

**FINAL**  
**SUMMARY REPORT**  
**EXECUTIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**  
**Jekyll Island, GA**  
**March 7, 2019**

The Committee approved minutes from the February 2019 webinar meeting and the agenda.

**Status of 2019 and 2020 CCC Meetings**

Council staff reviewed the revised dates for 2019: May 13-16, 2019 in Charleston, SC and November 5-7, 2019 in Washington, DC. The Executive Directors are recommending the following dates for 2020: May 26-29, 2020 hosted by the WPFMC and September 22-25, 2020 in Washington, DC. If Council members are interested in attending the May CCC meeting in Charleston, please contact Jessica McCawley.

**Magnuson-Stevens Act Reauthorization**

Council staff briefly reviewed the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2018 and noted that guidelines will be available in the future after NOAA Fisheries receives some guidance from the Administration. The Senate Staff Working Draft indicates where the Senate is likely to begin work and Council members were asked to send comments to Gregg Waugh by close of business on March 15, 2019. Council staff will work with the Chair to draft a letter in response to the request from Senate staff. The House will likely propose a different bill and we will respond to that when asked for comments using the CCC Working Paper to develop comments.

**CCC Working Paper**

The Working Paper was updated, and Jessica McCawley noted some additional wording that needed to be incorporated into Topic 16. Cooperative Research. The Committee approved adding this wording by consensus and the proposed wording is shown below. If any Council members has concerns about any of the wording in the CCC Working Paper, please provide your suggestions/concerns to Gregg Waugh.

**South Atlantic:**

*Requiring a written plan for implementing and conducting research to meet the Councils' management needs would greatly improve the South Atlantic Council's ability to manage South Atlantic fisheries. Specifying an update every 5 years with a brief description of projects that were funded in the prior 5-year period and the research and management needs that were addressed by those projects would inject accountability and improve the chances needed research would be conducted. The South Atlantic Council believes partnering with stakeholders to use fishing vessels to deploy acoustic or other marine technology, expanding the use of electronic catch reporting programs and technology, and improving monitoring and observer coverage through the expanded use of electronic monitoring devices, excluding VMS, would be very helpful. The South Atlantic Council required federally-permitted snapper grouper commercial and for-hire vessels use video monitoring if selected since 2008 (Snapper Grouper Amendment 15B); however, to date, none have been selected. The South Atlantic Council has worked with partners to develop applications for charter vessel reporting and private*

*recreational permitting/reporting application. The South Atlantic Council believes that working with stakeholders and using innovative technologies is essential to address current and anticipated data needs.*

### **Draft Calendar Year (CY) January-December 2019 Operational Budget**

Council staff briefly reviewed the draft budget and mentioned in the future, the abbreviated table will be included in the briefing book. The Committee approved this budget at the February webinar meeting (see below). The Committee directed staff to check the MAFMC agenda and coordinate sending a liaison when the agenda is relevant to the SAFMC.

### **Council Follow-up and Priorities & Tiering**

The Committee was briefed on updates to the Follow Up and Effects of the Federal Government Shutdown documents. The Committee discussed priorities for the next three Council meetings. Additionally, the Committee noted that the Council will not be working on SG 44 – Yellowtail snapper long term management measures until the next yellowtail snapper stock assessment is completed. Additionally, the Marine Aquaculture Plan is on hold until legal issues related to the Council’s authority to develop such a plan are resolved. The Committee recommends the following items be taken up at the next two Council meetings:

#### June 2019 Council Meeting

- SG Reg 30 – Red Grouper Rebuilding
- SG Reg 29 – Best Practices & Powerheads
- DW 10 – Dolphin ACL sharing, OY, etc.
- Update on SG 38 – Blueline tilefish
- Allocation Review Trigger Plan
- Options Paper on king mackerel trip limits in Season 2
- Wreckfish ITQ Review
- Update on the items in CMP 24 – Spanish mackerel allocations
- Scoping for Bullet and Frigate Mackerel
- Options paper for removing Jacks from the Snapper Grouper FMP
- Presentation on history of allocations, etc.
- Update from the SSC on their discussions of MRIP

#### September 2019 Council Meeting

- SG Reg 29 – Best Practices & Powerheads
- SG 46 – Recreational Permit & Reporting
- SG Reg 31/DW Reg 2 – Recreational AMs
- SG 45/GC 11/Sargassum 4/Coral 11 – ABC Control Rule
- Commercial Electronic Logbooks
- Wreckfish ITQ Review
- Coral 10/Shrimp 11/GC 10 – GC Fishing areas/Oculina extension/transit provisions
- Update on Bycatch Reporting
- Establish SMZs Amendment
- Allocation discussion based on June presentation – allow 4 hours

## **Other Business**

Council staff stated that other Councils have provided comments on the final rule for Financial Disclosures & Voting Recusals and they are more affected by this policy. This has not been an issue for the South Atlantic Council. The important point is to keep your financial disclosure document updated, especially if you purchase any additional shares, etc. The Committee stated that the South Atlantic Council did not need to write a response about the proposed rule for Financial Disclosures and Voting Recusals given the comments provided by other Councils.

## **Motions:**

The Committee approved the following motion:

**MOTION#1. APPROVE THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019 OPERATIONAL BUDGET.**

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

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**Note:** Council staff drafts the timing and task motion based on Committee action. If points require clarification, they will be added to the draft motion. The Committee should review this wording carefully to be sure it accurately reflects their intent prior to making the motion.

## **Timing and Task(s)**

**MOTION #2. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):**

- 1) Direct staff to prepare draft comments on the Senate Staff Working Draft MSA Reauthorization bill. Comments from Council members are due to Gregg Waugh by 3/15/19; Gregg will work with the Chair to send in final comments by the end of March.
- 2) Revise the CCC Working Paper and provide the revised document to Dave Witherell, Chair of the CCC Legislative Committee.
- 3) Direct staff to prepare a revised draft 2019 Calendar Year (CY) January-December budget once the final grant amount is known and bring back for approval at the June 2019 meeting.
- 4) Direct staff to work on the following items for the June 2019 Council meeting:
  - SG Reg 30 – Red Grouper Rebuilding
  - SG Reg 29 – Best Practices & Powerheads
  - DW 10 – Dolphin ACL sharing, OY, etc.
  - Update on SG 38 – Blueline tilefish
  - Allocation Review Trigger Plan
  - Options Paper on king mackerel trip limits in Season 2
  - Wreckfish ITQ Review
  - Update on the items in CMP 24 – Spanish mackerel allocations
  - Scoping for Bullet and Frigate Mackerel
  - Options paper for removing Jacks from the Snapper Grouper FMP
  - Presentation on history of allocations, etc.
  - Update from the SSC on their discussions of MRIP
  - RED SNAPPER FRAMEWORK

APPROVED BY COUNCIL