



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201
NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405
TEL 843/571-4366 FAX 843/769-4520
Toll Free 866-723-6210

Email: safmc@safmc.net

Web site: www.safmc.net

Duane Harris, Chairman
David Cupka, Vice Chairman

Robert K. Mahood, Executive Director
Gregg T. Waugh, Deputy Executive Director

October 23, 2008

Dr. Roy Crabtree, Regional Administrator
NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Region
263 13th Avenue South
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Dear Roy:

Enclosed you will find a CD containing Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 1 (CE-BA 1); including the Final Environmental Impact Statement, Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis, Final Regulatory Impact Review, and Final Social Impact Assessment/Fishery Impact Statement. At our September 2009 meeting the Council, by a unanimous vote, approved the amendment for submission to NMFS for formal Secretarial review. The Council also deemed the regulatory text in the proposed rule as necessary and appropriate for implementing the Amendment.

At its August 2009 meeting, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council approved the CE-BA 1, which includes Amendment 19 to the Fishery Management Plan for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico and Amendment 9 to the Fishery Management Plan for Spiny Lobster in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic.

The Council's Final Fishery Ecosystem Plan (FEP) is also included on the CD. The FEP serves as the source document for CE-BA 1 and was approved by the Council at the March 2009 meeting.

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank you and your staff for the close cooperation and hard work which went into preparing the Fishery Ecosystem Plan and Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 1. If you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Bob or me.

Sincerely,

Duane Harris
Chairman

Enclosures

cc: SAFMC Members and Staff
Council Executive Directors
Coral, Golden Crab, Habitat and Environmental Protection, Law Enforcement and
Deepwater Shrimp Advisory Panel Members
Scientific and Statistical Committee Members
Monica Smit-Brunello, Karla Gore
Phil Steele, Jack McGovern and Jennifer Lee
Bonnie Ponwith, Theo Brainerd and Tom Jamir