

# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

September 12-16, 2016

## SUMMARY OF APPROVED COUNCIL MOTIONS

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

(<http://blog.safmc.net/meeting-documents/safmc-sept-2016-council-meeting-briefing-book/>)

### **SNAPPER GROUPE**

#### **Amendment 37 (hogfish)**

**MOTION #1:** SPECIFY THE TOTAL ACL FOR THE GA-NC STOCK OF HOGFISH IN POUNDS WHOLE WEIGHT. SPECIFY THE ABC AND TOTAL ACL FOR THE FLK/EFL STOCK OF HOGFISH IN NUMBERS OF FISH.

**MOTION #2:** REVISE TITLES OF ACTIONS 4 AND 6 IN AMENDMENT 37 TO INCLUDE SPECIFICATION OF OPTIMUM YIELD

**MOTION #3:** APPROVE SNAPPER GROUPE AMENDMENT 37 FOR FORMAL SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT/CODIFIED TEXT AND GIVE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS AND RE-DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT.

#### **Amendment 41 (Mutton Snapper)**

**MOTION #4:** APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 3 **ACTION 3. Revise annual catch limits (ACLs) and optimum yield (OY) for mutton snapper in the South Atlantic Region**

**Preferred Alternative 2.** ~~The jurisdictional allocation for the South Atlantic is 82% of the acceptable biological catch (ABC).~~ Specify **TOTAL** annual catch limit (ACLs) and optimum yield (~~OY~~) for the South Atlantic **AND SECTOR ANNUAL CATCH LIMITS** using the existing sector allocations (17.02% commercial and 82.98% recreational) and specify the recreational **ACL annual catch limit** in numbers of fish. The **ACLs annual catch limits** specified for 2020 would remain in place until modified.

**Preferred Sub-alternative 2a.** ACL = OY = ABC.

**Sub-alternative 2b.** ACL = OY = 95% ABC.

**Sub-alternative 2c.** ACL = OY = 90% ABC.

**MOTION #5:** SPECIFY THE ABC AND TOTAL ACL FOR MUTTON SNAPPER IN NUMBERS OF FISH.

**MOTION #6:** APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 4.

**ACTION 4. Revise recreational annual catch target (ACT) for mutton snapper in the South Atlantic Region**

**Preferred Alternative 2.** Revise the annual catch target (ACT) for mutton snapper for the recreational sector and specify it the recreational ACT in numbers of fish. The ACT annual catch target for 2020 would remain in place until modified.

**Sub-alternative 2a.**  $ACT = \text{recreational ACL} * (1 - \text{PSE})$  or  $ACL * 0.5$ , whichever is greater.

Year	PSE
2010	10.2
2011	15.2
2012	21.2
2013	15.1
2014	17.9
<b>Average</b>	<b>15.9</b>

Note: PSE = Percent Standard Error. The PSE is a measure of precision presented for recreational estimates. The higher the PSE, the less precise the estimate. The average PSE value for the most recent 5 complete years of recreational data would be used in the equation.

**Preferred Sub-alternative 2b.**  $ACT = 85\%$  recreational ACL.

**Sub-alternative 2c.**  $ACT = 75\%$  recreational ACL

**MOTION #7:** APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO ALTERNATIVES 1-5 UNDER ACTION 5

**ACTION 5. Modify mutton snapper minimum size limit in the South Atlantic Region**

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** The minimum size limit for mutton snapper in the South Atlantic region is 16 inches total length (TL).

**Alternative 2.** Increase the minimum size limit for mutton snapper in the South Atlantic region to 17 inches total length (TL).

**Preferred Alternative 3.** Increase the minimum size limit for mutton snapper in the South Atlantic region to 18 inches total length (TL).

**Alternative 4.** Increase the minimum size limit for mutton snapper in the South Atlantic region to 19 inches total length (TL).

**Alternative 5.** Increase the minimum size limit for mutton snapper in the South Atlantic region to 20 inches total length (TL).

**MOTION #8:** APPROVE SUGGESTED EDIT TO THE TITLE OF ACTION 6.  
**ACTION 6.** Designate spawning **season MONTHS** during which **CERTAIN** commercial and recreational management measures for mutton snapper should apply in the South Atlantic Region

**MOTION #9:** SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 4C AS PREFERRED AND DE-SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 4B UNDER ACTION 7

**ACTION 7.** Modify mutton snapper recreational bag limit in the South Atlantic Region

**Preferred Alternative 4.** Retain mutton snapper within the recreational 10 snapper aggregate bag limit in the South Atlantic, but specify bag limits for mutton snapper within the aggregate bag limit year round.

**Sub-alternative 4a.** 2 fish/person/day.

**Sub-alternative 4b.** 3 fish/person/day.

**Preferred Sub-alternative 4c.** 5 fish/person/day.

**MOTION #10:** APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE 2 SUB-ALTERNATIVES UNDER ACTION 8

**MOTION #11:** SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2C AS PREFERRED AND DE-SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2A UNDER ACTION 8

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

**ACTION 8.** Modify mutton snapper commercial trip limit in the South Atlantic Region

**Preferred Alternative 2.** Establish a commercial trip limit for mutton snapper during the “regular season” (i.e., non-spawning months) in the South Atlantic.

**Sub-alternative 2a.** 300 pounds whole weight

**Sub-alternative 2b.** 400 pounds whole weight

**Preferred Sub-alternative 2c.** 500 pounds whole weight

**MOTION #12:** ADD SUB-ALTERNATIVE UNDER ALTERNATIVE 3 OF 5 FISH/PERSON/DAY AND SELECT AS PREFERRED AND DE-SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 3B UNDER ACTION 8

**Preferred Alternative 3.** Specify a commercial trip limit for mutton snapper during the “spawning months” in the South Atlantic.

**Sub-alternative 3a.** 2 fish/person/day

**Sub-alternative 3b.** 3 fish/person/day

**Sub-alternative 3c.** 10 fish/vessel/day

**Sub-alternative 3d.** 12 fish/vessel/day

**Sub-alternative 3e.** No retention

**Preferred Sub-alternative 3f.** 5 fish/person/day

**MOTION #13: APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TASKS AND TIMING:**

- PREPARE AMENDMENT 37 FOR FORMAL REVIEW
- PREPARE AMENDMENT 41, AS MODIFIED, FOR FINAL APPROVAL AT DECEMBER 2016 MEETING
- PREPARE AMENDMENT 43 (RED SNAPPER), AS MODIFIED, FOR REVIEW AT DECEMBER 2016 MEETING (INTENT TO APPROVE FOR SCOPING HEARINGS)
- REQUEST PRESENTATION FROM FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ON STAMP PROGRAM(S) FOR DECEMBER 2016 MEETING
- PREPARE SCOPING DOCUMENT, AS MODIFIED, FOR THE VISION BLUEPRINT RECREATIONAL AMENDMENT
- PREPARE SCOPING DOCUMENT FOR THE VISION BLUEPRINT COMMERCIAL AMENDMENT (INCLUDE ACTION TO CHANGE FISHING YEAR START DATE FOR GOLDEN TILEFISH HOOK-AND-LINE SECTOR AND ITEMS DISCUSSED DURING JUNE 2016 COMMITTEE MEETING)
- REQUEST THAT THE SSC DISCUSS USE OF MARKET GRADE CATEGORIES TO DETECT YEAR-CLASS STRENGTH FOR GOLDEN TILEFISH
- REQUEST THAT THE SNAPPER GROUPER AP DISCUSS ISSUE OF CATCH HISTORY BEING ASSOCIATED WITH THE VESSEL'S PERMIT VS. ENDORSEMENT
- REQUEST THAT THE SEFSC PROVIDE MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ON RED GROUPER DISCARDS FROM THE COMMERCIAL DISCARD LOGBOOK
- REQUEST THAT STAFF PROVIDE A HIERARCHICAL LIST OF SPECIES BASED ON REC LANDINGS BY PRIVATE, CHARTER, AND HEADBOAT FROM 2011 TO 2015 TO INFORM OPTIONS TO EVALUATE RECREATIONAL AGGREGATE BAG LIMITS

**MACKEREL**

**Framework Amendment 4 (Atlantic cobia)**

**MOTION #1.** Change the preferred alternative from Sub-alternative 3c to Sub-alternative 3f (6/vessel) in Action 1-1.

**Preferred Alternative 3.** Establish a recreational vessel limit for Atlantic cobia.

**Preferred Sub-alternative 3c.** 3 fish per vessel per day

**Preferred Sub-alternative 3f.** 6 fish per vessel per day

**MOTION #2.** Remove Action 2 from Framework Amendment 4.

Action 2: Modify the fishing year for recreational Atlantic cobia

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** Do not modify the current recreational fishing year of January 1 through December 31.

**Preferred Alternative 2.** Modify the recreational fishing year for Atlantic cobia to be May 1 through April 30.

**Alternative 3.** Modify the recreational fishing year for Atlantic cobia to be June 1 through May 31.

**Alternative 4.** Modify the recreational fishing year for Atlantic cobia to be April 1 through March 31.

**MOTION #3.** Ask staff to work on a plan amendment to change the recreational fishing year for Atlantic cobia.

**MOTION #4.** Select the preferred start date as May 1. (Alternative 2 May 1-Apr 30).

**MOTION #5.** Approve IPT edits in Alternatives 2, 3, and 5 in Action 3.

**Preferred Alternative 2.** If recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the recreational ACL, ~~then during the following fishing year,~~ recreational landings will be monitored for a persistence in increased landings. If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of the following fishing season to ensure that recreational landings meet the recreational annual catch target (ACT) but do not exceed the recreational ACL, based on the recreational landings in the previous year. The length of the recreational season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary. ~~The ACT for 2016 and subsequent fishing years is 500,000 lbs ww, as established in Amendment 20B to the CMP FMP.~~

**Alternative 3.** If recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the recreational ACL, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the recreational ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the recreational overage. The recreational ACL will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary. The ACT would also be adjusted. ~~according to the following formula: recreational sector ACT equals sector ACL[(1 - PSE) or 0.5, whichever is greater].~~

**Alternative 5.** If recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the recreational ACL, ~~then during the following fishing year,~~ recreational landings will be monitored for a persistence in increased landings. If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the recreational vessel limit for the following fishing year to ensure that recreational landings meet the recreational ACT but do not exceed the recreational ACL, based on the recreational landings in the previous year. The recreational vessel limit will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary. ~~The ACT for 2016 and subsequent fishing years is 500,000 lbs, as established in CMP Amendment 20B.~~

**MOTION #6.** Select Alternative 5/Sub-alternative 5b as Preferred in Action 3.

**Alternative 5.** If recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the recreational ACL, recreational landings will be monitored for a persistence in increased landings. If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the recreational vessel limit for the following fishing year to ensure that recreational landings meet the recreational ACT but do not exceed the recreational ACL, based on the recreational landings in the previous year. The recreational vessel limit will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary.

**Sub-alternative 5b.** The Regional Administrator will reduce the recreational vessel limit for the following fishing year only if the stock ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded.

**COUNCIL CLARIFICATION:** The AM would be a reduced vessel limit to no less than 2/vessel, and only if stock ACL is exceeded. Reduced vessel limit would be applied before a reduced season length (**Preferred Alternative 2**).

**MOTION #7.** Add Alternative 5 to Action 4: **Establish a commercial trip limit for Atlantic cobia of 2 fish per person per day or 6 fish per vessel per day, whichever is more restrictive.**

**MOTION #8.** Select Alternative 5 as the preferred in Action 4.

**MOTION #9.** Approve Coastal Migratory Pelagics Framework Amendment 4 as modified for Secretarial review, and deem the codified text as necessary and appropriate. Give staff editorial license to make any necessary editorial changes to the document/codified text and give the Council Chair authority to approve the revisions and re-deem the codified text.

**Framework Amendment 5 (revise permit restrictions)**

**MOTION #10.** Approved the modified purpose and need statements.

The **purpose** of this action is to eliminate permit restrictions unique to commercial king and Spanish mackerel permitted vessels.

The **need** for this action is to standardize vessel permit restrictions applicable after a commercial quota closure, remove restrictions on recreational fishing, and reduce the potential for regulatory discards in the king mackerel and Spanish mackerel components of the CMP fishery.

**MOTION #11.** Approve the IPT recommendations for the language in the alternatives.

**Alternative 1:** No Action –Persons aboard a vessel with a federal commercial permit for king or Spanish mackerel may not fish for or retain the recreational bag limit if commercial harvest for the species is closed (i.e., the species, migratory group, zone, subzone, or gear is closed) except when that vessel also holds the applicable federal for-hire permit (Gulf Charter/Headboat CMP permit, Historical Captain Gulf Charter/Headboat CMP permit, or Atlantic Charter/Headboat CMP permit) and is operating in a for-hire capacity.

**Gulf Preferred Alternative 2:** Remove the restriction on fishing for and retaining the recreational bag limit of king mackerel on a vessel with a federal commercial permit for king mackerel when the vessel is on a recreational trip and commercial harvest of king mackerel in that zone is closed.

**Gulf Preferred Alternative 3:** Remove the restriction on fishing for and retaining the recreational bag limit of Spanish mackerel on a vessel with a federal commercial permit for Spanish mackerel when the vessel is on a recreational trip and commercial harvest of Spanish mackerel in that zone (Atlantic) or region (Gulf) is closed.

**MOTION #12.** Select Alternative 2 and 3 under Action 1 as the South Atlantic Preferreds.

**MOTION #13.** Approve Coastal Migratory Pelagics Framework Amendment 5 for Secretarial review, and deem the codified text as necessary and appropriate. Give staff editorial license to make any necessary editorial changes to the document/codified text and give the Council Chair authority to approve the revisions and re-deem the codified text.

**Amendment 29 (Gulf king mackerel allocations)**

**MOTION #14.** Approved the modified Purpose and Need statements.

***Purpose for Action***

The purpose of this amendment is to consider changes to the recreational and commercial allocations for Gulf migratory group king mackerel and the recreational accountability measure.

***Need for Action***

The need for this amendment is to achieve optimum yield while ensuring overfishing does not occur in the coastal migratory pelagics (CMP) fishery, thereby increasing social and economic benefits of the CMP fishery through sustainable and valuable harvest of king mackerel.

**MOTION #15.** Approve Alternatives 1-3 in Action 1.

**Action 1 – Gulf Migratory Group King Mackerel Quota Sharing**

**Alternative 1:** No Action – Do not establish a quota sharing system. Maintain the current recreational and commercial allocations for Gulf of Mexico migratory group king mackerel (68% recreational, 32% commercial).

**Alternative 2:** Conditionally transfer a certain percentage (*Options 2a-2d*) of the allocation to the commercial sector in the next fishing year, if the minimum recreational landings threshold is not met (*Options 2e-2g*). If the commercial sector does not land at least 90% of its ACL, this transfer will not occur. Landings data from two years prior will be used to determine allocation transfers.

*Conditional Quota Transfer (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Option 2a:** Conditionally transfer 5% from the stock allocation to the commercial allocation.

**Option 2b:** Conditionally transfer 10% from the stock allocation to the commercial allocation.

**Option 2c:** Conditionally transfer 15% from the stock allocation to the commercial allocation.

**Option 2d:** Conditionally transfer 20% from the stock allocation to the commercial allocation.

*Recreational ACL Minimum Threshold (MUST CHOOSE ONE), if the recreational sector landings are:*

**Option 2e:** less than 50% of its ACL.

**Option 2f:** less than 65% of its ACL.

**Option 2g:** less than 75% of its ACL.

**Alternative 3:** If the stock ACL is not harvested in a fishing year, the [Gulf Council's] Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) will be convened to consider increasing the acceptable biological catch (ABC) for the following fishing year only. If the SSC recommends increasing the ABC, the amount of the increase (in pounds) would be added

to the ACL of the sector which harvested its ACL (within 10%) in the previous fishing year. Consideration of an ABC adjustment by the SSC would only be requested if a minimum percentage of the stock ACL was not harvested in a given fishing season (*Options 3a-3c*). If one of Options 3a, 3b, or 3c is not chosen as preferred, and the stock ACL has not been landed, then the SSC will consider raising the ABC in any year when the stock ACL is not harvested:

*Remaining Stock ACL Threshold (CHOOSE ONE):*

**Option 3a:** At least 15% of the stock ACL remains unharvested.

**Option 3b:** At least 20% of the stock ACL remains unharvested.

**Option 3c:** At least 25% of the stock ACL remains unharvested.

**MOTION #16.** Approve Alternatives 1-3 in Action 2.

**Action 2 – Adjust the Recreational Accountability Measure for Gulf Migratory Group King Mackerel**

**Alternative 1:** No Action – Retain the in-season recreational accountability measure (AM). If recreational landings reach or are projected to reach the recreational ACL, the bag limit will be reduced to zero for the remainder of the fishing year.

**Alternative 2:** Replace the current in-season AM with a post-season AM. If the recreational ACL is exceeded in any fishing year, the length of the following fishing season will be reduced by the amount necessary to ensure the landings do not exceed the ACL.

**Alternative 3:** Replace the current in-season AM with a post-season AM. If both the recreational ACL *and* the stock ACL are exceeded in a fishing year, the length of the following recreational fishing season will be reduced by the amount necessary to ensure the landings do not exceed the recreational ACL.

**MOTION #17.** ADOPT TIMING AND TASK MOTION.

**TIMING AND TASKS**

- 1) Finalize Framework Amendment 4 for formal review.
- 2) Prepare Framework Amendment 5, Amendment 29, and Amendment 30 (formerly Action 2 in Framework Amendment 4) for the Gulf Council meeting in October.

**HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES (HMS)**

**MOTION #1:** MOVE TO SEND LETTER OF SUPPORT TO HMS FOR BLACKNOSE SHARK RETENTION LIMITS.

**Timing and Tasks**

- Work with the Council to draft and send a letter to HMS in support of the commercial retention limits for blacknose sharks prior to the close of the public comment period on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016.



## **JOINT DOLPHIN WAHOO/SNAPPER GROUPER/MACKEREL COBIA**

### **Amendment 10/44 Allocations**

**MOTION #1:** DIRECT STAFF TO DEVELOP AN ACTION IN THE ALLOCATION AMENDMENT THAT WILL LOOK AT THE LONG TERM AVERAGE CATCH IN THE RECREATIONAL SECTOR FOR DOLPHIN SO THAT OY WILL BE THE LONG-TERM AVERAGE CATCH, WHICH IS NOT DESIGNED TO EXCEED THE ACL, AND WILL FALL BETWEEN THE ACL AND THE ACT.

#### **New Action 1. Revise definition of optimum yield (OY) for Atlantic dolphin.**

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** OY is equal to the ACL

**Alternative 2.** OY is equal to the Commercial ACL + Recreational ACT

**Alternative 3.** OY is equal to 75% MSY

**Alternative 4.** OY is the long-term average catch, which is not designed to exceed the ACL, and will fall between the ACL and ACT.

**MOTION #2:** MOVE ACTION 1 TO THE CONSIDERED, BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.

#### **~~Action 1. Establish ACLs by gear type for dolphin for the commercial sector.~~**

**~~Alternative 1 (No Action).~~** There is currently one sector ACL for all gear types in the commercial dolphin fishery (10% of the total ACL).-----

**~~Alternative 2.~~** Allocate 46% (532,220 lbs ww) of the commercial ACL for dolphin to pelagic longline gear. Allocate 54% (624,781 lbs ww) of the commercial ACL for dolphin to hook and line all other commercial fishing gear. (Based on lowest longline % landings by gear type from 2005 through 2014).

**~~Alternative 3.~~** Allocate 50% (578,501 lbs ww) of the commercial ACL for dolphin to pelagic longline gear. Allocate 50% (578,501 lbs ww) of the commercial ACL for dolphin to hook and line and all other commercial fishing gear.

**~~Alternative 4.~~** Allocate 62% (717,341 lbs ww) of the commercial ACL for dolphin to pelagic longline gear. Allocate 38% (439,660 lbs ww) of the commercial ACL for dolphin to hook and line and all other commercial fishing gear. (Based on average landings by gear type from 2005 through 2014).

**~~Alternative 5.~~** Allocate 75% (867,751 lbs ww) of the commercial ACL for dolphin to pelagic longline gear. Allocate 25% (289,250 lbs ww) of the commercial ACL for dolphin to hook and line and all other commercial fishing gear. (Based on highest longline % landings by gear type from 2005 through 2014).

**MOTION #3:** MOVE ALTERNATIVE 3 IN ACTION 2 TO THE CONSIDERED, BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

**Alternative 3.** Establish a permanent allocation shift between the sector ACLs.

**Sub-alternative 3a.** Allocate 87% (13,350,016 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the recreational sector. Allocate 13% (1,994,839 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the commercial sector. (Based on 2013 landings).

**Sub-alternative 3b.** Allocate 85% (13,049,119 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the recreational sector. Allocate 15% (2,301,727 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the commercial sector.

**Sub-alternative 3c.** Allocate 82% (12,582,774 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the

recreational sector. Allocate 18% (2,762,072 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the commercial sector. (Based on 2014 landings).

**Sub-alternative 3d.** Allocate 80% (12,275,877 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the recreational sector. Allocate 20% (3,068,969 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the commercial sector.

**MOTION #4: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 6 IN ACTION 2 TO THE CONSIDERED, BUT REJECTED APPENDIX**

**Alternative 6.** Maintain current sector allocations, but allow temporary increase in a sector's ACL at the beginning of the fishing year if the other sector is projected to not land its entire allocation in the coming fishing year, provided that the combination of the projected landings and the increased sector ACL do not exceed the total ACL.

**Sub-alternative 6a:** Conditionally increase the commercial ACL by 100,000 pounds (ww) if the recreational ACL is not projected to be landed.

**Sub-alternative 6b:** Conditionally increase the commercial ACL by 250,000 pounds (ww) if recreational ACL is not projected to be landed.

**Sub-alternative 6c:** Conditionally increase the commercial ACL by 500,000 pounds (ww) if recreational ACL is not projected to be landed.

**Sub-alternative 6d:** Conditionally increase the commercial ACL by 750,000 pounds (ww) if recreational ACL is not projected to be landed.

**Sub-alternative 6e:** Conditionally increase the commercial ACL by 1 million pounds (ww) if recreational ACL is not projected to be landed.

**MOTION #5: REPLACE ALTERNATIVE 7 WITH ALTERNATIVE X LANGUAGE WITH THE ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS DISCUSSED.**

~~**Alternative 7:** Conditionally transfer a certain percentage (Draft Sub-alternatives 5a-5d) of one sector's ACL to the other sector until such a time that the donating sector's landings reach a predetermined threshold (Draft Sub-alternatives 5e-5g). If this threshold is met, the recreational and commercial allocations will revert to 90% (14,187,845 lbs ww) of the total ACL for the recreational sector and 10% (1,157,001 lbs ww) of the total ACL for the commercial sector.~~

~~Conditional ACL Transfer (MUST CHOOSE ONE):~~

~~Sub-alternative 7a: Conditionally transfer 5% (709,392 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL~~

~~to the commercial sector.~~

~~Sub-alternative 7b: Conditionally transfer 10% (1,418,785 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.~~

~~Sub-alternative 7c: Conditionally transfer 15% (2,128,177 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.~~

~~Sub-alternative 7d: Conditionally transfer 20% (2,837,569 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.~~

~~Donating Sector ACL Threshold (MUST CHOOSE ONE):~~

~~Sub-alternative 7e: Revert to the status quo sector allocations if 80% of the recreational~~

~~sector's amended ACL is landed.~~

~~Sub-alternative 7f: Revert to the status quo sector allocations if 90% of the~~

recreational

~~sector's amended ACL is landed.~~

~~Sub-alternative 7g: Revert to the status quo sector allocations if 100% of the recreational sector's amended ACL is landed.~~

**Alternative X:** Conditionally transfer a certain percentage (Sub-alternatives Xa-Xd) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector in the next fishing year, if the minimum recreational landings threshold is not met (Sub-alternatives Xe-Xg). If the commercial sector does not land at least 90% (1,041,301 lbs ww) of its ACL, this transfer will not occur. Landings data from two years prior will be used to determine allocation transfers: Conditional Quota Transfer (MUST CHOOSE ONE):

Sub-alternative Xa: Conditionally transfer 5% (709,392 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

Sub-alternative Xb: Conditionally transfer 10% (1,418,785 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

Sub-alternative Xc: Conditionally transfer 15% (2,128,177 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

Sub-alternative Xd: Conditionally transfer 20% (2,837,569 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

Recreational ACL Minimum Threshold (MUST CHOOSE ONE), if the recreational sector landings are:

Sub-alternative Xe: less than 50% (7,093,923 lbs ww) of its ACL.

Sub-alternative Xf: less than 65% (9,222,099 lbs ww) of its ACL.

Sub-alternative Xg: less than 75% (10,640,884 lbs ww) of its ACL

**(Note: Action 2 from the September 2016 decision document was renumbered as ACTION 3 in the new post meeting version of the document)**

### **Action 3. Revise sector allocations and accountability measures for Atlantic dolphin.**

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** The current allocation for the recreational sector for dolphin is 90% (13,810,361 lbs ww) of the total ACL. The current allocation for the commercial sector for dolphin is 10% (1,534,485 lbs ww) of the total ACL.

**Alternative 2.** Maintain the current sector ACLs, but revise the AM to close the fishery for both sectors once a portion of the total ACL is landed.

**Sub-alternative 2a:** Fishery will not close until 60% (9,206,908 lbs ww) of the ACL is landed.

**Sub-alternative 2b:** Fishery will not close until 70% (10,741,392 lbs ww) of the ACL is landed.

**Sub-alternative 2b:** Fishery will not close until 80% (12,275,877 lbs ww) of the ACL is landed.

**Sub-alternative 2b:** Fishery will not close until 90% (13,810,361 lbs ww) of the ACL is landed.

**Sub-alternative 2b:** Fishery will not close until 100% (15,344,846 lbs ww) of the ACL is landed.

**Alternative 3.** Set aside a portion of the total ACL that can be used by either sector as a common pool allocation.

**Sub-alternative 3a:** 1% (153,448 lbs ww) of the total ACL becomes a common pool category.

**Sub-alternative 3b:** 2.5% (383,621 lbs ww) of the total ACL becomes a common pool category.

**Sub-alternative 3c:** 5% (767,242 lbs ww) of the total ACL becomes a common pool category.

**Sub-alternative 3d:** 10% (1,534,485 lbs ww) of the total ACL becomes a common pool category.

**Alternative 4:** If the sector ACL is not met in a fishing year, establish a sector ACL “credit” derived from the difference between the total pounds of dolphin landed in the sector and the sector ACL for that same fishing year. In the following fishing year, the credit would transfer to the sector’s ACL and could be used if the sector ACL is met or exceeded. The sector ACL credit would only apply if a minimum percentage of the total ACL was not harvested in a given fishing year (Draft Sub-alternatives 5a-5c), and only a certain percentage of the unharvested sector ACL from the previous fishing year would make up the carry-over credit (Draft Sub alternatives 5d-5f). The carry-over credit would remain until used, but could not exceed a certain percentage of the sector ACL (Draft Sub-alternatives 5g-5i) and the total harvest when the carryover is used could not exceed the total ACL.

*Remaining Total ACL Threshold (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Sub-alternative 4a:** At least 15% (2,301,727 lbs) of the total ACL remains unharvested.

**Sub-alternative 4b:** At least 20% (3,068,969 lbs) of the total ACL remains unharvested.

**Sub-alternative 4c:** At least 25% (3,836,212 lbs) of the total ACL remains unharvested.

*Percentage of Remaining sector ACL to Transfer (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Sub-alternative 4d:** The carry-over credit will be equal to 10% of the unharvested sector ACL.

**Sub-alternative 4e:** The carry-over credit will be equal to 15% of the unharvested sector ACL.

**Sub-alternative 4f:** The carry-over credit will be equal to 20% of the unharvested sector ACL.

*Percentage cap for carry-over credit in relation to sector ACL (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Sub-alternative 4g:** The carry-over credit could not exceed 10% of the sector ACL.

**Sub-alternative 4h:** The carry-over credit could not exceed 20% of the sector ACL.

**Sub-alternative 4i:** The carry-over credit could not exceed 30% of the sector ACL.

**Sub-alternative 4j:** The carry-over credit could not exceed 100% of the sector ACL.

**Alternative 5:** Conditionally transfer a certain percentage (Sub-alternatives Xa-Xd) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector in the next fishing year, if the minimum recreational landings threshold is not met (Sub-alternatives Xe-Xg). If the commercial sector does not land at least 90% (1,381,037 lbs ww) of its ACL, this transfer will not

occur. The highest recreational landings from the five years prior will also be used as criteria to determine if allocation transfers will occur:

*Conditional Quota Transfer (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Sub-alternative 5a:** Conditionally transfer 1% (138,104 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

**Sub-alternative 5b:** Conditionally transfer 2.5% (345,259 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

**Sub-alternative 5c:** Conditionally transfer 5% (690,518 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

**Sub-alternative 5d:** Conditionally transfer 10% (1,381,036 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

*Recreational ACL Minimum Threshold (MUST CHOOSE ONE), if the recreational sector landings are:*

**Sub-alternative 5e:** less than 50% (6,905,181 lbs ww) of its ACL.

**Sub-alternative 5f:** less than 65% (8,976,735 lbs ww) of its ACL.

**Sub-alternative 5g:** less than 75% (10,357,771 lbs ww) of its ACL.

### **ACTION 3**

**MOTION #6:** REMOVE ALTERNATIVES 6 AND 7 AND ADD ALTERNATIVE X WITH THE DISCUSSED MODIFICATIONS.

**(Note: Action 3 from the September 2016 decision document was renumbered as ACTION 4 in the new post meeting version of the document)**

#### **Action 4. Revise sector allocations and accountability measures for South Atlantic yellowtail snapper.**

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** The current recreational sector allocation for yellowtail snapper is 47.44% (1,440,990 lbs ww) of the total ACL. The current commercial sector allocation for yellowtail snapper is 52.56% (1,596,510 lbs ww) of the total ACL.

**Alternative 2.** Maintain current sector ACLs, but revise AM to not close either sector until total ACL is met.

**Alternative 3.** Establish allocation shift between the sector ACLs.

**Sub-alternative 3a.** Allocate 42% (1,275,750 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the recreational sector. Allocate 58% (1,761,750 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the commercial sector. (Based on average landings from 2005-2014)

**Sub-alternative 3b.** Allocate 40% (1,215,000 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the recreational sector. Allocate 60% (1,822,500 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the commercial sector. (Based on 2013 landings).

**Sub-alternative 3c.** Allocate 30% (911,250 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the recreational sector. Allocate 70% (2,126,250 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the commercial sector. (Based on 2012 landings)

**Sub-alternative 3d.** Allocate 28% (850,500 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the recreational sector. Allocate 72% (2,187,000 lbs ww) of the total ACL to the commercial sector. (Based on 2011 landings)

**Alternative 4.** Set aside a portion of the total ACL that can be used by either sector as a common pool allocation.

**Sub-alternative 4a:** 1% (30,375 lbs ww) of the total ACL becomes a common pool category.

**Sub-alternative 4b:** 2.5% (75,938 lbs ww) of the total ACL becomes a common pool category.

**Sub-alternative 4c:** 5% (151,875 lbs ww) of the total ACL becomes a common pool category.

**Sub-alternative 4d:** 10% (303,750 lbs ww) of the total ACL becomes a common pool category.

**Alternative 5:** If the sector ACL is not met in a fishing year, establish a sector ACL “credit” derived from the difference between the total pounds of yellowtail snapper landed in the sector and the sector ACL for that same fishing year. In the following fishing year, the credit would transfer to the sector’s ACL if the sector ACL is met or exceeded. The sector ACL credit would only apply if a minimum percentage of the total ACL was not harvested in a given fishing year (Draft Sub-alternatives 5a-5c), and only a certain percentage of the unharvested sector ACL from the previous fishing year would make up the carry-over credit (Draft Sub alternatives 5d-5f). The carry-over credit would remain until used, but could not exceed a certain percentage of the sector ACL (Draft Sub-alternatives 5g-5i) and the total harvest when the carryover is used could not exceed the total ACL.

*Remaining Total ACL Threshold (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Sub-alternative 5a:** At least 15% (455,625 lbs ww) of the total ACL remains unharvested.

**Sub-alternative 5b:** At least 20% (607,500 lbs ww) of the total ACL remains unharvested.

**Sub-alternative 5c:** At least 25% (759,375 lbs ww) of the total ACL remains unharvested.

*Percentage of Remaining Stock ACL to Transfer (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Sub-alternative 5d:** The carry-over credit will be equal to 10% of the unharvested sector ACL.

**Sub-alternative 5e:** The carry-over credit will be equal to 15% of the unharvested sector ACL.

**Sub-alternative 5f:** The carry-over credit will be equal to 20% of the unharvested sector ACL.

*Percentage cap for carry-over credit in relation to sector ACL (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Sub-alternative 5g:** The carry-over credit could not exceed 10% of the sector ACL.

**Sub-alternative 5h:** The carry-over credit could not exceed 20% of the sector ACL.

**Sub-alternative 5i:** The carry-over credit could not exceed 30% of the sector ACL.

**Sub-alternative 5j:** The carry-over credit could not exceed 100% of the sector ACL.

**Alternative 6:** Conditionally transfer a certain percentage (Sub-alternatives Xa-Xd) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector in the next fishing year, if the minimum recreational landings threshold is not met (Sub-alternatives Xe-Xg). If the commercial sector does not land at least 90% (1,436,859 lbs ww) of its ACL, this transfer will not occur. The highest recreational landings from the five years prior will also be used as criteria to determine if allocation transfers will occur:

*Conditional ACL Transfer (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Sub-alternative 6a:** Conditionally transfer 5% (72,050 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

**Sub-alternative 6b:** Conditionally transfer 10% (144,099 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

**Sub-alternative 6c:** Conditionally transfer 15% (216,149 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

**Sub-alternative 6d:** Conditionally transfer 20% (288,198 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.

*Recreational ACL Minimum Threshold (MUST CHOOSE ONE), if the recreational sector landings are:*

**Sub-alternative 6e:** less than 50% (720,495 lbs ww) of its ACL.

**Sub-alternative 6f:** less than 65% (936,644 lbs ww) of its ACL.

**Sub-alternative 6g:** less than 75% (1,080,743 lbs ww) of its ACL.

~~**Alternative 6:** Maintain current sector allocations, but allow temporary increase in a sector's ACL at the beginning of the fishing year if the other sector is projected to not land its entire allocation in the coming fishing year, provided that the combination of the projected landings and the increased sector ACL do not exceed the total ACL.~~

~~**Sub-alternative 6a:** Conditionally increase the commercial ACL by 50,000 pounds if the recreational ACL is not project to be landed.~~

~~**Sub-alternative 6b:** Conditionally increase the commercial ACL by 150,000 pounds if the recreational ACL is not project to be landed.~~

~~**Sub-alternative 6c:** Conditionally increase the commercial ACL by 250,000 million pounds if the recreational ACL is not project to be landed.~~

~~**Sub-alternative 6d:** Conditionally increase the commercial ACL by 350,000 pounds if the recreational ACL is not project to be landed.~~

~~**Alternative 7:** Conditionally transfer a certain percentage (Draft Sub-alternatives 7a-7d) of one sector's ACL to the other sector until such a time that the donating sector's landings reach a predetermined threshold (Draft Sub-alternatives 7e-7g). If this threshold is met, the recreational and commercial allocations will revert to 47.44% (1,440,990 lbs ww) of the total ACL for the recreational sector and 52.56% (1,596,510 lbs ww) of the total ACL for the commercial sector.~~

~~*Conditional ACL Transfer (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*~~

~~**Sub-alternative 7a:** Conditionally transfer 5% (72,050 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.~~

~~**Sub-alternative 7b:** Conditionally transfer 10% (144,099 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.~~

~~**Sub-alternative 7c:** Conditionally transfer 15% (216,149 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.~~

~~**Sub-alternative 7d:** Conditionally transfer 20% (288,198 lbs ww) of the recreational ACL to the commercial sector.~~

~~*Donating Sector's ACL Threshold (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*~~

~~**Sub-alternative 7e:** Revert to the status quo sector allocations if 80% of the recreational sector's amended ACL is landed.~~

~~**Sub-alternative 7f:** Revert to the status quo sector allocations if 90% of the recreational sector's amended ACL is landed.~~

~~Sub-alternative 7g: Revert to the status quo sector allocations if 100% of the recreational sector's amended ACL is landed.~~

**MOTION #7:** DIRECT STAFF TO DEVELOP AN ACTION THAT WOULD ADDRESS AUTHORIZED GEAR ABOARD A VESSEL ON WHICH DOLPHIN AND WAHOO ARE ONBOARD.

**Action 2. Revise authorized gear types for the possession of dolphin or wahoo**

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** The following are the only authorized gear types in the fisheries for dolphin and wahoo in the Atlantic EEZ: Automatic reel, bandit gear, handline, pelagic longline, rod and reel, and spearfishing gear (including powerheads). A person aboard a vessel in the Atlantic EEZ that has on board gear types other than authorized gear types may not possess a dolphin or wahoo.

**Alternative 2.** Add lobster pot to list of authorized gears for the possession of dolphin or wahoo.

**Alternative 3.** Remove gear limitations for the possession of dolphin or wahoo.

**For-Hire Permit Limited Entry Options Paper Motions**

**MOTION #8:** DIRECT STAFF TO DEVELOP A SCOPING DOCUMENT FOR THE DECEMBER 2016 COUNCIL MEETING.

**ADVISORY PANEL SELECTION**

**MOTION #1:** REAPPOINT CHRIS BURROWS TO THE DOLPHIN WAHOO ADVISORY PANEL.

**MOTION #2:** APPOINT JON REYNOLDS TO THE DOLPHIN WAHOO ADVISORY PANEL.

**MOTION #3:** APPOINT KENNY MOORE TO THE INFORMATION AND EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL.

**MOTION #4:** APPOINT CINTHIA SANDOVAL TO THE COMMERCIAL SEAT ON THE INFORMATION AND EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL.

**MOTION #5:** APPOINT FELTON JENKINS TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY PANEL.

**MOTION #6:** READVERTISE THE COMMERCIAL SEAT ON THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY PANEL.

**MOTION #7:** CREATE A COBIA SUB-PANEL FOR THE MACKEREL COBIA ADVISORY PANEL AND INCLUDE ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM EACH SOUTH ATLANTIC STATE AND VIRGINIA.

**MOTION #8:** APPOINT WES BLOW TO THE VIRGINIA SEAT ON THE COBIA SUB-PANEL.



**MOTION #9:** APPOINT BILL GORHAM TO THE NORTH CAROLINA SEAT ON THE COBIA SUB-PANEL.

**MOTION #10:** APPOINT HOWARD ELLIS, JR. TO THE SOUTH CAROLINA SEAT ON THE COBIA SUB-PANEL.

**MOTION #11:** APPOINT BILL WEEKS TO THE GEORGIA SEAT ON THE COBIA SUBPANEL.

**MOTION #12:** READVERTISE THE FLORIDA SEAT FOR THE COBIA SUBPANEL.

**MOTION #13:** APPOINT STEPHEN DONALSON TO THE MACKEREL COBIA ADVISORY PANEL.

**MOTION #14:** READVERTISE THE NGO SEAT AND TWO OPEN SEATS ON THE MACKEREL COBIA ADVISORY PANEL.

**MOTION #15:** APPOINT STEVE SHELLEY, WILEY COPPERSMITH, MICHAEL SCHMIDTKE, AND CAPTAIN AARON KELLY TO THE SEDAR POOL.

**MOTION #16:** READVERTISE FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA OPEN SEAT ON THE SNAPPER GROUPER ADVISORY PANEL.

**SSC SELECTION**

**MOTION #1.** Move to make the term of the additional seat one year for this initial appointment.

**MOTION #2.** Move to re-advertise the SSC vacancy once a conflict of interest policy is developed, and reconsider the appointment at the June meeting.

**SEDAR**

**SEDAR Assessment Priorities**

**MOTION #1:** Move to delay Cobia until 2019 data can be included, and prioritize Gag for 2018.

**DATA COLLECTION**

**MOTION #1:** Move to change the name of CEBA 3 to “Bycatch Reporting Amendment”.

**TIMING AND TASKS MOTION**

**MOTION #2:** Move to direct staff to prepare the for-hire electronic reporting amendment for final approval in December 2016.

## **HABITAT AND ECOSYSTEM**

### **TIMING AND TASK MOTION:**

1. Council guidance will be addressed in developing draft EFH Policy Statements for South Atlantic Food Web and Connectivity and South Atlantic Climate Variability and Fisheries. The Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Advisory Panel will complete a draft during the November meeting for Council consideration during the December Meeting.
2. Staff will coordinate with FEP II writing team/policy development teams supporting the Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel development of draft EFH Policy Statements for review at the December Council Meeting.
3. Staff will continue to coordinate with regional ocean observing partners to advance integration of oceanographic information with fisheries information.

## **EXECUTIVE FINANCE**

**MOTION #1: APPROVE THE STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**MOTION #2: APPROVE THE REGIONAL OPERATING AGREEMENT**

**MOTION #3: COUNCIL WRITE AN OPEN LETTER TO NOAA OUTLINING THE CUMULATIVE IMPACT OF SPECIES-SPECIFIC ESTIMATES OF UNUSUALLY LARGE/SMALL MRIP LANDINGS AND THE IMPACTS ON THE COUNCIL PROCESS**

- INTENT TO BRING BACK IN DECEMBER FOR REVIEW
- INTENT TO INCLUDE LANDINGS AND DISCARDS

**MOTION #4: ACCEPT THE TIMING AND TASK MOTION: DIRECT STAFF TO DO THE FOLLOWING:**

- A. THE REVISED 2016 PRIORITIES
- B. REVISE AND DISTRIBUTE THE APPROVED PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES
- C. PREPARE THE WEBINAR MEETING GUIDELINES FOR REVIEW AT THE DECEMBER 2016 MEETING.
- D. PREPARE THE DRAFT LETTER FOR REVIEW AT THE DECEMBER 2016 MEETING.

## **ADDITIONAL COUNCIL MOTION(S)**

**MOTION #1: THE COUNCIL SEND A LETTER TO NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE REQUESTING THAT THE SERVICE MAKE THE NECESSARY REQUEST WITHIN NOAA TO HAVE SAFMC MANAGED AREAS (DEEPWATER MPAs, CORAL HAPCs) INCLUDED ON NOAA NAUTICAL CHARTS.**