Procedural options available for managing South Florida Species.

The councils could decide to use different options for different species and not manage each species the same way. When considering the options, keep in mind federal fishery permit and enforcement issues.

- 1. The SAFMC and GMFMC amend their existing FMPs to standardize the management measures for each South Florida Species.
- 2. The SAFMC and the GMFMC decide which council will manage all, or some of, the South Florida Species. The councils would then request the Secretary of Commerce to extend the authority of the managing council into the non-managing council's area of jurisdiction for those species. The managing council amends their existing FMP(s) to standardize the management measures. This is similar to what the councils recently did for Nassau grouper.
- 3. The SAFMC and GMFMC develop a joint FMP for South Florida Species, and those species would then be removed from their existing FMP. The councils manage the South Florida Species as they jointly manage under the Coastal Migratory Pelagics FMP.
- 4. The SAFMC and GMFMC develop a joint FMP for South Florida Species, and those species would then be removed from their existing FMP. The councils manage the South Florida Species as they jointly manage under the Spiny Lobster FMP and let Florida take the lead on management issues.
- 5. The SAFMC and GMFMC remove South Florida Species from their existing FMPs and let Florida manage Florida registered vessels in the EEZ off Florida under section 306(a)(3)(A) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.
- 6. The SAFMC and GMFMC retain South Florida Species in their existing FMPs or develop a joint FMP, and delegate management of the South Florida Species to the state of Florida under section 306(a)(3)(B) of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. That section of the Magnuson-Stevens Act requires a state's laws and regulations to be consistent with the FMP(s). This option is less complicated if the species only occurs off Florida.
- 7. The Secretary regulates the South Florida Species using preemption under Magnuson Stevens Act section 306(b). This requires, among other things, that the fishing in the fishery is predominately engaged within federal waters.