

MEMORANDUM



To: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commissioners
From: Jessica McCawley, Director, Marine Fisheries Management
Date: July 22, 2020
Subject: Review and Discussion – Marine Fisheries Management Annual Workplan

Purpose:

Review the proposed Division of Marine Fisheries Management's (DMFM) 2020-2021 workplan.

Why:

To obtain commission approval for the annual workplan that is coordinated between DMFM staff and Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) leadership.

Top Points:

- An annual planning process helps align research and management priorities and coordinate staff efforts for the coming fiscal year.
- Issues may arise mid-workplan that require immediate staff time and reprioritization of efforts.
- An approved, well-coordinated workplan maximizes staff productivity and efficiency.

Affected Parties: Anyone with an interest in Florida's marine fisheries.

Summary:

By placing an issue on the workplan, staff proposes to address it in the coming fiscal year. This workplan spans July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 and consists of 41 topics. However, the time frame for the resolution of issues may be longer than a single year. Workplan development takes into account Commissioner input, stock assessment schedules, recommendations of DMFM and FWRI staff, public concerns, federal issues, and issues carried over from the previous year's workplan. The majority of these issues will be collaborative efforts between DMFM and FWRI but, as with every workplan, there are a few items that will be handled solely by DMFM. Commission meeting agenda items expected to result from this workplan include, but are not limited to:

- Reports on marine fisheries issues
- Updates on Council actions or specific initiatives
- Proposed regulatory changes
- Proposed Federal consistency and related actions

This annual workplan categorizes items as either high, medium or low priority. An approved workplan allows staff to commit time, obligate fiscal resources, as well as plan cooperation with partners and stakeholders, and should ensure timely completion of a number of high priority items.

Staff Recommendation:

Approve the proposed 2020-2021 DMFM workplan. Staff welcomes additional direction.

Contact and/or Presenter:

Jessica McCawley, Director, Marine Fisheries Management