

GAP Analysis Summary:
Issues from port meetings not addressed by Council to date

Commercial:

- Train dealers on new weekly reporting requirements and forms
- Allow for 3rd party review of stock assessments & aim for real time assessments
- Use underwater cameras on vessels to collect data on fish/fishing activity
- Give credits towards the Annual Catch Limit for the use of descending devices
- Implement a 12-inch minimum size limit on red porgy
- Address latent commercial effort in the fishery to determine true capacity of the fishery.
- Address and consider the value of owner-operators when making management decisions.
- Address methods and eligibility requirements for allowing new entrants to the fishery; specifically the endorsement programs for black sea bass and golden tilefish; no new endorsement programs
- *Separate the Jacks complex and implement individual species level Annual Catch Limits for these species
- **Consider limited harvest of goliath grouper (1 fish per boat during certain times of the year; harvest tags, etc.)
- Mixed opinions on catch share programs; majority in opposition to catch shares.
- Develop separate joint agreements between federal and state management agencies for regional management.
- Consider sunset clauses on closed areas (MPAs, etc.)
- No new MPAs

** Being addressed through another management action by the Council.*

***Being addressed by the Joint South Florida Issues Committee*

Recreational:

- Use underwater cameras on vessels to collect data on fish/fishing activity
- Develop joint agreements with the states for data improvements (similar to the Joint Enforcement Agreements currently in place for law enforcement).
- Create complex-specific permits for recreational (and for-hire) sectors based on the HMS model -- This would help identify users fishing for snapper grouper resources.
- Black sea bass management – size limits and bag limits need to be readdressed.
- Increase the recreational minimum size limit for lane snapper to 10-inches.
- Increase the recreational minimum size limit for mangrove snapper (gray) to 12-inches.
- Use a slot limit for mutton snapper (no recommendation on range for slot).
- Implement a recreational bag limit of 5 fish per species across all species.
- **Address size limit for hogfish

- Allow limited harvest of goliath grouper; slot limit; harvest tags through lottery system; open fishery when shallow-water groupers are closed
- Mixed opinions on catch share programs; majority in opposition to catch shares.
- Regional stock assessments on economically important species.
- SC: Allow the state to manage certain species (black sea bass and red snapper) for the recreational sector.
- Regional stakeholder meetings with forecasting during meetings (similar to format of port meetings); Ask each stakeholder what is happening in each area at these meetings – also goes under incorporating fishermen’s knowledge into data collection

***Being addressed by the Joint South Florida Issues Committee*

For-Hire:

- Create complex-specific permits for the for-hire sector based on the HMS model -- This would help identify users fishing for snapper grouper resources.
- Improve recreational discard estimates headboat vs. charter/for-hire vs. private recreational
- Mixed opinions on catch share programs; majority in opposition to catch shares.
- No new MPAs

Chefs:

- Develop a “one-stop shop” for chefs/consumers to access region by region information on available quota, fishery openings and closures.
- More representation of this sector in Council advisory panels, activities, and outreach programs.