



# Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

*Managing Fishery Resources in the U.S. Federal Waters of the Gulf of Mexico*

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February 23, 2011

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Mr. Bob Mahood  
Executive Director  
South Atlantic Fishery Management Council  
4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201  
North Charleston, SC 29405

Dear Mr. Mahood:

At its April 12-15, 2010 meeting, the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Council) considered the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (SAFMC) recommendation to retain little tunny in the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Fishery Management Plan as an option under Amendment 18, currently under development. Although the Council has no desire to manage little tunny in the Gulf at this time, we are supportive of the SAFMC if it wishes to move forward with management in the Atlantic. However, the Council discussed another option that would allow management in the Atlantic and following that discussion, the Council voted to request that the South Atlantic Council consider adding little tunny to their dolphin/wahoo plan and that it be removed from the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Plan.

We look forward to continuing our work with you on Amendment 18. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Dr. Leard at the Council office.

Sincerely,

Robert Shipp, Ph.D.  
Chairman

RS:RLL:tk

c: Gulf Council  
Gregg Waugh  
Phil Steele

Steve Branstetter  
Jack McGovern  
Technical Staff