ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS REPORT ON CORDELL BANK CONSERVATION AREA REVISIONS - FINAL

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) have reviewed the documents associated with Agenda Item H.5, Cordell Bank Conservation Area Revision-Final, and have the following comments:

Regarding <u>H.5 Attachment 1</u>, the EC supports Alternative 1, which both promotes compliance and simplifies enforceability of the Cordell Bank Conservation Area by reducing the overlapping polygons with various regulations. The EC also recommends moving the 100 fathom ring coordinates in regulation, as recommended in <u>H.5.a NMFS Report 1</u>.

If further alternatives are developed, the EC requests that enforceability be considered. Polygons should be clearly defined, contain the minimum number of waypoints needed and be large enough to effectively monitor and enforce. It is also important to reduce the complexity of the regulations. Allowing fishing or exemptions within a conservation area not only adds enforcement challenges but is also more difficult for fishers to understand and comply with.

PFMC 03/07/2025