

TOPIC OVERVIEW

CCC MEETING

May 16, 2017

Legislative Workgroup Overview Session – the purpose of this session is two-fold: (1) to review the Draft Working Paper (**Attachment 4**), add/modify as appropriate, and approve as many of the topics as possible; and (2) to discuss and take action on recommendations from the Legislative Workgroup.

A. Draft Working Paper – overview presentation by Gregg Waugh.

Background – the Legislative Workgroup met in March and April 2017 via conference calls to update the CCC Working Paper on Reauthorization based on recommendations received at the February/March 2017 CCC meeting; Workgroup meeting reports are included (**Attachments 1 & 2**). The Mid-Atlantic Council developed the initial Working Paper (January 2015) when they hosted the CCC meeting. The Legislative Page on their website contains an excellent source of information and has been duplicated on the U.S. Regional Fishery Management Councils Website (<http://www.fisherycouncils.org>). The Mid-Atlantic Council, particularly Chris and Mary, deserve a huge thank you for their help in developing this information and for putting the materials on the Councils Website. The draft document made the Legislative Workgroup's work much more efficient.

Two MSA bills have been introduced: (1) Rep. Young (R-Alaska) introduced HR 200 (Strengthening Fishing Communities and Increasing Flexibility in Fisheries Management Act) on January 3, 2017 and it was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources (**Attachments 5a & 5b**); and (2) Rep. Graves (R-Louisiana) introduced HR 2023 (The Modern Fishing Act of 2017) on April 6, 2017 and it was referred to the House Natural Resources Committee (**Attachment 6**).

The Legislative Workgroup updated the Draft Working Paper with the CCC positions approved at the February/March 2017 CCC meeting, added regional perspectives from most Councils, and added draft language for the CCC to consider. The Draft Working Paper included as **Attachment 3** shows all the track changes; Workgroup members provided their comments to me for incorporation in the document so they show up as changes made by me but the wording is from individual Councils. The track changes version allows anyone to see what was changed. During the CCC meeting, we will be working from the clean version (**Attachment 4**) with all changes accepted. Items where input is needed are **highlighted in yellow**. Major items are as follows:

1. **Introduction** (pages 3-8) – updated to mention current bills and added the wording approved by the CCC in February/March 2017.
2. **Introduction** (pages 7 & 8) – the note delineates the break between items with a CCC Consensus Position and those without. The Legislative Workgroup's recommendation on how to use the Working Paper is also shown. Newer topics are listed on page 8.

3. **Topics 1 (Stock Rebuilding) through 3 (Annual Catch Limit Requirements and Exceptions)** on pages 9- 19 were included in the January 2015 document and have been updated. A consensus position is needed for Topic 2 (Ending Overfishing).
4. **Topics 4 (Resources Available for Additional Mandates) through 10 (Other Federal Statutes)** on pages 19 through 32 are new and have been discussed within the Workgroup. Many Councils provided regional perspectives and some CCC Consensus Positions have been pulled from previously approved wording.
5. **Topics 11 (Recreational Data) through 15 (Deeming/Transmittal Process)** on pages 32 through 38 surfaced as Workgroup members were providing their final input. Any initial thoughts and input for the Workgroup to consider would be helpful.
6. **Resources & Documents** – this material will be updated and the links changed.

CCC Action: Review, add/modify, and approve positions for as many of the Topics as possible.

B. Recommendations from Legislative Workgroup:

1. Strategy on how to use the Working Paper?

Legislative Workgroup Recommendation:

- a. The Workgroup recommends that we keep all items in the working paper and that we use the working paper as a source document when preparing comment letters; the working paper can also be attached to a comment letter to provide more details on specific points. The regional perspectives and examples are an excellent way to describe how requirements could affect Councils differentially, and this is an excellent way to inform folks new to the Council process. New topics will be added as they are identified.
- b. The Workgroup recommends that individual Councils be responsible for providing their regional perspective to the lead Council in any year, and that the lead Council be responsible for updating the Working Paper.
- c. The Workgroup recommends that the lead Council prepare an initial response (when requested to comment) and provide to the other Councils for their review.

CCC Action: Approve or modify & approve the recommendations.

2. HR 200 and HR 2023

Legislative Workgroup Recommendation: The Workgroup recommends that the CCC develop comments separately for HR 200 and HR 2023.

CCC Action: Provide guidance to the Legislative Workgroup on developing comments on HR 200 and HR 2023.