

Outreach and Education Committee: Action Schedule for Tab O

Agenda Item IV: Review of Proposed Draft of Best Fishing Practices Website

Timeline Status: Review and provide guidance

Council Input and Next Steps:

Last year, the Council finalized a Policy on the Use of Venting Tools and Descending devices. At its June 2018 meeting, the Council adopted an Outreach Plan that was developed with recommendations from the Outreach and Education Technical Committee. The two major goals of that plan are to: 1. Promote widespread awareness of the Council's Policy by informing partner agencies and media of the policy's existence. 2. Promote the wide-spread use of venting tools and descending devices by serving as a unified voice that speaks across all fishing sectors and targets the entire Gulf region. To accomplish the second goal, the outreach plan included the directive to create a "best fishing practices" webpage that focuses on Gulf-wide messaging and curates partners' outreach materials and research from throughout the region. The Committee should provide feedback on draft webpage and guidance regarding additional outreach or research materials that should be incorporated.

Agenda Item V: Overview of Barotrauma Workshop Plan

Timeline Status: Review and provide guidance

Council Input and Next Steps:

At its June 2018 meeting, the Council directed staff to work with GSMFC to develop a meeting of scientists, agency personnel, and stakeholders to develop an action plan that includes information dissemination and science and monitoring needs that ensure the policy purpose and objectives are both measurable and successful. Additionally, Council staff aims to align the workshop deliverables with NOAA RESTORE Act objectives and timeline. The Committee should give staff feedback on the draft agenda and composition of attendees.

Agenda Item VI: Overview of "Something's Fishy" Data Collection Tool

Timeline Status: Informational

Council Input and Next Steps:

In 2017 the Council asked staff to develop a mechanism for collecting anglers' perspective of what's going on with Gulf fish stocks. At its June 2018 meeting the Council approved the "Something's Fishy" anecdotal data collection tool. That tool has been deployed prior to stock assessments for red grouper and yellowtail snapper. No action required by the Committee.