

Modifications to Gulf Reef Fish and South Atlantic Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans



FINAL DECISION DOCUMENT

**For Discussion at the Joint Council Committee on
South Florida Management Issues
January 13-15, 2015**

**Key West Marriott Beachside Hotel
3841 N. Roosevelt Blvd
Key West, FL**

**(With Motions from Meeting &
Restated Actions/Alternatives)
January 20, 2015**

Background

The Joint Council Committee on South Florida Management Issues (Joint Council Committee) was formed in response to a South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (South Atlantic Council) motion in June 2011. The group was first convened in January of 2014 to begin discussing management needs of South Florida species. There were several recommendations from the Joint Council Committee that were considered by the Joint Council Committee in July 2014, where revised recommendations were proffered and are reflected in this document. Prior to the Joint Council Committee meetings, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FL FWC) held a series of South Florida workshops in August of 2013. The results of these workshops were discussed at the January 2014 Joint Council Committee meeting and the full summaries are in Appendix A of the draft amendment document.

Purpose and Goals

The purpose of this amendment is to minimize conflicting regulations for South Florida species in the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and State of Florida waters. The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council (Gulf Council) and South Atlantic Council initiated this document in coordination with the FL FWC based on ongoing requests from South Florida fishing communities. Currently, some fishing regulations differ between the Gulf and South Atlantic Council waters and in some cases, state and adjacent federal waters. This makes it difficult for fishermen to abide by different regulations in the South Florida area, particularly the Florida Keys, where anglers can fish in multiple jurisdictions within one trip.

The goal of this amendment and the Joint Council Committee is to provide guidance in determining the best solutions for fisheries management issues that are unique to South Florida. The Joint Council Committee could determine solutions by species, region, and/or sector based on current respective Gulf and South Atlantic Council regulations and management programs.

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:

1. ADD DISCUSSION ABOUT OTHER MANAGEMENT APPROACHES SUGGESTED BY THE PUBLIC AND THE JOINT COMMITTEES' RATIONAL FOR STRUCTURING MANAGEMENT THE WAY IT IS BEING PROPOSED IN THE AMENDMENT. USE SUBHEADINGS FOR IMPORTANT SUGGESTIONS, E.G., SEPARATE SOUTH FLORIDA COUNCIL, SEPARATE MANAGEMENT AREAS WITHIN FLORIDA, ETC.
2. BEFORE YELLOWTAIL ACTIONS, ADD A SECTION EXPLAINING THAT THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS DEAL WITH YELLOWTAIL. DO THE SAME FOR MUTTON SNAPPER AND BLACK GROUPER. ADD THAT APPLIES TO WATERS OFF FLORIDA. ADD A SPEARATE SECTION EXPLAINING THE GENERIC ITEMS (SEASON CLOSURE, ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES, AND CIRCLE HOOK ACTIONS)

Actions/Alternatives Wording and Voting

The wording shown for each Action/Alternative without highlight reflects the guidance provided by the committee during their July 2014 meeting. Text shown in **yellow highlight** are recommendations from the pre-IPT group, and text shown in **green highlight** is from FWC staff.

The wording for actions/alternatives will be projected during the committee meeting and motions will be made to indicate the committees' directions to staff/IPT. Each committee (SA and GM) will vote separately. Committee action is indicated under each Action in **yellow**.

MOTION: APPROVE THE AGENDA
GMFMC COMMITTEE APPROVED
MOTION: APPROVE THE AGENDA
SAFMC COMMITTEE APPROVED

MOTION: APPROVE THE JOINT COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES AS
AMENDED BY SHEP GRIMES
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

MOTION: APPROVE THE GOLIATH GROUPER COMMITTEE MINUTES
APPROVED

Action 1: Modifications to the Fishery Management Plans of the Gulf and South Atlantic Fishery Management Councils

Alternative 1: No action. Do not modify the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

Alternative 2: Delegate management of any of the species listed below to the State of Florida.

Option 2a: yellowtail snapper

Option 2b: mutton snapper

Option 2c: black grouper recreational fishery only

Note: Alternative 2 would delegate all management including ABC, ACLs, management measures, etc.

Alternative 3: Manage each stock as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional annual catch limits (ACLs).

Suggested wording from FWC Staff from minutes pages 125-127: The Gulf and South Atlantic Councils will agree to manage any of the species listed below with an overall ABC and an overall ACL. Each Council would agree to a recreational and commercial split. Both Councils will close their jurisdictions when the overall ACL is met.

Option 3a: yellowtail snapper

Option 3b: mutton snapper

Option 3c: black grouper

Alternative 4: Remove any of the species listed below from the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

Option 4a: yellowtail snapper

Option 4b: mutton snapper

Option 4c: black grouper

Alternative 5: Remove any of the species listed below from the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan of the Gulf Council and request the Secretary of Commerce designate the South Atlantic Council as the responsible Council.

Option 5a: yellowtail snapper

Option 5b: mutton snapper

Alternative 6: Remove any of the species listed below from the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan of the South Atlantic Council and request the Secretary of Commerce designate the Gulf Council as the responsible Council.

Option 6a: yellowtail snapper

Option 6b: mutton snapper

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the pre-IPT Group's recommendations to Action 1: modify Alternative 2, Option 2c and add new Alternative 6.

Option 2. Accept the FWC staff revised wording for Alternative 3, Action 1.

Option 3. Approve the revised list of Action 1 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 4. Others??

**MOTION: MOVE ALTERNATIVES 4, 5 & 6 (ACTION 1) TO THE
CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: MOVE ACTION 1 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED
APPENDIX AND MOVE ALTERNATIVE 3 (ACTION 1) INTO ACTIONS 3, 5, & 9
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 1 was moved to considered but rejected appendix so the remaining actions will be renumbered.

Action 2: Delegate Commercial and Recreational Management of Yellowtail Snapper to the State of Florida

Note: The alternative (and option(s)) selected as preferred in Action 1 will have direct consequences for which alternatives may be selected as preferred in Actions 2-10. Action 2 will only be a viable option if Alternative 2 and/or 3 from Action 1 is selected as preferred.

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:

ADD A NOTE CLARIFYING THAT THE COUNCIL IS SETTING ANNUAL CATCH LIMITS AND ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES.

Alternative 1: No action. Do not delegate management of yellowtail snapper in the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

Alternative 2: Determine specific recreational management items for delegation to the State of Florida for yellowtail snapper:

Option 2a: Size limits

Option 2b: Seasons

Option 2c: Bag limits

Option 2d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear (Re: circle hook requirement)

Option 2e: Fishing year

Alternative 3: Determine specific commercial management items for delegation to the State of Florida for yellowtail snapper:

Option 3a: Size limits

Option 3b: Seasons

Option 3c: Commercial trip limits

Option 3d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear (Re: circle hook requirement)

Option 3e: Fishing year

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:

ADD THE FOLLOWING NOTE: ***IPT Note:** The Committee may wish to consider requiring The State of Florida IS to submit an IMPLEMENTATION management plan for those species for which management has been delegated from the Councils, prior to the Councils recommending such action to the Secretary of Commerce.*

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Approve the above list of Action 2 alternatives for detailed analysis.

Option 2. Modify/add to the above alternatives; Committee would need to indicate changes.

Option 3. Others??

**MOTION: MODIFY ACTION 2 TO READ “PARTIAL DELEGATION OF COMMERCIAL AND/OR RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF YELLOWTAIL SNAPPER TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA”
APPROVED BY SAMFC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: INSERT “IN FEDERAL WATERS ADJACENT TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA” TO THE WORDING OF ACTION 2
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: DELETE THE FISHING YEAR OPTIONS UNDER ALTERNATIVES 2 AND 3 (ACTION 2)
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE**

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 1: Partial Delegation of Commercial and/or Recreational Management of Yellowtail Snapper to the State of Florida in Federal Waters Adjacent to the State of Florida

Note: Action 1 would delegate certain management measures to the State of Florida but the Councils would set the ABC, ACL, and AMs. The State of Florida is to submit an implementation plan for those species for which management has been delegated from the Councils prior to the Councils recommending such action to the Secretary of Commerce.

Alternative 1: No action. Do not delegate management of yellowtail snapper in the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

Alternative 2: Determine specific recreational management items for delegation to the State of Florida for yellowtail snapper:

Option 2a: Size limits

Option 2b: Seasons

Option 2c: Bag limits

Option 2d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear (Re: circle hook requirement)

Alternative 3: Determine specific commercial management items for delegation to the State of Florida for yellowtail snapper:

Option 3a: Size limits

Option 3b: Seasons

Option 3c: Commercial trip limits

Option 3d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear (Re: circle hook requirement)

Action 3: Allocate Yellowtail Snapper Sector Annual Catch Limits to the State of Florida and Create a Landings Allowance for other Gulf and South Atlantic States

Note: The alternative (and option(s)) selected as preferred in Action 1 will have direct consequences for which alternatives may be selected as preferred in Actions 2-10. Action 3 will only be a viable option if Alternative 2 and/or 3 from Action 1 is selected as preferred.

Alternative 1. No action. Maintain the current commercial and recreational ACLs for yellowtail snapper based on the South Atlantic Council's Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan and maintain the current total ACL for yellowtail snapper in the Gulf based on the Reef Fish FMP.

**MOTION: ADD THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVE TO ACTION 3 AND DIRECT STAFF/IPT TO WORK ON THE APPROPRIATE WORDING:
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

Alternative X: Manage YELLOWTAIL SNAPPER as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional annual catch limits (ACLs). OR

~~Suggested wording from FWC Staff from minutes pages 125-127: The Gulf and South Atlantic Councils will agree to USE manage any of the species listed below with an overall ABC and an overall ACL FOR YELLOWTAIL SNAPPER. Each Council would agree to a recreational and commercial split. Both Councils will close their jurisdictions when the overall ACL is met.~~

- Alternative 2.** Use both Councils' agreed upon ABC for yellowtail snapper and allocate the commercial and recreational ACLs for the Gulf and South Atlantic:
- Option 2a:** Use the South Atlantic Council's current sector allocation formula (bowtie approach): divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1986-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2006-2008.
 - Option 2b:** Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013.
 - Option 2c:** Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 2008-2012
 - Option 2d:** Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 200x-20xx
 - Option 2e:** Employ some other allocation formula

Alternative 3. Use both Councils⁷ agreed upon ABC for yellowtail snapper and create Gulf commercial and recreational sector ACLs from the current ABC jurisdictional split: 75% of the ABC for South Atlantic Council jurisdictional waters, and 25% for Gulf Council jurisdictional waters. Gulf sector allocations would be derived from one of the options below, and the subsequent Gulf and South Atlantic sector allocations would be combined to create sector allocations off Florida:

Option 3a: Use the South Atlantic Council's current sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1986-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2006-2008.

Option 3b: Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013.

Option 3c: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 2008-2012

Option 3d: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 200x-20xx

Option 3e: Employ some other allocation formula

Alternative 4. Create a landings allowance for yellowtail snapper in the other Gulf (TX, LA, MS, AL) and other South Atlantic States (GA, SC, NC).

Option 4a: Adjust ABC by 1% to address landings in the other Gulf and South Atlantic States.

Option 4b: Adjust ABC by 2% to address landings in the other Gulf and South Atlantic States.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the pre-IPT Group's recommendations to Action 3: modify the wording of Alternatives 2 and 3; add new Alternative 2, Option 2b, 2d, and 2e; and add new Alternative 3, Option 3b, 3d, and 3e.

Option 2. Approve the revised list of Action 3 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 3. Others??

**MOTION: ADD OPTIONS 2B AND 3B TO ACTION 3
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: ADD OPTIONS 2D AND 3D TO ACTION 3 USING THE 10 MOST RECENT YEARS OF DATA AND MODIFY OPTIONS 2C AND 3C TO USE THE MOST RECENT 5 YEARS OF DATA (INTENT TO CAP LANDINGS AT THE SECTOR ACL IF IT WAS EXCEEDED)
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 3 OF ACTION 3 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: MOVE OPTION 2A OF ACTION 3 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 4 OF ACTION 3 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: REMOVE THE WORDING “FOR WATERS OFF FLORIDA” FROM OPTIONS 2C AND 2D OF ACTION 3
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:
MODIFY TITLE OF ACTION 3 TO READ SOMETHING LIKE “ESTABLISH ABCS AND ACLS”**

**DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:
ADD WORDING THAT NMFS WOULD MONITOR/ADMISISTER THE ABC/ACLS**

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT: DEVELOP WORDING TO DESCRIBE PROCEDURALLY HOW THIS ACTION WOULD WORK AND THAT ABC=ACL

**DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:
ADD DISCUSSION RECOGNIZING THE CURRENT APPROACH USES ONLY LANDINGS TO ALLOCATE IN THIS AMENDMENT. THE COUNCILS ARE CONSIDERING OTHER CRITERIA (E.G., SOCIOECONOMIC DATA) FOR FUTURE ALLOCATIONS.**

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 2: Establish Acceptable Biological Catch and Annual Catch Limits for Yellowtail Snapper

Alternative 1. No action. Maintain the current commercial and recreational ACLs for yellowtail snapper based on the South Atlantic Council's Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan and maintain the current total ACL for yellowtail snapper in the Gulf based on the Reef Fish FMP.

Alternative 2: Manage yellowtail snapper as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional annual catch limits (ACLs). **OR** The Gulf and South Atlantic Councils will agree to use an overall ABC and an overall ACL for yellowtail snapper. (Staff/IPT work on appropriate wording)

Alternative 3. Use both Councils' agreed upon ABC for yellowtail snapper and allocate the commercial and recreational ACLs for the Gulf and South Atlantic:

Option 3a: Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013.

Option 3b: Base sector allocations on average landings from 200x-20xx. (most recent 5 years of data; cap landings at the sector ACL if it was exceeded)

Option 3c: Base sector allocations on average landings from 200x-20xx. (most recent 10 years of data; cap landings at the sector ACL if it was exceeded)

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:

1. ADD WORDING THAT NMFS WOULD MONITOR/ADMINISTER THE ABC/ACLS
2. PROCEDURALLY HOW THIS ACTION WOULD WORK AND THAT ABC=ACL
3. ADD DISCUSSION RECOGNIZING THE CURRENT APPROACH USES ONLY LANDINGS TO ALLOCATE IN THIS AMENDMENT. THE COUNCILS ARE CONSIDERING OTHER CRITERIA (E.G., SOCIOECONOMIC DATA) FOR FUTURE ALLOCATIONS.

Action 4: Delegate Commercial and Recreational Management of Mutton Snapper to the State of Florida

Note: The alternative (and option(s)) selected as preferred in Action 1 will have direct consequences for which alternatives may be selected as preferred in Actions 2-10. Action 4 will only be a viable option if Alternative 2 and/or 3 from Action 1 is selected as preferred.

Alternative 1: No action. Retain management of Mutton Snapper in the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

Alternative 2: Determine specific recreational management items for delegation to the State of Florida for Mutton Snapper:

Option 2a: Size limits

Option 2b: Seasons

Option 2c: Bag limits

Option 2d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear

Option 2e: Fishing year

Alternative 3: Determine specific commercial management items for delegation to the State of Florida for Mutton Snapper:

Option 3a: Size limits

Option 3b: Seasons

Option 3c: Commercial trip limits

Option 3d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear

Option 3e: Fishing year

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the pre-IPT Group's recommendations to Action 4: delete Option 2e and Option 3e.

Option 2. Approve the revised list of Action 4 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 3. Others??

MOTION: MODIFY ACTION 4 TO READ "PARTIAL DELEGATION OF COMMERCIAL AND/OR RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF MUTTON SNAPPER TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA IN FEDERAL WATERS ADJACENT TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA"

APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE

**MOTION: MOVE OPTIONS 2E AND 3E TO CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED
APPENDIX**

APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 3: Partial Delegation of Commercial and/or Recreational Management of Mutton Snapper to the State of Florida in Federal Waters Adjacent to the State of Florida

Alternative 1: No action. Retain management of Mutton Snapper in the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

Alternative 2: Determine specific recreational management items for delegation to the State of Florida for Mutton Snapper:

Option 2a: Size limits

Option 2b: Seasons

Option 2c: Bag limits

Option 2d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear

Alternative 3: Determine specific commercial management items for delegation to the State of Florida for Mutton Snapper:

Option 3a: Size limits

Option 3b: Seasons

Option 3c: Commercial trip limits

Option 3d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear

Action 5: Allocate Mutton Snapper Sector Annual Catch Limits to the State of Florida and Create a Bycatch Allowance for other Gulf and South Atlantic States

Note: The alternative (and option(s)) selected as preferred in Action 1 will have direct consequences for which alternatives may be selected as preferred in Actions 2-10. Action 5 will only be a viable option if Alternative 2 and/or 3 from Action 1 is selected as preferred.

Alternative 1. No action. Maintain the current commercial and recreational ACLs for mutton snapper based on the South Atlantic Councils Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan and maintain the current total ACL for mutton snapper in the Gulf based on the Reef Fish FMP.

Alternative 2. Use both Councils' agreed upon ABC for mutton snapper and allocate the commercial and recreational ACLs for the Gulf and South Atlantic:

Option 2a: Use the South Atlantic Council's current sector allocation formula (bowtie approach): divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1986-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2006-2008.

Option 2b: Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013.

Option 2c: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 2008-2012

Option 2d: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 200x-20xx

Option 2e: Employ some other allocation formula

Alternative 3. Use both Councils' agreed upon ABC for mutton snapper and create Gulf commercial and recreational sector ACLs from the current ABC jurisdictional split: 82% of the ABC for South Atlantic Council jurisdictional waters, and 18% for Gulf Council jurisdictional waters. Gulf sector allocations would be derived from one of the options below, and the subsequent Gulf and South Atlantic sector allocations would be combined to create sector allocations off Florida:

Option 3a: Use the South Atlantic Council's current sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1986-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2006-2008.

Option 3b: Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013.

Option 3c: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 2008-2012

Option 3d: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 200x-20xx

Option 3e: Employ some other allocation formula

Alternative 4. Create a landings allowance for mutton snapper in the other Gulf (TX, LA, MS, AL) and other South Atlantic States (GA, SC, NC).

Option 4a: Adjust ABC by 1% to address landings in the other Gulf and South Atlantic States.

Option 4b: Adjust ABC by 2% to address landings in the other Gulf and South Atlantic States.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the pre-IPT Group's recommendations to Action 5: modify the wording of Alternatives 2 and 3; add new Alternative 2, Option 2b, 2d, and 2e; and add new Alternative 3, Option 3b, 3d, and 3e.

Option 2. Approve the revised list of Action 5 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 3. Others??

MOTION: MAKE THE SAME CHANGES TO ACTION 5 THAT WERE MADE FOR ACTION 3

APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 4: Establish Acceptable Biological Catch and Annual Catch Limits for Mutton Snapper

Alternative 1. No action. Maintain the current commercial and recreational ACLs for mutton snapper based on the South Atlantic Council's Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan and maintain the current total ACL for mutton snapper in the Gulf based on the Reef Fish FMP.

Alternative 2: Manage mutton snapper as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional annual catch limits (ACLs). **OR** The Gulf and South Atlantic Councils will agree to use an overall ABC and an overall ACL for mutton snapper. (Staff/IPT work on appropriate wording)

Alternative 3. Use both Councils' agreed upon ABC for mutton snapper and allocate the commercial and recreational ACLs for the Gulf and South Atlantic:

Option 3a: Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013.

Option 3b: Base sector allocations on average landings from 200x-20xx. (most recent 5 years of data; cap landings at the sector ACL if it was exceeded)

Option 3c: Base sector allocations on average landings from 200x-20xx. (most recent 10 years of data; cap landings at the sector ACL if it was exceeded)

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:

1. ADD WORDING THAT NMFS WOULD MONITOR/ADMINISTER THE ABC/ACLS
2. PROCEDURALLY HOW THIS ACTION WOULD WORK AND THAT ABC=ACL
3. ADD DISCUSSION RECOGNIZING THE CURRENT APPROACH USES ONLY LANDINGS TO ALLOCATE IN THIS AMENDMENT. THE COUNCILS ARE CONSIDERING OTHER CRITERIA (E.G., SOCIOECONOMIC DATA) FOR FUTURE ALLOCATIONS.

Action 6. Mutton snapper recreational bag limit in Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic

Note: The alternative (and option(s)) selected as preferred in Action 1 will have direct consequences for which alternatives may be selected as preferred in Actions 2-10. Action 6 will only be a viable option if Alternative 1, 2, or 3 from Action 1 is selected as preferred.

Alternative 1: No action. Mutton snapper is part of the aggregate 10 snapper bag limit in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 2: Remove mutton snapper from the recreational aggregate bag limit and change the recreational bag limit for mutton snapper during the regular season (July-April) and during the spawning season (May-June).

Option 2a: 10 fish/person/day in the regular season, 2 fish/person/day during the spawning season

Option 2b: 5 fish/person/day in the regular season, 2 fish/person/day during the spawning season

Alternative 3: Retain mutton snapper within the aggregate 10 snapper bag limit in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic, but specify bag limits for mutton snapper within the snapper recreational aggregate bag limit during the regular season (July-April) and during the spawning season (May-June).

Option 3a: Within the aggregate snapper bag limit, no more than 10 fish/person/day in the regular season and no more than 2 fish/person/day during the spawning season may be mutton snapper.

Option 3b: Within the aggregate snapper bag limit, no more than 5 fish/person/day in the regular season and no more than 2 fish/person/day during the spawning season may be mutton snapper.

Note: In the Gulf of Mexico, the 10 snapper-per-person aggregate includes all snapper species in the reef fish management unit except red snapper, vermilion snapper, and lane snapper (Table 5). In the South Atlantic, the 10 snapper-per-person aggregate includes all snapper species in the snapper grouper management unit except red snapper and vermilion snapper (Table 5). Cubera snapper less than 30" total length (TL) are included in the 10 fish bag limit. The aggregate 10 snapper bag limit includes a maximum of 2 cubera snapper per person (not to exceed 2 per/vessel) for fish 30" TL or larger off Florida.

Note: State of Florida has the same regulations for the recreational sector as both Councils; however, the commercial sector in state waters is managed using regulations identical to the South Atlantic Council's commercial regulations.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the pre-IPT Group's recommendations to Action 6: modify Alternative 3, add new Option 3a, and add new Option 3b.

Option 2. Approve the revised list of Action 6 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 3. Others??

MOTION: ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE CHANGE TO ALTERNATIVE 3 OF ACTION 6

APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE

MOTION: ADD A NEW OPTION UNDER ALTERNATIVES 2 AND 3 IN ACTION 6 WITH A 4 FISH/PERSON/DAY BAG LIMIT IN THE REGULAR SEASON AND 2 FISH/PERSON/DAY DURING THE SPAWNING SEASON

APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:

ADD WORDING CLARIFYING THE LOWER BAG LIMIT IN MAY-JUNE COVERS A PORTION OF THE SPAWNING SEASON; ADD INFORMATION ON LENGTH OF SPAWNING SEASON

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 5. Mutton snapper recreational bag limit in Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic

Alternative 1: No action. Mutton snapper is part of the aggregate 10 snapper bag limit in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 2: Remove mutton snapper from the recreational aggregate bag limit and change the recreational bag limit for mutton snapper during the regular season (July-April) and during the spawning season (May-June).

Option 2a: 10 fish/person/day in the regular season, 2 fish/person/day during the spawning season

Option 2b: 5 fish/person/day in the regular season, 2 fish/person/day during the spawning season

Option 2c: 4 fish/person/day in the regular season, 2 fish/person/day during the spawning season

Alternative 3: Retain mutton snapper within the aggregate 10 snapper bag limit in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic, but specify bag limits for mutton snapper within the snapper recreational aggregate bag limit during the regular season (July-April) and during the spawning season (May-June).

Option 3a: Within the aggregate snapper bag limit, no more than 10 fish/person/day in the regular season and no more than 2 fish/person/day during the spawning season may be mutton snapper.

Option 3b: Within the aggregate snapper bag limit, no more than 5 fish/person/day in the regular season and no more than 2 fish/person/day during the spawning season may be mutton snapper.

Option 3c: 4 fish/person/day in the regular season, 2 fish/person/day during the spawning season

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:

1. ADD WORDING CLARIFYING THE LOWER BAG LIMIT IN MAY-JUNE COVERS A PORTION OF THE SPAWNING SEASON
2. ADD INFORMATION ON LENGTH OF SPAWNING SEASON

Action 7. Mutton snapper commercial trip limit in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic

Note: The alternative (and option(s)) selected as preferred in Action 1 will have direct consequences for which alternatives may be selected as preferred in Actions 2-10. Action 7 will only be a viable option if Alternative 3, 5, or 6 from Action 1 is selected as preferred.

Alternative 1: No action. During May-June, the commercial sector in the South Atlantic is restricted to 10 mutton snapper per day or 10 mutton snapper per trip, whichever is more restrictive. There is no bag or trip limit for the commercial sector in the Gulf or South Atlantic during the July-April regular season.

Alternative 2: Establish a commercial trip limit for mutton snapper during the regular season (July-April) in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Option 2a: 10 fish/person/day

Option 2b: Some higher bag or trip limit.

Alternative 3: Specify a commercial trip limit for mutton snapper during the spawning season (May-June) in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Option 3a: 2 fish/person/day

Option 3b: 5 fish/person/day

Option 3c: 10 fish/person/day

Option 3d: No bag or trip limit

Suggested Alternative from FWC staff from minutes page 123, lines 44-47:

Alternative 4: Specify a commercial trip limit for mutton snapper that is identical to the recreational bag limit during the spawning season (May-June) in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the FWC staff revised wording for a new Alternative 4.

Option 3. Approve the revised list of Action 7 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 4. Others??

MOTION: ADD NEW ALTERNATIVE 4 TO ACTION 7

APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT: EVALUATE A NEW ALTERNATIVE TO SPECIFY DIFFERENT TRIP LIMITS DURING MAY-JUNE FOR HOOK-AND-LINE AND LONGLINE SECTORS TO APPROXIMATE THE % REDUCTION IN THE RECREATIONAL SECTOR

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 6. Mutton snapper commercial trip limit in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic

Alternative 1: No action. During May-June, the commercial sector in the South Atlantic is restricted to 10 mutton snapper per day or 10 mutton snapper per trip, whichever is more restrictive. There is no bag or trip limit for the commercial sector in the Gulf or South Atlantic during the July-April regular season.

Alternative 2: Establish a commercial trip limit for mutton snapper during the regular season (July-April) in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Option 2a: 10 fish/person/day

Option 2b: Some higher bag or trip limit.

Alternative 3: Specify a commercial trip limit for mutton snapper during the spawning season (May-June) in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Option 3a: 2 fish/person/day

Option 3b: 5 fish/person/day

Option 3c: 10 fish/person/day

Option 3d: No bag or trip limit

Alternative 4: Specify a commercial trip limit for mutton snapper that is identical to the recreational bag limit during the spawning season (May-June) in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:

1. EVALUATE A NEW ALTERNATIVE TO SPECIFY DIFFERENT TRIP LIMITS DURING MAY-JUNE FOR HOOK-AND-LINE AND LONGLINE SECTORS TO APPROXIMATE THE % REDUCTION IN THE RECREATIONAL SECTOR

Action 8: Delegate Recreational Management of Black Grouper to the State of Florida

Note: The alternative (and option(s)) selected as preferred in Action 1 will have direct consequences for which alternatives may be selected as preferred in Actions 2-10. Action 8 will only be a viable option if Alternative 2 and/or 3 from Action 1 is selected as preferred.

Alternative 1: No action. Retain recreational management of black grouper in the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

Alternative 2: Determine specific recreational management items for delegation to the State of Florida for black grouper:

Option 2a: Size limits

Option 2b: Seasons

Option 2c: Bag limits

Option 2d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear

Option 2e: Fishing year

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the pre-IPT Group's recommendations to Action 8: delete Option 2e.

Option 2. Approve the revised list of Action 8 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 3. Others??

~~MOTION: MODIFY ACTION 8 TO READ "PARTIAL DELEGATION OF COMMERCIAL AND/OR RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF BLACK GROUPE R TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA IN FEDERAL WATERS ADJACENT TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA" AND DELETE OPTION 2C OF ACTION 8 APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE~~

MOTION: MODIFY ACTION 8 TO READ "PARTIAL DELEGATION OF RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT OF BLACK GROUPE R TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA IN FEDERAL WATERS ADJACENT TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA" AND DELETE OPTION 2E OF ACTION 8 APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 7: Partial Delegation of Recreational Management of Black Grouper to the State of Florida in Federal Waters Adjacent to the State of Florida

Alternative 1: No action. Retain recreational management of black grouper in the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

Alternative 2: Determine specific recreational management items for delegation to the State of Florida for black grouper:

Option 2a: Size limits

Option 2b: Seasons

Option 2c: Bag limits

Option 2d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear

Action 9: Allocate Black Grouper Recreational Annual Catch Limits to the State of Florida and Create a Recreational Bycatch Allowance for other Gulf and South Atlantic States

Note: The alternative (and option(s)) selected as preferred in Action 1 will have direct consequences for which alternatives may be selected as preferred in Actions 2-10. Action 9 will only be a viable option if Alternative 2 and/or 3 from Action 1 is selected as preferred.

Alternative 1. No action. Maintain the current recreational ACLs based on the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

Alternative 2. Use both Councils' agreed upon ABC for black grouper and allocate the recreational ACLs for the Gulf and South Atlantic:

Option 2a: Combine the current recreational allocations (i.e., 63.12% of the ACL for the South Atlantic and 27% of the ACL for the Gulf) for black grouper into a single recreational allocation for delegation to the State of Florida.

Option 2b: Use the South Atlantic Council's current sector allocation formula (Bowtie approach): divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1991-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2006-2008.

Option 2c: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 2008-2012

Option 2d: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 200x-20xx

Option 2e: Employ some other allocation formula

Alternative 3. Use both Councils' agreed upon ABC for black grouper and create Gulf commercial and recreational sector ACLs from the current ABC jurisdictional split: 47% of the ABC for South Atlantic Council jurisdictional waters, and 53% for Gulf Council jurisdictional waters. Gulf sector allocations would be derived from one of the options below, and the subsequent Gulf and South Atlantic sector allocations would be combined to create sector allocations off Florida:

Option 3a: Use the South Atlantic Council's current sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1991-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2006-2008.

Option 3b: Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013.

Option 3c: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 2008-2012

Option 3d: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 200x-20xx

Option 3e: Employ some other allocation formula

Alternative 4. Create a recreational landings allowance for black grouper in the other Gulf (TX, LA, MS, AL) and other South Atlantic States (GA, SC, NC).

Option 4a: Adjust ABC by 1% to address landings in the other Gulf and South Atlantic States.

Option 4b: Adjust ABC by 2% to address landings in the other Gulf and South Atlantic States.

Option 4c: Adjust ABC by 3% to address landings in the other Gulf and South Atlantic States.

Option 4d: Adjust ABC by 4% to address landings in the other Gulf and South Atlantic States.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the pre-IPT Group's recommendations to Action 9: modify the wording of Alternatives 2 and 3; modify Alternative 2 by adding new Options 2d and 2e; modify Alternative 3 by adding new Options 3b, 3d, and 3e; and modify Alternative 4 by adding new Option 4d.

Option 2. Approve the revised list of Action 9 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 3. Others??

MOTION:

1. ADD THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVE TO ACTION 9 AND DIRECT STAFF/IPT TO WORK ON THE APPROPRIATE WORDING:

Alternative X: Manage BLACK GROUPEr as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional annual catch limits (ACLs). OR

~~Suggested wording from FWC Staff from minutes pages 125-127: The Gulf and South Atlantic Councils will agree to USE manage any of the species listed below with an overall ABC and an overall ACL FOR BLACK GROUPEr. Each Council would agree to a recreational and commercial split. Both Councils will close their jurisdictions when the overall ACL is met.~~

2. ADD OPTION 2D TO ACTION 9 USING THE 10 MOST RECENT YEARS OF DATA AND MODIFY OPTION 2C TO USE THE MOST RECENT 5 YEARS OF DATA (INTENT TO CAP LANDINGS AT THE SECTOR ACL IF IT WAS EXCEEDED)

3. MOVE ALTERNATIVE 3 OF ACTION 9 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

4. MOVE OPTION 2B OF ACTION 9 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

5. MOVE ALTERNATIVE 4 OF ACTION 9 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

6. REMOVE THE WORDING “FOR WATERS OFF FLORIDA” FROM OPTIONS 2C AND 2D OF ACTION 9

7. REMOVE “FOR DELEGATION TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA” IN OPTION 2A

**8. ADD A NEW OPTION FOR THE 50/50 ALLOCATION SIMILAR TO YELLOWTAIL SNAPPER
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:

- 1. MODIFY TITLE OF ACTION 9 TO READ SOMETHING LIKE “ESTABLISH ABCS AND ACLS”**
- 2. ADD WORDING THAT NMFS WOULD MONITOR/ADMISISTER THE ABC/ACLS**
- 3. DEVELOP WORDING TO DESCRIBE PROCEDURALLY HOW THIS ACTION WOULD WORK AND THAT ABC=ACL**
- 4. ADD DISCUSSION ABOUT HOW CHANGES ALLOCATION FORMULA WHEN YOU CHANGE THE YEARS INCLUDED (DO THIS FOR OTHER ALLOCATION ACTIONS AS WELL)**

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 8: Establish Acceptable Biological Catch and Annual Catch Limits for Black Grouper

Alternative 1. No action. Maintain the current recreational ACLs based on the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

Alternative 2. Use both Councils' agreed upon ABC for black grouper and allocate the recreational ACLs for the Gulf and South Atlantic:

Option 2a: Combine the current recreational allocations (i.e., 63.12% of the ACL for the South Atlantic and 27% of the ACL for the Gulf) for black grouper into a single recreational allocation.

Option 2b: Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013.

Option 2c: Base sector allocations on average landings from 200x-20xx. (most recent 5 years of data; cap landings at the sector ACL if it was exceeded)

Option 2d: Base sector allocations on average landings from 200x-20xx. (most recent 10 years of data; cap landings at the sector ACL if it was exceeded)

Alternative 3: Manage black grouper as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional annual catch limits (ACLs). **OR** The Gulf and South Atlantic Councils will agree to use an overall ABC and an overall ACL for black grouper. (Staff/IPT work on appropriate wording)

DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:

1. ADD WORDING THAT NMFS WOULD MONITOR/ADMISISTER THE ABC/ACLS
2. DEVELOP WORDING TO DESCRIBE PROCEDURALLY HOW THIS ACTION WOULD WORK AND THAT ABC=ACL
3. ADD DISCUSSION ABOUT HOW CHANGES ALLOCATION FORMULA WHEN YOU CHANGE THE YEARS INCLUDED (DO THIS FOR OTHER ALLOCATION ACTIONS AS WELL)

Action 10: Specify Accountability Measures for South Florida Species

Note: The alternative (and option(s)) selected as preferred in Action 1 will have direct consequences for which alternatives may be selected as preferred in Actions 2-10. Action 10 will only be a viable option if Alternative 2 and/or 3 from Action 1 is selected as preferred.

Note: Under some circumstances more than one alternative could be selected as preferred.

Direction to Staff: The Committee briefly discussed Action 3: Accountability Measures for South Florida species. Based on the previous discussions and additions to the document, the Committee wanted to simplify the accountability measures and staff will draft accountability measures for a commercial and recreational ACL that would close the fishery for yellowtail snapper and mutton snapper when the total ACL was met; this would not include the bycatch allowance (1-2%) from other Gulf and South Atlantic States. For black grouper, the recreational ACL would close when landings from all jurisdictions had met the ACL.

Alternative 1: No action. Maintain the current recreational and commercial accountability measures (AMs) for Yellowtail Snapper, Mutton Snapper, and Black Grouper based on the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

South Atlantic: Commercial AM – In-season closure when the ACL expected to be met and ACL reduced in following fishing season if species is overfished and ACL is exceeded. Recreational AM – if ACL is exceeded, monitor landings in following season for persistence in landings and reduce the length of the following fishing season, if necessary.

Gulf: For Yellowtail Snapper and Mutton Snapper, if the combined commercial and recreational landings exceed the stock ACL, in-season AMs are in effect for the following year. If the combined landings reach or are projected to reach the stock ACL, both sectors will be closed for the remainder of that fishing year. For black grouper, this AM applies to the ACL for the other shallow-water grouper aggregate (black grouper, scamp, yellowmouth grouper, and yellowfin grouper).

Alternative 2: If the sum of the commercial and recreational landings exceeds the stock ACL, then during the following fishing year, if the sum of commercial and recreational landings reaches or is projected to reach the stock ACL, then the commercial and recreational sectors will be closed for the remainder of that fishing year. On and after the effective date of a closure, all sales, purchases harvest or possession of this species in or from the EEZ will be prohibited.

Alternative 3: If commercial landings as estimated by the Science and Research Director reach or are projected to reach the commercial ACL, the Regional Administrator

shall publish a notice to close the commercial sector for the remainder of the fishing year. On and after the effective date of such a notification, all sale or purchase is prohibited and harvest or possession of this species in or from the EEZ is limited to the bag and possession limit. Additionally,

Option 3a: ~~If the commercial ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the commercial overage, only if the species is overfished.~~

Option 3b: ~~If the commercial ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the commercial overage, only if the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded.~~

Option 3c: If the commercial ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the commercial overage, only if the species is overfished and the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded.

Alternative 4: If recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the recreational ACL, then during the following fishing year, recreational landings will be monitored for a persistence in increased landings.

Option 4a: ~~If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of fishing season and the recreational ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the recreational overage, only if the species is overfished. The length of the recreational season and recreational ACL will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary.~~

Option 4b: ~~If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of fishing season and the recreational ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the recreational overage, only if the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded. The length of the recreational season and recreational ACL will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary.~~

Option 4c: If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of fishing season and the recreational ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the recreational overage, only if the species is overfished and the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded. The length of the recreational season and recreational ACL will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary.

Alternative 5: If recreational landings reach or are projected to reach the recreational annual catch limit, National Marine Fisheries Service will file a notification with the Office of the Federal Register to close the recreational sector for the remainder of the fishing year, unless, using the best scientific information available, the Regional Administrator determines that a closure is unnecessary.

Option 5a: If the species is overfished.

Option 5b: Regardless of stock status.

Alternative 6: The Councils would jointly set the ACL for the recreational and commercial sector. If the combined recreational ACL and commercial ACL is met or expected to be met, both sectors would be closed for the remainder of the fishing year.

Option 6a: yellowtail snapper

Option 6b: mutton snapper

Note: Alternative 6 is only viable if Action 1, Alternative 3 (manage any of the species selected as preferred, from the options presented, with a multijurisdictional ACL) is selected as preferred.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the South Atlantic Council's motion to Action 10: delete Options 3a, 3b, 4a, and 4b.

Option 2. Approve the revised list of Action 10 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 3. Others??

**MOTION: REMOVE OPTIONS 3A, 3B, 4A, AND 4B UNDER THE
ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION 10
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: ADD SUBALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION 10, ALTERNATIVES 2-5
FOR YELLOWTAIL, MUTTON AND BLACK GROUPER
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**DIRECTION TO STAFF:
EXAMINE ADDING AN OPTION FOR BLACK GROUPER UNDER
ALTERNATIVE 6 OF ACTION 10**

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 9: Specify Accountability Measures for South Florida Species

Alternative 1: No action. Maintain the current recreational and commercial accountability measures (AMs) for Yellowtail Snapper, Mutton Snapper, and Black Grouper based on the Reef Fish and Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plans for the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, respectively.

South Atlantic: Commercial AM – In-season closure when the ACL expected to be met and ACL reduced in following fishing season if species is overfished and ACL is exceeded. Recreational AM – if ACL is exceeded, monitor landings in following season for persistence in landings and reduce the length of the following fishing season, if necessary.

Gulf: For Yellowtail Snapper and Mutton Snapper, if the combined commercial and recreational landings exceed the stock ACL, in-season AMs are in effect for the following year. If the combined landings reach or are projected to reach the stock ACL, both sectors will be closed for the remainder of that fishing year. For black grouper, this AM applies to the ACL for the other shallow-water grouper aggregate (black grouper, scamp, yellowmouth grouper, and yellowfin grouper).

Alternative 2: If the sum of the commercial and recreational landings exceeds the stock ACL, then during the following fishing year, if the sum of commercial and recreational landings reaches or is projected to reach the stock ACL, then the commercial and recreational sectors will be closed for the remainder of that fishing year. On and after the effective date of a closure, all sales, purchases harvest or possession of this species in or from the EEZ will be prohibited.

Option 2a: yellowtail snapper

Option 2b: mutton snapper

Option 2c: black grouper

Alternative 3: If commercial landings as estimated by the Science and Research Director reach or are projected to reach the commercial ACL, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to close the commercial sector for the remainder of the fishing year. On and after the effective date of such a notification, all sale or purchase is prohibited and harvest or possession of this species in or from the EEZ is limited to the bag and possession limit. Additionally, if the commercial ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the commercial overage, only if the species is overfished and the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded.

Option 3a: yellowtail snapper

Option 3b: mutton snapper

Option 3c: black grouper

Alternative 4: If recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the recreational ACL, then during the following fishing year, recreational landings will be monitored for a persistence in increased landings. If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of fishing season and the recreational ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the recreational overage, only if the species is overfished and the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded. The length of the recreational season and recreational ACL will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary.

Option 4a: yellowtail snapper

Option 4b: mutton snapper

Option 4c: black grouper

Alternative 5: If recreational landings reach or are projected to reach the recreational annual catch limit, National Marine Fisheries Service will file a notification with the Office of the Federal Register to close the recreational sector for the remainder of the fishing year, unless, using the best scientific information available, the Regional Administrator determines that a closure is unnecessary.

Option 5a: If the species is overfished.

Sub-Option 5a(i): yellowtail snapper

Sub-Option 5a(ii): mutton snapper

Sub-Option 5a(iii): black grouper

Option 5b: Regardless of stock status.

Sub-Option 5b(i): yellowtail snapper

Sub-Option 5b(ii): mutton snapper

Sub-Option 5b(iii): black grouper

Alternative 6: The Councils would jointly set the ACL for the recreational and commercial sector. If the combined recreational ACL and commercial ACL is met or expected to be met, both sectors would be closed for the remainder of the fishing year.

Option 6a: yellowtail snapper

Option 6b: mutton snapper

DIRECTION TO STAFF:

1. EXAMINE ADDING AN OPTION FOR BLACK GROUPER UNDER ALTERNATIVE 6

Action 11. Modify the shallow-water grouper species compositions and seasonal closures in the Gulf and South Atlantic

Alternative 1: No action. Retain the existing respective shallow-water grouper species compositions and seasonal closures in the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils.

Alternative 2: Remove the shallow-water grouper closure for all affected grouper species in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic:

Option 2a: South of 28° North latitude.

Option 2b: Throughout each Council's jurisdiction.

Alternative 3: Establish identical regulations for shallow-water grouper species compositions for the Gulf and South Atlantic south of 28° North latitude:

Option 3a: Adopt the Gulf shallow-water grouper species composition for the Gulf and South Atlantic. FL recommends deleting based on S. Grimes: "...we don't really have the shallow-water grouper complex in the Gulf anymore..." Meeting Minutes p. 158 lines 28-29

Option 3b: Adopt the South Atlantic shallow-water grouper species composition for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Option 3c: Specify a new identical shallow-water species complex for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Alternative 4: Establish identical regulations for the shallow-water grouper seasonal closures in the Gulf and South Atlantic south of 28° North latitude:

Option 4a: Adopt the Gulf shallow-water grouper seasonal closures for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Option 4b: Adopt the South Atlantic shallow-water grouper seasonal closures for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Option 4c: Establish new and identical regulations for shallow-water grouper seasonal closures in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 5: Establish identical regulations for the shallow-water grouper seasonal closures throughout the Gulf and South Atlantic:

Option 5a: Adopt the Gulf shallow-water grouper seasonal closures for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Option 5b: Adopt the South Atlantic shallow-water grouper seasonal closures for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Option 5c: Establish new and identical regulations for shallow-water grouper seasonal closures in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the FWC staff revised wording for Action 11: deleted Option 3a and revise the wording for Options 3c, 4c, and 5c.

Option 2. Approve the revised list of Action 11 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 3. Others??

**MOTION: MODIFY ALTERNATIVES 2, 3 AND 4 TO REPLACE 28 DEGREES WITH THE AREA FROM MIAMI/DADE MONROE COUNTY LINE ON THE EAST COAST AROUND TO SHARK POINT ON THE FLORIDA WEST COAST
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: ACCEPT THE REVISED WORDING FOR OPTIONS 3C, 4C, AND 5C IN ACTION 11
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: ADD A NEW ALTERNATIVE TO MODIFY THE SHALLOW-WATER GROUPER SEASONAL CLOSURE OFF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA TO ALLOW HARVEST OF OTHER SPECIES AND ONLY CLOSE HARVEST OF GAG GROUPER
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE**

**DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:
DEVELOP AN ACTION/ALTERNATIVE TO HARMONIZE THE SIZE/BAG LIMITS OFF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA FOR SPECIES INCLUDED IN THE SHALLOW-WATER GROUPER SEASONAL CLOSURES**

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 10. Modify the shallow-water grouper species compositions and seasonal closures in the Gulf and South Atlantic

Alternative 1: No action. Retain the existing respective shallow-water grouper species compositions and seasonal closures in the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils.

Alternative 2: Remove the shallow-water grouper closure for all affected grouper species in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic:

Option 2a: In the area from the Miami/Dade and Monroe County line on the east coast around to Shark Point on the Florida west coast.

Option 2b: Throughout each Council's jurisdiction.

Alternative 3: Establish identical regulations for shallow-water grouper species compositions for the Gulf and South Atlantic in the area from the Miami/Dade and Monroe County line on the east coast around to Shark Point on the Florida west coast.:

~~**Option 3a:** Adopt the Gulf shallow-water grouper species composition for the Gulf and South Atlantic.~~ FL recommends deleting based on S. Grimes: "... we don't really have the shallow-water grouper complex in the Gulf anymore..." Meeting Minutes p. 158 lines 28-29

Option 3b: Adopt the South Atlantic shallow-water grouper species composition for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Option 3c: Specify a new identical shallow-water species complex for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Alternative 4: Establish identical regulations for the shallow-water grouper seasonal closures in the Gulf and South Atlantic in the area from the Miami/Dade and Monroe County line on the east coast around to Shark Point on the Florida west coast.:

Option 4a: Adopt the Gulf shallow-water grouper seasonal closures for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Option 4b: Adopt the South Atlantic shallow-water grouper seasonal closures for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Option 4c: Establish new and identical regulations for shallow-water grouper seasonal closures in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 5: Establish identical regulations for the shallow-water grouper seasonal closures throughout the Gulf and South Atlantic:

Option 5a: Adopt the Gulf shallow-water grouper seasonal closures for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Option 5b: Adopt the South Atlantic shallow-water grouper seasonal closures for the Gulf and South Atlantic.

Option 5c: Establish new and identical regulations for shallow-water grouper seasonal closures in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 6: Modify the shallow-water grouper seasonal closure off Monroe County, Florida to allow harvest of other species and only close harvest of gag grouper.

Action 12. Modify Black Grouper Fishery Closures in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 1: No Action – Do not modify black grouper recreational closures in the Gulf of Mexico, of recreational and/or commercial closures in the South Atlantic. Maintain currently established seasonal bag limits in both the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic, with black grouper included as a component of the shallow-water grouper and reef fish aggregate bag limits.

Alternative 2: Remove black grouper from the shallow-water grouper closures of the recreational season in the Gulf and of the recreational and commercial seasons in the South Atlantic.

Alternative 3: Establish a recreational seasonal closure for black grouper.

Option 3a: January - March

Option 3b: January

Option 3c: February

Option 3d: March

Alternative 4: Remove black grouper from the shallow-water grouper closures of the recreational season in the Gulf and South Atlantic in federal waters off Florida and remove black grouper from the aggregate bag limit. Establish a one fish recreational bag limit for black grouper in Florida with an optional seasonal closure during. (Note: consider removing black grouper from the aggregate bag limit.)

Option 4a: January - March

Option 4b: January - February

Alternative 5: Remove black grouper from recreational aggregate bag limits in the Gulf of Mexico.

Option 5a: Shallow-water grouper aggregate bag limit

Option 5b: Reef fish aggregate bag limit

Alternative 6: Remove black grouper from recreational aggregate bag limits in the South Atlantic.

Option 6a: Shallow-water grouper aggregate bag limit

Option 6b: Reef fish aggregate bag limit

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the pre-IPT Group's recommendations to Action 12: add new Alternatives 5 and 6 each with two options.

Option 2. Accept the FWC staff revised wording for Action 12, Alternative 4.

Option 3. Approve the revised list of Action 12 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 4. Others??

**MOTION: ADD NEW ALTERNATIVES 5 AND 6 TO ACTION 12 WITHOUT
OPTIONS 5A, 5B, 6A, AND 6B
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: MODIFY ALTERNATIVE 4 TO TRACK THE SAME OPTIONS AS
SHOWN UNDER ALTERNATIVE 3
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE**

**MOTION: APPROVE THE REVISED WORDING FOR ALTERNATIVE 4 IN
ACTION 12:
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
Alternative 4: REMOVE BLACK GROUPER FROM THE SHALLOW-WATER
GROUPER CLOSURES OF THE RECREATIONAL SEASON IN THE GULF AND
THE RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL SEASONS IN THE SOUTH
ATLANTIC IN FEDERAL WATERS OFF FLORIDA**

**MOTION: ADD A NEW ALTERNATIVE IN ACTION 12
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE
Alternative X: REMOVE BLACK GROUPER FROM THE SHALLOW-WATER
GROUPER CLOSURES OF THE RECREATIONAL SEASON IN THE GULF AND
THE RECREATIONAL AND COMMERCIAL SEASONS IN THE SOUTH
ATLANTIC IN FEDERAL WATERS OFF MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA**

**MOTION: ADD A BAG LIMIT ALTERNATIVE FOR BLACK GROUPER
WITH OPTIONS OF 4, 3, 2, AND 1 TO ACTION 12
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE**

**DIRECTION TO STAFF/IPT:
ADD OPTIONS/ALTERNATIVES AS NECESSARY TO HAVE THE BLACK
GROUPER BAG LIMIT APPLY GULF & SOUTH ATLANTIC EEZ WIDE, JUST
IN FEDERAL WATERS OFF FLORIDA, OR OFF MONROE COUNTY,
FLORIDA**

**MOTION: REVISE THE TITLE OF ACTION 12 TO ADD “AND BAG LIMITS”
APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE**

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 11. Modify Black Grouper Fishery Closures and Bag Limits in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 1: No Action – Do not modify black grouper recreational closures in the Gulf of Mexico, of recreational and/or commercial closures in the South Atlantic. Maintain currently established seasonal bag limits in both the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic, with black grouper included as a component of the shallow-water grouper and reef fish aggregate bag limits.

Alternative 2: Remove black grouper from the shallow-water grouper closures of the recreational season in the Gulf and of the recreational and commercial seasons in the South Atlantic.

Alternative 3: Establish a recreational seasonal closure for black grouper.

Option 3a: January - March

Option 3b: January

Option 3c: February

Option 3d: March

Alternative 4: Remove black grouper from the shallow-water grouper closures of the recreational season in the Gulf and the recreational and commercial seasons in the South Atlantic in federal waters off Florida.

Option 4a: January - March

Option 4b: January

Option 4c: February

Option 4d: March

Alternative 5: Remove black grouper from recreational aggregate bag limits in the Gulf of Mexico.

Alternative 6: Remove black grouper from recreational aggregate bag limits in the South Atlantic.

Alternative 7: Remove black grouper from the shallow-water grouper closures of the recreational season in the Gulf and the recreational and commercial seasons in the South Atlantic in Federal waters off Monroe County, Florida.

Alternative 8: Modify the recreational bag limit for black grouper in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic:

Option 8a: One fish/person/day

Option 8b: Two fish/person/day

Option 8c: Three fish/person/day

Option 8d: Four fish/person/day

Option 8e: Apply this bag limit to the following area(s):

Sub-option 8e(i): Off Monroe County, Florida

Sub-option 8e(ii): In federal waters off Florida

Sub-option 8e(iii): In federal waters of the Gulf and the South Atlantic

Action 13. Changes to Circle Hook Requirement in Gulf and South Atlantic Jurisdictional Waters

Alternative 1: No action – Retain the current hook requirements in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 2: Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico.

Option 2a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 2b: For the commercial fishing sector

Alternative 3: Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for all reef fish south of 28° North latitude in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico.

Option 3a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 3b: For the commercial fishing sector

Alternative 4: Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper south of 28° North latitude in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico.

Option 4a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 4b: For the commercial fishing sector

Alternative 5: Require the use of circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for all snapper-grouper species south of 28° North latitude in the exclusive economic zone of the South Atlantic.

Option 5a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 5b: For the commercial fishing sector

Alternative 6: Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for all species in the snapper grouper complex north of 28° North latitude in the exclusive economic zone of the South Atlantic.

Option 6a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 6b: For the commercial fishing sector

Alternative 7: Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper south of 26° N latitude in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico

Option 7a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 7b: For the commercial fishing sector

IPT Note: The Committee may wish to consider establishing safeguards to ensure that a vessel fishing for yellowtail snapper with hooks other than circle hooks is not also actively fishing for other reef fish species for which circle hooks are still required.

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Accept the pre-IPT Group's recommendations to Action 13: revise the wording of Alternative 1, add new Alternatives 4 and 5 each with two options, and revise the wording of Alternative 7.

Option 2. Approve the revised list of Action 13 alternatives for detailed analyses.

Option 3. Others??

MOTION: MODIFY ALTERNATIVE 7 IN ACTION 13 TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE

Alternative 7. Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper Shark Point around to Miami/Dade/Monroe County, line:

Option 7a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 7b: For the commercial fishing sector

MOTION: ACCEPT THE LANGUAGE SUGGESTED BY THE IPT IN ALTERNATIVES 4 & 5

APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

MOTION: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 3 OF ACTION 13 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

RESTATED ACTION ADDRESSING MOTIONS AND GUIDANCE TO STAFF:

Action 12. Changes to Circle Hook Requirement in Gulf and South Atlantic Jurisdictional Waters

Alternative 1: No action – Retain the current hook requirements in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 2: Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico.

Option 2a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 2b: For the commercial fishing sector

Alternative 3: Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper south of 28° North latitude in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico.

Option 3a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 3b: For the commercial fishing sector

Alternative 4: Require the use of circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for all snapper-grouper species south of 28° North latitude in the exclusive economic zone of the South Atlantic.

Option 4a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 4b: For the commercial fishing sector

Alternative 5. Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for all species in the snapper grouper complex north of 28° North latitude in the exclusive economic zone of the South Atlantic.

Option 5a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 5b: For the commercial fishing sector

Alternative 6. Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper Shark Point around to Miami/Dade/Monroe County line

Option 6a: For the recreational fishing sector

Option 6b: For the commercial fishing sector

NEW ACTION FROM DIRECTION TO STAFF UNDER OLD ACTION 11

Action 13. Harmonize the size and bag limits off Monroe County, Florida

Alternative 1: No action – Retain the current size and bag limits for species included in the shallow-water grouper seasonal closures in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 2: Harmonize the size limits for species included in the shallow-water grouper seasonal closures in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

Alternative 3: Harmonize the bag limits for species included in the shallow-water grouper seasonal closures in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic.

HOGFISH OPTIONS

The Keys/EFL Hogfish Stock is overfished and undergoing overfishing; preliminary projections indicate can be rebuilt within 10 years; guidance on risk needed by FWC to run final projections; SAFMC to discuss at March and hopefully get final projections for June meeting. The percentage of the Keys/EFL Hogfish Stock that has been harvested from Gulf jurisdiction has ranged from 4.3%-13.3%. This seems too high to ignore from a biological perspective.

Options for management authority:

- 1. SAFMC true lead with SA Amendment** – would only manage in SAFMC area and miss 4.3-13.3% of landings. Not viable and would create a loophole in an area that is already prone to such things, which is also the area of the most catch, thereby severely undermining the rebuilding.
- 2. Gulf Council delegate management of hogfish in the Gulf Council's area of Monroe County to the SAFMC** – Gulf Council may have concerns and would require a plan amendment on their part to do this. However, given the low level of landings, particularly as compared to the WFL stock, they may not object and they could do this when dealing with the WFL stock fishing level recommendations.
- 3. Move hogfish back into the Joint Council Amendment** – seems the most reasonable approach as it keeps FL well involved and makes coordinating the recommendations more efficient.

MOTION: ADD AN ACTION/ACTIONS RELATED TO HOGFISH BACK INTO THE AMENDMENT AND GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF TO DEVELOP ALTERNATIVES SIMILAR TO THOSE DEVELOPED FOR THE OTHER SPECIES

MOTION WITHDRAWN

MOTION: DEVELOP AN OPTIONS PAPER RELATED TO HOGFISH AND GIVE DIRECTION TO STAFF TO DEVELOP ALTERNATIVES SIMILAR TO THOSE DEVELOPED FOR THE OTHER SPECIES FOR REVIEW AT THE JUNE JOINT COUNCIL MEETING

APPROVED BY SAFMC COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY GMFMC COMMITTEE

DIRECTION TO STAFF:

EXPLORE OPTIONS FOR HAVING A DATA POOR STOCK ASSESSMENT CONDUCTED FOR SPECKLED HIND & WARSAW GROUPER; THIS WOULD INCLUDE SOMEONE TO COMPILE THE DATA/GREY LITERATURE/ETC.

TIMING

- A. Group to meet January 13-14, 2015 in Key West, FL.
- B. Council reviews and approves for public hearings – June 2015
 - a. SAFMC
 - b. GMFMC
- C. Public hearings – August 2015
- D. Council reviews public hearing input and approves actions
 - a. SAFMC – September 2015
 - b. GMFMC – October 2015
- E. Councils approves for final review
 - a. SAFMC – December 2015
 - b. GMFMC – January 2016

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Discuss Format
- B. Discuss Locations & Dates

DIRECTION TO STAFF:

USE 5 LOCATIONS IN FL FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS THAT WERE USED FOR SCOPING; ADD WEBINARS; MADERIA BEACH AREA; COUNCIL FORMAT OK; VIDEO WITH COMMENT FORMS (GULF STAFF FOR ENTIRE AREA)

JOINT SOUTH FLORIDA COMMITTEE WOULD MEET SOMETIME IN SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER/EARLY NOVEMBER TO REVIEW PUBLIC HEARINGS; MEET IN KEY WEST OR KEY LARGO; DOODLE POLL FOR LAST 2 WEEKS IN OCTOBER

GENERIC JOINT GMFMC/SAFMC AMENDMENT

COMMITTEE ACTION:

Option 1. Approve sending the Joint GMFMC/SAFMC Amendment to the GMFMC and SAFMC for their consideration.

Option 2. Others??