SUMMARY REPORT
ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
St. Simon's Island, GA
March 5, 2013

The Ecosystem-Based Committee met on Tuesday, March 5th, 2013 in St. Simon's Island, GA. The Committee received an update on development of Coral Amendment 8 and anticipated timing for integration of updated Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) information into the analysis. Advisory Panel (AP) meetings have been scheduled for April and May 2013 and relevant APs will review an updated Coral Amendment 8 and provide final input to the Council prior to the June 2013 Council meeting. The Committee was presented with a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has been developed in conjunction with the New England and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Councils. The intent of the MOU is to coordinate management efforts, foster continuity and sharing of information between Atlantic Councils in the conservation of deepwater coral resources. The South Atlantic Council's role in the MOU is to serve in an advisory capacity on past experiences and lessons learned with management of deepwater coral resources. The Committee also received an update on ecosystem activities in the region.

The Ecosystem-Based Management Committee developed the following motion in discussion of the Coral Memorandum of Understanding document:

MOTION #1: ENDORSE THE CORAL MOU AND RECOMMEND TO THE COUNCIL THEY CONSIDER APPROVAL DURING FULL COUNCIL CONTINGENT UPON LEGAL COUNSEL EDITS
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

<u>Timing and Task</u>
MOTION #2: ADOPT THE TIMING AND TASK ITEMS
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

1. Council staff will finalize and incorporate the VMS data representative of the rock shrimp fishery from 2003-2006 into the analysis in Coral Amendment 8.

2. Relevant APs will review updated analysis and modifications to Coral Amendment 8 during April-May 2013 meetings. (A joint AP meeting session has been scheduled with the Coral and Habitat APs for May 8th in Charleston, SC; Chairs of the Law Enforcement, Snapper Grouper, and Deepwater Shrimp APs are also asked to participate in the joint session.)

3. Pending Full Council approval of the Coral MOU, staff will finalize and submit the MOU to the New England and Mid-Atlantic Councils for approval.