

# OVERVIEW

## Ecosystem-Based Management Council Meeting

June 10, 2010  
Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel  
5445 Forbes Place  
Orlando, Florida

The Council will: (A) receive an update on CE-BA 2 development and changes since the March 2010 meeting, including the SSC's fishing level recommendations for octocorals; (B) provide guidance to staff on actions and alternatives for analysis in CE-BA 2; (C) receive an update on SSC recommendations for *Sargassum*, (D) provide guidance to staff on input for Comprehensive ACL Amendment; (E) receive a presentation on the range expansion of orange cup coral into South Florida and the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary; (F) receive a summary of edits and comments on the draft policy on invasive species and provide guidance to staff; and (G) receive updates ecosystem-based activities.

### **Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 2**

The SSC met in Charleston on April 19-21, 2010 to discuss fishing level recommendations for data-poor species. The SSC received a presentation including background on the octocoral fishery, trends in landings, and recommendations from the Coral AP. Changes to the document were made according to Council guidance from the March 2010 meeting. Staff will review the SSC's recommendations for OFL and ABC for octocorals.

**REQUIRED COUNCIL ACTION:** Provide guidance to staff on actions and alternatives for analysis.

### **Comprehensive Annual Catch Limits Amendment**

Staff will update the Council on the SSC's recommendations for *Sargassum*.

**REQUIRED COUNCIL ACTION:** Provide guidance to staff on actions and alternatives for analysis.

### **Invasive Species**

Dr. Tonya Shearer will give a presentation on her research into the range expansion and current distribution of orange cup coral in South Florida and the FKNMS.

The draft policy on invasive species presented to the Council at the March 2010 meeting was sent out to the Habitat and Coral APs for their input. Staff will review comments and edits to the policy and request Council guidance.

**REQUIRED COUNCIL ACTION:** Provide guidance to staff on orange cup coral action. Review input from the Habitat and Coral APs on the draft invasive species policy and provide guidance to staff.

**Ecosystem Coordination Activities**

Myra Brouwer will provide updates on the Marine Protected Area Federal Advisory Committee Meeting and recent and upcoming research on deepwater coral ecosystems. Pace Wilber (NOAA Habitat Conservation Division) will provide an update on a feasibility study being conducted by Florida Atlantic University to use the Gulf Stream Current to generate electricity. Roger Pugliese will update the Council on development of the South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC), Ocean Observing Systems and the South Atlantic Alliance.

**REQUIRED COUNCIL ACTION:** None.