorporating those ecosystem-based level effects that I mentioned a little bit earlier. Ultimately, we feel that having electronic logbooks would reduce the reporting burden on fishermen and ultimately contain fewer errors, simply because of the way they are set up.

To transition into an update on the electronic logbook, where are we with the electronic logbook implementation? The largest issue that we've had, when developing the Southeast e-log, is building a robust and complete database to house all the variables that we tested during our pilot and we feel are needed going forward. We have worked diligently with our partners at ACCSP to create and expand their underlying database to include our required data elements, and this infrastructure work is where the majority of our efforts have been placed, and, specifically, within all of that infrastructure work, we spent a lot of time reconciling their database elements versus what we determined we would like to see implemented based on our pilot and meeting with assessment scientists and a few of the staff here.

For example, when we first started this program, ACCSP was collecting only one variable to collect port data. Depending on which partner was reporting data, that port data could have been interpreted any number of ways. For example, some partners were reporting it as the port of departure, and some partners were reporting it as the end port. With the electronic logbook, we will be asking for three relative ports within any given trip, a port of departure, an end port, and an offload port, if a catch was flagged for sale.

This is just one example of the type of work that we've been doing with ACCSP, and this is just one variable, and we've had to expand our gear data elements to meet the step-based reporting for coastal fisheries as well as expanding on the set-based reporting within HMS fisheries as well. Until the database is completely reconciled, a technical requirements document that would inform any third-party vendor that wants to produce an app for the commercial electronic logbook cannot be completed. Once we have reconciled the database fully, then we'll be able to send that document out for third-party vendors to develop software.

One more point with this. To reconcile the database, there is a process through standard codes that ACCSP has to go through where any addition to their database has to be approved by all the partners. A lot of our remaining tasks are simply going through this standard code process. We have worked with ACCSP a number of times to let them know specifically what is remaining and what variables we need implemented into their database, and there is a plan going forward to implement that and send those variables through standard codes, just so that we can finish the database and then complete the technical requirements document.

In addition to all of this database infrastructure work, we need to set up a process by which electronic logbooks and electronic no-fishing reports count toward fisher compliance once they are submitted. This involves creating and linking SAFIS participant IDs with their corresponding SERO ID, which, of course, is linked toward compliance. We began this process earlier this year, and I can report now that we are able to link any SERO identity, or I should say SERO ID, to a SAFIS participant.

That process is ongoing, and we just got word from ACCSP that they are starting to load large batches of their participant IDs into a table that we have created and shared with SERO, and so we're able to consistently match new participants within ACCSP with any existing participant with SERO and vice versa. If somebody creates a permit, or applies for a permit, they are able to be matched within ACCSP and given a SAFIS participant ID. That SAFIS participant ID will be essentially how they support logbooks. That's how they would log into the app, and that's how they would log into eTRIPS, or any third-party, and that would serve as their digital signature.

The next step would be to take that entity linking that we've worked on and test it with a database reporting system that has already been created, and so the target is to report on SAFIS's negative-fishing platform, and so the goal is to take those SERO and ACCSP-linked entities and have them report within SAFIS's no fishing tool and then make sure that infrastructure is in place that those reports would be counted towards compliance. Now, in meetings past, I have mentioned that we have launched a no-fishing reporting tool in the Southeast, and it would be very similar to that, where fishermen can report no-fishing reports and have it count nearly immediately to compliance. What we do not have in place yet is the ability for SAFIS's infrastructure to have it count for compliance, and so our next step would be to make sure that any reporting platform can count toward compliance for Southeast fishing.

Once we have developed a proof of concept with that reporting, then it's not a large process to get that with the positive fishing reports. Any logbook that comes in should be able to count toward compliance, just like a no-fishing report, since we've already done the majority of the work.

To wrap up, there are two remaining large processes in place that we need to be able to make sure that database is reconciled that any variable that we feel needs to be implemented goes through the standard codes process, and that takes a little bit of time, but it is ongoing, and we are starting to see some of those variables go through the Standard Codes Committee currently. The second one would be to do the linking and making sure that the infrastructure is in place for logbook and no-fishing logbooks that are submitted to count toward compliance. I have given kind of a broad overview of our logbooks and our electronic logbooks. If you have any questions, please ask. I will do my best to answer those as I can.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Are there questions? All right. Thank you for that presentation. I am going to assume that Vivian is going to give us the other one, and I'm just going to assume.

MS. MATTER: Yes, I'm here.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Okay. Great. Thank you so much, Vivian. Thanks for hanging with us.

MS. MATTER: No problem. My name is Vivian Matter, and I work for the Southeast Fisheries Science Center in Miami, and I wanted to give a brief overview of the status of our MRIP conversions. I kind of dwindled this down to just one slide, just to give everyone basically a snapshot of where we are, and I know this agenda item got added to the council meetings last year, when we were in the middle of the transition from the Coastal Household Telephone Survey to the Fishing Effort Survey.

This is just a quick summary of what happened and where we're at. As I mentioned, last year, the Office of Science and Technology released new estimates for FES and APAIS. The Southeast Fisheries Science Center then completed some post-processing tasks, in order to prepare the estimates for assessment and management, and the first one was the domain estimation, and that's -- Essentially, it's code written by S&T, but we execute it at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center, and it's to provide smaller geographic domains for the State of Florida and North Carolina.

We completed that in November of last year, and we also had to adjust the charter estimates to account for the change to the for-hire survey, and so we updated that, and we released a document, and it's been posted to SEDAR, and that was completed in October of last year as well, and, basically, since then, we've just been in production mode. Every two months, when S&T releases new wave data, they also provide CHTS-like estimates for us, in order to pass that on to SERO, so that they can monitor the ACLs for species that were assessed using pre-FES data, and then, in terms of stock assessments, we've been providing a fully-calibrated estimate for all the Southeast stocks. That's basically where we're at.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Are there any questions? No questions here. Thank you, Vivian.

MS. MATTER: Thank you.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. No exempted fishing permits to review, and so we're going to go into the committee reports, and first up is Snapper Grouper. The Snapper Grouper Committee met this week, and they approved the minutes from the June meeting and the agenda for the September 2019 committee meeting, and I'm going to let Myra get our committee report on the screen.

All right, and so the committee reviewed the status of commercial catches for species under ACLs and also the status of amendments under formal review, and then there was some discussion about the SSC report from the MRIP workshop, and so there was a lot of discussion, and there were some SSC recommendations and consensus statements on that.

Then the committee went into Regulatory Amendment 29, which is the best fishing practices and powerheads amendment, and the committee reviewed the purpose and need statements, and then they made the following motion. **Motion Number 1 is remove "discards and" from the need**

for actions. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion of this motion? Is there any objection to this motion? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.

Then the committee made Motion Number 2, which was to approve the following definition of descending device for inclusion in Action 1. For the purpose of this requirement, “descending device” means an instrument to which is attached a minimum of a sixteen-ounce weight and a length of line that will release the fish at the depth from which the fish was caught, or a minimum of fifty-feet. The descending device attaches to the fish’s mouth or is a container that will hold the fish. The device MUST be capable of releasing the fish automatically, by the actions of the operator of the device, or by allowing the fish to escape on its own. Since minimizing surface time is critical to increasing survival, descending devices shall be readily available for use while engaged in fishing. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion of this definition? Any objection to this motion to approve the definition? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.

If there is no more discussion on this amendment, and Mel brought up some points earlier in the week that had to do with spearfishing and some other things, and are we going to be asking spear fishers to have descending devices rigged and ready onboard their boat and things of that nature, and, Mel, I don’t know if you have any more comments on that.

MR. BELL: Yes, ma’am. Actually, I didn’t bring up the spearfishing part. I brought up just the -- But that came up. I don’t see a -- Basically, this is -- To keep it simple, it’s possession of these species in the snapper grouper complex in the waters of the EEZ, and I don’t see a problem with it. A lot of times, spear fishermen, to that point, also have fishing gear onboard, and they do both, a lot of times, and I think it would be kind of problematic to try to tease out spearfishing from hook-and-line fishing. I think you’re going to typically find rods and reels on a boat and that sort of thing, and possession of a species is possession of a species.

The issue I was having was really more related to you may -- In the waters of the EEZ, you may find places where it’s forty feet deep, or forty-five feet deep, and so you probably won’t have a problem with barotrauma in that depth of water, and this is what -- When I brought it up, it was when we were talking about outreach, and so we just need to be able to communicate to folks that, yes, you may be in forty feet of water, but you’re in federal waters with these species, and, since I think we have a pretty clear definition, and it’s not necessarily an expensive investment in a one-pound weight and some type of hook and fifty-feet of line, maybe, and I don’t think that’s a burdensome requirement on anybody with those species in the waters of the EEZ, and so I’m fine with it.

I also had some issues related to our own state, which I have since reached out to our law enforcement and legal counsel and all, and it has to do with us automatically adopting a requirement in state waters, and I don’t think we have to do that. It’s just the way our code section is written, and so I’m past that, and so I’m okay, myself, from kind of where I was coming from in bringing up just things that we need to make we can communicate, and so outreach is going to be really important in how we explain this to folks, I think.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Thank you, Mel.

MR. WAUGH: There was one other point that Mel had asked us just to take a look at, and that was this action will remove the prohibition on powerheads in the EEZ off of South Carolina, but the discussion is clear, and it mentions that it does not affect that prohibition within the SMZs off of South Carolina. That is clear in the discussion, and I checked with Christina, and that's clear that that's the council's intent. It may not appear in the wording of the action, but it's clear in the discussion that that's the intent, and that was one thing that Mel wanted us to look at.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thanks, Gregg. Thanks for clarifying that. Any more discussion?

MR. BELL: That was different from the descending device part, but thanks for doing that, and that -- We have some other things that we're going to kind of clean up with staff, related to things that are in the code now, but, yes, I did want to make sure, on the record, that it was always our intent to maintain that restriction on the SMZs, just like they have always been.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Any more discussion? If we're ready, there is a draft motion on the board, if someone would like to make that motion.

MR. WOODWARD: **I move we approve Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 29 for formal secretarial review and deem the codified text as necessary and appropriate. Give staff editorial license to make any necessary editorial changes to the document and codified text and give the Council Chair authority to approve the revisions and to re-deem the codified text.**

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. We have a motion, and it's seconded by Steve. This is a roll call vote, and I'm going to turn it over to Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: Ms. Beckwith.

MS. BECKWITH: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: Mr. Bell.

MR. BELL: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: Mr. Brewer. Mr. Conklin.

MR. CONKLIN: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: Dr. Crabtree.

DR. CRABTREE: Abstain.

MR. WAUGH: Dr. Christiansen.

DR. CHRISTIANSEN: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: Mr. Griner.

MR. GRINER: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: Dr. Belcher.

DR. BELCHER: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: Mr. Poland.

MR. POLAND: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: Mr. Sapp.

MR. SAPP: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: Mr. Woodward.

MR. WOODWARD: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: Mr. Whitaker.

MR. WHITAKER: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: Ms. McCawley.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Yes.

MR. WAUGH: **It's eleven in favor and one abstention.**

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. **The motion passes.** The committee, as Mel alluded to, also discussed an outreach plan for the best fishing practices and prioritized three points: the brochure for the best fishing practices, working with influencers to promote the best fishing practices, and beginning discussions on incentivizing fishermen to use the best fishing practices. The committee also requested a document summarizing current and past outreach efforts in the South Atlantic and their results.

Then the committee moved on to the Abbreviated Framework Number 3 for blueline tilefish, and so this amendment is adjusting the ABC and the ACL for blueline tilefish. The committee approved the following motion. **Motion Number 4 is to move to revise the ACL and recreational ACT for blueline tilefish to reflect the actions in the decision document and maintain as an abbreviated framework and return to the December council meeting. On behalf of the committee, I so move.** Is there any discussion of this motion? **Is there any objection to this motion? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.**

Next up, the committee discussed the wreckfish ITQ review, and so the committee received the final version of this document, and we received a presentation on the outlined work since the last council meeting, and we looked at the conclusions and the recommendations from the review. **The committee made the following motion, and this is Motion Number 5, to accept the 2019 wreckfish ITQ review as final and begin a plan amendment for the wreckfish fishery. On**

behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion of this motion? **Any objection to this motion? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.**

The committee then began discussions of Regulatory Amendment 33, which is red snapper season modifications, and there's a number of actions that were in this document, and there were public hearings that were held in August, and we received a summary of the public comment, and, when we got into the actions and alternatives, the committee approved the following motions.

Motion Number 6 is accept the IPT's edits to Alternative 2 under Action 1 and select that as the preferred. Is there any discussion of this motion? **Is there any objection to this motion? That motion stands approved.**

There was also a clarification made that, under the current and the proposed regulations, that recreational and commercial harvest of red snapper operate independently of each other, and so that is meaning that the harvest for one sector can open without the other.

Then the committee made Motion Number 7, which was to move Actions 2 and 3 to the Considered but Rejected Appendix. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? **Any objection? That motion is approved.**

Motion Number 8 is modify Alternative 2 under Action 4 for a May 1 start date and select Alternative 2 as the preferred. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion of this motion? **Any objection to this motion? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.**

Motion 9 was to accept the IPT's suggested edits under Action 4 and move Alternative 4 to the Considered but Rejected Appendix. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Any discussion of this motion? **Any objection to this motion? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.**

We forgot to go back and approve the suggested edits to the purpose and need statement, and so you might want to check out that, and it's on the board, and so I will read it for you. The purpose and need of this framework amendment is to remove the minimum number of days to allow commercial recreational harvest of red snapper in the South Atlantic and modify the red snapper commercial season to increase the socioeconomic benefits to fishermen and fishing communities, while minimizing discard mortality, and so this more reflective of what we've done now that we've moved some of the items to the Considered but Rejected, and so this is clarifying that in the purpose and need statement, if someone would like to make that motion.

MR. BELL: **So moved.**

MS. MCCAULEY: Do we have a second? It's seconded by Spud. Any discussion of this new purpose and need statement? **Any objection to approval of this motion? Seeing none, that motion is approved.**

Then we moved into Regulatory Amendment 34, which is the SMZs in North Carolina and South Carolina. This is the process to designate artificial reefs as special management zones that was established in the Snapper Grouper FMP in 1983. There were a number of guidance points that

were provided there, and you have them in front of you, and I am not going to read all of them. Then the committee did approve some motions relative to this document.

Motion Number 11 is approve inclusion of Action 1 in Regulatory Amendment 34. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion of this motion? Is there any objection to this motion? Seeing none, that motion is approved.

Motion 12 is to approve inclusion of Action 2 in Regulatory Amendment 34 and select Option 2 as the preferred. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none, that motion is approved.

Then there's a question here that Myra has for us. Does the council wish to direct staff to develop a system management plan for the proposed SMZs, and so I'm going to look over to -- Well, first Roy, and then I'm going to look to Steve and Mel, to see what you guys have to say about this, but let's start with Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: I guess my main question about that is how much of a burden is that on staff and how much time -- If we say, yes, let's do that, how much time and how much of an investment is that?

MS. BROUWER: I am going to look to Chip, if he has any more detail, but my suspicion is that we would still -- If the committee wants to have an SMP for all special management zones together, it might not be too much of a burden. If we become more site-specific, than that would certainly constitute a heavy lift, but here's Chip.

DR. COLLIER: We have a workgroup that does all these system management plans, and so it's staff supervision of that workgroup, and it will be adding a little bit onto them. Right now, we're looking at the Oculina Experimental Closed Area, and we're going to be looking at that in October and really developing a system management plan for that, but adding this on shouldn't be that bad. They know the process, and getting it done should be pretty easy. The goals for the special management zones are pretty strict, and so it seems like it could be a pretty easy lift for the group.

DR. CRABTREE: I guess my view on this is it seems that we're going to go down this path, but these are things the states are requesting, and so I think, to the extent possible, the states ought to take the role of enforcing them and doing the bulk of the work on it, and I don't want to see this put a lot more demands on our staff or our working group. I don't think they have the time to do it.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Okay.

MR. BELL: Again, we've had these in place since the 1980s, and it's not been a problem, in terms of enforcement. They are actually used by our officers that are involved in JEA patrols, and they're on the reefs all the time, and so, yes, we handle enforcement, and the Coast Guard is out there regularly as well, and so, I mean, we've got a good handle on the enforcement aspect.

As far as the monitoring that might be necessary to feed into -- If there's a requirement for a systems management plan, we, as a function of maintaining our reefs, do compliance monitoring

all the time, and so we're monitoring our own reefs as a function of the state program. That's something we do.

Bob Martore, who runs our reef program now, and Chip knows him, and he's also involved in the system management plan for spawning special management zones, and so we're already doing the work, and so I don't see this being -- It's like Chip said, in terms of they're kind of used to doing these things, and I don't see it being a load, and we're not asking, really, for -- It's not our desire to create work for the system, and we've basically got it under control, I think, from our standpoint.

MR. POLAND: From North Carolina's perspective, I don't really see the need, right now, to wrap these into a system management plan. We do finfish sampling and other types of monitoring on our reefs already, and so I don't know what kind of added benefit we would get at this time.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Okay. We think that's enough, unless people have other questions or comments. Thank you, Chip. Myra is getting the direction on the board there. Then we moved into guidance for the Snapper Grouper AP, for their October 2019 meeting. There is a number of items on the list for their agenda, and we talked about that I could work with Myra, and it looks like we're still going to be way over on the amount of time that they've allotted to talk about these things, but I could work with her to try to narrow this list down before their meeting.

Also, we then talked about the FMP objectives and vision blueprint guidance, and so the committee received an overview of the objectives in the Snapper Grouper FMP and those included in the 2016 through 2020 vision blueprint for the fishery. The committee provided guidance to include the vision blueprint objectives in the next amendment to the Snapper Grouper FMP and continue addressing objectives that were adopted in this 2016 through 2020 vision blueprint instead of adopting a revised timeline for 2021 through 2026.

Then the committee discussed possible regulatory changes to address retention of lionfish, and so SERO staff updated the committee on the amendment from Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to the exempted fishing permit that they received in November, and then SERO staff also presented information documenting possible regulatory changes to address targeting and retention of lionfish and authorized trap fisheries and possible impacts. Instead of taking regulatory action now, NMFS recommends waiting for the results of the research that FWC is conducting under the EFP to test modified wire spiny lobster traps to determine their effectiveness for attracting and collecting invasive lionfish. There weren't any items for Other Business, and then there is a lengthy timing and tasks motion, if someone would like to make this timing and tasks motion.

MR. POLAND: Madam Chair, I move to direct staff to complete the following tasks: send letters to thank participants who delivered presentations during the SSC MRIP workshop; provide summary of outreach efforts to date on descending devices at the December 2019 meeting; prepare Abbreviated Framework 3 (ACL adjustment for blueline tilefish) for review and consideration for formal approval at the December 2019 council meeting; initiate development of an amendment to the Snapper Grouper FMP based on management recommendations from the wreckfish ITQ review; conduct scoping webinars with listening stations for Regulatory Amendment 34 (three in North Carolina and one in South Carolina) before the December 2019 council meeting; revise timing of Regulatory Amendment 34 to consider for final approval at the March 2020 meeting; prepare Regulatory Amendment 33

(modifications to red snapper seasons) for consideration for formal review at the December 2019 meeting; and submit Regulatory Amendment 29 for formal review.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Then Regulatory Amendment 34 is highlighted, that Myra highlighted, is revise the timing of Regulatory Amendment 34 to consider for final approval at the March -- I don't think we can consider for final approval at March, and is that right? Now we've had Executive Finance. **Maybe we just say to continue working on Regulatory Amendment 34 at the March 2020 meeting.** All right.

We have modified that a little bit. Steve made the motion, and Mel seconded it. Any more discussion? We have made one change there. Are we good here? Any more discussion? **Any opposition to this timing and tasks motion? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.** Next up is Mackerel Cobia. Thanks, Myra. All right. Christina and Steve.

MR. POLAND: Thank you, Madam Chair. The Mackerel Cobia Committee of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council met on September 19, 2019, and the committee approved the minutes from the June 2019 meeting and the agenda. We received a status of commercial catches from NOAA Fisheries staff and provided direction to staff to include expanded landings in future commercial catch updates and to not include Atlantic cobia landings in further reports.

We then moved into an update on status of amendments under formal review. SERO staff briefed the committee on the status of CMP Framework 6. The proposed rule was published on March 26, 2019, and comments to the final rule were published on September 10, 2019, with an effective date of September 11, 2019. The request for emergency action for the commercial king mackerel fishery was sent to NMFS on June 21, 2019, and the document is currently up at NOAA Headquarters.

We then moved into discussion on CMP Framework Amendment 8, and this was action to adjust commercial trip limits during Season 2. We provided direction to staff to update the document to reflect shifting boundaries between the Gulf and Atlantic stocks of king mackerel and associated trip limits prior to CMP Amendment 26. The following motions were passed by the committee.

Motion 1 is accept the IPT's recommended changes to the purpose and need statement. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Any discussion? **Any opposition? The motion stands approved.**

Motion 2 is accept the IPT's recommended changes to the action/alternatives language removing reference to Season 1. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Any discussion? **Any opposition? The motion stands approved.**

Motion 3 is add an alternative for a Season 2 trip limit of 100-fish with no step-up and select as the preferred alternative. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Any discussion? **Any opposition? The motion stands approved.**

There is a draft motion on the board to approve the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Framework Amendment 8 for public hearings.

MS. BECKWITH: **So moved.**

MR. POLAND: Is there a second? Second by Jessica. Any discussion? **Any opposition? The motion stands approved.**

The council staff presented a white paper on the Spanish mackerel fishery. It's a detailed paper looking at the commercial fishery as a whole in both zones, and we had a lengthy discussion on issues related to the Spanish mackerel fishery. The committee made the following motion, after considerable discussion and amendments to the motion.

Motion 4 is revise the Spanish mackerel accountability measures so when the Northern Zone commercial sector quota is met, a step-down to 500 pounds will occur. The Spanish mackerel fishery will close when the total ACL, commercial and recreational combined, is met or projected to be met. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Any opposition? The motion stands approved.

Motion 5 is the committee moved to analyze and develop alternatives for trip limits for the Northern Zone commercial sector of 1,500, 2,000, and 2,500 pounds. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Any discussion?

MS. BECKWITH: I just wanted to point out that, even though we didn't add that 3,000 pounds in the range to be analyzed, I guess, from discussion with Monica, since our current trip limit is 3,500, that that 3,000 would be in the range, and so I just wanted to make sure that was on the record.

MR. POLAND: Thank you, Anna. Any more discussion? **Any opposition? Seeing none, the motion stands approved.**

There was a motion to send a letter to the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, and, after discussion of the need for that letter, that motion failed. Moving on, council staff reviewed a plan for port meetings for king and Spanish mackerel. After considerable discussion about the need for these port meetings and the timing, the committee decided to direct staff to postpone work on port meetings until after the Spanish mackerel stock assessment.

Moving on, Gulf Council staff presented some information on amendments in the Gulf Council right now looking to modify the for-hire trip limits on trips exceeding twenty-four hours, and there was discussion on the committee, and the committee consensus was to revisit the issue the next time a full CMP or snapper grouper amendment is discussed, to incorporate any needed changes.

Lastly, we discussed agenda items for the upcoming Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel, and those items are there on the board, and there was no Other Business. With that, there is a draft timing and tasks motion up on the board, and I would entertain a motion.

MR. WOODWARD: **I move the council adopt the following timing and tasks: continue work on CMP Framework Amendment 8 and prepare for public hearings and a final draft for the approval at the December 2019 council meeting; begin work on a framework amendment to address Spanish mackerel accountability measures and commercial trip limits in the Northern Zone for review in December 2019 and final action during a webinar before the March 2020 meeting; prepare for the October 2019 Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel meeting.**

MR. POLAND: Is there a second? Anna seconds. Is there discussion? **Is there opposition? The motion stands approved.** With that, Madam Chair, that concludes the Mackerel Committee report.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thanks, Steve, and thanks, Christina. I'm going to go over to Spud for the Protected Resources Committee report.

MR. WOODWARD: Thank you, Madam Chair. The Protected Resources Committee of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council met on September 18, 2019. The committee approved the minutes from the March 2017 meeting and the agenda.

Council staff reviewed the current Endangered Species Act Section 7 and Magnuson Stevens Act Integration Agreement, the purpose of which is to improve the involvement of regional fishery management councils in the ESA Section 7 consultation process.

Next, SERO Protected Resources Division staff updated the committee on the status of the dolphin wahoo and HMS biological opinions, or bi-ops, as they are known. The dolphin wahoo bi-op is in the beginning stages, and Protected Resources Division staff is working with SERO Sustainable Fisheries staff to gather information for the consultation and biological assessment. The bi-op will consider actions that are reasonably certain to occur. The full timeline for the HMS bi-op is currently unknown, due to the need to analyze effects on some newly listed species.

Next, SERO Protected Resources Division staff provided the committee with an update on protected resources issues in the South Atlantic that include: revised ESA Section 4 and Section 7 regulations and activities of the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team, the Pelagic Longline Take Reduction Plan, and the Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Plan. There was no other business, and we have one timing and tasks motion, if I can get someone to make that.

MR. POLAND: **I move to adopt the following timing and tasks: work with SERO PRD to provide information relative to the dolphin wahoo bi-op, as necessary, and follow the progress of the bi-op development.**

MR. WOODWARD: We have a motion. do we have a second? We have a second from Jessica. Any discussion on the motion? **Any opposition to the motion? Seeing none, the motion stands.** That concludes my report, Madam Chair.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thank you, Spud, and thank you, Christina. We're going to move on to Dolphin Wahoo and Anna, and we have John Hadley coming up here.

MS. BECKWITH: Thank you, Madam Chair. The Dolphin Wahoo Committee met on September 18 in Charleston, South Carolina. We began by approving the minutes from our June 2019 meeting, and we followed with a status of commercial landings. We then moved on to an advisory panel report, and then we began a discussion on the review of the goals and objectives of the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan.

The new goals and objectives are presented in the report, and I would encourage everyone to review them carefully prior to our next meeting, so we can have a good discussion on it, rather

than doing any editing by committee, and so I would welcome any suggestions, and we can work those in during our meeting in December.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Anna, I have a question. Do these include the ones that we had worked on all that? They include the edits, and so it's like the committee edits plus the ones that we submitted, right?

MS. BECKWITH: Correct, and so the edits we received, the comments we received, during committee and the edits that were provided by Florida have been incorporated into this, and so, again, I encourage everyone to look at these carefully before our December meeting.

MS. MCCAWLEY: I'm just making sure, because I know Dewey had asked about this, and I just wanted to make sure. Okay. Thanks.

MS. BECKWITH: Okay, and we then moved on to discussion of Amendment 10 to review dolphin and wahoo management measures. We began with -- This amendment would accommodate the revised recreational data from the Marine Recreational Information Program, redefine optimum yield in the dolphin fishery, accommodate adaptive management of sector ACLs, revise accountability measures, and implement various other management revisions in the dolphin wahoo fishery.

We began with direction to staff in Action 10 to remove any references to stock status in Alternative 2 and 3, and the first motion related to Amendment 10 was to add Alternative 5 and accept the IPT recommendations to Action 9. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.

Our second motion was to modify the language for Alternative 5 in Action 9. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.

Our third motion was to approve Action 10 for consideration in Amendment 10, removing Alternatives 4 and 6. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.

Our fourth motion was to approve Action 11 for consideration in Amendment 10 and remove Alternative 2 and add "overfished status" to Alternative 4. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.

Our fifth motion was to move Action 12 to the Considered but Rejected. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.

Our sixth motion was to approve the IPT's suggested edits to Action 13. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.

Our seventh motion was to add Alternative 3, 4, and 5 to Action 16. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.

Our eighth motion was to accept the IPT's edits to Alternative 1 in Action 16. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.

Our ninth motion was to approve Action 17 and the proposed range of alternatives for consideration in Amendment 10. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.

We then began a discussion on Amendment 12 for bullet and frigate mackerel. This amendment would add bullet and frigate mackerel to the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan as an ecosystem component species. We provided direction to staff to provide additional information on the remaining actions beyond Action 1 in the amendment and jurisdictional information at the June 2020 meeting.

We also had an additional question, which is highlighted here in yellow for the committee to consider. The South Atlantic Council has narrowed down the forage species to concentrate on bullet and frigate mackerel, and the SSC is scheduled to review Amendment 12 at their October 2019 meeting. Unless otherwise specified by the committee, the SSC will provide an overview of the council's initial considerations in Amendment 12 and if they have any comments on the amendment. Our question to the committee, or to the council, is if there's any additional questions that we would like to pose to the SSC on this for their October 2019 meeting. I open that up for discussion, if anyone would like to present any additional questions to the SSC. Seeing none, then they will be open to comment on it as they would like.

Our next motion relative to Amendment 12 was to approve Action 1 and the proposed range of alternatives for consideration in Amendment 12. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.

We have a motion that has not been made by the committee, and this is a new motion, and it sort of specifies a little bit more specifically what our direction to staff originally was, and so I will read that into the record, so that someone else can go ahead and make it when I'm done.

The motion is to request that National Marine Fisheries Service provide information on feasibility of the additional bullet and frigate mackerel actions in Amendment 12 beyond designation as an ecosystem component species and present this to the council at their June 2020 council meeting. Also provide information on: 1) the jurisdiction issue - examine the precedent of extending CMP management through the MAFMC. If including as an action in amendment will not work, then how does the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council gain authority for a species along the entire east coast; 2) from an ecosystem component species perspective, what are the appropriate regulatory actions that could prevent development of an unregulated fishery before the council can develop an amendment to determine whether management is needed, for example commercial trip limits and total quota; 3) allowable gears for dolphin includes automatic reel, bandit gear, handline, pelagic longline, rod-and-reel, and spear (including powerheads). If bullet and frigate are added to

the Dolphin Wahoo FMP as an ecosystem component species, would this list of allowable gears apply? (Note: current commercial fishery (non-FMP) allowable gears includes trawl, gillnet, hook-and-line, longline, handline, rod-and-reel, bandit gear, cast net, lampara net, and spear.). Who would like to make that motion, now that it's read in?

MR. POLAND: **So moved.**

MS. BECKWITH: Steve, thank you. Do I have a second? Second by Jessica. Is there discussion on this?

MR. POLAND: I do want to have a little bit of discussion on the timing on this. Given the discussion we had during Executive Finance and what's coming to the council in 2020, as far as ABC recommendations from the SSC and then assessments coming, I just -- June of 2020, that's about nine months, and, ideally, I would like to see this back by March, if at all possible, and I don't know if the agency staff can comment on the timing and if they feel like they can get that done.

My concern is I don't want to receive this feedback while we're in the throes of discussing ACLs for unassessed species and then assessments roll in and then, all of a sudden, this gets prioritized very low, and I feel like, if we could go ahead and get that information before those roll in, that, if we feel like we want to act a little quicker, then we'll have it there and ready to act, but, if we've still got to wait for this information, then that would add just additional time to potential final action on this.

MS. BECKWITH: Okay. I am hearing that we would prefer to see this information come back at the March 2020 meeting, and, of course, if there's any outstanding information that still needs to be provided after that, but we would at least touch base on what you guys have kind of come up with at the March 2020 meeting, and additional information could be provided after that. Is that acceptable to everyone around the table?

DR. CRABTREE: Yes, that's fine with me. We can do our best to sort through this by then.

MS. BECKWITH: Okay.

MR. CONKLIN: So the motion is to provide information on Item 3, that allowable gears for dolphin, and so it's not making it that that's the allowable gears, but we're going to get information on that, and is that correct?

MS. BECKWITH: Yes, and this is educational and sort of getting our heads wrapped around what are some of those jurisdictional questions and potential paths forward, which will be handy not only for this, but for future actions, I'm sure. Okay. **It is consensus by committee to change that date from June 2020 to March 2020. Is there any opposition from the committee for that? We don't need a motion, and we can do it by consensus. The motion now reflects March of 2020. Is there any additional discussion? Seeing none, is there any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.**

Under Other Business, the committee discussed the need for representation from the Mid-Atlantic region on the Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel. The committee provided the following guidance,

to work with the Mid-Atlantic Council on funding for and identifying a new member for the Dolphin Wahoo Panel from the Mid-Atlantic region. **Our motion that we need to make here is to add one voting seat to the Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel for a panel member from the Mid-Atlantic region.** Who would like to make that motion?

MR. POLAND: **So moved.**

MS. BECKWITH: Motion by Steve. Do we have a second? Second by Jessica. Is there any discussion?

MR. WAUGH: This was mentioned at the committee level, but just to make clear that this would be an individual that the Mid-Atlantic would find, and they would appoint, and they would cover their costs and everything. Thank you.

MS. BECKWITH: Duly noted. Is there any additional discussion? **Is there any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.** Steve, would you like to make our timing and tasks motion?

MR. POLAND: Certainly, Anna. **Move to direct staff to continue work on Amendment 10 for review at the December 2019 meeting; continue work on revising the Dolphin Wahoo FMP goals and objectives for review at the December 2019 meeting; and continue work on Amendment 12 for review at the December 2019 meeting.**

MS. BECKWITH: Thank you. Do I have a second? Second by Jessica. Is there any discussion? **Is there any opposition? Seeing none, that motion carries.**

Before I end my committee, I just want to personally thank and give a shout-out to John Hadley, who has done just an absolutely amazing job on the workload that this committee has and the difficulty that we have created for him in the back-and-forth in our discussions, and so I want to give a shout-out. He's done an amazing job, and so thank you, John. With that, my report concludes.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Thanks, Anna. Thanks, John. Next up, we're going to go to the Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Committee. Steve, are you giving this report?

MR. POLAND: Thank you, Madam Chair. The Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Committee met in Charleston, South Carolina on September 19, 2019, and the committee received a report from the Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Advisory Panel. That was delivered by Dr. Wilson Laney. I certainly encourage everyone to go and look through the report and the attached document. It is very lengthy and informative.

During Other Business, there was discussion on a large oil spill that occurred in the Bahamas during Hurricane Dorian. Art Sapp provided images and discussion. There was further discussion among the committee about actions, or potential actions, or potential impacts to council-managed species and council jurisdictions. With that, there were no motions in committee, but there is a timing and tasks motion up on the board, if somebody would like to make it.

MS. BECKWITH: **I move to adopt the following timing and tasks motion: staff coordinate with Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel to help identify shelf and deepwater sentinel sites to monitor oceanographic change in the region; staff engage appropriate organizations and agencies to brief the council in December or March on the potential impact of the Bahamian oil spill associated with Hurricane Dorian on habitats and species under council jurisdiction; staff facilitate panel member review of the state activities addressing climate change and extreme weather events supporting development of an addendum to the existing Council Climate Policy statement highlighting complementary actions which enhance EFH conservation; staff facilitate Laurent Cherubin presentation at the December committee meeting on “Applying Innovative Technologies to Characterize Fish Habitat and Spawning Events - Understanding Soundscapes.”**

MR. POLAND: Is there a second? Mel seconds. Is there discussion? **Is there opposition? The motion stands approved.** Madam Chair, that concludes the Habitat and Ecosystem Committee Report.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thanks, Steve, and thanks, Roger. Next up, we will do the Joint Habitat/Shrimp/Golden Crab Committee. Back to Steve.

MR. POLAND: Thank you, Madam Chair. A Joint Habitat/Golden Crab/Shrimp Committee meeting was held in Charleston, South Carolina on September 20, 2019, and the committee approved the minutes from the June 2018 meeting and the agenda.

The committee discussed Coral Amendment 10/ Golden Crab Amendment 10/ Shrimp Amendment 11. The committee discussed several issues related to the options paper, and the committee decided they wanted to move forward with a separate options paper, one options paper to address shrimp transit provisions and one options paper to address the rock shrimp boundary and coral habitat area of particular concern. The shrimp transit options paper would be scoped in fall of 2019, and the rock shrimp and coral habitat area of particular concern options paper would be brought back to the committee in December of 2019, with potential scoping beginning in 2020.

The committee was briefed on a staff plan to have webinars presented to the Shrimp, Coral, Coastal Migratory Pelagics, Snapper Grouper, and Habitat and Ecosystem by the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary staff on potential changes in the sanctuary. **The committee made the following motion, Motion 1, to remove golden crab options from this options paper; separate shrimp transit into its own document; rock shrimp and new CHAPCs in another document; bring back to committee in December for possible scoping in January for rock shrimp and CHAPCs; shrimp transit goes out for scoping in fall 2019. On behalf of the committee, I so move.**

For discussion, Chip has highlighted the timing. Given all of the discussion we had at Executive Finance about timing and other tasks, is the committee and the council still fine with the timing discussed during the committee meeting, or do we need to make any modifications to that timing?

MS. MCCAWLEY: It seems like we need to modify it, but I can't remember where this item is now. Is it in no-man's-land or -- It's in no-man's-land, and so maybe we're not going to scope in January. I think we were trying to just get past the October SSC meeting, because we're going to get some new information about the new areas, and so I'm not quite sure what to say, and so I

guess that we'll get an update on this in the SSC report that comes to the December meeting about the modeling and their approval of that. I don't know if we just want to discuss it then, and I don't know if we want to pick a particular date right now.

MR. POLAND: I mean, really, as far as the shrimp transit provision, that was something that South Carolina and Georgia were really interested in, and so I would really look to them, to see if they've got any comments on the timing of that, because I know there was some discussion during committee about trying to have it in place by next winter, or really this winter.

MS. MCCAWLEY: The shrimp transit I think is still moving, but Brian says that the coral habitat areas and the rock shrimp stuff maybe is listed for June. Also, it's unclear here -- The scoping in January -- I see. The shrimp transit goes out in the fall of this year. I'm sorry.

MR. POLAND: It was going to be January for the rock shrimp and the CHAPCs.

MS. MCCAWLEY: That part is okay. **Then we now have removed the scoping for rock shrimp and coral habitat areas, and does that fix it, maybe?**

MR. POLAND: I think so. This is a substitute motion. Is there any further discussion? Mel seconded it. Is there any further discussion? **Any opposition? The motion stands approved.** Now it becomes the main motion, and I will not read it again. I will entertain a motion, or is it already on the table? It's already on the table. Is there a second? It was already seconded. Is there any further discussion? **Any opposition? The motion stands approved.**

We will let Chip make the modifications to the draft timing and tasks. There is a draft timing and tasks motion on the board. I would entertain a motion.

MR. BELL: **I move to adopt the following timing and tasks: conduct scoping for shrimp vessel transit provisions in fall 2019; revise options paper for rock shrimp boundary and coral habitat areas of particular concern and bring back to the committee in June of 2020; contact golden crab fishermen who hold permits for the Northern Zone and discuss possibility of developing an exempted fishing permit; hold Shrimp and Coral Advisory Panel webinar meetings to discuss Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary modifications prior to the December 2019 council meeting.**

MR. POLAND: Is there a second? Spud seconds. Is there further discussion? **Is there opposition? The motion stands approved.** Madam Chair, that concludes our committee report.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thank you, Chip and Steve. We're going to do Executive Finance, and there's a couple of items in there. The Executive Finance Committee met this week, and we approved the minutes from the June meeting and the agenda, and, due to our time constraints, we focused on the priorities, and we approved the following motions.

Motion Number 1 was to consider a special webinar meeting after the December meeting and before the March meeting to discuss the Spanish mackerel framework amendment. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? That motion is approved.

The committee made the second motion to include Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 34 for discussion in the special webinar meeting after the December meeting and before the March meeting. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none, that motion is approved.

The committee made the third motion, which was -- I am not going to read the whole thing, but it's priorities that are approved for the December 2019 meeting, the March 2020 meeting, the June 2020 meeting, the September 2020 meeting, and the December 2020 meeting. On behalf of the committee, I so move. Is there any discussion of this motion? Any objection? Seeing none, that motion is approved.

The committee made Motion Number 4 to add two additional seats to the CMP Advisory Panel. On behalf of the committee, I so move. We already had a lot of discussion on this. Is there any more discussion on this? Any objection? Seeing none, that motion is approved.

Then we had the following timing and tasks motion, if someone would like to make the following timing and tasks motion, but, before we do that, are we not going to cover any of the other items that were in Executive Finance?

MR. WAUGH: I would like to at least go over a couple of the items under the Senate staff comments, and so maybe we could come back to the timing and tasks?

MS. MCCAWLEY: Sure. That sounds great.

MR. WAUGH: We missed a number of items in Executive Finance. Attachment 1 covers the draft CCC agenda. If you have any questions or interest, please reach out to me. The overview presents a little bit of background on what is going on with Magnuson, and I'm not going to go into that, and we'll jump right into the Senate comments, and we've been working on these for a number of meetings now, and there are just a couple of items that I wanted to point out to you all.

The first one is we have to be careful in our comments. We can't say we support something. We have to be clear that we're not lobbying, and so I modified that wording in Item Number 1, and I'm going to go through this pretty quickly. If you all have any questions on any of the specific items, let me know, and I will stop.

What I have done is pulled a lot of the responses directly from our CCC working paper, and, since this is a response to the Senate staffers, I felt it was best to go ahead and give them a good bit of detail. I will draft up a letter with Jessica to go along with this, but this is a lot of detail for the staff to work with. Now, it appears that maybe the House bill that's been introduced is the one that's going to move, but some of the items are similar, and so we wanted to get this in the hands of the Senate staffers.

Item Number 18 is on page 7, and it talks about fees, and so our response, draft response, is that the South Atlantic Council is concerned about collecting fees to cover the cost of management, data collection, and enforcement, especially from fisheries with little profit margin. The South Atlantic Council would encourage consideration of a modification to the Magnuson Act that would allow direct funding to councils that could be used to address some of the management, data collection, and enforcement costs.

Then Attachment 1 describes some current language in the Magnuson Act that was set up initially just for the West Pacific and how that might be modified to allow individuals to contribute funds that would then go into a dedicated fund that could be used by -- The way this is set up, it's used by the South Atlantic Council. We would establish a procedure for handling these monitoring, data collection, research, and outreach monies, similar to the process established for the Citizen Science Program. Are there any questions about that?

MS. MCCAWLEY: I don't have any concerns on that one. Earlier in the document, on 4 and 5, I think it's just referencing the wrong section. I think it should be 102 on Numbers 4 and 5.

MR. WAUGH: On Items Number 4 and 5?

MS. MCCAWLEY: Yes, and it's referencing Section 101, and I think it should be 102.

MR. WAUGH: Okay.

MS. MCCAWLEY: But I think this is a good plan, and I like the language that you pulled from this Western Pacific document. It looks good.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Okay. Later in the document, there are some sections that are specific to the other councils, and my suggestion would be that we not comment on those, and, right at the bottom of 24, and it's on page 17, this is where they talk about another study, and our comment would be, with respect to the National Academy of Science study, the South Atlantic Council does not believe another National Academy of Science study of MRIP is necessary, because we have adequate scientific recommendations, and it would be an unnecessary expenditure of limited National Marine Fisheries Service funding. Each one of these studies costs NMFS about a million-bucks, and so any comments on that one?

MS. MCCAWLEY: We had a conversation earlier in the week, coming out of that SSC meeting, and I think that there was talk of one of the things that could be done with the new data is try to do this independent validation of effort. I think it's going to cost more than \$1 million, but I wouldn't want to add in here that we don't want another study, because, in theory, that report said that there would be utility in this additional study to validate effort, and so I don't know if we want to tell them our specifics, that, if you're going to spend money on this, we would prefer that you try to validate effort.

MR. WAUGH: Okay. I will make that change, because I think this was specific to another National Academy of Science study, but I can focus it on that issue of validating effort. Good point.

MS. MCCAWLEY: I had one on Number 33. That was about capital construction, and so I thought -- In looking at this, I thought that this would allow things like construction of offloading facilities and things of that nature and changes, modifications, to fish processing sites, and so we have had some comments in the past of these offloading facilities in south Florida, that they need additional places to offload their catch, and so kind of the working waterfront thing, and so I'm not sure if we want to indicate that that's something that's been brought up to us before.

MR. WAUGH: Tie it more to that onshore facilities. Okay.

MS. MCCAWLEY: I agree. I think you had a question on 38. 38, I think, applies to Glacier Bay only. If it does, then, like you mentioned earlier, I don't know if we want to comment.

MR. WAUGH: Okay. Can we go back up to the bottom of 34, cost recovery? This needs to be modified now, I believe, because we're beginning an amendment to look at some cost recovery, and so I will change that and indicate that we are developing an amendment looking at cost recovery in wreckfish. That was all of the ones where I felt that we just needed to make sure that you all were okay with any of that guidance.

MS. MCCAWLEY: I certainly didn't have anything else, and I appreciate the time that you spent going through this and preparing this document for us. Are there other comments or questions or concerns here? What else would you like to cover from Executive Finance, Gregg?

MR. WAUGH: I would just call your attention to Attachment 3a, and that's a status of our budget, current budget, January through December, and Kelly and Suzanna have put this together, and it shows the percent expended through August 23, and we're still projected to be under our target budget, and so there's nothing in particular that we wanted to raise for you all. If you have any specific questions, get with me or get with Kelly.

Then the final item was just to let you know that we have submitted our five-year budget, the next five-year budget, and we're waiting to hear back from NMFS whether there needs to be any corrections or additions to that. The budget amounts are shown as Attachment 5, and I would just call your attention -- The only real numbers in that document are 2020, and we were directed to budget 2020 at the same level that we received in 2019, and, for the out years, you can project up to a 10 percent increase, and so that -- If you view it like you set your ABC, we project those at a 10 percent increase. If, for some reason, we were to receive additional monies, we wouldn't have to alter the grant unless it went above those numbers, but, each year, we will get a number from NMFS, and we will work like we're doing now.

We got your priorities at this meeting, and the Executive Finance will meet in a webinar in October to develop a draft budget for you all to look at in December, and so we'll go into the new year with an approved budget, and, in the overview, and on the back of Attachment 5, it asks the states to give us some information to support the monies they expend, and it's certainly considerably over what we give them, in terms of their liaison grants, and so we wanted to have this information included in our next five-year grant so that it's documented where these additional needs are, and then, if additional funds become available during the 2020 through 2024 grant period, the council can give consideration to adjusting those liaison grant amounts, and that was it, Madam Chair.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Any questions for Gregg on any of those things that we went over? All right. Let's go back, I guess, to our timing and tasks motion there. Do we need to edit that? All right. Would someone like to make the timing and tasks motion?

MR. BELL: I move to adopt the following timing and tasks: send a letter to the Senate staff with the council comments on their draft wording for MSA Reauthorization by the end of September; direct staff to work on the items identified in the motions above for the December 2019 council meeting and for meetings in 2020.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Is there a second? It's seconded by Chris. Any discussion? **Any objection? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.**

Next up was our Personnel Committee Report, and our Personnel Committee Chair has left the building already. Basically, it's just to report out the Personnel Committee and the Full Council met earlier this week to conduct the interviews for the Executive Director position. Folks might remember that, at the last meeting, Gregg announced his retirement, and that is effective following the December council meeting, and we're going to be celebrating that retirement at the December council meeting, and we conducted interviews, or they were actually second-round interviews, earlier this week, and we would like to report out that, as a council, we have selected John Carmichael as the new Executive Director, following Gregg's retirement. Congratulations, John. *(Applause)*

Now we are going to move into our agency and liaison reports, and I am going to start down at the end of the table with Susan, who has been here all week, and now she's finally going to give us the Gulf Council report. Thank you so much for being with us and for participating in the discussions, especially the ones where there was a nexus with the Gulf Council, like the multiday for-hire bag limits.

MS. BOGGS: Thank you, Madam Chair. I appreciate it. It's been a pleasure being here, and it's my first time to Charleston, and so thank you for the hospitality. I will just make this real short, and it's in your documents, but, again, thank you for listening to our presentation on the multiday trips yesterday, but the main thing is to note that we'll be hosting a release mortality symposium on October 7 through 9 in St. Petersburg, and this is dealing with the descending devices and how they operate and how they can affect our data collection moving forward, but I invite you to read the enticing report at your leisure, and thank you for having me here.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thank you, Susan. All right. Moving down the line here, Steve, would you like to give us a report from North Carolina?

MR. POLAND: Certainly. In North Carolina, our Marine Fisheries Commission took action to adopt management measures in our state southern flounder fishery. The fishery is overfished, and it needed about a 70 percent reduction in landings, across both sectors, and so that plan was approved, and it's looking at realizing those reductions through adjusting the seasons for the commercial and recreational fishery.

There is also a blue crab management plan right now that they will take final action on in November, at our next Marine Fisheries Commission meeting, and that's out for public comment right now, and that's looking to add sanctuary areas for blue crab and modifications to pots for turtle excluders for diamondback terrapins, and, other than that, business as usual.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thank you. Any questions? All right. Mel, thank you for your hospitality earlier this week, and do you have anything for your state's report?

MR. BELL: Sure. Just a little bit. The shrimp season started out pretty good, and it kind of petered out, like it usually does in the summer. It really hasn't picked up to the degree we would

normally expect for our landings in September, but there are shrimp out there, and there's a high incidence of blackgill again, and that's becoming just kind of the status quo.

We were grateful to have survived Hurricane Dorian, and we didn't have any problems, really, impacting infrastructure or anything. Of interest to some folks might be our growing floating pen mariculture activities, and we had five operators that had quite a few pens in the water, and they all followed their storm plans, and they actually submerged their cages, and everybody survived. Everybody got their cages back up and were back in operation, and so that aspect of having this type of gear, and a lot of it, in your water was something folks were kind of concerned about, but we do have plans, and they followed them, and it worked, and so we're glad to be able to kind of test that, and we would prefer not to test it again any time soon.

I think MARMAP has got one more trip, maybe. They're about to finish up sampling and all for the year, and that's going along well, and you all have seen -- Marcel has presented data and all on how that's going, but boats are still running. The Lady Lisa, which does do SEAMAP and MARMAP work, and she's a forty-plus-year-old wooden trawler, and she's hanging in there, but not for much longer, and so that's something we're dealing with, is replacement of how do we replace the Lady Lisa, and, of course, money is not growing on trees, and that's really all I have to report.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thanks, Mel. Any questions for Mel? To report out from Florida, we also survived Hurricane Dorian, since it visited us in the process, before it got up to you guys. I mentioned, at the last council meeting, that we have been having discussions on Biscayne National Park. Since the last council meeting, we held some public workshops, and we will be bringing a pre-draft rule to our commission in December and then hoping to finalize that sometime in early 2020. These are for regulations specific to Biscayne National Park.

I also mentioned, earlier this week, a little bit about Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, and so they have released their draft environmental impact statement, and it's called Restoration Blueprint, and you heard Bill Kelly talk a little bit about it during his public comment, and the way it works is that FWC would be required to do the rulemaking for the items that relate to fisheries in state waters, and so this will be coming to our commission, at the next couple of meetings, to gather comments that we will be providing to the sanctuary about those areas that are in state waters, and there is a lot of them. There are hundreds of changes in that plan, including changing the overall size and structure of the sanctuary.

Also, I mentioned last time that we were working on regulations for blackfin tuna, and so those regulations will be going to a final hearing at the upcoming commission meeting, and that is, right now, proposed as a recreational bag limit of two blackfin tuna per person, ten per vessel per day, whichever is greater, and this would be in state and federal waters, and that's all I have to report out. I am going to move around the table over here to the Coast Guard report.

LCDR MONTES: I will keep on the theme and say that we stayed busy with Hurricane Dorian, to say the least, and, also, more related to fisheries law enforcement, we expended a significant amount of effort in providing overt presence during the red snapper recreational season. We completed just over 200 boardings of recreational vessels during that time period, with one violation noted. It was a case where five individuals had rented a boat and went out, and they got bad information on the way out. They heard that it was two fish per person per day, and so they

had ten fish onboard. We informed them of the regulations and issued the violation, and so that was the only violation that the Coast Guard had noted during the two weekends, which seems like pretty good news, and that's all I've got to report. Thank you.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thank you. Moving around the table to Georgia.

DR. BELCHER: I will see the Coast Guard's boardings on red snapper with a commercial case that was made in Georgia during the red snapper season. We had one unlicensed individual that had an excessive amount of red snapper in a cooler, and so it's in the process of being dealt with through the system. That was both with our federal officer as well as our state DNR officers that that case was made.

We have some news with some new offshore reefs. We have a new person is over our artificial reef program, Paul Medders, and Paul has kind of renewed some memberships with folks who have put boats on the bottom for us, and we have three boats that are pending for some deepwater reefs. One of them actually has some interesting history. It's the Odyssey Explorer, the boat the found the Central America off of North Carolina, and it's been sitting down in the St. Augustine area, and that's a potential for us. We have a pilot boat, also, that's looking for a home on the bottom and then a retired casino boat that was actually up here in Charleston is coming down, and so we're looking at those for some new opportunities offshore.

Then, talking about the shrimp season, we put in jointly with South Carolina also with the 2018 freeze, for the potential of being looked at, whether or not there was a disaster, and we have not heard back on that, but, with our final numbers for 2018, I don't know that we'll actually make the cut, because we were only 8 percent below the five-year average for total poundage for the year.

We received funds for a 2013 disaster, and I don't know how much of this you've already heard through Doug, but we received those monies earlier -- We were told we were receiving monies earlier this year, and it's just under \$1.1 million. We're still waiting for the permission from the Governor for us to take on being a lead agency for that. The big thing is we've gone through our Shrimp Advisory Panel and kind of talked with some of the industry, to see what they would like to do with that money, and we're going to have a very difficult time steering them away from direct payouts.

We are hoping to have some -- We are working on a fact sheet, so that people can understand really what's in there, and then we'll try to see if we can find some stakeholder group meetings to get some ideas from them on some other things. We kicked around some ideas of like the fact that they're losing their railways, and is there something that we can do to kind of help bolster that, is there vessel triage, that people can kind of apply for a grant to help deal with some of the issues that their boats may be -- Marginal boats that may be needing funds to help support that. Those are just some ideas that we had during that meeting, but, like I said, for the most part, they are wanting to hold onto the paychecks.

Then the other good news for us is I went ahead and had our commercial stats group look at where we are currently with the roe season, and we actually had a very, very good roe shrimp year so far. They're actually seeing it being almost twice our five-year average. It's at 1.3 million pounds right now. Normally, the five-year average is 728,000 pounds, and then the ten-year average -- It's almost three-times that, which is around 590,000, and so we actually have seen a pretty good

roe crop, and so hopefully our fall crop will look as well. Blackgill, yes. Unfortunately it's everywhere, and that's pretty much what we have going on.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thank you. Any questions? Thank you for your first council liaison report from the State of Georgia. Welcome. Moving down the table, Erik, do you have anything for us?

DR. WILLIAMS: Sure, and I will be quick as well. Clay didn't give me anything specific to say, but, partly, I know why he's busy. We are going through our sort of wrapping up the fiscal year, but also doing our priority-based resourcing for setting up our FY20 budget, and I will let him roll out things that are going to happen from that, but I suspect there is going to be some changes, and I will let him speak on that as we make those decisions and he rolls it out.

In terms of the Beaufort Lab, we shut down for three days for Dorian, and we had minor damage, a few trees here and there, and we're running on all cylinders for assessments right now. The SEFIS cruises went well, or have gone well so far, and so we've had a good sampling year, in terms of the video and trap index, and I think that's about it.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thank you. All right. Next up is Jack.

DR. MCGOVERN: Thank you, Madam Chair. Later today, we're going to be sending out a couple of Fishery Bulletins announcing a recreational closure for the other jacks complex, which is lesser amberjack, almaco jack, and banded rudderfish, and also a recreational closure for red grouper. They're both going to close on September 25.

Then I think Kevin McIntosh was here at the last council meeting. He let us know that he has created a new workflow process that prioritizes the review of applications transferring permits between vessels, and so that's going to be processed the day that they're received, and, historically, they've been kind of in the line, and they've been in there with new permits and renewals, and so that's going to happen more quickly.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Thanks, Jack. There is a couple of other items coming up for Other Business. Sorry. NMFS Law Enforcement, please.

UNIDENTIFIED: Our quarterly report was in the briefing book, but I just wanted to do a quick summary. We had eighty-six incidents open during the third quarter, of which eleven resulted in summary settlements, which is the equivalent of our tickets, and twelve cases were forwarded to General Counsel. The remaining of those incidents were either unfounded, fix-its, or compliance assistance.

Of the eleven summary settlements, four were for seasonal closures, four were for fishing in National Marine Sanctuary closed areas, one was for failure to maintain fish intact, one exceeding a commercial trip limit, and one for a lack of a permit. Of the cases that were sent to General Counsel, three were for commercial TED violations, four were for Atlantic large whale take reduction cases, and those were speed violations, and two were for failure to maintain sharks intact, one for spiny lobster overage, and one for fishing inside a closed area, and so that's a quick summary that you will see in the report.

Otherwise, some items that I had briefed you on in the past is our USA Jobs announcement for enforcement officers just closed last Monday, and there will be nineteen positions nationally, three in the Southeast Region, one in Cape Canaveral, one in Miami, and one in the U.S. Virgin Islands that will get filled off of that announcement.

We have our new Charleston, South Carolina enforcement officer that will arrive not this coming Monday, but the following Monday, and so we'll replace that individual that we lost some time ago, and I had briefed about the two individuals for North Carolina, Special Agent Will Weidner and Enforcement Officer Miles Dover. Both reported and completed all of their field training and formal training, and they are both in New Bern, North Carolina now, and they're already working with North Carolina Marine Patrol and our Coast Guard partners there, and so those in North Carolina will likely see those individuals up and down the coast, because they work throughout the state, and so that's just a quick OLE update.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Thank you for that. Moving on to Other Business, there are two SSC reps that need to be replaced, one from Georgia and one from Florida. We are going to need some motions to replace those reps, and I believe that we have the draft motions on the board. Carolyn, would you like to make the motion for the Georgia rep?

DR. BELCHER: Sure. **I would like to move that we appoint Jared Flowers to the Georgia DNR seat on the SSC.**

MS. MCCAWLEY: Is there a second? Second by Spud. Any discussion on this motion? Basically, we are replacing Carolyn on the SSC. **Any objection? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.**

Also, for Florida, we are replacing Luiz Barbieri with Dustin Addis, if someone would like to make that motion to put Dustin Addis in the Florida FWC seat.

MR. SAPP: **I would like to make a motion to add Dustin Addis to the Florida FWC seat on the SSC.**

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Is there a second? Second by Carolyn. Any discussion? **Any objection? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.** Do we have any other business to come before the council? All right. I'm going to turn it back to Gregg to talk about some upcoming meetings that we have.

MR. WAUGH: The time between now and December is going to be quite busy. The week of October 7th, we've got the Mackerel AP on the 7th and 8th. The 9th through the 11th, we've got the Snapper Grouper AP, and we've got the Executive Finance webinar on the morning of the 15th, and then the 15th through the 17th is the SSC meeting. Then we go right into -- We have, the beginning of November, the 5th through the 7th, we have the CCC meeting, and then we're into briefing book prep, and the briefing book will be posted on November 15th.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Any questions about upcoming meetings? All right. That concludes our business this week. Kim has something.

MS. IVERSON: Thank you, Madam Chair. Just one other item. You will get an announcement about this, but I wanted to remind you that the MREP, the Marine Resource Education Program, workshops are scheduled for the 2020 season. We are moving the dates around a wee bit. The science workshop will be held February 18th through the 20th, and the management workshop will be April 28th through the 30th, and those workshops are now being moved to earlier in the season, to accommodate some other fishermen that may not be able to have attended in the past. If you remember, we would have them in the spring and again in the fall, and so we're hoping that we can reach some fishermen and others that weren't able to come during those spring and fall times.

Again, I will have an announcement that I'm forwarding from the program, from MREP Southeast, that will go out on Monday morning, and so you'll have the details, but I also just wanted to remind you that, if you are interested in attending the 2020 workshops, please let us know, and each council has a representative that attends the workshops, and so I would encourage you, if you haven't attended, to let Gregg or John know, and we can put you down to attend those. Again, those dates are February the 18th through the 20th and April 28th through 30th. The science workshop in February will be in St. Petersburg, and the April management workshop is in Tampa. Thank you, Madam Chair.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thanks, Kim. All right. Anything else? That concludes our business. Everybody have a safe trip home, and we'll see you at the next meeting.

(Whereupon, the meeting adjourned on September 20, 2019.)

- - -

Certified By: _____ Date: _____

Transcribed By:
Amanda Thomas
October 7, 2019

9/20

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
2019 COUNCIL MEMBERS

- ✓ Jessica McCawley, **Chair**
Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
2590 Executive Center Circle E. Suite 201
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850)487-0554 (ph); (850)487-4847 (f)
jessica.mccawley@myfwc.com
- ✓ Mel Bell, **Vice Chair**
SCDNR-Marine Resources Division
P.O. Box 12559
217 Ft. Johnson Road
Charleston, SC 29422
(843)953-9007 (ph); (843)953-9159 (fax)
bellm@dnr.sc.gov
- Robert Beal
Executive Director
Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
1050 N. Highland St. Suite 200 A-N
Arlington, VA 22201
(703)842-0740 (ph); (703)842-0741 (f)
rbeal@asmfc.org
- ✓ Anna Beckwith
1907 Paulette Road
Morehead City, NC 28557
(252)671-3474 (ph)
AnnaBarriosBeckwith@gmail.com
- ✓ Chester Brewer
250 Australian Ave. South Suite 1400
West Palm Beach, FL 33408
(561)655-4777 (ph)
wcbsafmc@gmail.com
- ✓ Dr. Kyle Christiansen
150 Cedar St.
Richmond Hill, GA 31324
(912)756-7560 (ph)
christiansensafmc@gmail.com
- ✓ Chris Conklin
P.O. Box 972
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576
(843)543-3833
conklinsafmc@gmail.com
- ✓ Dr. Roy Crabtree
Regional Administrator
NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Region
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
(727)824-5301 (ph); (727)824-5320 (f)
roy.crabtree@noaa.gov
- ✓ Tim Griner
4446 Woodlark Lane
Charlotte, NC 28211
(980)722-0918 (ph)
timgrinersafmc@gmail.com
- ✓ ~~Doug Haymans~~ **Dr. Carolyn Belcher**
Coastal Resources Division
GA Dept. of Natural Resources
One Conservation Way Suite 300
Brunswick, GA 31520
(912)264-7218 (ph); (912)262-2318 (f)
haymansafmc@gmail.com
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Representative
TBD
- ✓ LCDR Jeremy Montes
U.S. Coast Guard
909 SE 1st Ave.
Miami, FL 33131
(305)415-6788(ph); (305)710-4569(c)
Jeremy.J.Montes@uscg.mil
- ✓ Stephen Poland
NC Division of Marine Fisheries
PO Box 769
3441 Arendell Street
Morehead City, NC 28557
(252)808-8011 (direct); (252)726-7021 (main)
Steve.Poland@ncdenr.gov
- ✓ Art Sapp
2270 NE 25th St.
Lighthouse Pointe, FL 33064
(954)444-0820 (ph)
artsappsafmc@gmail.com

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
2019 COUNCIL MEMBERS continued

Deirdre Warner-Kramer
Office of Marine Conservation OES/OMC
2201 C Street, N.W. Department of State, Room 5806
Washington, DC 20520
(202)647-3228 (ph)
Warner-KramerDM@state.gov

✓ David Whitaker
720 Tennent Street
Charleston, SC 29412
(843)953-9392
david.whitakersafmc@gmail.com

✓ Spud Woodward
860 Buck Swamp Road
Brunswick, GA 31523
(912)258-8970 (ph)
swoodwardsafmc@gmail.com

Susan Boggs

Dewey Hemilright

Frank Helies

Dr. JACK McGovern

Dr. Erik Williams

Erika Burgess

Pat O'Shaughnessy

Duane Smith

Monica Smit-Brunello

CLT James Bruce

Dr. Wilson Lancy

Josef Santiago

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
COUNCIL STAFF

Executive Director

✓ Gregg T. Waugh
gregg.waugh@safmc.net

Deputy Director – Science & Statistics

✓ John Carmichael
john.carmichael@safmc.net

Deputy Director - Management

✓ Dr. Brian Chevront
brian.chevront@safmc.net

Fishery Scientist

✓ Myra Brouwer
myra.brouwer@safmc.net

Senior Fishery Biologist

✓ Roger Pugliese
roger.pugliese@safmc.net

Citizen Science Program Manager

✓ Julia Byrd
julia.byrd@safmc.net

Outreach Program Coordinator

✓ Cameron Rhodes
cameron.rhodes@safmc.net

Admin. Secretary/Travel Coordinator

Cindy Chaya
cindy.chaya@safmc.net

Staff Accountant

Suzanna Thomas
suzanna.thomas@safmc.net

Fishery Scientist

✓ Dr. Chip Collier
chip.collier@safmc.net

Fisheries Social Scientist

✓ Christina Wiegand
christina.wiegand@safmc.net

Purchasing & Grants

✓ Cierra Graham
cierra.graham@safmc.net

Outreach Specialist

✓ BeBe Harrison
bebe.harrison@safmc.net

Fishery Biologist

✓ Dr. Mike Errigo
mike.errigo@safmc.net

Outreach Specialist

✓ Allie Iberle
allie.iberle@safmc.net

Fishery Economist

✓ John Hadley
john.hadley@safmc.net

SEDAR Coordinators

Dr. Julie Neer
julie.neer@safmc.net

Public Information Officer

✓ Kim Iverson
kim.iverson@safmc.net

Kathleen Howington
kathleen.howington@safmc.net

Administrative Officer

✓ Kelly Klasnick
kelly.klasnick@safmc.net

FULL COUNCIL - ROLL CALL VOTE

Date: September 16-20, 2019

Meeting Location: Charleston, SC

Issue: SG AM 29 (BEST PRACTICES + POWERHENDS)

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MS. BECKWITH	✓		
MR. BELL	✓		
MR. BREWER <i>NOT PRESENT</i>	.		
MR. CONKLIN	✓		
DR. CRABTREE			✓
DR. CHRISTIANSEN	✓		
MR. GRINER	✓		
<i>DR. BELCAER</i> MR. HAYMANS/MS. KNOWLTON	✓		
MS. MCCAWLEY	✓		
MR. POLAND	✓		
MR. SAPP	✓		
MR. WOODWARD	✓		
MR. WHITAKER	✓		