

2.1.1 Action 7: Specify Accountability Measures (AMs)/Annual Catch Targets (ACTs) for species in the Snapper Grouper FMU

[Note: IPT recommends the following change in language in the Alternatives.]

Alternative 1 (No Action). Do not specify **new of modify current** AMs for ~~species or species groups in the Snapper Grouper FMU that do not have them.~~ The following species:

Yellowedge grouper	Blueline tilefish	Silk snapper	Almaco jack	Banded rudderfish	Lesser amberjack
Gray snapper	Lane snapper	Cubera snapper	Whitebone porgy	Knobbed porgy	Jolthead porgy
Red hind	Rock hind	Tomtate	White grunt	Atlantic spadefish	Greater amberjack
Blue runner	Gray triggerfish	Scamp	Red porgy (rec only)	Hogfish	Yellowtail snapper
Mutton snapper	Red grouper				
Note: This table does not include species that are proposed for removal in an earlier action. Black grouper and wreckfish AMs are included in different actions.					

Commercial

Alternative 2. Specify **individual** Annual Catch Targets (ACT) for ~~the commercial sector, apply ACT to commercial sector AM Alternatives 3 and 4.~~ **the species in the table above.**

Subalternative 2a (Preferred). Do not establish a commercial sector ACT. **NOTE: Should this be moved under No Action?**

Subalternative 2b. ~~The commercial sector~~ **individual** ACT equals 90% of the ~~commercial sector~~ **individual** ACL. **The complex ACT equals 90% of the complex ACL.**

Subalternative 2c. ~~The commercial sector~~ **individual** ACT equals 80% of the ~~commercial sector~~ **individual** ACL. **The complex ACT equals 80% of the complex ACL.**

Alternative 3 (Preferred). For the species in the table above, if an ACL (i.e., individual or complex) is met or is projected to be met, all subsequent purchase and sale is prohibited and harvest and/or possession is limited to the bag limit for the species covered by that ACL. For example, if a complex ACL is met or projected to be met, all purchase and sale of all the species in the complex is prohibited and harvest and/or possession is limited to the bag limit.

Alternative 4 (Preferred). For the species in the table above, if the **individual** ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the ~~commercial sector~~ **individual** ACL in the following season by the amount of the overage. **If the complex ACL is**

exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the complex ACL in the following season by the amount of the overage.

Recreational

Alternative 5. Specify Annual Catch Targets (ACT) for the recreational sector, apply ACT to recreational sector AM Alternatives 6-7, for the species in the table above.

Subalternative 5a. The recreational sector individual ACT equals 85% of the recreational sector individual ACL. The complex ACT equals 85% of the complex ACL.

Subalternative 5b. The recreational sector individual ACT equals 75% of the recreational sector individual ACL. The complex ACT equals 75% of the complex ACT.

Subalternative 5c (Preferred). The recreational sector individual ACT equals sector individual ACL [(1-PSE) or 0.5, whichever is greater]. The complex ACT equals the complex ACL [(1-PSE) or 0.5, whichever is greater].

Alternative 6. For post-season accountability measures, consider smoothing the recreational landings to account for landings that are significantly higher or lower than the mean as a function of the sampling methodology.

Subalternative 6a. For the species in the table above for post-season accountability measures, compare both recreational individual and complex ACLs with recreational landings over a range of years. For 2011, use only 2011 landings. For 2012, use the average landings of 2011 and 2012. For 2013 and beyond, use the most recent three-year running average.

Subalternative 6b. For the species in the table above implement a step-wise process in order to determine if smoothing of landings would occur when comparing recreational landings to the recreational ACLs (both individual and complex ACLs).

1. *Determine if an overage has occurred.* If the lower 90% confidence interval of MRFSS and headboat landings data is greater than the ACL, then an overage has occurred.
2. *Determine if future action is required.* Review the last 5 years of landings. Remove the highest and lowest values from consideration. If the 3 year average is greater than ACL, adjustment is required to prevent further overages in the following year.

OR (Council to determine which at this meeting)

1. *Determine if an overage has occurred.* If the lower 90% confidence interval of MRFSS and headboat landings data is greater than the ACL, then an overage has occurred.
2. *Determine if future action is required.* A technical group of SERO, SAFMC, and SEFSC staff, in addition to a SSC representative, reviews landings trends

and uncertainty measures for estimated landings to determine an appropriate period (one that will not be unduly biased by issues with sampling precision) to use in evaluating current conditions relative to the ACL. If average landings based on the period recommended by the group exceed the ACL, management adjustment is required to prevent further overages.

Alternative 7. Implement AMs if an overage occurs.

Subalternative 6a7. If the recreational sector individual ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the recreational sector individual ACL in the following season by the amount of the overage. If the complex ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the complex ACL in the following season by the amount of the overage.

Subalternative 6b7 (Preferred). If the recreational sector individual ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of the following fishing year by the amount necessary to ensure landings do not exceed the recreational sector individual ACL for the following fishing year season. If the complex ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of the following fishing year by the amount necessary to ensure landings do not exceed the complex ACL for the following fishing season.

Alternative 78. For the species in the table above, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to close the recreational fishery when the individual ACL is projected to be met. The Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to close the recreational fishery for the complex when the complex ACL is projected to be met.

Table 2-xx. Recreational ACTs (lbs whole weight) based on preferred Alternative 4 in Action 3 (species groupings), preferred Alternative 4 in Action 5 (allocations), and preferred Alternative 2 in Action 6 (ACLs and OY). ACTs for wreckfish and black grouper are based on preferred Alternatives 2-3 and preferred Alternative 2 in Actions 9 and 14, respectively. ACT for red grouper based on ACL being proposed in Amendment 24.

<u>Deep-Water Grouper & Tilefish</u>	<u>Rec ACT</u>	<u>Individual ACTs</u>	<u>Rec ACT</u>
<u>Yellowedge Grouper</u>	<u>27,582</u>	<u>Atlantic Spadefish</u>	<u>102,177</u>
<u>Blueline Tilefish</u>		<u>Greater Amberjack</u>	<u>805,400</u>
<u>Silk Snapper</u>		<u>Blue Runner</u>	<u>459,773</u>
<u>Jacks</u>	<u>Rec ACT</u>	<u>Gray Triggerfish</u>	<u>179,726</u>
<u>Almaco Jack</u>	<u>37,176</u>	<u>Snowy Grouper</u>	<u>307 fish</u>
<u>Banded Rudderfish</u>		<u>Golden Tilefish</u>	<u>805 fish</u>
<u>Lesser Amberjack</u>		<u>Warsaw Grouper</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Snappers</u>	<u>Rec ACT</u>	<u>Wreckfish</u>	<u>12,500</u>
<u>Gray Snapper</u>	<u>448,208</u>	<u>Scamp</u>	<u>65,465</u>
<u>Lane Snapper</u>		<u>Gag</u>	<u>328,882</u>

<u>Cubera Snapper</u>		<u>Red Grouper</u>	<u>227,004</u>
<u>Porgies, Grunts, and Hinds</u>	<u>Rec ACT</u>	<u>Goliath Grouper</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Whitebone Porgy</u>	319,941	<u>Nassau Grouper</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Knobbed Porgy</u>		<u>Black Sea Bass</u>	<u>421,906</u>
<u>Jolthead Porgy</u>		<u>Black Grouper</u>	<u>48,234</u>
<u>Red Hind</u>		<u>Speckled Hind</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Rock Hind</u>		<u>Red Porgy</u>	<u>159,228</u>
<u>Tomtate</u>		<u>Hogfish</u>	<u>45,168</u>
<u>White Grunt</u>		<u>Yellowtail Snapper</u>	<u>708,672</u>
		<u>Mutton Snapper</u>	<u>682,172</u>
		<u>Red Snapper</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>Vermilion Snapper</u>	<u>288,929</u>	

Source: Average PSE's from MRFSS (2005-2009).