



# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Chair | Trish Murphey, Vice Chair  
John Carmichael, Executive Director

## AGENDA

### **Dolphin Wahoo Committee**

World Golf Village Renaissance  
St. Augustine, FL

**Tuesday, June 13, 2023, 11:00 AM to 12:00 noon (Times are subject to change)**

Approval of minutes (June 2022)

Approval of the Agenda

1. Summary of Dolphin Management Strategy Evaluation stakeholder workshops (*Attachment 1*)
  - a. Presentation – NMFS SEFSC
  - b. **Committee Action:** No action required. Review feedback received during workshops.
2. Dolphin related management actions in the Caribbean (*Attachment 2*)
  - a. Presentation – NMFS SERO
  - b. **Committee Action:** No action required. Review summary of recent Caribbean Council actions.
3. Modifications to the minimum size limit, recreational retention limits, and for-hire captain and crew bag limits for dolphin (DW Regulatory Amendment 3) (*Attachment 3*)
  - a. Overview – John Hadley
  - b. **Committee Action:** Provide guidance on the timing of amendment development.

Other Business

Adjourn

### **Committee Members**

Kerry Marhefka, Chair  
Robert Beal  
Mel Bell  
Rick Bellavance  
Chester Brewer  
Judy Helmey  
Scott Lenox  
Trish Murphey  
Laurilee Thompson

Tom Roller, Vice Chair  
Carolyn Belcher  
Gary Borland  
Lt. Cameron Box  
Tim Griner  
Dewey Hemilright  
Jessica McCawley  
Andy Strelcheck  
Spud Woodward

**Attachments:**

**Attachment 1:** Presentation on the Dolphin Management Strategy Evaluation stakeholder workshops

**Attachment 2:** Presentation on recent dolphin-related management actions of the Caribbean Fishery Management Council

**Attachment 3:** Decision document for DW Regulatory Amendment 3 (modifications to the minimum size limit, recreational retention limits, and for-hire captain and crew bag limits for dolphin)

**Staff Lead:** John Hadley ([john.hadley@safmc.net](mailto:john.hadley@safmc.net))

# **OVERVIEW**

## **Dolphin Wahoo Committee**

The Committee will approve the June 2022 minutes and the agenda for the June 2023 meeting.

1. **Summary of Dolphin Management Strategy Evaluation stakeholder workshop (*Attachment 1*)**

**Description:** The Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) is conducting a management strategy evaluation (MSE) for the Atlantic dolphin fishery. The goal of this project is to develop an index-based management procedure that may provide catch level and management advice that best achieves the multiple operational management objectives of the fishery. As part of the MSE process, SEFSC staff and SAFMC staff conducted stakeholder workshops along the U.S. east coast to gather feedback on dolphin management and regional aspects of the dolphin fishery. A total of 9 in-person workshops were conducted in the fall of 2022 and the winter of 2022/2023 along with a webinar in May 2023. SEFSC staff will brief the Committee on summary feedback gathered during the stakeholder workshops and provide an update on the MSE progress.

**Committee Action:** No action required. Review feedback received during workshops.

2. **Dolphin related management actions in the Caribbean (*Attachment 2*)**

**Description:** The Caribbean Fishery Management Council has recently developed management actions for the commercial and recreational dolphin fishery for the U.S. EEZ in that region. National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Regional Office (NMFS SERO) staff will provide an update on the Caribbean Council's recent actions including the specifications of the management measures, catch levels, accountability measures, and effective dates of the associated regulations.

**Committee Action:** No action required. Review summary of recent Caribbean Council actions.

3. **Modifications to the minimum size limit, recreational retention limits, and reducing for-hire captain and crew bag limits for dolphin (DW Regulatory Amendment 3) (*Attachment 3*)**

**Description:** Per guidance received at the June 2022 Council meeting, this amendment includes measures that would extend the applicable range of the 20 inch fork length minimum size limit for dolphin, modify recreational retention limits for dolphin, and remove captain and crew bag limits for dolphin. Council staff will review the Committee's previous guidance on draft options and facilitate a discussion of the Committee's plans for developing Regulatory Amendment 3.

**Status of Amendment:** The amendment was approved for scoping at the March 2022 meeting. Feedback received during the Dolphin Management Strategy Evaluation stakeholder workshops and during Council meetings constituted the scoping process.

**Committee Action:** Provide guidance on the timing of amendment development.

**Other Business**

**Adjourn**