

**SUMMARY REPORT
FROM THE LIMITED ACCESS PRIVILEGE PROGRAM EXPLORATORY
WORKGROUP MEETING
Charleston, SC
April 24-26, 2007**

The Limited Access Privilege Program Exploratory Workgroup met April 24-26 in Charleston, SC. **The committee received presentations from the following people:**

1. Kate Quigley gave a presentation titled, "What are LAPs and How Do They Work?" The presentation gave an overview of common LAP terminology, and touched on when, where, why, and how LAPs are commonly used.
2. Gregg Waugh gave a presentation that provided an overview of the snapper grouper amendments currently under consideration by the Council.
3. Kate Quigley gave another presentation titled, "Summary of the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and Limited Access Privileges (LAPs)". The presentation reviewed the language used in the reauthorized MSA pertaining to LAPs focusing on Council requirements when implementing an LAP.
4. Dietmar Grimm of Redstone Consulting Strategies gave a presentation titled, "LAP 101: Background Information on U.S. LAP Experience". The presentation provided the results of a study conducted by the consulting group. The study analyzed economic, environmental, and social results in ten existing U.S. federal LAPPs and Canadian LAPPs that share stocks with the U.S. LAPPs.
5. John Reed, NMFS staff and LAPP Workgroup member, provided an overview of the Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Fishery ITQ including a detailed look at the web based online program used by Gulf red snapper fishermen to track real time landings and make quota and pounds transfers.
6. Kate Quigley provided an overview of the British Columbia Groundfish ITQ Program with focus on the hook and line sector in that fishery.
7. Gregg Waugh gave an overview of the Southeast Wreckfish IFQ. This presentation reviewed Amendment 5 as well as provided information on past transfers and changes in total landings and participation over time.
8. Gregg Waugh also gave an overview of the long-term commercial yields that could be expected from several snapper grouper species. This information was based on information presented in snapper grouper Amendment 15.

The committee reviewed the Action Plan for Consideration of Limited Access Privileges for the South Atlantic Commercial Snapper Grouper Fishery including background information on the formation of the LAP Program Exploratory Workgroup and a summary of why an LAP Program is being considered for the South Atlantic commercial snapper grouper fishery.

The committee approved the following recommendations:

Recommendation #1. The LAP Exploratory Workgroup recommends to the LAP Program Committee that this group look at other options in addition to limited access privileges. The LAP Workgroup requests a response to this recommendation from the LAP Program Committee. This was a unanimous recommendation.

Approved by Workgroup

Recommendation #2. The LAP Program Exploratory Workgroup recommends Ben Hartig as Chair of the Workgroup. This was a unanimous recommendation.

Approved by Workgroup

Recommendation #3. The LAPP Program Exploratory Workgroup recommends Chops Cowdrey as Co-chair of the Workgroup. This was a unanimous recommendation.

Approved by Workgroup

In addition, the Workgroup made the following requests to Council staff:

1. Obtain copies of John Reed's and Dietmar Grimm's presentations and send to the Workgroup.
2. Gather more information on "regional fishery associations (RFAs)" and "community quota".
3. Prepare a detailed presentation on the use of cooperatives and RFAs for a future meeting.
4. Gather more information on whether leasing quota share for profit is legal.
5. Send Wreckfish Amendment 5 to workgroup.
6. Update log book data analysis and separate out snapper grouper unlimited and limited permits to show SG unlimited and limited permits engaged in active harvest.
7. Obtain NMFS LAP guidance document and distribute to workgroup.
8. Prepare side by side program design comparison tables for Wreckfish IFQ, Red Snapper IFQ, and Gulf Grouper IFQ.
9. Prepare commercial long-term optimal yield tables for snowy grouper, black sea bass, golden tile fish, vermilion snapper, red porgy, gag, and yellow tail with historical landings information for red snapper, greater amber jack, mutton snapper, hog fish, and mangrove snapper.
10. Make journal articles and FMPs specific to various IFQ programs available to workgroup online or in briefing book.