Wreckfish notes 20170927

1. BB contains 4 files pertaining to the wreckfish ITQ review, all under TAB 5.
* SG A8a, a generic ITQ review presentation (almost identical one seen by shareholders)
* SG A8b, Shareholder meeting report
* SG A8c, minutes from the shareholders meeting
* SG A8d, a generic outline to be followed in preparing the ITQ review report
1. The current review that the Council started in June will be considered a subsequent review, not an initial review.
2. In 2009 Kate Quigley did a review of the Wreckfish ITQ prior to the current review guidelines being released. However, that review suffices as an initial review.
3. A meeting of ITQ shareholders was held in early August in Daytona Beach. Transcript of the meeting and a summary report are in the BB (TAB 05 SG\_A8…).
4. All but 2 shareholders were able to attend. The only ones who were not able to attend were the two shareholders in the Keys because they were busy getting spiny lobster traps ready. They were able to respond to the discussion topics in writing prior to the meeting and their comments were read into the record and included in the discussion. Neither of the ITQ participants from the Keys are actively fishing their quota shares. However, one of them told me he is planning to in the future.
5. Fishermen gave input on the basic concepts to be covered in the review:
* Most, but not all, wanted to do away with the paper coupons and go electronic
* Several years ago, the ACL was reduced and currently is 393,490 lbs ww.
* Until the ACL can be increased, they don’t see the need to change the program in terms of eligibility, new entrants, or distribution of shares.
* They didn’t want changes to transferability or accumulation caps.
* Shareholders didn’t support the concept of cost recovery, but if it is looked into more closely, they would like more accurate estimates of the LE costs associated with the program, originally estimated to be $20,000/year.
* The program currently requires designated offloading site and unloading is allowed only from 8 am – 5 pm. This went into place when there were many participants. The fishery is greatly consolidated. Shareholders find this to be burdensome at this point.
* When the ITQ was established there was no duration for the awarded shares. Fishermen want it to stay that way.
1. Shareholders requested that the SS comment on the data deficiencies for the fishery and what additional data would be needed to reconsider the ACL.
2. Shareholders would like for the SEFSC and Council to explain how the SA managed species are prioritized for assessments as they are not happy with where wreckfish is on the planned assessment list.
3. Review outline

This generally follows the sections outlined in Jessica’s presentation. The outline in the BB has some generic narrative already in it.

1. In December, you should see
* a rough, initial and probably incomplete version of the review
* receive comments from the SSC