

<https://safmc.net/amendments/dolphin-wahoo-regulatory-amendment-3/>

## **Dolphin Wahoo Regulatory Amendment 3**

### **Amendment summary**

**Purpose of the Amendment:** This amendment will seek to extend the applicable range of the minimum size limit for dolphin and modify recreational retention limits for dolphin.

**Action Summary:** This amendment includes actions that would extend the applicable geographic range of the minimum size limit for dolphin, modify recreational bag and vessel limits, and remove captain and crew bag limits for dolphin.

### **Key Events:**

- June 2021: Amendment initiated to examine extending the geographic coverage of the minimum size limit for dolphin, reducing or removing captain and crew bag limits onboard for-hire vessels, and specifying different retention limits for dolphin and wahoo onboard private vessels and charter vessels.
- September 2021: Information paper and direction to staff to continue developing options that would extend the applicable range of the minimum size limit for dolphin, establish separate retention limits for dolphin onboard for-hire and private vessels, and reduce or remove for-hire captain and crew bag limits for dolphin.
- March 2022: The Council approved the amendment for scoping.
- June 2022: Revised options and will next review amendment and scoping comments at December 2022 meeting.
- December 2022: Paused work on the amendment until June 2023 to allow for completion of dolphin stakeholder workshops being held for the Dolphin MSE (led by the SEFSC).
- June 2023: Reviewed comments received during MSE stakeholder workshops and postponed further development of the amendment until the Dolphin MSE report is available. The MSE report is expected to be available by December 2024.
- December 2023: Received the Dolphin Wahoo AP report and an update on the progress of the Dolphin MSE, noting that the MSE report is now scheduled for the middle part of 2025. The Council reiterated its intent to review Regulatory Amendment 3 at the December 2024 Council meeting.

- December 2024: Reviewed progress of the MSE for Dolphin and directed staff to recommence work on the amendment with the intent of using modeling results from the MSE to help inform the Council's decisions in the amendment. The preliminary MSE results will be reviewed by the SSC in April 2024 and by the Council in June 2024.
- March 2025: Directed staff to delay the amendment until the MSE has been completed.
- September 2025: Reviewed progress on the MSE. The SEFSC will present an update to the Council in March 2026.
- March 2026: The SEFSC presented an update to the Council.

**Most recent amendment document**

- [DW\\_A2\\_RegAM-3DecisionDocument\\_202412.pdf](#)