

# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Jekyll Island, Georgia

March 5-9, 2018

## SUMMARY OF APPROVED COUNCIL MOTIONS

**Note:** These summary motions show the wording of the actions/alternatives as modified by the motions. For details of what was changed, see the Final Committee Reports available from the Council's website in the folder named Committee Reports:

<http://safmc.net/briefing-books/briefing-book-2018-march-council-meeting/>

### SNAPPER GROUPE

#### Amendment 46 (recreational permitting/reporting and best fishing practices)

**MOTION #1:** APPROVE INCLUSION OF ACTION 1 IN AMENDMENT 46 AND APPROVE THE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES UNDER ACTION 1 FOR DETAILED ANALYSIS.

**Action 1.** *Establish a Private Recreational Snapper Grouper Permit Recreational Fishermen to Fish For, Harvest or Possess Snapper Grouper Species in the South Atlantic Region.*

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** Recreational snapper grouper fishing from private recreational vessels in federal waters is an open access fishery with no federal requirement for a recreational permit.

**Alternative 2.** Require a federal recreational permit in the South Atlantic Region (federal waters only) for recreational fishermen to fish for, harvest, or possess:

Sub-alternative 2a. red snapper.

Sub-alternative 2b. all species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit.

Sub-alternative 2c. species in the deep-water snapper grouper complex.

**Alternative 3.** Require a federal recreational permit in the South Atlantic Region be issued to:

Sub-alternative 3a. vessel.

Sub-alternative 3b. individual.

**Alternative 4.** Establish conditions to renew or maintain a valid permit.

**MOTION #2:** APPROVE INCLUSION OF ACTION 2 IN AMENDMENT 46 AND APPROVE THE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES UNDER ACTION 2 FOR DETAILED ANALYSIS.

**Action 2. Modify Reporting Requirements for Private Recreational Fishermen or Vessels.**

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** There is no reporting requirement for recreational anglers although the Council approved an action which would require owner or operator to complete fishing records if selected by the Science and Research Director (SAFMC 2008).

**Alternative 2.** Require private recreational anglers to complete electronic logbooks. This would require selected (Council to specify %selected based on SSC and other technical input) fishermen with a recreational snapper grouper permit to report electronically each week when fishing for or catching species listed in the Action 1

**Alternative 3.** Promote voluntary electronic reporting by private recreational fishermen.

**MOTION #3:** REMOVE ACTIONS 3 AND 4 FROM AMENDMENT 46 AND CREATE A SEPARATE AMENDMENT (FRAMEWORK).

*Action 3. Require Use of Best Fishing Practices When Fishing for Snapper Grouper Species With Hook-and-Line Gear to Reduce Mortality and Bycatch of Snapper Grouper Species*

*Action 4. Adjust Powerhead Prohibitions in the South Atlantic Region*

**Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 26 (Recreational)**

**MOTION #4:** SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 1 AS PREFERRED

**Alternative 2.** Modify existing Snapper Grouper aggregates to establish a **Deep-water Species Aggregate, Shallow-water Grouper Aggregate, and Other Shallow-water Species Aggregate.**

**Deep-water Species Aggregate:** queen snapper, blackfin snapper, silk snapper, snowy grouper, misty grouper, yellowedge grouper, blueline tilefish, golden tilefish, wreckfish  
**Shallow-water Grouper Aggregate:** gag, black grouper, red grouper, scamp, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, red hind, rock hind, graysby, and coney.

**Other Shallow-water Species Aggregate:** whitebone porgy, jolthead porgy, knobbed porgy, saucereye porgy, scup, almaco jack, banded rudderfish, lesser amberjack, white grunt, margate, sailor's choice, tomtate, Atlantic spadefish, gray triggerfish, bar jack, lane snapper, yellowtail snapper, gray snapper, mutton snapper, cubera snapper, and sand tilefish.

**Sub-alternative 2a.** Include black sea bass, vermilion snapper, greater amberjack, hogfish, and red porgy in the Other Shallow-Water Species Aggregate

**Sub-alternative 2b.** Exclude black sea bass, vermilion snapper, greater amberjack, hogfish, and red porgy from the Other Shallow-Water Species Aggregate

**MOTION #5:** SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2B (MAY 1-AUG 31) UNDER SUB-ACTION 2.1 AS PREFERRED

*Sub-Action 2.1. Specify recreational season seasonal prohibition for the proposed deep-water species aggregate*

**Alternative 2.** Allow recreational fishing? possession? Specify seasonal prohibitions on recreational possession of proposed deep-water species aggregate annually (blueline tilefish, snowy grouper, wreckfish, queen snapper, blackfin snapper, silk snapper, misty grouper, yellowedge grouper, and golden tilefish):

**Sub-alternative 2b.** May 1 through August 31 January 1 to April 30 and September 1 to December 31 (8 months)

**MOTION #6:** SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER SUB-ACTION 2.2 AS PREFERRED

*Sub-Action 2.2. Remove the recreational minimum size limits for certain deep-water species*

**Alternative 2.** Remove the 12-inch total length recreational minimum size limit for queen snapper, silk snapper, and blackfin snapper in the South Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone.

**MOTION #7:** SELECT SUB-ALTERANTIVE 2F UNDER SUB-ACTION 2.3 AS PREFERRED

***Sub-Action 2.3. Specify the aggregate bag limit for the proposed deep-water species aggregate***

**Sub-alternative 2f.** Three fish per person per day with existing restrictions on golden tilefish, snowy grouper, and wreckfish.

**MOTION #8:** SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER SUB-ACTION 2.4 AS PREFERRED

***Sub-Action 2.4. Specify gear requirements for the proposed deep-water species aggregate***

**Alternative 2.** Require single-hook rigs when targeting deep-water species (snowy grouper, golden tilefish, queen snapper, silk snapper, blackfin snapper, misty grouper, yellowedge grouper, and wreckfish).

**MOTION #9:** SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2A UNDER SUB-ACTION 3.1 AS PREFERRED

***Sub-action 3.1. Specify the recreational season for the proposed shallow-water grouper aggregate. Modify the seasonal prohibition for red grouper in the Exclusive Economic Zone off South Carolina and North Carolina***

**Sub-alternative 2a.** January – May (five months).

**MOTION #10:** ADD A SUB-ALTERNATIVE TO SPECIFY A 3-FISH AGGREGATE BAG LIMIT WHERE NO MORE THAN 1 FISH CAN BE OF ANY ONE SPECIES IN THE AGGREGATE

***Sub-action 3.2. Specify the aggregate bag limit for the proposed shallow-water grouper aggregate***

**MOTION #11:** SELECT NEW SUB-ALTERNATIVE AS PREFERRED

**MOTION #12:** APPROVE VISION BLUEPRINT REGULATORY AMENDMENT 26

**Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 27 (Commercial)**

**MOTION #13:** SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 3A AS PREFERRED

***Action 1. Establish a commercial split season and modify the commercial trip limit for blueline tilefish***

**Alternative 3.** Retain the January 1 through December 31 commercial fishing year for blueline tilefish in the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone. Modify the commercial trip limit for blueline tilefish:

**Sub-alternative 3a.** 100 pounds gutted weight from January 1 through April 30 and 300 pounds gutted weight from May 1 through December 31.

**MOTION #14:** SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 AS PREFERRED

***Action 2. Establish a commercial split season for snowy grouper***

**Alternative 3.** Specify two commercial fishing seasons for snowy grouper. Allocate the snowy grouper commercial annual catch limit into two quotas: 70% to the period

January 1 through June 30 and 30% to the period July 1 through December 31. Any remaining quota from Season 1 would transfer to Season 2. Any remaining quota from Season 2 would not be carried forward.

**MOTION #15: SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2C AS PREFERRED**

***Action 3. Establish a commercial split season and modify the commercial trip limit for greater amberjack***

**Alternative 2.** Specify two commercial fishing seasons for greater amberjack. Allocate the commercial annual catch limit for greater amberjack into two quotas: 50% to the period March 1 through August 31 and 50% to the period September 1 through the end of February. Any remaining quota from Season 1 would transfer to Season 2. Any remaining quota from Season 2 would not be carried forward. During April each year, no person may sell or purchase a greater amberjack harvested from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone.

**Sub-alternative 2c.** Trip limit equals 1,000 pounds whole weight in both seasons.

**MOTION #16: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2, SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2C UNDER ACTION 4 AS PREFERRED**

***Action 4. Establish a commercial split season and modify the commercial trip limit for red porgy***

**Alternative 2.** Specify two commercial fishing seasons for red porgy. Allocate the commercial red porgy annual catch limit into two quotas: 30% to the period January 1 through April 30 and 70% to the period May 1 through December 31. Any remaining quota from Season 1 would transfer to Season 2. Any remaining quota from Season 2 would not be carried forward. Remove the sale and purchase prohibition during January 1 to April 30 each year. Retain the commercial trip limit of 120 fish from May 1 through December 31 and specify a commercial trip limit from January 1 through April 30 of:

**Sub-alternative 2c.** 60 fish

**MOTION #17: SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2A (20 INCHES) AS PREFERRED**

***Action 6. Implement a minimum size limit for almaco jack for the commercial sector***

**Alternative 2.** Specify a minimum size limit for almaco jack for the commercial sector:

**Sub-alternative 2a.** 20 inches fork length

**MOTION #18: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3, SUB-ALTERNATIVE 3A UNDER ACTION 7 AS PREFERRED**

***Action 7. Implement a commercial trip limit for the Other Jacks Complex***

**Alternative 3.** Establish a commercial trip limit for the Other Jacks Complex.

**Sub-alternative 3a.** 500 pounds gutted weight.

**MOTION #19:** MOVE ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 7 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

**Action 7. *Implement a commercial trip limit for the Other Jacks Complex***

**Alternative 2.** Establish a commercial trip limit for the Other Jacks Complex.

**Sub-alternative 2a.** 500 pounds gutted weight with a trip limit reduction to 250 pounds gutted weight once 75% of the annual catch limit is met or projected to be met.

**Sub-alternative 2b.** 400 pounds gutted weight with a trip limit reduction to 200 pounds gutted weight once 75% of the annual catch limit is met or projected to be met.

**Sub-alternative 2c.** 300 pounds gutted weight with a trip limit reduction to 150 pounds gutted weight once 75% of the annual catch limit is met or projected to be met.

**MOTION #20:** SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2A UNDER ACTION 8 AS PREFERRED

**Action 8. *Modify the seasonal prohibition on commercial harvest and possession of red grouper in the Exclusive Economic Zone off South Carolina and North Carolina***

**Alternative 2.** Maintain seasonal prohibition on sale and purchase of shallow-water groupers annually from January 1 to April 30 in the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone. Prohibit sale and purchase of red grouper in the exclusive economic zone off North Carolina and South Carolina from:

**Sub-alternative 2a.** January – May (five months)

**MOTION #21:** SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 9 AS PREFERRED

**Action 9. *Remove the commercial minimum size limit for certain deep-water species***

**Alternative 2.** Remove the 12-inch total length commercial minimum size limit for queen snapper, silk snapper, and blackfin snapper in the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone.

**MOTION #22:** APPROVE VISION BLUEPRINT REGULATORY AMENDMENT 27 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

**For-Hire Moratorium Amendment**

**MOTION #23:** MODIFY SCOPING DOCUMENT ACCORDING TO COUNCIL GUIDANCE AND PREPARE FOR JUNE MEETING FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER FOR SCOPING AT THAT TIME

**Red Grouper Rebuilding**

**MOTION #24:** DIRECT STAFF TO BEGIN AN AMENDMENT TO REVISE THE REBUILDING PLAN FOR RED GROUPE

**Golden Tilefish (Regulatory Amendment 28)**

**MOTION #25:** APPROVE THE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES UNER ACTION 1 AS MODIFIED

***Action 1: Revise the Annual Catch Limits for Golden Tilefish***

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** The total annual catch limit for golden tilefish is equal to the yield at 75% of  $F_{MSY}$  when the population is at equilibrium. The current total annual catch limit for golden tilefish is 323,000 pounds gutted weight, as established temporarily through an interim rule for golden tilefish implemented on January 2, 2017 (83 FR 65). The interim rule value is based on projected yield of 75% of  $F_{MSY}$ . This interim rule is valid through July 1, 2018 and may be extended for an additional 186 days. Once the interim rule expires, the ACL will revert back to the previous ACL of 558,036 pounds gutted weight.

**Alternative 2.** Revise the golden tilefish annual catch limits. The total annual catch limit would equal the acceptable biological catch. (The acceptable biological catch recommendation from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee is  $P^*=30\%$ .)

**Alternative 3.** Revise the golden tilefish annual catch limits. The total annual catch limit =90% of ABC. (The acceptable biological catch recommendation from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee is  $P^*=30\%$ .)

**Alternative 4.** Revise the golden tilefish annual catch limits. The total annual catch limit = 80% of ABC. (The acceptable biological catch recommendation from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee is  $P^*=30\%$ .)

**MOTION #26:** DESELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED AND REFER THE SELECTION OF AN ABC BACK TO THE SSC BASED ON RATIONALE PROVIDED

***Action 1: Revise the Annual Catch Limits for Golden Tilefish***

The total annual catch limit alternatives for golden tilefish for years 2019-2024. All values in pounds gutted weight (lbs gw).

	<b>Alternative 1 No Action</b>	<b>Alternative 2 (ACL=ABC)</b>	<b>Alternative 3 (ACL=90% of ABC)</b>	<b>Alternative 4 (ACL=80% of ABC)</b>
2019	Interim rule: 323,000	251,000	225,900	200,800
2020		285,000	256,500	228,000
2021	When interim rule expires: 558,036	314,000	282,600	251,200
2022		338,000	304,200	270,400
2023		356,000	320,400	284,400
2024		368,000	331,200	294,400

**MOTION #27:** REMOVE ACTIONS 2 AND 3 BUT LEAVE ACTION 4 IN REGULATORY AMENDMENT 28

**Alternative 2.** Revise the golden tilefish annual catch limits. The total annual catch limit would equal the acceptable biological catch. (The acceptable biological catch recommendation from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee is  $P^*=30\%$ .)

**Alternative 3.** Revise the golden tilefish annual catch limits. The total annual catch limit =90% of ABC. (The acceptable biological catch recommendation from the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee is P\*=30%.)

\*\*\*GUIDANE: IN JUNE, COUNCIL CAN REQUEST THE EXTENSION TO THE INTERIM RULE FOR GOLDEN TILEFISH\*\*\*\*

**MOTION #28:** DIRECT STAFF TO BEGIN WORK ON AN AMENDMENT TO REVISE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES FOR YELLOWTAIL SNAPPER TO REMOVE IN-SEASON CLOSURES FOR EITHER SECTOR UNTIL THE TOTAL ACL IS MET

**Modifications to Sea Turtle Release Gear and Snapper Grouper Framework**

**MOTION #29:** RECOMMEND TAKING SEA TURTLE RELEASE GEAR DOCUMENT TO SCOPING

**Timing and Task:**

**MOTION #30:** Direct staff to do the following:

- Continue development of Amendment 46 including Actions 1 & 2 and begin work on a separate framework amendment to address Actions 3 & 4.
- Prepare scoping document for Amendment 47 (For-Hire Permit Moratorium) according to the Committee's guidance.
- Prepare Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendments 26 & 27 for public hearings in Spring 2018
- Obtain input for the Vision Blueprint biennial evaluation via webinars and listening stations, as appropriate, in August 2018 and during the fall 2018 Snapper Grouper AP meeting.
- Request input from the SSC, Law Enforcement AP and Snapper Grouper AP on the draft Wreckfish ITQ Review at their respective meetings in Spring 2018.
- Complete the evaluation of the Spawning SMZs System Management Plan by December 2018.
- Conduct meeting with wreckfish shareholders in late June/early July 2018.
- Prepare the Wreckfish ITQ Review document for the September 2018 meeting for approval or further direction.
- Begin work on an amendment to address management of yellowtail snapper according to the Committee's guidance.
- Begin work on an amendment to address sea turtle release gear and revisions to the Snapper Grouper Framework and conduct scoping via webinar.

## **MACKEREL COBIA**

### **CMP Amendment 31**

**MOTION #1:** ACCEPT THE IPT'S RECOMMENDED WORDING CHANGE FOR PURPOSE AND NEED

The **purpose** is to reduce complexity of management and facilitate improved coordination of management of Atlantic cobia in state and federal waters.

The **need** is to provide for effective management of Atlantic cobia and fair and equitable access to harvest opportunities without reducing protection to the stock.

**MOTION #2:** REQUEST STAFF MAKE THE REQUESTED REVISIONS TO AMENDMENT 31, ADDRESS NOAA GC CONCERNS AND BRING THE DOCUMENT BACK TO THE COUNCIL IN JUNE 2018 FOR FINAL ACTION

### **CMP Framework Amendment 6 (Atlantic King Mackerel Trip Limits)**

**MOTION #3:** SELECT ACTION 1, ALTERNATIVE 3 AS THE PREFERRED

**Alternative 3:** Adjust the commercial trip limits for Atlantic king mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone for Season 1:

- Season 1
  - March 1- March 31
    - North of Flagler/Volusia line: 3,500 lbs
    - South of Flagler/Volusia line: 75 fish
  - April 1 – September 30
    - North of Volusia/Brevard line: 3,500 lbs
    - South of Volusia/Brevard line: 75 fish until 75% of the Season 1 quota is met, and then the trip limit is 50 fish until Sept 30

### **Timing and Task(s)**

**MOTION # 4:** ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Determine how the Marine Recreational Information Program deals with tournament landings when making landing and effort estimates.
2. Prepare CMP Amendment 31 for discussion at the April 2018 Gulf Council meeting.
3. Make the requested revisions to CMP Amendment 31, address NOAA GC concerns and bring the document back to the council in June 2018 for final action.
4. Send a letter to ASMFC asking how they intend to deal with regulations in federal waters under CMP Amendment 31, Action 1, Preferred Alternative 2 (removal of Atlantic cobia from the CMP FMP).
5. Develop draft CMP Framework Amendment 6 with approved actions and alternatives to be approved for public hearings at the June 2018 meeting.



## **SPINY LOBSTER**

### **Spiny Lobster Amendment 13**

**MOTION #1:** APPROVE THE PURPOSE AND NEED AS MODIFIED:

The **purpose** of this action is to align federal regulations for spiny lobster that apply to the exclusive economic zone off Florida with Florida state regulations, re-establish the procedure for **the protocol for** an enhanced cooperative management system, and update management measures to aid law enforcement.

The **need** for this action is to effectively manage and enforce the harvest of spiny lobster to prevent overfishing while achieving optimum yield.

**MOTION #2:** APPROVE THE IPT'S RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO ACTION 1

**Action 1 –Require a Florida State bully net permit, marking requirements, and gear prohibitions for bully net gear in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) off Florida**

**Alternative 1:** No Action. Do not require a Florida state commercial bully net permit for bully net gear or regulations related to bully nets for spiny lobster commercial harvesters in the EEZ off Florida in the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) and the South Atlantic.

**Alternative 2:** Align federal regulations to be consistent with Florida regulations for spiny lobster commercial harvesters *using bully net gear* by implementing the following:

- Require commercial bully net vessels in the EEZ off Florida to have a bully net permit from Florida.
- Require that the vessel be marked with the harvester's Florida bully net permit number using reflective paint or other reflective material.
- Prohibit commercial bully net vessels from having trap pullers onboard.
- Prohibit the simultaneous possession of a bully net and any underwater breathing apparatus (not including dive masks or snorkels) onboard a vessel used to harvest or transport spiny lobster for commercial purposes.

\*\*\*DIRECTION TO INCLUDE A DISCUSSION OF OTHER SPINY LOBSTER PERMITS REQUIRED AND DISCUSSION ON HOW THE UPDATED REGULATIONS UNDER **ACTION 1, ALTERNATIVE 2** WOULD AID LAW ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS. \*\*\*

**MOTION #3:** ACCEPT THE IPT'S RECOMMENDED WORDING FOR ACTION 2, ALTERNATIVES 1 THROUGH 3

**Action 2: Commercial spiny lobster bully net and dive gear trip limits in the EEZ off Florida**

**Alternative 1.** No Action. Do not establish a commercial daily vessel harvest and possession limit for spiny lobster harvested by bully net or dive gear in the EEZ off Florida.

**Alternative 2.** Establish a commercial daily vessel harvest and possession limit of 250 per day/vessel for spiny lobsters harvested by bully net in or from the entire EEZ off Florida.

**Alternative 3.** Establish a commercial daily vessel harvest and possession limit of 250 per day/vessel for spiny lobsters harvested by diving in or from only the EEZ off Broward, Dade, Monroe, Collier, and Lee Counties, Florida.

**MOTION #4:** ACCEPT THE IPT's RECOMMENDED WORDING FOR ACTION 3, ALTERNATIVES 1 THROUGH 2

**Action 3: Specification of degradable panels in spiny lobster traps in the EEZ off Florida**

**Alternative 1.** No Action. In the EEZ off Florida, a spiny lobster trap constructed of material other than wood must have a panel constructed of wood, cotton, or other material that will degrade at the same rate as a wooden trap. Such panel must be located in the upper half of the sides or on top of the trap, so that, when removed, there will be an opening in the trap no smaller than the diameter found at the throat or entrance of the trap.

**Alternative 2.** In the EEZ off Florida, a spiny lobster trap constructed of material other than wood is required to have a degradable panel no smaller than 6 inches by 4 inches or no smaller than the dimensions of the throat or entrance of the trap, whichever is larger, and shall be constructed of cypress or untreated pine slats no thicker than  $\frac{3}{4}$  in (0.6 cm). This degradable panel must be located on the top horizontal section of the trap.

**MOTION #5:** ACCEPT THE IPT's RECOMMENDED WORDING FOR ACTION 4, ALTERNATIVES 1 THROUGH 2

**Action 4: Harvesting restrictions near artificial habitat in the EEZ off Florida**

**Alternative 1.** No Action. Federal regulations have no formal definition developed for artificial habitat and there are no restrictions for harvest and possession of spiny lobster in the EEZ off an artificial habitat as defined by Florida Administrative Code (FAC).

**Alternative 2.** No person shall harvest any spiny lobster from artificial habitat in the EEZ off Florida. The harvest and possession in the water of spiny lobster in excess of the recreational bag limit is hereby prohibited within 10 yards of artificial habitat as is consistent with FAC. For spiny lobster, "artificial habitat" means any material placed in the waters of the state that is reasonably suited to providing cover and habitat for spiny lobster. Such material may be constructed of, but is not limited to, wood, metal, fiberglass, concrete, or plastic, or any combination thereof, and may be fabricated for this specific purpose or for some other purpose. The term does not include fishing gear allowed by rule of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), legally permitted structures, or artificial reef sites constructed pursuant to permits issued by the United States Army Corps of Engineers or by the state regulatory agency.

\*\*\*DIRECTION TO DISCUSS SEPARATING THE DEFINITION OF ARTIFICIAL HABITAT AND HARVEST RESTRICTIONS INTO TWO SEPARATE ACTIONS WITH THE IPT\*\*\*

**MOTION #6:** ACCEPT THE IPT's RECOMMENDED WORDING CHANGE FOR ALTERNATIVES 1 THROUGH 2

**Action 5: Establish an enhanced cooperative management procedure for federal and Florida state agencies for the management of spiny lobster**

**Alternative 1:** No Action. Do not establish an enhanced cooperative management procedure for the management of spiny lobster. The Councils must develop an amendment to the Fishery Management Plan for the Spiny Lobster Fishery of the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic (Spiny Lobster FMP) to establish new federal regulations

consistent with new Florida regulations.

**Alternative 2.** Establish an enhanced cooperative management procedure that allows Florida to request changes to the spiny lobster federal regulations through NMFS rulemaking. Following is the proposed language (adapted from Amendment 2 to the Spiny Lobster FMP) for the procedure to be added to the existing protocol (established in Amendment 10 to the Spiny Lobster FMP):

**MOTION #7: DO NOT REQUIRE REVIEW OF REGULATIONS AND ANALYSES BY THE SSC AND ADVISORY PANELS THROUGH THE ENHANCED COOPERATIVE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE**

**Timing and Task(s)**

**MOTION # 8** ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Develop draft Spiny Lobster Amendment 13 with approved actions and alternatives to be approved for public hearings at the June 2018 meeting.
2. Work with FWC to identify how artificial habitat regulations are enforced in Florida state waters.
3. Combine the enhanced cooperative management procedure and protocol into one cohesive document
4. Work with NOAA GC and FWC to ensure the enhanced cooperative management procedure meets NEPA and APA guidelines and reflects the federal rulemaking timeline.

**AP SELECTION**

**MOTION 1:** APPOINT KERRY MARHEKA (SC COMMERCIAL), TOM ROLLER (NC RECREATIONAL), DR. SANDRA BROOK (CORAL SPECIALIST), DR. DAVID GILLIAM (CORAL SPECIALIST), CHRIS TAYLOR (MAPPING), DR. LORA CLARKE (NGO), AND DR. PAT HARRIS (ECOLOGIST) TO THE SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PLAN WORKGROUP

**MOTION 2:** APPOINT DR. BRIAN WALKER (BIOLOGIST/ECOLOGIST) AND JASON WHITE (MAPPING) TO THE SMP WORKGROUP

**MOTION 3:** SEND A LETTER TO STAFF AT NOS REQUESTING DR. CHRIS TAYLOR BE APPOINTED AS THE NOS REPRESENTATIVE ON THE SMP WORKGROUP

**MOTION 4:** REAPPOINT DR. STEVE ROSS, THOMAS JONES AND BILL PARKER TO THE HABITAT AP

**MOTION 5:** REAPPOINT DR. JAMES GEIGER TO THE HABITAT AP

**MOTION 6:** APPOINT MICHAEL PITTMAN TO THE HABITAT AP

**MOTION 7:** APPOINT KEVIN ROBERSON TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT AP

**MOTION 8:** REAPPOINT IRA LAKS, STEVEN SWAN, STEVE ENGLISH, AND ROBERT OLSEN ON THE MACKEREL COBIA AP

**MOTION 9:** APPOINT KEITH BOWEN TO THE MACKEREL COBIA AP

**MOTION 10:** APPOINT COLLINS DOUGHTIE TO THE COBIA SUBPANEL OF THE MACKEREL COBIA AP

**MOTION 11:** APPOINT DR. STEPHEN TURNER AND CHRISTOPHER O'BRIEN TO THE SEDAR POOL AP

**MOTION 12:** REAPPOINT BOB LORENZ TO THE SNAPPER GROUPE AP

**MOTION 13:** READVERTISE THE OPEN SC SEAT ON THE SNAPPER GROUPE AP

**MOTION 14:** APPOINT RON ROZIER TO THE SNAPPER GROUP AP

**MOTION 15:** APPOINT JAMES PASKIEWICZ TO THE SNAPPER GROUPE AP

**MOTION 16:** ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

- 1) Readvertise an open seat on the Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel

### **ABC CONTROL RULE**

**MOTION #1:** APPROVE THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENTS, AND ALLOW THE IPT TO ADD LANGUAGE CLARIFYING THE COUNCIL'S ROLE IN SPECIFYING RISK TOLERANCE

**MOTION #2:** AMEND THE SNAPPER GROUPE, DOLPHIN WAHOO, GOLDEN CRAB, SARGASSUM, AND CORAL FMPS THROUGH THE COMPREHENSIVE ABC CONTROL RULE AMENDMENT

**MOTION #3:** ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

- Incorporate the Committee recommendations for the ABC control rule options paper for further review at the June 2018 meeting.
- Determine whether recreational AMs could be modified for Coastal Migratory Pelagics without the amendment being a joint amendment with the Gulf Council.
- Provide examples of the modified AMs.
- Develop an AM action/alternative to use the same mathematical transformations of landings applied as part of a stock assessment to the recreational landings used to determine whether recreational AMs need to be implemented.

## **JOINT HABITAT & ECOSYSTEM, SHRIMP, AND GOLDEN CRAB**

**MOTION #1:** APPROVE FEP II IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

**MOTION #2:** APPROVE FEP II TWO YEAR ROADMAP

**MOTION #3:** APPROVE OUTSTANDING FEP II SECTIONS (SOUTH ATLANTIC FOOD WEBS AND CONNECTIVITY, SOUTH ATLANTIC CLIMATE VARIABILITY AND FISHERIES, SHALLOW WATER CORAL, ARTIFICIAL REEFS) FOR INCORPORATION INTO THE FEP II DASHBOARD

**MOTION #4:** APPROVE FEP II LIVE BOTTOM HABITAT SECTION

**MOTION #5:** APPROVE FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN II AND FEP II DASHBOARD

**MOTION #6:** BEGIN AN AMENDMENT FOR SHRIMP AMENDMENT 11 AND CORAL AMENDMENT 10

**MOTION #7:** COUNCIL SUBMIT COMMENT LETTER TO BOEM ON THE 2019-2024 NATIONAL OCS DRAFT PROPOSED PROGRAM AND PROGRAMATIC EIS

**MOTION #8:** ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

- 1) Staff will finalize the FEP II Implementation Plan and Two Year Roadmap for posting the FEP II Dashboard.
- 2) Staff will finalize remaining FEP II Sections for activation on the Dashboard and further refine and enhance the format and capabilities of the FEP II Dashboard.
- 3) Staff will collaborate with SALCC supporting South Atlantic Ecosystem model workgroup and Ecopath model development so a fully parameterized model will be presented during the fall SSC meeting.
- 4) Staff will continue to work with regional partners and SECOORA to refine regional ocean observing priorities and long-term build out planning by integrating Council needs for ocean observing data, tools and new technology to better characterize and monitor fish, fish habitat and fisheries operations.
- 5) Staff will continue developing a Joint Coral and Shrimp Amendment and bring back a scoping document at the June 2018 meeting including options for VMS.
- 6) Staff will develop a document outlining the different transit provisions for the shrimp vessels regarding gear storage.
- 7) Send comment letter to BOEM by 3/9/18. **Done 3/9/18.**

## **SOPPs**

### **MOTION #1. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):**

- 1) Work with NOAA GC to clarify how State representatives can participate on interdisciplinary plan development teams as outlined in the handbook.
- 2) Revise the Handbook based on the approved changes, add any additional recommendations after reviewing the Gulf Council's Handbook, add any additional suggestions from staff, and provide to the Personnel Committee prior to their meeting.
- 3) Incorporate any changes received on the SOPPs and have ready for the committee in June 2018.

## **EXECUTIVE FINANCE**

### **Council Follow-up and Priorities**

The Council discussed priorities and provided the following guidance to staff for the top 4 priorities:

- Yellowtail Snapper Commercial Accountability Measures (Myra)
- Recreational Visioning Amendment (Myra)
- Commercial Visioning Amendment (Myra)
- Red Grouper Rebuilding Plan (John Hadley)
- Golden Tilefish – Abbreviated Amendment or Framework depending on which actions remain (Brian)

In June 2018, the Council is also expecting to discuss:

- For-Hire Permit Moratorium – Scoping results
- Socioeconomic Report
- Spiny Lobster Amendment
- Snapper Grouper Amendment 46 (Private Recreational Licensing & Reporting)
- Snapper Grouper Framework (Best Fishing Practices)
- ABC Control Rule Amendment
- Accountable Measures Amendment
- Snapper Grouper Amendment 38 (Blueline Tilefish)

Staff will be working on other items as time permits:

- Yellowtail Snapper – consider how to evaluate combining ACLs, trip limits, etc.
- Wreckfish – will not be discussed in June

### **MOTION #1. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):**

- 1) The committee directed staff to use a postcard to have individuals “Opt-in” to keep getting hard copy newsletter and other materials.
- 2) If comments on Reauthorization are requested, staff is to develop a draft response and circulate to all Council members before finalization.
- 3) Directed staff to revise the Draft 2018 Budget for the June meeting.
- 4) Revise the Priorities based on guidance received.
- 5) Prepare a draft list of regulations for removal for the Advisory Panels to review; coordinate with NMFS and NOAA GC; and bring a revised list to the June

meeting. Publicize the public's opportunity to comment and provide suggestions prior to the June meeting.

- 6) Schedule a session to discuss "Atlantic Coast-Wide Species Movements" at the September Council meeting. Invite the MAFMC and NEFMC to attend and participate.
- 7) Directed staff to prepare a list of priority species and research the process used to extend jurisdiction of the CMP FMP; provide for discussions at the May CCC meeting; and bring results to the June Council meeting.
- 8) Establish a list of Council members willing to be a mentor to new Council members.
- 9) Draft comments for Council review on items from the CCC meeting.
- 10) Modify the format for Decision Documents to have the wording of actions before the tables; the Committee find the standardization very helpful.

### **COUNCIL SESSION**

**MOTION #1:** SEND LETTER TO HMS STATING CONCERNS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE PLL EFP

- SEND COMMENTS RECEIVED IN ONLINE COMMENT FORM
- SEND MEETING MINUTES OF THIS DISCUSSION AND MARCH 2017 DISCUSSIONS
- OVERLAP OF THIS PROJECT WITH SAFMC MANAGED HABITAT AREAS WAS NOT CONSIDERED
- QUARTERLY EVALUATION OF DATA, REDUCE NUMBER OF SETS, EXAMPLES OF SMP

**MOTION #2:** REQUEST THE APPROPRIATE BODY DEVELOP THE PROTOCOL FOR THIRD PARTY ASSESSMENTS THAT ALLOW THE SEFSC TO RUN THE NEXT ASSESSMENT