Regulatory Amendment 13

to the Fishery Management Plan for the
Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region

SUMMARY FOR THE SNAPPER GROUPEIR ADVISORY PANEL

Revision of Acceptable Biological Catches, Annual Catch Limits (ACLs, including Sector ACLs), Allocations, and Annual Catch Targets

October 2012

Environmental Assessment Regulatory Impact Review Fishery Impact Statement
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Abbreviations and Acronyms Used in the FMP

ABC	acceptable biological catch
ACL	annual catch limits
AM	accountability measures
ACT	annual catch target
B	a measure of stock biomass in either weight or other appropriate unit
B_{MSY}	the stock biomass expected to exist under equilibrium conditions when fishing at F_{MSY}
B_{OY}	the stock biomass expected to exist under equilibrium conditions when fishing at F_{OY}
B_{CURR}	The current stock biomass
CPUE	catch per unit effort
DEIS	draft environmental impact statement
EA	environmental assessment
EEZ	exclusive economic zone
EFH	essential fish habitat
F	a measure of the instantaneous rate of fishing mortality
$F_{30\%SPR}$	fishing mortality that will produce a static SPR = 30%
F_{CURR}	the current instantaneous rate of fishing mortality
F_{MSY}	the rate of fishing mortality expected to achieve MSY under equilibrium conditions and a corresponding biomass of B_{MSY}
F_{OY}	the rate of fishing mortality expected to achieve OY under equilibrium conditions and a corresponding biomass of B_{OY}
FEIS	final environmental impact statement
FMP	fishery management plan
FMU	fishery management unit
M	natural mortality rate
MARMAP	Marine Resources Monitoring Assessment and Prediction Program
MFMT	maximum fishing mortality threshold
MMPA	Marine Mammal Protection Act
MRFSS	Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey
MRIP	Marine Recreational Information Program
MSFCMA	Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
MSST	minimum stock size threshold
MSY	maximum sustainable yield
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OFL	overfishing limit
OY	optimum yield
RIR	regulatory impact review
SAMFC	South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
SEDAR	Southeast Data Assessment and Review
SEFSC	Southeast Fisheries Science Center
SERO	Southeast Regional Office
SIA	social impact assessment
SPR	spawning potential ratio
SSC	Scientific and Statistical Committee

Regulatory Amendment 13 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region with Environmental Assessment, Regulatory Impact Review, and Fishery Impact Statement

Proposed action:	Revise acceptable biological catches, annual catch limits (ACLs, including sector ACLs), allocations, and annual catch targets for select un-assessed species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit.
Lead agency:	FMP Amendment – South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Environmental Assessment – National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) Southeast Regional Office
For Further Information Contact:	Robert K. Mahood South Atlantic Fishery Management Council 4055 Faber Place, Suite 201 North Charleston, SC 29405 843-571-4366 866-SAFMC-10 Robert.Mahood@safmc.net Phil Steele NMFS, Southeast Region 263 13th Avenue South St. Petersburg, FL 33701 727-824-5301 Phil.Steele@noaa.gov

Summary

The Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit (ACL) Amendment included Amendment 25 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (Snapper Grouper FMP). The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (South Atlantic Council) approved the amendment at the September 2011 meeting, and the final rule for the Comprehensive ACL Amendment published on March 16, 2012 (77 FR 15916) and was implemented on April 16, 2012. As part of this final rule, acceptable biological catches (ABCs), ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, annual catch targets (ACTs), and accountability measures (AMs) were established for species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit (FMU). Recreational catch estimates in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment were computed using data generated by the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS). Following an independent review by the National Research Council and a mandate from Congress, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has overhauled MRFSS. The Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) was developed to provide more accurate recreational catch estimates by accounting for potential biases such as possible differences in catch rates at high-activity and low-activity fishing sites, as well as the amount of fishing occurring at different parts of the day. MRIP methods have been used to recalculate previous MRFSS estimates dating back to 2004, and will be the basis for all new recreational catch estimates moving forward. In addition to MRIP data, ACLs will be updated to include revisions to commercial and for-hire landings. The changes in data impact the allocations to the commercial and recreational sectors because the underlying formula used to establish the allocations remains unchanged from what was implemented previously in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment.

The South Atlantic Council stated in **Section 1.4** of the Comprehensive ACL Amendment that necessary changes to the ABCs, ACLs, ACTs, and AMs for snapper grouper species would be made through the framework procedure modified through Amendment 17B to the Snapper Grouper FMP, which is a more rapid process than a plan amendment. If the ABC, ACL, and ACT values are not updated with the new MRIP estimates, there could be a disjunction between the ACLs, and the landings used to evaluate current conditions to determine if ACLs are met and AMs are triggered. Furthermore, correction of estimates prior to 2004 will also be considered in the future. In June 2012, the South Atlantic Council passed a motion to update the ACLs (including sector ACLs) and ACTs in a framework action.

Regulatory Amendment 13 to the Snapper Grouper FMP (Regulatory Amendment 13) revises the ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs for select un-assessed species in the snapper grouper FMU, and reflects the intent of the South Atlantic Council. Updates will include data through 2008 since that was the last year included in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment. Additionally, species in the snapper grouper FMU with stock assessments (including those in Amendments 17A and 17B to the Snapper Grouper FMP); species with ABC=0 landings; and those species not utilizing a

formula to calculate their ABC in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment are excluded from Regulatory Amendment 13.

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Chapter 1.
Introduction

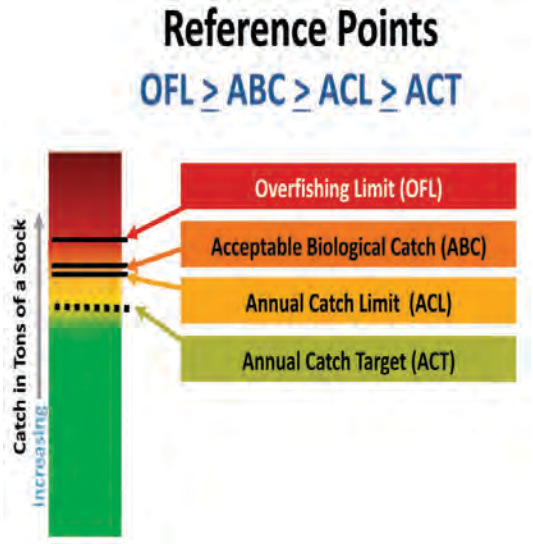
1.1 What Actions Are Being Proposed?

Revisions to ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs implemented through the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit (ACL) Amendment (SAFMC 2011c) for select un-assessed species in the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (Snapper Grouper FMP), such as their:

- acceptable biological catches (ABC);
- annual catch limits (ACLs), including sector ACLs;
- allocations; and
- annual catch targets (ACT).

1.2 Who is Proposing the Actions?

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (South Atlantic Council) is proposing the actions. The South Atlantic Council develops the plans/amendments/regulations and submits them to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) who ultimately approves, disapproves, or partially approves the actions in the amendment on behalf of the Secretary of Commerce. NMFS is an agency in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.



South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

- Responsible for conservation and management of fish stocks
- Consists of 13 voting members who are appointed by the Secretary of Commerce and 4 non-voting members
- Management area is from 3 to 200 mi off the coasts of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida through the Atlantic side of Key West
- Develops management plans/amendments and recommends regulations to NMFS for implementation

1.3 Why is the South Atlantic Council Considering Action?

Recreational catch estimates in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c) were computed using data generated by the Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS). Following an independent review by the National Research Council and a mandate from Congress, NMFS has overhauled MRFSS. The Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) was developed to provide more accurate recreational catch estimates. The South Atlantic Council stated in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment that they would take action as needed, via plan amendment or framework amendment, to revise the appropriate values as needed, in 2012 and beyond. MRIP methods have been used to recalculate previous MRFSS estimates dating back to 2004, and will be the basis for all new estimates moving forward.

The revisions are necessary because if the ABC, ACL (including sector ACL), allocation, and ACT values are not updated using the new data, there could be a disjunction between the ACLs and the landings used to determine if ACLs are met and accountability measures (AMs) are triggered. In addition to MRIP data, ACLs will be updated to include revisions to commercial and for-hire landings. The changes in data impact the allocations to the commercial and recreational sectors because the underlying formula used to establish the allocations (Boyles Law) remains unchanged from what was implemented previously in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment.

Purpose for Action

The purpose of Regulatory Amendment 13 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (Regulatory Amendment 13) is to revise the ABC, ACLs, allocations, and ACTs implemented by the Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c). The revisions may prevent a disjunction between the established ACLs and the landings that would be used to determine if AMs are triggered.

Need for Action

To prevent unnecessary negative socio-economic impacts that may otherwise be realized in the snapper grouper fishery and fishing community, in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

1.4 Which species are affected by this action?

37 species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit (FMU), including 31 species in 6 species complexes, and 6 individual species are included in Regulatory Amendment 13 (**Table 1-1**). These species do not have stock assessments; ABC > 0; and their ABC was specified using a formula (3rd highest landings 1999-2008 or median landings 1999-2008).

Deepwater Complex
Yellowedge grouper
Blueline tilefish
Silk Snapper
Misty grouper
Sand tilefish
Queen snapper
Black snapper
Blackfin snapper
Jacks Complex
Almaco jack
Banded rudderfish
Lesser amberjack
Snappers Complex
Gray snapper
Lane snapper
Cubera snapper
Dog snapper
Mahogany snapper
Grunts Complex
White grunt*
Sailors choice
Tomtate
Margate
Shallow-Water Groupers Complex
Red hind
Rock hind
Yellowmouth grouper
Yellowfin grouper
Coney
Graysby
Porgies Complex
Jolthead porgy
Knobbed porgy
Saucereye porgy
Scup
Whitebone porgy
Individual Species
Atlantic spadefish
Blue runner
Bar jack
Gray triggerfish**
Scamp
Hogfish

*White Grunt includes unclassified grunts because only one state identifies white grunt to the species level. **Includes unclassified triggerfishes because commercial landings of gray triggerfish are not identified to the species level.
Note: Nassau grouper, goliath grouper, speckled hind, and Warsaw grouper are not included since their ABC = 0.

Table 1-1. List of un-assessed snapper grouper species for which ABC, ACLs (including sector ACLs), and ACTs would be revised.

17 species in the snapper grouper FMU with stock assessments (including those in Amendments 17A and 17B to the Snapper Grouper FMP); species with ABC=0 landings; and those species not utilizing a formula to calculate their ABC in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment are excluded from Regulatory Amendment 13 (**Table 1-2**). The MRIP calibration workshop (**Appendices C** and **D**) recommended that assessed species be handled separately, and that the adjustments to the landings data be made during assessment updates/revisions. ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs for the 17 species in **Table 1-2** will be revised in future amendments (or regulatory notices) to the Snapper Grouper FMP. Also excluded are 6 ecosystem component species (EC), which are exempt from the requirement of establishing ACLs. The EC species are: Schoolmaster, Cottonwick, Longspine porgy, Ocean triggerfish, Bank sea bass, and Rock sea bass.

Table 1-2. List of species for which ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), and ACTs would ***not*** be revised in Regulatory Amendment 13.

Species
Red snapper
Black sea bass
Gag
Golden tilefish
Snowy grouper
Red porgy
Vermilion snapper
Greater amberjack
Yellowtail snapper
Mutton snapper
Black grouper
Red grouper
Nassau grouper
Goliath grouper
Speckled hind
Warsaw grouper
Wreckfish

1.5 What are the data sources considered in this amendment?

The Comprehensive ACL Amendment and related Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) discussions established preferred methods for the computation of ABC, allocations of ABC to sectors for the establishment of sector ACLs, and recreational ACTs. The Comprehensive ACL Amendment contained computations of these values using the 15 Sept 2010 Recreational ACL Data and the 8 Oct 2010 Commercial ACL Data, both provided by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC). The commercial ACL dataset provided additional quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) on commercial data obtained from the Accumulated Landings System, which assimilates landings data obtained from dealer-reporting and assigns catch to region based on fisher-reported catch area. The recreational ACL dataset provided additional QA/QC on recreational catch data reported by the SEFSC Headboat Survey (HBS) and MRFSS. One of the major features of this QA/QC is that the MRFSS survey periodically provides no poundage for landings estimates for fish if there is insufficient biological sampling; whereas the SEFSC methodology backfills these gaps using statistically-robust weight estimation methods.

Since the implementation of the Comprehensive ACL Amendment, there have been substantial improvements in the data collection and catch estimation methodologies that are used to generate the data for the computation of ABCs, allocations, ACLs, and ACTs.

Regulatory Amendment 13 presents ABCs, allocations, ACLs, and ACTs computed using methods identical to those used in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment to update these management parameters with the data that will be used to monitor ACLs in the future. The same computational methodologies are used so that the new values reflect the South Atlantic Council and SSC's intent as specified in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment. All changes are due to improvements in the underlying data only.

The first updated data is referred to as the "New MRFSS & Commercial" data; this contains updated HBS and MRFSS data (1986-2008) and updated commercial data (1986-2008). The 30 Aug 2012 Recreational ACL Data and the 3 July 2012 Commercial Data were used to generate this combined data. In addition to minor revisions of historical catch data generated by removal of duplicate records and other QA/QC activities, this data features two major differences from the data used in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment: (1) An updated weight backfill procedure that is more statistically robust and (2) an improved charter calibration method for MRFSS (1986-2004) data (see SEDAR-25 Data Workshop Report 2011 for details). The updated ABCs, allocations, ACLs, and ACTs computed from this data are shown simply to facilitate a more direct comparison with the impacts of switching from MRFSS-based to MRIP-based recreational data.

The final data, referred to herein as the "MRIP & New Commercial" data, replaces the MRFSS-based recreational data with MRIP-based recreational data. This is the data that will be used in Regulatory Amendment 13 to generate the final ABC, allocation, ACL, and ACT values. This data is based upon the 3 July 2012 Commercial ACL Data and the 1 Oct 2012 Recreational ACL Data. The updated recreational ACL dataset contains MRIP official re-estimates (2004-2008) and recalibrated MRFSS data (1986-2003). The MRIP process was begun in 2004 to address issues identified by the National Research Council (NRC) in the existing MRFSS program. The goal of MRIP is to provide more detailed, timely, and reliable estimates of marine recreational fishing catch and effort. One step in this process was to take old MRFSS data (2004-2011) and re-estimate it using MRIP methods that remove sources of bias identified by the NRC. Using these official MRIP estimates, the Southeast Regional MRIP

Recalibration Working Group developed recalibration methods to address regional needs, following the procedures recommended by the MRIP Ad-Hoc Working Group (Salz et al. 2012). The MRFSS data (1986-2003) is recalibrated to be more appropriately scaled to MRIP using a ratio of means at the stock, sub-region, and mode level (when available), based upon the MRFSS (2004-2011) and MRIP (2004-2011) data. These ratios were then applied at each stratum (stock, sub-region, year, wave, state, mode, and area) to the catches to develop the recalibrated MRFSS dataset.

Chapter 2. Proposed Action

2.1 List of Alternatives

2.1.1 Action 1: Revise the acceptable biological catches (ABCs), annual catch limits (ACLs, including sector ACLs), allocations, and annual catch targets (ACTs) for select un-assessed species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit (FMU).

Alternative 1. No action. Do not revise ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs for select un-assessed species in the snapper grouper FMU. Data will not be updated and corrected with data from Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP), commercial, and for-hire landings.

Alternative 2. Revise the ABCs, ACLs, (including sector ACLs), allocations and ACTs for select un-assessed species in the snapper grouper FMU. Data will be updated with data from MRIP, commercial, and for-hire landings.

Table 2-1. Acceptable biological catch (ABC) in pounds (lbs) whole weight (ww), for 37 un-assessed snapper grouper species implemented by the Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c). Also shown are ABC values following identical computational methods using two updated data sources: (1) "New MRFSS & Commercial"- updated MRFSS data (1986-2008) and updated commercial data (1986-2008); and (2) "MRIP & New Commercial"- MRIP official re-estimates (2004-2008), recalibrated MRFSS data (1986-2003), and updated commercial data (1986-2008).

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	ABC (lbs ww)			DIFFERENCE FROM COMP ACL AM (lbs ww (%))	
	Comprehensive ACL Amendment	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial
DEEPWATER	**675,908**	**707,030**	**711,025**	**31,123 (4.60%)**	**35,118 (5.20%)**
Yellowedge grouper	30,221	30,221	30,221	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
Blueline tilefish	592,602	624,028	631,341	31,426 (5.30%)	38,739 (6.54%)
Silk Snapper	27,519	27,529	25,104	10 (0.04%)	-2,415 (-8.77%)
Misty grouper	2,863	2,863	2,863	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
Sand tilefish	8,823	8,521	7,983	-302 (-3.43%)	-840 (-9.52%)
Queen snapper	9,344	9,306	9,466	-37 (-0.40%)	123 (1.31%)
Black snapper	382	382	382	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
Blackfin snapper	4,154	4,181	3,665	27 (0.65%)	-489 (-11.77%)
JACKS	**455,489**	**449,739**	**457,221**	**-5,750 (-1.26%)**	**1,732 (0.38%)**
Almaco jack	291,922	286,196	302,517	-5,726 (-1.96%)	10,595 (3.63%)
Banded rudderfish	152,999	152,966	145,434	-33 (-0.02%)	-7,565 (-4.94%)
Lesser amberjack	10,568	10,577	9,270	9 (0.09%)	-1,298 (-12.28%)
SNAPPERS	**1,086,940**	**1,085,914**	**944,239**	**-1,026 (-0.09%)**	**-142,700 (-13.13%)**
Gray snapper	894,019	893,161	795,743	-858 (-0.10%)	-98,276 (-10.99%)
Lane snapper	153,466	153,466	119,984	0 (0.00%)	-33,482 (-21.82%)
Cubera snapper	31,772	31,602	24,680	-170 (-0.53%)	-7,092 (-22.32%)
Dog snapper	7,523	7,525	3,285	2 (0.03%)	-4,237 (-56.33%)
Mahogany snapper	160	160	548	0 (0.00%)	388 (242.43%)
GRUNTS	**776,774**	**805,874**	**806,652**	**29,099 (3.75%)**	**29,878 (3.85%)**
White grunt	635,899	663,390	674,033	27,491 (4.32%)	38,134 (6.00%)

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	ABC (lbs ww)			DIFFERENCE FROM COMP ACL AM (lbs ww (%))	
	Comprehensive ACL Amendment	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial
Sailors choice	35,266	36,920	22,674	1,655 (4.69%)	-12,592 (-35.71%)
Tomtate	70,948	70,948	80,056	0 (0.00%)	9,109 (12.84%)
Margate	34,662	34,616	29,889	-46 (-0.13%)	-4,773 (-13.77%)
SHALLOW WATER GROUPERS	**97,817**	**97,745**	**96,432**	**-73 (-0.07%)**	**-1,386 (-1.42%)**
Red hind	25,885	25,875	24,867	-10 (-0.04%)	-1,018 (-3.93%)
Rock hind	37,569	37,577	37,953	8 (0.02%)	384 (1.02%)
Yellowmouth grouper	4,661	4,692	4,040	31 (0.66%)	-621 (-13.33%)
Yellowfin grouper	9,258	9,258	9,258	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)
Coney	2,589	2,584	2,718	-4 (-0.16%)	129 (4.98%)
Graysby	17,856	17,757	17,597	-98 (-0.55%)	-258 (-1.45%)
PORGIES	**147,614**	**150,041**	**143,263**	**2,428 (1.64%)**	**-4,351 (-2.95%)**
Jolthead porgy	42,533	42,533	37,885	0 (0.00%)	-4,647 (-10.93%)
Knobbed porgy	61,194	64,130	67,441	2,936 (4.80%)	6,248 (10.21%)
Saucereye porgy	4,205	3,710	3,606	-495 (-11.78%)	-599 (-14.25%)
Scup	8,999	8,999	9,306	0 (0.00%)	308 (3.42%)
Whitebone porgy	30,684	30,671	25,024	-13 (-0.04%)	-5,660 (-18.45%)
INDIVIDUAL STOCKS					
Atlantic spadefish	282,841	283,177	189,460	336 (0.12%)	-93,381 (-33.02%)
Blue runner	1,289,941	1,288,716	1,125,729	-1,225 (-0.09%)	-164,212 (-12.73%)
Bar jack	20,520	19,684	24,780	-836 (-4.07%)	4,260 (20.76%)
Gray triggerfish	672,565	672,565	626,518	0 (0.00%)	-46,047 (-6.85%)
Scamp	492,572	499,255	509,788	6,683 (1.36%)	17,216 (3.50%)
Hogfish	147,638	147,971	134,824	333 (0.23%)	-12,814 (-8.68%)

Note: Updated MRFSS data incorporate changes in SEFSC's weight back-fill procedure and changes in charter mode calibration approaches presented in SEDAR-25 DW. Recalibrated MRFSS landings are scaled to MRIP as described by SEDAR-31 DW.

Table 2-2. Percent allocations for 37 un-assessed snapper grouper species implemented by the Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c). Also shown are percent allocation values following identical computational methods using two updated data sources: (1) "New MRFSS & Commercial"- updated MRFSS data (1986-2008) and updated commercial data (1986-2008); and, (2) "MRIP & New Commercial"- MRIP official re-estimates (2004-2008), recalibrated MRFSS data (1986-2003), and updated commercial data (1986-2008). Differences from Comprehensive ACL Amendment values are also shown.

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	COMMERCIAL ALLOCATIONS			RECREATIONAL ALLOCATIONS			DIFFERENCE: COMMERCIAL		DIFFERENCE: RECREATIONAL	
	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm
DEEPWATER										
Yellowedge grouper	96.19%	96.49%	90.77%	3.81%	3.51%	9.23%	0.30%	-5.42%	-0.30%	5.42%
Blueline tilefish	47.39%	47.30%	50.07%	52.61%	52.70%	49.93%	-0.09%	2.68%	0.09%	-2.68%
Silk Snapper	73.14%	73.13%	73.95%	26.86%	26.87%	26.05%	-0.02%	0.80%	0.02%	-0.80%
Misty grouper	70.91%	70.89%	83.42%	29.09%	29.11%	16.58%	-0.02%	12.51%	0.02%	-12.51%
Sand tilefish	16.22%	16.63%	22.17%	83.78%	83.37%	77.83%	0.41%	5.95%	-0.41%	-5.95%
Queen snapper	93.12%	93.75%	92.50%	6.88%	6.25%	7.50%	0.64%	-0.62%	-0.64%	0.62%
Black snapper	91.52%	93.01%	95.92%	8.48%	6.99%	4.08%	1.49%	4.40%	-1.49%	-4.40%
Blackfin snapper	31.68%	31.11%	29.91%	68.32%	68.89%	70.09%	-0.57%	-1.77%	0.57%	1.77%
JACKS										
Almaco jack	51.53%	51.54%	48.70%	48.47%	48.46%	51.30%	0.01%	-2.84%	-0.01%	2.84%
Banded rudderfish	25.25%	25.36%	26.01%	74.75%	74.64%	73.99%	0.11%	0.76%	-0.11%	-0.76%
Lesser amberjack	46.62%	46.94%	46.07%	53.38%	53.06%	53.93%	0.32%	-0.55%	-0.32%	0.55%
SNAPPERS										
Gray snapper	20.00%	19.99%	24.23%	80.00%	80.01%	75.77%	-0.01%	4.23%	0.01%	-4.23%
Lane snapper	12.21%	12.23%	14.75%	87.79%	87.77%	85.25%	0.01%	2.53%	-0.01%	-2.53%
Cubera snapper	19.75%	19.87%	19.57%	80.25%	80.13%	80.43%	0.12%	-0.18%	-0.12%	0.18%
Dog snapper	9.41%	9.40%	8.31%	90.59%	90.60%	91.69%	-0.01%	-1.10%	0.01%	1.10%
Mahogany snapper	5.05%	7.73%	6.49%	94.95%	92.27%	93.51%	2.69%	1.44%	-2.69%	-1.44%
GRUNTS										

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	COMMERCIAL ALLOCATIONS			RECREATIONAL ALLOCATIONS			DIFFERENCE: COMMERCIAL		DIFFERENCE: RECREATIONAL	
	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm
White grunt	32.67%	32.29%	31.59%	67.33%	67.71%	68.41%	-0.38%	-1.08%	0.38%	1.08%
Sailors choice	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Tomtate	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Margate	19.83%	18.82%	18.88%	80.17%	81.18%	81.12%	-1.01%	-0.95%	1.01%	0.95%
SHALLOW WATER GROUPERS										
Red hind	73.28%	73.19%	73.60%	26.72%	26.81%	26.40%	-0.10%	0.32%	0.10%	-0.32%
Rock hind	62.54%	62.23%	60.90%	37.46%	37.77%	39.10%	-0.30%	-1.63%	0.30%	1.63%
Yellowmouth grouper	1.35%	1.34%	1.10%	98.65%	98.66%	98.90%	-0.01%	-0.25%	0.01%	0.25%
Yellowfin grouper	40.78%	40.84%	52.70%	59.22%	59.16%	47.30%	0.06%	11.92%	-0.06%	-11.92%
Coney	23.26%	23.25%	24.45%	76.74%	76.75%	75.55%	0.00%	1.20%	0.00%	-1.20%
Graysby	14.48%	14.54%	15.74%	85.52%	85.46%	84.26%	0.06%	1.27%	-0.06%	-1.27%
PORGIES										
Jolthead porgy	4.05%	4.04%	4.15%	95.95%	95.96%	95.85%	0.00%	0.10%	0.00%	-0.10%
Knobbed porgy	54.12%	53.27%	51.18%	45.88%	46.73%	48.82%	-0.84%	-2.94%	0.84%	2.94%
Saucereye porgy	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	99.99%	99.99%	99.99%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Scup	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Whitebone porgy	0.96%	0.95%	1.05%	99.04%	99.05%	98.95%	-0.01%	0.09%	0.01%	-0.09%
INDIVIDUAL STOCKS										
Atlantic spadefish	12.90%	12.90%	18.53%	87.10%	87.10%	81.47%	0.00%	5.63%	0.00%	-5.63%
Blue runner	14.60%	14.60%	15.77%	85.40%	85.40%	84.23%	0.00%	1.17%	0.00%	-1.17%
Bar jack	32.58%	31.89%	21.25%	67.42%	68.11%	78.75%	-0.69%	-11.34%	0.69%	11.34%
Gray triggerfish	45.39%	45.24%	43.56%	54.61%	54.76%	56.44%	-0.15%	-1.83%	0.15%	1.83%
Scamp	69.36%	69.25%	65.34%	30.64%	30.75%	34.66%	-0.11%	-4.02%	0.11%	4.02%

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	COMMERCIAL ALLOCATIONS			RECREATIONAL ALLOCATIONS			DIFFERENCE: COMMERCIAL		DIFFERENCE: RECREATIONAL	
	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm
Hogfish	33.03%	32.87%	36.69%	66.97%	67.13%	63.31%	-0.17%	3.66%	0.17%	-3.66%

Table 2-3. Sector annual catch limits (ACLs) in pounds whole weight (lbs ww) for 37 un-assessed snapper grouper species implemented by the Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c). Also shown are sector ACLs following identical computational methods using two updated data sources: (1) "New MRFSS & Commercial"- updated MRFSS data (1986-2008) and updated commercial data (1986-2008); and, (2) "MRIP & New Commercial"- MRIP official re-estimates (2004-2008), recalibrated MRFSS data (1986-2003), and updated commercial data (1986-2008). Differences (and percent differences) from Comprehensive ACL Amendment values are also shown.

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	COMMERCIAL ACL (lbs ww)			RECREATIONAL ACL (lbs ww)			DIFFERENCE: COMMERCIAL (lbs ww (%))		DIFFERENCE: RECREATIONAL (lbs ww (%))	
	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial
DEEPWATER	**343,869**	**358,285**	**376,469**	**332,039**	**348,745**	**334,556**	**14,417 (4.19%)**	**32,601 (9.48%)**	**16,706 (5.03%)**	**2,517 (0.76%)**
Yellowedge grouper	29,070	29,160	27,431	1,151	1,061	2,790	90 (0.31%)	-1,639 (-5.64%)	-90 (-7.82%)	1,639 (142.42%)
Blueline tilefish	280,842	295,167	316,098	311,760	328,861	315,243	14,325 (5.10%)	35,256 (12.55%)	17,102 (5.49%)	3,483 (1.12%)
Silk Snapper	20,129	20,132	18,564	7,390	7,397	6,541	3 (0.01%)	-1,565 (-7.78%)	7 (0.09%)	-850 (-11.50%)
Misty grouper	2,030	2,030	2,388	833	833	475	-1 (-0.03%)	358 (17.64%)	1 (0.08%)	-358 (-43.00%)
Sand tilefish	1,431	1,417	1,770	7,392	7,104	6,213	-15 (-1.01%)	338 (23.65%)	-288 (-3.89%)	-1,178 (-15.94%)
Queen snapper	8,700	8,725	8,756	643	581	710	24 (0.28%)	56 (0.64%)	-62 (-9.59%)	67 (10.46%)
Black snapper	350	355	366	32	27	16	6 (1.63%)	17 (4.80%)	-6 (-17.60%)	-17 (-51.86%)
Blackfin snapper	1,316	1,301	1,096	2,838	2,880	2,569	-15 (-1.15%)	-220 (-16.69%)	42 (1.48%)	-269 (-9.49%)
JACKS	**193,999**	**191,275**	**189,422**	**261,490**	**258,464**	**267,799**	**-2,724 (-1.40%)**	**-4,577 (-2.36%)**	**-3,026 (-1.16%)**	**6,309 (2.41%)**
Almaco jack	150,439	147,518	147,322	141,483	138,678	155,195	-2,922 (-1.94%)	-3,117 (-2.07%)	-2,805 (-1.98%)	13,712 (9.69%)
Banded rudderfish	38,633	38,792	37,829	114,366	114,173	107,605	159 (0.41%)	-804 (-2.08%)	-193 (-0.17%)	-6,761 (-5.91%)
Lesser amberjack	4,927	4,965	4,270	5,641	5,613	5,000	38 (0.77%)	-656 (-13.32%)	-29 (-0.51%)	-641 (-11.37%)
SNAPPERS	**204,552**	**204,278**	**215,662**	**882,388**	**881,636**	**728,577**	**-274 (-0.13%)**	**11,111 (5.43%)**	**-752 (-0.09%)**	**-153,811 (-17.43%)**
Gray snapper	178,818	178,517	192,830	715,201	714,644	602,913	-301 (-0.17%)	14,012 (7.84%)	-557 (-0.08%)	-112,288 (-15.70%)
Lane snapper	18,744	18,762	17,695	134,722	134,704	102,289	18 (0.10%)	-1,049 (-5.60%)	-18 (-0.01%)	-32,433 (-24.07%)
Cubera snapper	6,274	6,279	4,829	25,498	25,323	19,851	5 (0.08%)	-1,445 (-23.03%)	-175 (-0.69%)	-5,647 (-22.15%)
Dog snapper	708	707	273	6,815	6,818	3,012	0 (0.00%)	-435 (-61.42%)	3 (0.04%)	-3,803 (-55.80%)
Mahogany snapper	8	12	36	152	148	512	4 (53.22%)	27 (340.06%)	-4 (-2.83%)	360 (237.24%)

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	COMMERCIAL ACL (lbs ww)			RECREATIONAL ACL (lbs ww)			DIFFERENCE: COMMERCIAL (lbs ww (%))		DIFFERENCE: RECREATIONAL (lbs ww (%))	
	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial
GRUNTS	**214,624**	**220,742**	**218,539**	**562,151**	**585,132**	**588,113**	**6,118 (2.85%)**	**3,916 (1.82%)**	**22,981 (4.09%)**	**25,962 (4.62%)**
White grunt	207,751	214,227	212,896	428,148	449,163	461,136	6,476 (3.12%)	5,146 (2.48%)	21,014 (4.91%)	32,988 (7.70%)
Sailors choice	0	0	0	35,266	36,920	22,674	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	1,655 (4.69%)	-12,592 (-35.71%)
Tomtate	0	0	0	70,948	70,948	80,056	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	9,109 (12.84%)
Margate	6,873	6,515	5,643	27,789	28,101	24,246	-358 (-5.21%)	-1,230 (-17.90%)	312 (1.12%)	-3,543 (-12.75%)
SHALLOW WATER GROUPERS	**49,488**	**49,349**	**49,776**	**48,329**	**48,395**	**46,656**	**-139 (-0.28%)**	**288 (0.58%)**	**66 (0.14%)**	**-1,673 (-3.46%)**
Red hind	18,969	18,937	18,303	6,916	6,938	6,564	-32 (-0.17%)	-666 (-3.51%)	22 (0.32%)	-352 (-5.10%)
Rock hind	23,494	23,386	23,115	14,075	14,192	14,838	-108 (-0.46%)	-379 (-1.61%)	117 (0.83%)	763 (5.42%)
Yellowmouth grouper	63	63	44	4,598	4,629	3,995	0 (0.00%)	-19 (-29.50%)	31 (0.67%)	-603 (-13.11%)
Yellowfin grouper	3,776	3,781	4,879	5,483	5,477	4,379	6 (0.15%)	1,104 (29.23%)	-6 (-0.10%)	-1,104 (-20.13%)
Coney	602	601	665	1,987	1,983	2,053	-1 (-0.16%)	63 (10.39%)	-3 (-0.16%)	66 (3.34%)
Graysby	2,585	2,582	2,771	15,270	15,176	14,827	-3 (-0.13%)	185 (7.16%)	-95 (-0.62%)	-444 (-2.91%)
PORGIES	**35,129**	**36,172**	**36,348**	**112,485**	**113,869**	**106,914**	**1,043 (2.97%)**	**1,219 (3.47%)**	**1,384 (1.23%)**	**-5,570 (-4.95%)**
Jolthead porgy	1,720	1,718	1,571	40,812	40,814	36,315	-2 (-0.12%)	-150 (-8.70%)	2 (0.01%)	-4,497 (-11.02%)
Knobbed porgy	33,115	34,162	34,515	28,079	29,967	32,926	1,047 (3.16%)	1,400 (4.23%)	1,889 (6.73%)	4,847 (17.26%)
Saucereye porgy	0	0	0	4,205	3,710	3,606	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	-495 (-11.78%)	-599 (-14.25%)
Scup	0	0	0	8,999	8,999	9,306	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	(0.00%)	308 (3.42%)
Whitebone porgy	293	291	262	30,390	30,379	24,762	-2 (-0.63%)	-31 (-10.71%)	-11 (-0.04%)	-5,629 (-18.52%)
INDIVIDUAL STOCKS										
Atlantic spadefish	36,476	36,524	35,108	246,365	246,653	154,352	48 (0.13%)	-1,368 (-3.75%)	288 (0.12%)	-92,013 (-37.35%)
Blue runner	188,329	188,135	177,506	1,101,612	1,100,581	948,223	-194 (-0.10%)	-10,823 (-5.75%)	-1,031 (-0.09%)	-153,388 (-13.92%)
Bar jack	6,686	6,277	5,265	13,834	13,407	19,515	-408 (-6.10%)	-1,421 (-21.25%)	-428 (-3.09%)	5,681 (41.07%)
Gray triggerfish	305,262	304,284	272,880	367,303	368,281	353,638	-978 (-0.32%)	-32,381 (-10.61%)	978 (0.27%)	-13,666 (-3.72%)

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	COMMERCIAL ACL (lbs ww)			RECREATIONAL ACL (lbs ww)			DIFFERENCE: COMMERCIAL (lbs ww (%))		DIFFERENCE: RECREATIONAL (lbs ww (%))	
	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	Comp ACL Am	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Comm	MRIP & New Comm	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial
Scamp	341,636	345,731	333,100	150,936	153,524	176,688	4,095 (1.20%)	-8,536 (-2.50%)	2,587 (1.71%)	25,752 (17.06%)
Hogfish	48,772	48,637	49,469	98,866	99,333	85,355	-135 (-0.28%)	697 (1.43%)	467 (0.47%)	-13,511 (-13.67%)

Table 2-4. Recreational annual catch targets (ACTs) in pounds whole weight (lbs ww) for 37 un-assessed snapper grouper species implemented by the Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c). Also shown are ACT values following identical computational methods using two updated data sources: (1) "New MRFSS & Commercial"- updated MRFSS data (1986-2008) and updated commercial data (1986-2008); and, (2) "MRIP & New Commercial"- MRIP official re-estimates (2004-2008), recalibrated MRFSS data (1986-2003), and updated commercial data (1986-2008). Differences from Comprehensive ACL Amendment values are also shown.

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	RECREATIONAL ACT (lbs ww)			DIFFERENCE: RECREATIONAL (lbs ww (%))	
	Comprehensive ACL Amendment	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial
DEEPWATER	**205,516**	**215,225**	**197,100**	**9,709 (4.72%)**	**-8,416 (-4.09%)**
Yellowedge grouper	921	849	1,395	-72 (-7.82%)	474 (51.51%)
Blueline tilefish	190,173	200,605	187,443	10,432 (5.49%)	-2,730 (-1.44%)
Silk Snapper	5,543	5,548	3,270	5 (0.09%)	-2,272 (-41.00%)
Misty grouper	833	417	237	-416 (-49.96%)	-595 (-71.50%)
Sand tilefish	4,989	4,795	3,107	-194 (-3.89%)	-1,883 (-37.74%)
Queen snapper	643	581	355	-62 (-9.59%)	-288 (-44.77%)
Black snapper	32	13	8	-19 (-58.80%)	-25 (-75.93%)
Blackfin snapper	2,381	2,416	1,284	35 (1.48%)	-1,097 (-46.06%)
JACKS	**186,972**	**184,698**	**165,590**	**-2,275 (-1.22%)**	**-21,382 (-11.44%)**
Almaco jack	107,527	105,395	109,288	-2,131 (-1.98%)	1,761 (1.64%)
Banded rudderfish	76,625	76,496	53,802	-129 (-0.17%)	-22,823 (-29.78%)
Lesser amberjack	2,821	2,806	2,500	-14 (-0.51%)	-321 (-11.37%)
SNAPPERS	**775,001**	**774,371**	**624,197**	**-630 (-0.08%)**	**-150,804 (-19.46%)**
Gray snapper	643,681	643,179	534,422	-501 (-0.08%)	-109,259 (-16.97%)
Lane snapper	109,125	109,110	78,087	-15 (-0.01%)	-31,037 (-28.44%)
Cubera snapper	16,319	16,207	9,925	-112 (-0.69%)	-6,393 (-39.18%)
Dog snapper	5,725	5,727	1,506	2 (0.04%)	-4,219 (-73.69%)
Mahogany snapper	152	148	256	-4 (-2.83%)	104 (68.62%)

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	RECREATIONAL ACT (lbs ww)			DIFFERENCE: RECREATIONAL (lbs ww (%))	
	Comprehensive ACL Amendment	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial
GRUNTS	**466,864**	**486,168**	**442,970**	**19,304 (4.13%)**	**-23,894 (-5.12%)**
White grunt	368,208	386,280	363,283	18,072 (4.91%)	-4,924 (-1.34%)
Sailors choice	20,659	21,628	11,663	969 (4.69%)	-8,995 (-43.54%)
Tomtate	54,644	54,644	54,887	0 (0.00%)	243 (0.44%)
Margate	23,354	23,616	13,137	262 (1.12%)	-10,217 (-43.75%)
SHALLOW WATER GROUPERS	**33,082**	**33,126**	**23,595**	**44 (0.13%)**	**-9,487 (-28.68%)**
Red hind	4,150	4,163	3,282	13 (0.32%)	-868 (-20.91%)
Rock hind	8,164	8,231	7,419	68 (0.83%)	-745 (-9.12%)
Yellowmouth grouper	4,338	4,367	1,998	29 (0.67%)	-2,340 (-53.95%)
Yellowfin grouper	5,483	5,477	2,190	-6 (-0.10%)	-3,293 (-60.07%)
Coney	1,568	1,566	1,026	-3 (-0.16%)	-542 (-34.55%)
Graysby	9,379	9,321	7,680	-58 (-0.62%)	-1,699 (-18.11%)
PORGIES	**74,933**	**75,707**	**59,319**	**774 (1.03%)**	**-15,614 (-20.84%)**
Jolthead porgy	26,781	26,782	22,537	1 (0.01%)	-4,244 (-15.85%)
Knobbed porgy	18,386	19,623	16,509	1,237 (6.73%)	-1,877 (-10.21%)
Saucereye porgy	3,881	3,424	1,803	-457 (-11.78%)	-2,078 (-53.55%)
Scup	5,955	5,955	4,653	0 (0.00%)	-1,302 (-21.86%)
Whitebone porgy	19,930	19,923	13,817	-7 (-0.04%)	-6,113 (-30.67%)
INDIVIDUAL STOCKS					
Atlantic spadefish	177,382	177,590	96,470	208 (0.12%)	-80,913 (-45.61%)
Blue runner	892,305	891,470	723,684	-835 (-0.09%)	-168,621 (-18.90%)
Bar jack	9,936	9,629	9,758	-307 (-3.09%)	-178 (-1.79%)
Gray triggerfish	312,208	313,039	284,325	831 (0.27%)	-27,883 (-8.93%)

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	RECREATIONAL ACT (lbs ww)			DIFFERENCE: RECREATIONAL (lbs ww (%))	
	Comprehensive ACL Amendment	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial	New MRFSS & Commercial	MRIP & New Commercial
Scamp	96,599	98,255	94,316	1,656 (1.71%)	-2,283 (-2.36%)
Hogfish	71,184	71,520	59,390	336 (0.47%)	-11,793 (-16.57%)

Table 2-5. New ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations and recreational ACTs in Regulatory Amendment 13. "MRIP & New Commercial" reflect data from MRIP official re-estimates (2004-2008), recalibrated MRFSS data (1986-2003), and updated commercial data (1986-2008). ABCs, ACLs, and recreational ACTs are in pounds whole weight (lbs ww); allocations are presented in percent (%).

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	MRIP & NEW COMMERCIAL					
	ABC (lbs ww)	COMM ALLOCATIONS	COMM ACL (lbs ww)	REC ALLOCATIONS	REC ACL (lbs ww)	REC ACT (lbs ww)
DEEPWATER	**711,025**		**376,469**		**334,556**	**197,100**
Yellowedge grouper	30,221	90.77%	27,431	9.23%	2,790	1,395
Blueline tilefish	631,341	50.07%	316,098	49.93%	315,243	187,443
Silk Snapper	25,104	73.95%	18,564	26.05%	6,541	3,270
Misty grouper	2,863	83.42%	2,388	16.58%	475	237
Sand tilefish	7,983	22.17%	1,770	77.83%	6,213	3,107
Queen snapper	9,466	92.50%	8,756	7.50%	710	355
Black snapper	382	95.92%	366	4.08%	16	8
Blackfin snapper	3,665	29.91%	1,096	70.09%	2,569	1,284
JACKS	**457,221**		**189,422**		**267,799**	**165,590**
Almaco jack	302,517	48.70%	147,322	51.30%	155,195	109,288
Banded rudderfish	145,434	26.01%	37,829	73.99%	107,605	53,802
Lesser amberjack	9,270	46.07%	4,270	53.93%	5,000	2,500
SNAPPERS	**944,239**		**215,662**		**728,577**	**624,197**
Gray snapper	795,743	24.23%	192,830	75.77%	602,913	534,422
Lane snapper	119,984	14.75%	17,695	85.25%	102,289	78,087
Cubera snapper	24,680	19.57%	4,829	80.43%	19,851	9,925
Dog snapper	3,285	8.31%	273	91.69%	3,012	1,506
Mahogany snapper	548	6.49%	36	93.51%	512	256
GRUNTS	**806,652**		**218,539**		**588,113**	**442,970**
White grunt	674,033	31.59%	212,896	68.41%	461,136	363,283
Sailors choice	22,674	0.00%	0	100.00%	22,674	11,663

STOCK OR STOCK COMPLEX NAME	MRIP & NEW COMMERCIAL					
	ABC (lbs ww)	COMM ALLOCATIONS	COMM ACL (lbs ww)	REC ALLOCATIONS	REC ACL (lbs ww)	REC ACT (lbs ww)
Tomtate	80,056	0.00%	0	100.00%	80,056	54,887
Margate	29,889	18.88%	5,643	81.12%	24,246	13,137
SHALLOW WATER GROUPERS	**96,432**		**49,776**		**46,656**	**23,595**
Red hind	24,867	73.60%	18,303	26.40%	6,564	3,282
Rock hind	37,953	60.90%	23,115	39.10%	14,838	7,419
Yellowmouth grouper	4,040	1.10%	44	98.90%	3,995	1,998
Yellowfin grouper	9,258	52.70%	4,879	47.30%	4,379	2,190
Coney	2,718	24.45%	665	75.55%	2,053	1,026
Graysby	17,597	15.74%	2,771	84.26%	14,827	7,680
PORGIES	**143,263**		**36,348**		**106,914**	**59,319**
Jolthead porgy	37,885	4.15%	1,571	95.85%	36,315	22,537
Knobbed porgy	67,441	51.18%	34,515	48.82%	32,926	16,509
Saucereye porgy	3,606	0.01%	0	99.99%	3,606	1,803
Scup	9,306	0.00%	0	100.00%	9,306	4,653
Whitebone porgy	25,024	1.05%	262	98.95%	24,762	13,817
INDIVIDUAL STOCKS						
Atlantic spadefish	189,460	18.53%	35,108	81.47%	154,352	96,470
Blue runner	1,125,729	15.77%	177,506	84.23%	948,223	723,684
Bar jack	24,780	21.25%	5,265	78.75%	19,515	9,758
Gray triggerfish	626,518	43.56%	272,880	56.44%	353,638	284,325
Scamp	509,788	65.34%	333,100	34.66%	176,688	94,316
Hogfish	134,824	36.69%	49,469	63.31%	85,355	59,390

Chapter 4. Environmental Consequences and Comparison of Alternatives

4.1 Action 1: Revise the acceptable biological catches (ABCs), annual catch limits (ACLs, including sector ACLs), allocations, and annual catch targets (ACTs) for select un-assessed species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit (FMU).

Alternative 1. No action. Do not revise ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs for select un-assessed species in the snapper grouper FMU. Data will not be updated and corrected with data from Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP), commercial, and for-hire landings.

Alternative 2. Revise the ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs for select un-assessed species in the snapper grouper FMU. Data will be updated with data from MRIP, commercial, and for-hire landings.

4.1.1 Biological Effects

Alternative 1 (No Action) would retain the ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs that were implemented by the Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c). ABCs established for species in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c) included the 37 snapper grouper species considered in Amendment 13 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (Regulatory Amendment 13). The Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c) followed the South Atlantic Council Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) recommendations for the specification of ABCs based on an ABC Control Rule. The ABC Control Rule involved a systematic inspection of all sources of uncertainty, including variables such as susceptibility, vulnerability, bycatch, and discard information. ACLs were set equal to the ABCs since the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (South Atlantic Council) felt that the ABC Control Rule was prescriptive enough to render a buffer between the ABC and ACL un-necessary. The Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c) also divided allocations between the recreational and commercial sectors based on landings information from 1986-2008 and 2006-2008, thereby combining past and present participation. The South Atlantic Council decided to establish allocations by balancing long-term catch history with recent catch history, and believed the inclusion of a transparent formula to specify allocations to be the most fair and equitable way to allocate fishery resources. The Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c) also established recreational annual catch targets (ACTs). The ACTs adjust the ACLs by 50% or by one minus the proportional standard error (PSE) from the recreational fishery, whichever is greater, to be the recreational ACT. The South Atlantic Council concluded that including the PSE for the catch estimates into a formula to establish ACT adds a larger buffer for species that are not

commonly landed, further accounting for uncertainty. For the commercial snapper grouper fishery, the South Atlantic Council concluded that quota monitoring and the accountability measures (AMs) specified in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment were sufficient to account for management uncertainty. Therefore, the South Atlantic Council did not establish a commercial ACT.

Alternative 2 would update ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs using the data described in **Section 1.5** of Regulatory Amendment 13. The final data, titled "MRIP & New Commercial" in **Tables 2-1** through **Table 2-5** replaces the MRFSS-based recreational data with MRIP-based recreational data. Additionally, new commercial data (based upon the 3 July 2012 Commercial ACL dataset) and updated recreational data (1 Oct 2012 Recreational ACL dataset) are also used to update the values. The updated recreational ACL dataset contains MRIP official re-estimates from 2004 to 2008, as well as recalibrated MRFSS data from 1986 to 2003. The new values that would be implemented by Regulatory Amendment 13 are listed in **Table 2-5**. **Appendix I** summarizes the revised values for ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs as per **Alternative 2**, and compares them with the current values that were implemented by the Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c).

Due to the absence of stock assessments for the species considered in Regulatory Amendment 13, the discussion of biological effects is mostly qualitative. Landings data are graphically presented in **Appendix J**. Intuitively, a decrease in the ABC would be expected to yield an increase in biological benefits to a stock (and vice-versa). The biological effects of the new ABC values from **Alternative 2** would be negligible compared to **Alternative 1 (No Action)** for the six stock complexes, with a maximum increase in ABC of 5.20% for the deepwater complex and a decrease of 13.13% to the snappers complex (**Table 2-1**). For the six individual stocks, the highest increase in ABC would be for bar jack (20.76%), with decreases for Atlantic spadefish (33.02%) and blue runner (12.73%) (**Table 2-1**).

Biological effects of allocations are qualitative in nature, overall fishing mortality and its consequences to a certain stock determines the health of that stock. Regulatory Amendment 13 would not change the methodology used in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment (SAFMC 2011c) to allocate the ACLs to the commercial and recreational sectors. However, the changes in data used to determine the allocations in the first place, modify the ACLs allocated to the commercial and recreational sectors. As shown in **Table 2-2**, percent differences in sector allocations are less than 10% for the stock complexes, with the exception of bar jack, which would experience a decrease of 11.34% for the commercial sector.

Similar to the ABCs, the revised ACLs under **Alternative 2** would have negligible biological effects when compared with **Alternative 1 (No Action)**. The ACL for the commercial sector would see an increase of 9.48% to the deepwater complex, while the ACL for the recreational sector would see a decrease of 0.76% (**Table 2-3**). The ACL for the commercial sector for the snappers complex would decrease by 0.09%, with a decrease of 17.43% for the recreational sector (**Table 2-3**). For most of the individual stocks, ACLs would be lowered for both sectors and would hence be expected to yield higher biological benefits. The largest increase in ACLs would be for the recreational sector for bar jack (41.07%), and the largest decrease in ACLs

would be for the recreational sector for Atlantic spadefish (37.35%) and blue runner (13.92%) (**Table 2-3**).

Recreational ACTs would decrease for all stock complexes and individual stocks under **Alternative 2** in Regulatory Amendment 13 (**Table 2-4**). Decreases in percent differences for recreational ACTs range from a low of 4.09% for the deepwater complex to a high of 28.68 % for the shallow water grouper complex (**Table 2-4**). The recreational ACT for Atlantic spadefish would decrease by 45.61% (**Table 2-4**). The current ACT functions as a signal to monitor the landings more closely, and does not trigger an AM. Therefore, biological benefits would be negligible.

Overall, greater biological benefits are expected under **Alternative 2** as opposed to **Alternative 1** (**No Action**). While the percent differences in the revised ABCs and ACLs in Regulatory Amendment 13 may be relatively small from the status quo levels, the data revealed by new and updated methodology more accurately represents the fishing effort for these species, and could prevent un-necessary triggering of accountability measures (AMs).

There is likely to be no additional biological benefit to protected species from **Alternative 1 (No Action)** because it would perpetuate the existing level of risk for interactions between ESA-listed species and the fishery. Previous ESA consultations determined the snapper grouper fishery was not likely to adversely affect marine mammals or *Acropora* species. **Alternative 2** is unlikely to alter fishing behavior in a way that would cause new adverse effects to these species. The impacts from **Alternatives 2** on sea turtles and smalltooth sawfish are unclear. If these ABCs, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs perpetuate the existing amount of fishing effort, they are unlikely to change the level of interaction between sea turtles and smalltooth sawfish and the fishery as a whole. This scenario is likely to provide little additional biological benefits to protected species, if any. However, if these alternatives reduce the overall amount of effort in the fishery the risk of interaction between sea turtles and smalltooth sawfish will likely decrease, providing additional biological benefits to these species.

4.1.2 Economic Effects

Alternative 1 (No Action) would not revise ABC, ACLs (including sector ACLs), allocations, and ACTs for select un-assessed species, and thus would not be the best available data to use for management of the snapper grouper species included in this amendment. For each species and species complex in this amendment, the South Atlantic Council set ABC = ACL in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The economic effects of **Alternative 2** for the single action in this amendment are discussed below. The 2012 calendar year is the first year in which the ACLs were in place for the species impacted by this amendment. Because the ACLS have been in place for such a short period, the expected economic effects discussion is limited to a qualitative discussion of what is currently known about the 2012 season for each stock complex or individual species. Several species or stock complexes have already exceeded their sector ACL. In the discussion of economic effects below, ACLs will be discussed, however, the values assigned to ACL will therefore be applicable to a discussion of the ABC, as well.

4.1.2.1 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for the Deepwater Stock Complex

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for the Deepwater Stock increased by 35,118 lbs to 711,025 lbs, an increase of 5.2% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. Commercial allocations for this stock complex are from 22.17% for sand tilefish to 95.92% for black snapper. Recreational allocations for this stock complex are from 4.08% for black snapper to 77.83% for sand tilefish. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the commercial sector was from -5.42% for yellowedge grouper to 12.51% for misty grouper. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the recreational sector was from -12.51% for misty grouper to 5.42% for yellowedge grouper (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for the Deepwater Stock Complex rose by 32,601 lbs (9.48%) to 376,469 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for the Deepwater Stock Complex rose by 2,517 lbs (0.76%) to 334,556 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock complex was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 8,416 lbs (4.09%) to 197,100 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the Deepwater Stock Complex are expected to be positive. More pounds available will help keep the fishery open longer. In 2012 the fishery closed on September 8th. Even though the ACT for the recreational sector of the Deepwater Stock complex decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**, the recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had only caught 5% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Unless future landings increase greatly, it is expected that there will be no economic effects to the recreational sector of the Deepwater Stock Complex by **Alternative 2**.

4.1.2.2 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for the Jacks Stock Complex

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for the Jacks Stock increased by 1,732 lbs to 457,221 lbs, an increase of 0.38% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. Commercial allocations for this stock complex are from 26.01% for banded rudderfish to 48.7% for almaco jack. Recreational allocations for this stock complex are from 51.3% for almaco jack to 73.99% for banded rudderfish. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the commercial sector was from -2.84% for almaco jack

to 0.76% for banded rudderfish. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the recreational sector was from -0.76% for banded rudderfish to 2.84% for almaco jack (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for the Jacks Stock Complex declined by 4,577 lbs (-2.36%) to 189,422 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for the Jacks Stock Complex rose by 6,309 lbs (2.41%) to 267,799 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock complex was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 21,382 lbs (11.44%) to 165,590 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the Jacks Stock Complex are expected to be slightly negative. Fewer pounds available could close the fishery sooner. In 2012 the fishery closed on July 2nd. Even though the ACT for the recreational sector of the Jacks Stock Complex decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**, the recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had caught 47% of their ACL, roughly half of the current ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Unless future annual landings increase, it is expected that there will be no economic effects to the recreational sector of the Jacks Stock Complex by **Alternative 2**.

4.1.2.3 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for the Snappers Stock Complex

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for the Snappers Stock decreased by 142,700 lbs to 944,239 lbs, a decrease of 13.13% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. Commercial allocations for this stock complex are from 6.49% for mahogany snapper to 24.23% for gray snapper. Recreational allocations for this stock complex are from 75.77% for gray snapper to 93.51% for mahogany snapper. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the commercial sector was from -1.1% for dog snapper to 4.23% for gray snapper. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the recreational sector was from -4.23% for gray snapper to 1.1% for dog snapper (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for the Snappers Stock Complex rose by 11,111 lbs (5.43%) to 215,662 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for the Snappers Stock Complex decreased by 153,811 lbs (-17.43%) to 728,577 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock complex was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 150,804 lbs (19.46%) to 624,197 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the Snappers Stock Complex are expected to be positive. More pounds available will help ensure the ACL will not be met and the

commercial fishery will not have to be closed early. As of September 30, 2012 the commercial sector had landed 58.44% of its ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/commercial_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Even though the ACT for the recreational sector of the Snappers Stock Complex decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**, the recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had only caught 10% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Unless future landings increase greatly, it is expected that there will be no economic effects to the recreational sector of the Snappers Stock Complex by **Alternative 2**.

4.1.2.4 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for the Grunts Stock Complex

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for the Grunts Stock increased by 29,878 lbs to 805,874 lbs, an increase of 3.85% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. Commercial allocations for this stock complex are from 0.0% for sailors choice and tomtates to 31.59% for white grunt. Recreational allocations for this stock complex are from 68.41% for white grunt to 100% for sailors choice and tomtates. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the commercial sector was from -1.08% for white grunt to 0.0% for sailors choice and tomtate. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the recreational sector was from 0.0% for sailors choice and tomtate to 1.08% for white grunt (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for the Grunts Stock Complex rose by 3,916 lbs (1.82%) to 218,539 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for the Grunts Stock Complex rose by 25,962 lbs (4.62%) to 588,113 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock complex was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 23,894 lbs (5.12%) to 442,970 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the Grunts Stock Complex are expected to be positive. More pounds available will help ensure the ACL will not be met and the commercial fishery will not have to be closed early. As of September 30, 2012 the commercial sector had landed 39.09% of its ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/commercial_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Even though the ACT for the recreational sector of the Grunts Stock Complex decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**, the recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had only caught 19% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Unless future landings increase greatly, it is expected that there will be no economic effects to the recreational sector of the Grunts Stock Complex by **Alternative 2**.

4.1.2.5 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for the Shallow Water Groupers Stock Complex

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for the Shallow Water Groupers Stock decreased by 1,386 lbs to 96,432 lbs, a decrease of 1.42% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. Commercial allocations for this stock complex are from 1.1% for yellowmouth grouper to 73.60% for red hind. Recreational allocations for this stock complex are from 26.4% for red hind to 98.9% for yellowmouth grouper. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the commercial sector was from -1.63% for rock hind to 11.92% for yellowfin grouper. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the recreational sector was from -11.92% for yellowfin grouper to 1.63% for rock hind (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for the Shallow Water Grouper Stock Complex rose by 288 lbs (0.58%) to 49,776 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for the Shallow Water Grouper Stock Complex decreased by 1,673 lbs (3.46%) to 46,656 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock complex was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 9,487 lbs (28.68%) to 197,100 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the Shallow Water Grouper Stock Complex are expected to be marginally positive. A negligible increase pounds available will help keep the fishery open longer. As of September 30, 2012 the commercial sector had landed 42.33% of its ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/commercial_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Even though the ACT for the recreational sector of the Shallow Water Grouper Stock Complex decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**, the recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had only caught 29% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Unless future landings increase greatly, it is expected that there will be no economic effects to the recreational sector of the Shallow Water Grouper Stock Complex by **Alternative 2**.

4.1.2.6 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for the Porgies Stock Complex

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for the Porgies Stock decreased by 4,351 lbs to 143,263 lbs, a decrease of 2.95% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. Commercial allocations for this stock complex are from 0.0% for scup to 51.18% for knobbed porgy. Recreational allocations for this stock

complex are from 48.82% for knobbed porgy to 100% for scup. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the commercial sector was from -2.94% for knobbed porgy to 0.1% for jolthead porgy. The range of differences for changes in allocations to the recreational sector was from -0.1% for jolthead porgy to 2.94% for knobbed porgy (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for the Porgies Stock Complex rose by 1,219 lbs (3.47%) to 36,348 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for the Porgies Stock Complex decreased by 5,570 lbs (4.95%) to 106,914 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock complex was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 15,614 lbs (20.84%) to 59,319 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the Porgies Stock Complex are expected to be marginally positive. A negligible increase pounds available will help keep the fishery open longer. In 2012 the fishery closed on September 8th. (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/commercial_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Even though the ACT for the recreational sector of the Porgies Stock Complex decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**, the recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had caught 43% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Unless future landings increase, it is expected that there will be minimal economic effects to the recreational sector of the Porgies Stock Complex by **Alternative 2**.

4.1.2.7 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for Atlantic Spadefish

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for Atlantic spadefish decreased by 93,381 lbs to 189,460 lbs, a decrease of 33.02% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. The commercial allocation for Atlantic spadefish is 18.53%. The recreational allocation is 81.47%. The change in allocation to the commercial sector was 5.63%. The change in allocation to the recreational sector was -5.63% (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for Atlantic spadefish decreased by 1,368 lbs (3.75%) to 35,108 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for Atlantic spadefish decreased by 92,013 lbs (37.35%) to 154,352 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 80,913 lbs (45.61%) to 96,470 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the Atlantic spadefish fishery are expected to be minimal. As of September 30, 2012 the commercial sector had landed 5.28% of

its ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/commercial_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). The ACT for the recreational sector of the Atlantic spadefish fishery decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**. The recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had caught 76% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). **Alternative 2** is expected to have negative economic effects to the recreational sector of the Atlantic spadefish fishery due to the likelihood of AMs being invoked in future seasons.

4.1.2.8 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for Blue Runner

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for blue runner decreased by 164,212 lbs to 1,125,729 lbs, a decrease of 12.73% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. The commercial allocation for blue runner is 18.53%. The recreational allocation is 15.77%. The change in allocation to the commercial sector was 1.17%. The change in allocation to the recreational sector was -1.17% (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for blue runner decreased by 10,823 lbs (5.75%) to 177,506 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for blue runner decreased by 153,388 lbs (13.92%) to 948,223 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 168,621 lbs (18.9%) to 723,684 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the blue runner fishery are not expected to be significant. As of September 30, 2012 the commercial sector had landed 74.5% of its ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/commercial_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Unless the commercial fishery for blue runner increases significantly, there ought to be few economic effects. The ACT for the recreational sector of the Atlantic spadefish fishery decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**, the recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had caught 16% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). **Alternative 2** is expected not to have economic effects to the recreational sector of the blue runner fishery.

4.1.2.9 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for Bar Jack

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for bar jack increased by 4,260 lbs to 24,780 lbs, an increase of 20.76% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. The commercial allocation for bar jack is 21.25%. The

recreational allocation is 78.75%. The change in allocation to the commercial sector was -11.34%. The change in allocation to the recreational sector was 11.34% (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for bar jack decreased by 1,421 lbs (21.25%) to 5,265 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for bar jack increased by 5,681 lbs (41.07%) to 19,515 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 178 lbs (1.79%) to 9,758 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the bar jack fishery are expected to be minimal. This is a very small commercial fishery. As of September 30, 2012 the commercial sector had landed 32.32% of its ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/commercial_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Even though the ACT for the recreational sector of the bar jack fishery decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**, the recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had caught 12% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). **Alternative 2** is not expected to have any economic effects to the recreational sector of the bar jack fishery.

4.1.2.10 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for Gray Triggerfish

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for gray triggerfish decreased by 46,047 lbs to 626,518 lbs, a decrease of 6.85% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. The commercial allocation for gray triggerfish is 43.56%. The recreational allocation is 56.44%. The change in allocation to the commercial sector was -1.83%. The change in allocation to the recreational sector was 1.83% (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for gray triggerfish decreased by 32,381 lbs (10.61%) to 272,880 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for gray triggerfish decreased by 13,666 lbs (3.72%) to 353,638 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 27,883 lbs (8.93%) to 284,325 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the gray triggerfish fishery are expected to be negative. In 2012 the fishery closed on September 11th. (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/commercial_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). The lower commercial ACL for this fishery could mean an earlier closure in future years assuming the same rate of fishing occurs. Even though the ACT for the recreational sector of the gray triggerfish fishery decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**, the recreational sector as of the

third MRIP wave for 2012 had caught 25% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). **Alternative 2** is not expected to have any economic effects to the recreational sector of the gray triggerfish fishery.

4.1.2.11 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for Scamp

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for scamp increased by 17,216 lbs to 509,788 lbs, an increase of 3.5% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. The commercial allocation for scamp is 65.34%. The recreational allocation is 34.66%. The change in allocation to the commercial sector was -4.02%. The change in allocation to the recreational sector was 4.02% (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for scamp decreased by 8,536 lbs (2.5%) to 33,100 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for scamp increased by 25,752 lbs (17.06%) to 176,688 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 2,283 lbs (2.36%) to 94,316 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the scamp fishery are expected to be minimal. As of September 30, 2012 the commercial sector had landed 48.38% of its ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/commercial_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). Even though the ACT for the recreational sector of the scamp fishery decreases as a result of **Alternative 2**, the recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had caught 25% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). **Alternative 2** is not expected to have economic effects to the recreational sector of the scamp fishery.

4.1.2.12 Alternative 2 Economic Effects for Hogfish

Using the MRIP estimations and updated commercial landings, the ACL for hogfish decreased by 12,814 lbs to 134,824 lbs, a decrease of 8.68% overall (**Table 2-1**). **Table 2-2** shows the percent sector allocation to the commercial and recreational fisheries for the individual stocks in the complex, as well as the change in sector allocations as a result of incorporating the MRIP and updated commercial landings. The commercial allocation for hogfish is 36.69%. The recreational allocation is 63.31%. The change in allocation to the commercial sector was 3.66%. The change in allocation to the recreational sector was -3.66% (**Table 2-2)**.

The commercial ACL for hogfish increased by 697 lbs (1.43%) to 49,469 lbs (**Table 2-3**). The recreational ACL for hogfish decreased by 13,511 lbs (13.67%) to 85,355 lbs (**Table 2-3**).

The recreational ACT for this stock was set in the Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit Amendment for the South Atlantic Region (SAFMC 2011c). The ACT was set to ACT = ACL*(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater. When applied to the updated numbers for this amendment, the ACT decreased by 11,793 lbs (16.57%) to 59,390 lbs (**Table 2-4**).

The economic effects of this alternative for the commercial sector of the hogfish fishery are expected to be minimal. As of September 30, 2012 the commercial sector had landed 43.38% of its ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/commercial_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). The ACT for the recreational sector of the hogfish fishery decreases as a result of **Alternative 2.** The recreational sector as of the third MRIP wave for 2012 had caught 57% of their ACL (http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sustainable_fisheries/acl_monitoring/recreational_sa/index.html, accessed on 10/11/2012). **Alternative 2** is expected to have negative economic effects to the recreational sector of the hogfish fishery due to the possibility of AMs being invoked in future seasons.

4.1.3 Social Effects

4.1.4 Administrative Effects