SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

COUNCIL SESSION

Hutchinson Island Marriott Stuart, FL

June 14, 2013

SUMMARY MINUTES

Council Members:

David Cupka, Chair

Mel Bell

Martha Bademan

Anna Beckwith

Charlie Phillips

Tom Swatzel

David Cupka, Chair

Ben Hartig, Vice-Chair

Dr. Roy Crabtree

Steve Amick

Dr. Michelle Duval

Tom Burgess

LCDR Scot Gibson

Doug Haymans

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Mike Collins John Carmichael
Dr. Kari MacLauchlin Myra Brouwer
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Julie O'Dell Dr. Brian Cheuvront
Anna Martin Amber Von Harten

Observers/Participants:

Monica Smit-Brunello Dr. Jack McGovern

Dr. Bonnie Ponwith Otha Easley
Lt. Morgan Fowler John Sanchez

Additional Attendees Attached

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The Council Session of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council convened in the Plantation Room of the Hutchinson Island Marriott, Friday morning, June 14, 2013, and was called to order at 8:30 o'clock a.m. by Chairman David Cupka.

MR. CUPKA: I would like to go ahead and get started and remind everyone that we are starting with a closed session this morning. If you need to leave, we've got a minute to do so and then we will get started. Okay, if we can have your attention, we will go ahead and get started, and, Monica. I will turn it over to you to bring up the issue or issues you wanted to bring to our attention.

(Whereupon, a closed session for a legal briefing was held.)

MR. CUPKA: All right, we can go ahead and open up the meeting. I am going to go ahead and call us to order. The first order of business is the adoption of the agenda. Are there any additions to the agenda? Seeing none; then our agenda is approved. Next will be approval of our May 2013 webinar meeting minutes. Are there any corrections or additions to the minutes of our webinar meeting? Tom.

MR. SWATZEL: It's a minor change. It is on Page 30, I believe it is paragraph number six, and it is where I was talking about the reasons we shouldn't adopt VMS. The word used in the minutes is "must" and actually the word should be "much".

MR. CUPKA: Okay, so noted. Are there any other additions or corrections to the minutes? Seeing none; then our minutes are approved. I did want to take this opportunity to recognize Lieutenant Morgan Fowler who is replacing Scot Gibson. Scott, we want to thank you for all your participation.

I know it hasn't been a long time, but we wish you the best in your new assignment at Port-au-Prince, Haiti. It may not be quite as interesting as our council meetings, but then on the other hand it may be more interesting. But, anyway, we wish you the best on that and we look forward to working with Lieutenant Fowler, so thank you very much.

Also, I wanted to recognize John Sanchez who is the Gulf Council liaison at this meeting. Some of you who are new may not know it, but at one time John was a member of this council. How long ago was that, John? It's been a while. Well, we won't discuss that but let's just say –

MR. MAHOOD: He was too controversial for us.

MR. CUPKA: Yes. Anyway, we welcome you, John, and appreciate you being here representing the Gulf Council this week.

MR. MAHOOD: Glad to see you back.

MR. CUPKA: Also at this time I want to recognize and to thank one of our council members. Mr. Tom Burgess decided not to seek reappointment to the council and so this will be Tom's last meeting with us. Certainly, over the years he has been on the council Tom has been a very quiet, but a very thoughtful council member and certainly our go-to man when it came to potting issues and black sea bass issues.

We're going to miss you, Tom, and we wish you all the best. We've got a little memento here for you so you will remember your years with us. It says, "Proudly presented by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council to Tom Burgess for his distinguished service to the council and outstanding contributions in the conservation and management of our nation's marine fisheries resources." It is 2010 to 2013. Tom, if you will come forward. (Applause)

MR. BURGESS: Well, thank you very much for that recognition, and I certainly do appreciate it. I appreciate the opportunity to serve on the council and it has been a great experience for me. I would like to thank all of the people that I work with. I think there is a great, wonderful, professional work ethic with everyone and everybody's staff.

Roy, Bonnie, and Bob, I think your staffs are so valuable to council members, but also to fishermen. Before I came on the council, I felt I had great information available to me. As a council member that continued. I feel completely confident that as I go back into my day job, commercial fishing; that this information will still be available not only to me but to all fishermen. Good quality, timely information to help make informed decisions. Thank you very much.

MR. CUPKA: Thanks again, Tom, and we are going to miss you. I hope you will come back and see us sometime.

MR. BURGESS: On the other side.

MR. CUPKA: All right, we're going to go right into our committee reports and our first one is snapper grouper. I'm going to ask Dr. Duval if she is prepared to give her Snapper Grouper Committee Report.

DR. DUVAL: Thank you Mr. Chairman; I am indeed. The Snapper Grouper Committee met in Stuart, Florida, on June 11th and 12th, 2013. The Committee received reports from the Southeast Regional Office on the status of commercial and recreational landings for snapper grouper species respectively.

Committee members inquired as to whether the headboat data would be available on a timely basis, since the science center established a requirement for electronic reporting. Dr. Bonnie Ponwith replied that the majority of headboats are currently reporting electronically so it is expected that headboat landings will be available on the same periodicity as the MRIP landings. Dr. Ponwith explained that even though the council's generic headboat amendment will require weekly electronic reporting, data would still need to be validated and hence would not be available for two months. In the past headboat landings had not been available until after the end of the year.

The Southeast Regional Office staff presented an overview of the science center report; total removals of red snapper in 2012 from the U.S. Atlantic, which included estimates of the total red snapper removals, landings and dead discards in 2012. SERO staff also presented how the 2013 ACL had been calculated using the methodology implemented through Amendment 28.

In addition the Committee received estimates of how long the commercial and recreational miniseasons would last in 2013. The commercial season was estimated to last as much as 49 days

under a 75-pound trip limit. The recreational season could last from 3 to 6.8 days depending on the catch rate.

For-hire representatives on the council and U.S. Coast Guard representatives indicated that four to six weeks would be an adequate amount of time to notify the public of an upcoming opening. Dr. Ponwith reiterated how valuable the assistance from the states was during the 2012 openings and requested that states again consider assisting with sampling and monitoring since MRIP does not have the ability to monitor a pulse fishery.

The Committee requested guidance from NOAA GC as to whether a three-day recreational opening was still an option since the estimates of season length are more than three days. If not, then the council would only have the option of opening recreational red snapper harvest for two three-day weekends.

The Committee also received an update from SERO staff on the status of snapper grouper amendments under review. Regulatory Amendment 13, the final rule will publish in the next week. Regulatory Amendment 15 was expected to be effective in late August or early September.

Amendment 28 was approved on June 11. Amendment 27, the proposed rule package is under review. Regulatory Amendment 18 is expected to be effective in August; and Regulatory Amendment 19, the proposed rule package is under review. The Committee also received a presentation on the fishery-independent survey efforts in the South Atlantic in 2012.

Dr. Marcel Reichert gave the presentation, which included efforts by the Marine Resources Monitoring and Assessment Program, or MARMAP; the Southeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program, SEAMAP; and the Southeast Fishery Independent Survey, SEFIS. Captain Robert Johnson, Chair of the Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel, went over the summary report from the April 2013 meeting.

Dr. Luiz Barbieri, Chair of the SSC. presented SSC recommendations; in particular the proposed process for the SSC to evaluate stock assessments that are conducted outside the regular council agency channels; in other words, SEDAR. The Executive Finance Committee will review the proposed framework. Staff then guided the Committee through the actions and proposed Regulatory Amendment 14. The Committee made the following motions. The first motion was to approve the IPT suggestion for modifications to the needs statement as follows: ensure commercial harvest of greater amberjack occurs during March of each year; allow for consistent management of gray triggerfish off South Atlantic states; reduce harvest of hogfish; allow harvest of black sea bass and vermilion snapper to occur during times of the year when the harvest of co-occurring species is occurring; allow recreational harvest of gag to increase to achieve optimum yield and ensure overfishing of gag and vermilion snapper does not occur.

On behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion? I think one of the things that we need to do is actually fix this statement, because we did remove two actions dealing with management of gray triggerfish and harvest of hogfish. Myra, do you need a motion to modify that statement or simply direction to staff to go ahead and fix that? If that is okay with everyone,

we'll just provide direction to staff to modify the needs statement accordingly. With that said, is there any objection to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

Action 1; modify the fishing year for greater amberjack. The motion was to select Alternative 2 as the preferred and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion, any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

For Action 2, which was to change the measurement method for gray triggerfish to have consistency between state and federal waters. The committee moved to remove Action 2 from Regulatory Amendment 14, and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion, any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next action was to increase the minimum size limit for hogfish and the Committee moved to remove Action 3 from Regulatory Amendment 14 and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion, any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next action was Action 4, which is to modify the fishing year for the black sea bass recreational sector, and the Committee voted to select Alternative 3 as the preferred and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion?

DR. CRABTREE: My recollection is if we do this, we'll have April 1 for recreational sea bass and then what did we do, May 1, or where did we put the commercial?

DR. DUVAL: The commercial season would start – the preferred alternative that we selected was a commercial season start date of January 1, but only for the hook-and-line sector with a range of trip limit options of 100, 200, or 300 pounds; and then the pot season would open May 1st, at which point the trip limit for both sectors would increase to 1,000 pounds.

DR. CRABTREE: The fishing year would be January 1 for the commercial fishery.

DR. DUVAL: The fishing year would be January 1; that is the alternative.

DR. CRABTREE: We need staff to really take a look at the implications of getting the commercial and recreational fishing years split apart by that in terms of tracking ACLs, implementing accountability measures and all of those kinds of things. I am concerned that will ultimately cause us some problems, but maybe it won't, I don't know. I just think someone needs to think that through and take a look at it.

MR. HARTIG: Well, if we get rid of the whale season, we could probably get something a little closer.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, that doesn't change the fishing year, though.

MR. HARTIG: It could.

DR. CRABTREE: All I'm saying is we need to understand if we're going to have these fishing years so far apart for the two sectors, we need to understand what the implications of that are.

MR. BURGESS: As far as the preferred, if I can remember correctly, the discussion at the time that this action came up, because there was no analysis done on the one alternative I thought we had just adjusted the alternative and added the trip limits around the –

DR. DUVAL: No, you are correct, Tom, we did not select that as a preferred. That was just an alternative that was added. Thank you.

MR. PHILLIPS: Roy, would it matter if we moved the recreational fishing year to January 1, but we didn't open their season until April or whenever it is?

DR. CRABTREE: I don't know, Charlie, and I'm not saying that we shouldn't do this. I'm just saying that we need to be aware that we are setting up this disparity. If you have things like paybacks and all of those kinds of things; that may significantly complicate tracking these ACLs. We need to have staff take a careful look at that so before we take final action on this, we know what we're getting into.

MR. PHILLIPS: Well, since I'm thinking on the fly, it seems like we could do the recreational and then let them start fishing at their regular time and then it might just clean up everything.

DR. DUVAL: I'm not sure I understand what you're saying.

MR. PHILLIPS: Well, they are going to catch their – it is not like vermilion they are going to fish all year. Once they start, their season is going to last three months or whatever. They are going to catch the same amount of fish; it is more just how you account for the fish I am thinking. It may be easier for them to do their accounting if it all starts at the same time. I am not quite sure how; but if they say it does, then again we can direct staff and if there is an issue then we can change it.

DR. DUVAL: Yes, I think as Roy has indicated, we can ask staff to look at this in the analysis.

MR. HAYMANS: I was just going to suggest that there is a range of alternatives in both the actions that would line the seasons up if need be. Hopefully, the analysis will reflect those and we can take on that when we go to make final action.

DR. DUVAL: Is there anymore discussion on this motion? Anna.

MS. BECKWITH: Not on this motion.

DR. DUVAL: Is there any objection to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

MS. BECKWITH: I would like to add an additional alternative to this action, if I may. Myra has written it out for us to take a look at. I will go ahead and read it: The intention of this alternative would be to replace the current in-season closure for black seas bass now that the stock has recovered.

The wording is: "For the black seas bass recreational sector; the National Marine Fisheries Service will annually announce the recreational fishing season start and end dates

in the Federal Register and by other methods as deemed appropriate. The fishing season will start on April 1st and end on the date the National Marine Fisheries Service projects the recreational ACL will be met.

"If landings exceed the recreational ACL, the National Marine Fisheries Service will reduce the length of the following recreational season to ensure recreational landings do not exceed the recreational ACL in the following fishing year. If landings are less than the recreational ACL, the National Marine Fisheries Service will adjust the length of the following recreational season by the amount necessary to ensure the recreational ACL is landed." If I can get a second, I will go ahead and add that as a direction.

DR. DUVAL: There is a motion by Anna; seconded by Doug. Discussion?

MS. BECKWITH: Then the additional piece is that ideally the end projection date would be available by or near March 1st. The intention of this is to allow the recreational and the for-hire industry to be able to plan around their seasons.

DR. CRABTREE: I see where you are going with it and I think I am supportive of the concept. It seems to me what this really is doing is changing the accountability mechanism and mainly it is removing the in-season closure authority. But, Myra, my understanding is with sea bass the payback provision is still in place and it is not dependent on stock status.

It seems to me if you are going to eliminate the in-season closure, you better eliminate the payback, because otherwise you may end up with a really unpleasant surprise. It seems to me to do what you're doing here really would be a separate action to relook at the accountability measures for sea bass. It would probably have more than one alternative. I think if we're going to get rid of the in-season, we better deal with the payback provision to make sure we don't run up a big deficit.

MR. HAYMANS: My comment was sort of in that direction in that we were presented with several options of where the season could wind up, ranging from 87 days to 200 days. Although I would prefer that 200 day season, wow, it could really run over. I guess my comment is more to the point of do we need to give staff direction on where we want to land as far as that range of options?

Do we want to be as conservative as possible; do we want to be as liberal; or do we want to be in that middle? Which of those projections will we prefer? The mixed one is what I would be thinking. The SIMRA projection, the half SIMRA, whatever the other was, I'm sorry, I can't remember all the –

DR. DUVAL: You're talking about the projection methodology that is used to project when the season would start and when it would close if we need to give direction to staff on that.

MR. HAYMANS: On principle this is where I would love to be for all of our fisheries is a domed season.

DR. CRABTREE: I think guidance of how risk averse you want to be on it would be fine. I wouldn't get into the weeds of which model do you want to use. By the time this is done and put

in place, it will be after this coming season has come and gone, and all those models will then be changed and redone, because the most useful information will be how long is this season and what did they catch and what were the catch rates.

That will all be done over again. I think any kind of guidance on how risk averse you want to be, but that gets again into accountability measures and do you want to set a catch target with an ACT and all of those kinds of things. You know, if we had a catch target set in place, the chances of having a stable season are better, because now you've got some buffer between the catch limit that triggers accountability and what you are trying to do.

The downside is some of your constituents might not like that there is a buffer there. Buffers are hard to sell to folks these days. I wouldn't get into the weeds of which model, because those all could be different by the time we do this estimation next year.

DR. DUVAL: Roy, it seems to me like what you might be suggesting is if this is a new action; a couple of subalternatives, maybe one that uses the ACT to project when the season might close and one using the ACL.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes, I think just some guidance to staff that we would like to see an alternative in here that relooks at the accountability measures and that our goal is to eliminate the in-season closures and bring stability to the season, so that it changes as little as possible from year to year. Then I think they will just have to go back and come up with a range of alternatives for us to consider at the next meeting.

MR. HARTIG: Yes, I think part of what I wrote in the visioning is this is what we should do is define our seasons going forward. I think it is a great idea. The only problem I had was are we trying to do too much too soon with this; but then when Roy said that we'll already have the season behind us so we can look at the landing levels, that was my concern; that we wouldn't have what is going to happen in this season with the significant, substantial increase in the ACLs, and we will have that. I am a little bit more on board.

MR. WAUGH: We should have clear direction that there should be an alternative in there that in that top paragraph replaces ACL with ACT; because if you calculate your season, the length of the season based on your ACT, remember what that allows you to do is then you are saying here is the season length and we are aiming for our ACT, but we know we are going to have variations up and down.

What you hope is when you go up, you don't go above your ACL. We should at least have an alternative that calculates a season based on the ACT; but then you track your landings and no action is taken unless you exceed the ACL. I think that can be explained so that the public understands you are not creating a buffer. What you are doing is giving them a set schedule. We know that based on availability, you are going to have fluctuations up and down, but no additional action will be taken unless the ACL is exceeded.

MS. BECKWITH: Sure, I would be fine with that as an additional alternative. I think our discussion was with projecting for the ACT, certainly that leaves over 100,000 pounds on the table potentially if we hit it on the dime. Certainly; as an alternative, that would be fine. Just to follow up on Roy's point, taking out the payback provision as well in this apparently new action.

MR. BELL: I was just going to say I really like the idea. What we are doing right now is we've got a much better ACL we're starting with. We're really kind of closing our eyes and hoping for the best, and we don't really know what's going to happen. But when it hits, we'll be closing. I love the idea of having more of an expectation of what the fishermen can expect and some stability for planning. I think what this needs to be is a little more generic in terms of guidance so we've got options to explore to get the best result, but I really like the concept.

MR. HAYMANS: This comes back to us in Amendment 14 to look at, but we could potentially move it to something else if we want to implement it, right? If we get the 2013 fishing year behind us, we see where it is, it may be that we want to hold off and move it to the next fishing year. The next comment then is also are we going to move this from an alternative to an action?

DR. DUVAL: Yes, Myra has actually modified the motion to indicate that it would be a new action to Regulatory Amendment 14, so we'll need to read that in provided that is okay with the motion maker, and I think you were the seconder on that motion. Realistically, this amendment is – I mean we're sending this out for public hearing in August.

It will come back to us in September where we will get the results of public input. As you indicated, if we want to move forward with it at that point, we can continue doing so. If we are able to take final approval in September, then it may be in effect for the 2014 fishing year. If you all decide you want to wait, then it would certainly be a subsequent year after that.

The motion reads add a new action to Regulatory Amendment 14 to modify the accountability measures for black sea bass. Include the following as an alternative: "For the black sea bass recreational sector, NMFS will annually announce the recreational fishing season start and end dates in the federal register and by other methods as deemed appropriate. The fishing season will start on April 1 and end on the date NMFS projects the recreational ACL will be met.

"If landings exceed the recreational ACL, NMFS will reduce the length of the following recreational fishing season to ensure recreational landings do not exceed the recreational ACL in the following fishing year. If landings are less than the recreational ACL, NMFS will adjust the length of the following recreational fishing season by the amount necessary to ensure the recreational ACL is landed."

Below that we have lots of direction to staff to indicate that the season length would be announced in the Federal Register on or near March 1 and include an alternative that calculates the season length based on the ACT and that management action is triggered only if the ACL is exceeded and include an alternative to remove the payback provision. Let's indicate that this is recreational. We're just specifying that it is recreational black sea bass. Is there anymore discussion on this motion? Is there any opposition to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next action was Action 5 to modify the fishing year for the black sea bass commercial sector. The Committee moved to move Alternative 5 to the considered but rejected appendix, and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion, any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next motion was to move Alternatives 3 and 4 to the considered but rejected appendix, and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next motion was to add an alternative that would change the commercial fishing year to start January 1; establish a trip limit for the hook-and-line sector until harvest with pots opens on May 1; consider trip limits of 100 pounds, 200 pounds, and 300 pounds. On May 1 the trip limit would be 1,000 pounds for both sectors. On behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

Next we had a motion to direct staff to begin development of a regulatory amendment that would remove the November 1 to April 30 black sea bass pot closure; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Obviously, the intent would be to do this after the Regulatory Amendment 19 is published; after the Final Rule is published.

The next action was to modify the commercial fishing seasons for vermilion snapper. The Committee made the motion to select Alternative 3, Subalternative 3C as the preferred; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion?

DR. CRABTREE: Yes, I think we all got an e-mail from Robert Johnson kind of offering some more information on the AP's position, which was not to do this. He argued that this would leave fishermen tied up at the dock, and I guess he is talking about later in the year when the second season closes. I guess I have doubts as to whether this is the right thing to do or not given the position of the AP.

MS. BADEMAN: Yes, I was going to bring up the same points. I talked to Robert about this and he sent his e-mail, and I think he felt pretty strongly about this. I think we should reconsider and look at what the AP is recommending.

MR. PHILLIPS: Well, we are going to keep looking at it, because it is not a preferred and it was just going out to public hearing.

DR. DUVAL: It is a preferred.

MR. PHILLIPS: Well, it is going out to public hearing and we change it quite often after we hear from the public. Again, I think it does lower discards, and again we don't have any representation from a commercial fisherman that fishes in the middle of that zone. My inclination is just leave it alone and take it to public hearing. If we need to change it after public hearing, then so be it.

DR. DUVAL: One thing I will know, and then I'll get to Ben, is that the calculations that you saw in the decision document did not take into account the trip limit step-down that we approved in Regulatory Amendment 18. If you recall, we modified the commercial trip limit to be 1,000 pounds with a step-down to 500 pounds when 75 percent of each split season ACL was met. Just to let you all know that once the appropriate numbers are incorporated, that would push out those projected season closure dates a little bit.

MR. HARTIG: Well, the fishermen in Florida were real concerned about this. They wanted to see equal allocation of the increases in each of the seasons. They gave the reason that in the wintertime they do get to fish and they can catch some of these fish and in the summer not so much, so they were real concerned. The fact that the season closed in six weeks this past winter would be another excellent reason to try and extend that a little bit longer in the wintertime so those guys can fish for a longer period of time.

DR. DUVAL: Well, what's your pleasure?

DR. CRABTREE: Well, I'm going to offer a substitute motion that we make Alternative 1 the preferred alternative, and I'll give some of my rationale if I get a second.

MS. BADEMAN: I'll second.

DR. DUVAL: Motion by Roy; seconded by Martha to select Alternative 1 as the preferred, which is no action.

DR. CRABTREE: I've heard the advice of the AP and the concerns of the fishermen. I hear Charlie's arguments on the other side of that and I think that is fair enough, but it seems to me we've made a number of changes to this fishery in terms of quota increases and step-downs and other things, and I'm just worried that we're trying to change too much too fast.

Probably given that there are people on all sides of this issue right now, the best thing to do would be to leave it alone, get a season under our belt and see where we are after that and then revisit the issues rather than change it now and then potentially come back in a year from now and change it yet again.

DR. DUVAL: Other discussion on the substitute motion?

MR. BELL: I guess that accomplishes what I was – I was okay with this going forward as an alternative, but I was uncomfortable with the original one being the preferred. I think Roy's motion; it still would go forward as an alternative but it just wouldn't be preferred.

DR. DUVAL: Other discussion? Can I see a show of hands of those who object to this motion? Motion passes with one objection. This now becomes the main motion. Is there any discussion on the main motion? Any objection to the main motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next action was Action 7, which was to modify the aggregate grouper bag limit. The Committee made the motion to remove Action 7 from Regulatory Amendment 14; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. Again, the intent is to wait for the gag assessment before making any changes.

The next action was to modify trip limits for the commercial sector for gag. The Committee moved to accept the IPT's suggested language changes to the action and alternatives and accept the IPT's suggested wording for Alternative 2; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Any objection?

DR. CRABTREE: Yes, what I heard loud and clear from these guys is 100 pounds doesn't work and go to 300 pounds. I would offer a substitute motion to make Alternative 2D our preferred.

MR. HARTIG: Second.

DR. DUVAL: Hang on just a minute. All we're doing here – I think your motion is a little out of order, Roy, because all we're doing here is accepting the IPT's proposed wording and suggested changes. The next motion deals with the preferred alternative, so if you don't mind holding off. I am just as anxious to get through this committee report as you all are, believe me. I just want to make sure we're doing things in the right order.

MS. BROUWER: Perhaps the council would consider then taking Subalternatives 2A and 2B out of this action so we don't have to analyze them if they are not going to be a consideration.

DR. DUVAL: I think we should probably dispense with this motion and then have a follow-up motion to do exactly as Myra has said. **Is there any objection to this motion? Seeing none;** that motion stands approved. Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: Yes I would like to make a motion that we move Subalternative 2A and 2B of this action to the considered but rejected appendix. That is Action 8.

DR. DUVAL: Motion by David; seconded by Charlie to move Subalternatives 2A and 2B to the considered but rejected appendix. Discussion?

DR. CRABTREE: Well, I'm not sure why we want to do that. I think they have been analyzed. I understand that is not what people want to do, but I'm not sure they are unreasonable. It just seems to me the document is stronger if we leave them in there at this point, and then we can choose something else, but I'm not so sure taking them out gains us anything.

DR. DUVAL: What is your pleasure?

MR. HARTIG: Well, Roy has got a point. We actually approved 2B, so 2A I don't think is reasonable. At least 2A I think we should remove, but 2B, based on discussions this week, we thought was reasonable.

MR. CUPKA: Madam Chairman, I would like to amend my motion then and just move Subalternative 2A of Action 8 to the considered but rejected appendix.

DR. DUVAL: Is that okay with the seconder? Yes, it is. The motion now reads move Subalternative 2A to the considered but rejected appendix. Is there anymore discussion on this? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. Now the next motion was to select Alternative 2, Subalternative 2B as the preferred; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes, I would move that we choose Alternative 2D, 300 pound trip limit as our preferred.

DR. DUVAL: Substitute motion by Roy to select Alternative 2, Subalternative 2D as the preferred. Is there a second to that motion? Seconded by John Jolley. Discussion?

MR. HARTIG: Well, just to add a little bit of why we did it; a number of the public testified that the hundred pounds wasn't enough; and during that time of the year I actually asked a question of Jack in North Carolina, and he said it is much more important for gag at that time to be able to catch 300 pounds of gag, because they are closer to shore during that timeframe and they can actually target them, and 300 pounds is an economical trip for the distance you have to travel. That is why I was supportive of this.

DR. DUVAL: Is there any other discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that substitute motion stands approve and becomes the main motion. Is there any objection to the main motion? I guess I should have asked if there was any discussion on the main motion. Is there any objection to the main motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next action was to modify the recreational accountability measure for vermilion snapper. The Committee made the motion to select Alternative 4 as the preferred; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion on this motion? Any objection to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next motion was to approve Regulatory Amendment 14 for public hearings and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next item of business was Regulatory Amendment 16 dealing with golden tilefish. Council staff went over the action and alternatives included in Regulatory Amendment 16. The amendment was prepared in response to golden tilefish longline fishermen looking for a way to minimize derby conditions and extend the season.

Council Vice-Chair Ben Hartig met with golden tilefish longline endorsement holders and other interested stakeholders prior to the beginning of the council meeting with the intent of obtaining feedback on other actions the council could consider for that fishery. Ben provided a brief recap of the meeting and the outcome of the discussions.

The Committee made the following motion, which was to recommend to the council that development of Regulatory Amendment 16 not proceed any further; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next item was Amendment 30, which dealt with VMS, and council staff reviewed public comments on Amendment 30. The Committee made the following motion: do not approve Snapper Grouper Amendment 30 for formal secretarial review; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next item of business was Amendment 29, which was ORCS and allocations. Council staff provided a brief overview of previous discussion regarding items to be included under Amendment 29. Staff reminded the Committee that the amendment could be the vehicle to

update ABCs and ACLs for some of the unassessed snapper grouper species based on the SSC's recommended changes to the ABC Control Rule to accommodate species for which there is only catch information; ORCS, only reliable catch stocks.

In addition, staff indicated that actions to modify how the council specifies sector allocations could also be undertaken in this amendment. Staff reminded the Committee that sector allocations are a tool to achieve a goal. The council should first define their goal before discussing how to allocate the resource.

Staff also indicated that NOAA was likely to issue guidance for the councils to evaluate allocations. Ultimately the Committee stated their preference to address ABCs and ACLs for ORCS separately from allocations; hence, the Committee made the following motions. The first motion was to direct staff to develop Amendment 29 to modify the council's ABC Control Rule and adopt new ABCs and ACLs based on those modifications; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

Just a note that the council intends to include in Amendment 29 a process whereby the advisory panels would provide feedback on the ABCs and ACLs pursued through the ORCS process. &The next motion was to direct staff to begin development of a generic amendment to reexamine sector allocations; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next item of business was Amendment 22, which was a tag program for red snapper and deepwater species and council staff reviewed the options paper for Amendment 22, which was revised from its previous version to include recommendations from the SSC's Socioeconomic Panel.

Committee members expressed concern over the long-term cost of a data collection component and stated that the original intent of implementing a recreational tag program was mainly to monitor harvest of species with very low ACLs. The Committee suggested including the option for a voluntary data collection component and revising the options paper to include actions and alternatives to implement a recreational tag program that would not be tailored to a particular species. The Committee made the following motions.

The first motion was to add an action to Amendment 22 to specify data collection requirements; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next motion was to direct the IPT to revise the existing actions in Amendment 22 to create a generic harvest tag program and tag issuance process for species with very low ACLs; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The intent is for the tag program to apply to species for which recreational ACLs are difficult to monitor because they are so low. Under other business, one committee member expressed concern over the limited research that exists on techniques to minimize barotrauma for snapper grouper species.

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He indicated that approaches have been adopted that have proven successful among highly migratory species, and there should be innovative work done to address barotrauma mortality among snapper grouper species. One committee member stated that the council should consider the use of seasons to manage recreational harvest.

NMFS could predict how long a season should be in order for landings to get as close to the ACL as possible and inform the council of the predicted length of a season. The predictability that would result from specifying a start date and end date of a season would be very beneficial to fishermen and other stakeholders that utilize the snapper grouper resource.

It was also stated that fishing seasons are already being used in the Mid-Atlantic Region and hence there is a precedent for using this management approach. The Committee was reminded that possible designation of MPAs for speckled hind and Warsaw grouper may be considered in Regulatory Amendment 17.

At the March, 2013 meeting, the council stated their intent to reconsider the purpose and need of Regulatory Amendment 17 at the September, 2013 meeting. In addition Committee Chair, myself, expressed her desire for the council to include a management plan along with any new MPA designation. Adoption of a management and evaluation plan is a critical component of successful MPA implementation. We have a timing and task motion, but there are a couple items I think of other business that I would like to get to before we do that.

MR. HARTIG: Can you go back to that first paragraph about talking about barotrauma? I can't really read it very well; but when you read it to me, it talked about coastal pelagics – or, no, HMS.

DR. DUVAL: HMS species.

MR. HARTIG: I understand.

MR. PHILLIPS: We've heard considerable favorable comment from the public about our data collection. We are not going to go forward with mandatory VMS, but we still have this need for data collection. There was support for VMS for violators.

We still need to -I would make the motion that we direct staff to work with the Science Center and Scott Baker in looking at ways that we could use to do electronic monitoring for data collection and bring it back to the council at the appropriate time.

DR. DUVAL: There is a motion by Charlie; is there a second? Seconded by Ben. The motion reads direct staff to work with the Southeast Fisheries Science Center and Scott Baker to look at electronic monitoring for data collection and bring back to the council at the appropriate time. Discussion? Ben.

MR. HARTIG: Well, that is generic. Do you want to talk about new technologies or do you want to specify new electronic monitoring technologies for data collection or not?

MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, and I don't want to narrow it down. I've talked to Gregg about it, but we wanted to talk to Bonnie and Scott and see what our options are, what fits what. Then once we

kind of see what is out there, then we can take it to the public and go to scoping and start that process. It is generic and it is broad', but like I say I've talked to Gregg and maybe he can fine tune it a little bit for us.

DR. DUVAL: I was just going to go to Bonnie first and then Gregg.

DR. PONWITH: It would be very helpful to understand the council's intent here. When there were discussions about electronic monitoring, it was in lieu of VMS. Understanding a little bit about what you are after; are you looking for another way to monitor for compliance or are you looking for the collection of data that would be useful for scientific assessment, stock assessments and things like that? Because, the range of what can be done would differ for that. If you could speak to that, that would help us to frame up the discussions.

MR. PHILLIPS: I'm thinking mostly data collection. I don't think that there is anything else short of what you're using in the Gulf that would work for law enforcement. If there is and it is cheaper – because a lot of what we heard was cost. Some of it was ankle bracelet, but a lot of what we heard was cost. If there is something that is cheaper, but I'm thinking mostly data; because if we don't have data, we can't do good regulations and you can't do a good job. I'm concentrating on data.

MR. WAUGH: George Lapointe has been hired by NMFS to head up a project looking at electronic reporting nationwide. He is helping – I think he is on the steering committee for a conference that is being put together for early January. There is going to be a lot of information that comes forward. He is looking for people from the South Atlantic to participate in that process. I think this gives us a chance to take a look at lots of different types of technology and come back with a fresh start sometime next year.

DR. DUVAL: Thanks for that. Other comments on this motion? Is there any objection to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. David.

MR. CUPKA: During this meeting one of the things that we have been discussing and looking at and hopefully will approve is the assessment peer review process that is developed by our SSC. I would like to make a motion in regard to using that process to look at wreckfish. Of course, it would be contingent upon us approving this process later in this meeting.

We do have a recommendation to do that so I assume it will happen. If it does happen, I would like to make a motion and it would be to direct council staff, working in conjunction with NOAA General Counsel, to pursue use of the SSC third party approach for the wreckfish assessment prepared by Dr. Butterworth.

DR. DUVAL: There is a motion by David; is there a second? Seconded by Ben. Discussion? I think everyone recognizes that we've had an ongoing discussion about the wreckfish assessment; and so hopefully if we were able to use this new process that the SSC is proposing, we could bring some resolution to that issue.

Well, if there is no other discussion, is there any opposition to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. Then that brings us to our Timing and Task motion. We have several items on the list: preparing Regulatory Amendment 14 for public hearings in August of

2013; Prepare a revised options paper for Amendment 22 to bring back to the council in September, 2013; prepare a draft regulatory amendment to remove the black sea bass pot closure, noting if Regulatory Amendment 19 is approved and implemented and to bring that draft document to the council in September if that is appropriate.

The council intends to begin work on a generic amendment to revise sector allocations for managed fisheries as appropriate and work on this would begin in 2014. Also the council intends to develop Amendment 29 to adopt the SSC's recommended changes to the ABC Control Rule and adjust ABCs and ACLs based on those modifications. Again, development of this would take place in 2014. At this point, I would entertain a motion to adopt those timing and tasks as presented.

MR. PHILLIPS: Madam Chair, I make the motion that we adopt the Timing and Task as presented.

DR. DUVAL: Motion by Charlie; seconded by Tom Burgess. Is there any other discussion on this motion? Is there anything that we're forgetting? Okay, seeing none; that motion stands approved. Mr. Chairman, I believe that concludes the business of the Snapper Grouper Committee except for Doug.

MR. HAYMANS: If I could, back to 22 just a real quick second; just to make sure that as we're changing this to a generic program, the title of the amendment is going to change, right? It will change to a generic tag program or something of that nature, yes?

DR. DUVAL: I would imagine that the IPT would take that into account as they are modifying it to reflect that it is generic.

MR. HAYMANS: Now you may close the meeting; thank you.

DR. DUVAL: Anything else, any other comments? Seeing none; the business of the Snapper Grouper Committee is concluded. Mr. Chairman, back to you.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Madam Chairman, for an excellent report as usual. We appreciate that. I want to go back just one second. When we were approving minutes from our previous meetings, I mentioned the webinar meeting that we held in May, but I failed to ask if there were any corrections or additions to the March, 2013 council meeting. Seeing none; then those minutes are approved as well. Next we'll go to our joint Ecosystem-Based Management and Habitat Committee Report by Doug Haymans and Tom Burgess.

MR. HAYMANS: The Joint Ecosystem-Based Management and Habitat and Environmental Protection Committee met on Monday, June 10, 2013, in Stuart, Florida. The Committee received several reports from the advisory panel meetings that were held in May 2013. Council staff reviewed reports of the May 7th and 8th, 2013, Coral AP and Habitat AP meetings.

Mike Merrifield, Chairman of the Deepwater Shrimp AP, presented the report from the May 9, 2013 Deepwater Shrimp AP meeting. Staff presented spatial information on habitat mapping and fishery activity from the coral habitat areas of particular concern alternatives in Coral Amendment 8.

The Committee reviewed the Coral Amendment 8 decision document, which considers modifications to the Oculina Bank HAPC, transit through the Oculina Bank HAPC, and modifications to the Stetson-Miami Terrace and Cape Lookout CHAPCs. The joint Ecosystem-Based Management and Habitat and Environmental Protection Committee developed the following motions in discussion of the Coral Amendment 8 Decision Document.

Motion 1; add Deepwater Shrimp AP recommendation for northern extension, including both the eastern and southwestern boundary modifications from the AP as Subalternative 2C under Action 1. On behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion carries.

Motion 2; move Subalternative 2A to the considered but rejected appendix; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion carries.

Motion 4; select Subalternative 2C for action as preferred; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 5; adopt the no action, Option 2, for the western extension recommendation; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 6; select Alternative 3 under Action 1 as a preferred; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion carries.

Motion 7; adopt Deepwater Shrimp AP recommendation for revised Alternative 3 for Action 2, with the understanding this replaces Alternative 3, and accept this modified alternative as our preferred. On the behalf of the Committee, I so move. Is there any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 8; add the Deepwater Shrimp AP recommendation for an additional alternative under Action 3 similar to Alternative 2, and with the inclusion of a shrimp fishery access area as an alternative for further analysis; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 9; select new Alternative 4 under Action 3 as approved; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 10; adopt Alternative 2 under Action 4 as preferred; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any discussion: Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 11; approve Coral Amendment 8 for public hearings; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Under Timing and Tasks, it was to adopt the timing and task items for Motion 12, which is council staff will revise Coral Amendment 8 according to council guidance. Public hearings will be held for Coral Amendment 8 during August 5th through 15th, 2013. Staff will prepare a public hearing version of Coral Amendment 8 for public hearings. The IPT will prepare a final version of Coral Amendment 8 for council review during September 2013 meeting. On behalf of the Committee, I so move. Any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Mr. Chairman that concludes my report.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. All right, our next agenda item is the Dolphin and Wahoo Committee report; Mr. Swatzel.

MR. SWATZEL: The Dolphin and Wahoo Committee met on June 10, 2013. The Committee discussed the report and recommendations of the Dolphin and Wahoo AP meeting that occurred on March 27, 2013. The Committee discussed and made recommendations regarding the continued development of Dolphin and Wahoo Amendment 5.

The Committee received comment from fisherman Tim Nettles regarding allowing filleted dolphins to be brought back from the Bahamas as is currently allowed for snapper grouper species. The Committee gave direction to staff to develop in the future a Dolphin and Wahoo amendment that would allow dolphin and wahoo to be brought back filleted form the Bahamas.

The direction was to follow the existing regulations for snapper grouper species in 50 CFR 622.186 that makes an exemption for bringing snapper grouper fillets from the Bahamas. The Committee did not make a recommendation to Full Council regarding sending the Dolphin and Wahoo Amendment 5 out for public hearings; instead preferring to wait until the edits they directed staff to make were added to the document.

The Committee made the following motions: as the purpose and need, the motion was to accept the IPT's recommended language for modification to the purpose and need; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any discussion? Any opposition? Then the motion stands approved.

There were two motions made concerning Action 1. The first motion is to accept the IPT's recommended wording for Action 1; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Ay opposition? Then the motion stands approved.

The second motion is to accept Alternative 2 as the preferred alternative for Action 1; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any discussion? Any objection? Then the motion is so approved.

Under Action 2, the Committee discussed ways to make this action simpler and easier to understand. Direction was given to the staff to rework the language and bring the action back for discussion at Full Council; and the language is below in the report for your review. Assuming that the language is accepted by the Committee, I will need a motion to approve it. Also, the next issue would be to whether you want to accept or designate a preferred alternative.

DR. CHEUVRONT: I just want to remind the council quickly what those changes were that you recommended that we do. There were basically two major changes. One was to reorganize the

alternatives and to try to get rid of some of the redundant language that existed in some of the languages and separate them into two alternatives – well, three alternatives.

We have the no action alternative. The second alternative deals with the commercial sector, and the third alternative deals with the recreational sector. One of the other issues was that Roy had some concern, and I agreed with him it was not very clear on what we meant by the following year stuff, so we tried to take that into account and rework it.

Now, what I did also in each of the subalternatives, the part that is different in each subalternative is the criteria for which the reductions would occur. That is underlined in each of the subalternatives to highlight what is different from one subalternative to the next.

MR. SWATZEL: Are you comfortable with this language? If so, I will look for a motion to approve the changes to the language in the action. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: I would make a motion that we approve the modified language under Action 2.

MR. SWATZEL: Second by Mel. **Discussion? Any opposition? Then the motion stands approved.** Is there a desire on the part of the council to designate a preferred? Okay, then we'll move to the next action. Action 3; and before we get into the one motion that was made concerning Action 3, and this has to do with changing the dolphin allocation, I just want to raise the point that we are pursuing a generic allocation amendment.

On top of that, we have the ORCS application to the ABC Control Rule coming up, which we understand might substantially increase the ACLs for dolphin. I guess my question to the council is do you want to keep this action in this amendment knowing that we are going to revisit allocation again?

MS. BECKWITH: I would move that we place Action 3 of this amendment and shift it over to the Allocation Amendment.

MR. SWATZEL: Second by Doug. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: I guess I'm not so sure I support this, because the AP and the commercial sector has simply been requesting to get back to basically that 1.5 million pound cap that was in the original FMP, and we do have an alternative under this action that would do that. I would also note that the ORCS approach is going to take some time. It is going to be at least two years as I see it before that approach would even be in place.

We still have some discussion on the council's risk policy that we would want to apply through that approach, and again it is a full plan amendment that would be needed to change our ABC Control Rule to incorporate that. The second thing is the Sector Allocation Amendment is probably on the same timeline, at least a couple years out before we would do anything related to that. I guess I am not supportive of this and I would offer a substitute motion to select Alternative 4 under Action 3 as a preferred.

MR. HARTIG: Second.

MR. SWATZEL: We have a substitute motion to designate Alternative 4 as the preferred. Second by Ben. Discussion? Anna.

MS. BECKWITH: My only point would be that since the commercial sector is at the moment not reaching their ACL, this isn't something that is time sensitive. I think that with ORCS potentially bringing up the overall ACL to I think 21 million pounds, that 10 percent that would currently be the preferred for the sector allocation would surpass the 1.5 that was intended by the Dolphin and Wahoo AP, and bring it much higher than that. I think since there is not a need for speed on this one, I would be a little bit more conservative.

MR. BELL: Yes, I will just kind of echo what Anna said. I was thinking that since there really wasn't an issue associated with needing to do something to correct something, that we would be revisiting this again two other times. I realize with what Michelle explained the timeline; it might be a couple of years, but it just seemed like we were going to keep going back to this either through the separate amendment or the ORCS. There really isn't an issue with anybody exceeding an ACL right now. I didn't really see it as necessary.

DR. DUVAL: I guess what I'm hearing at least from Anna is that there is a concern that the sector allocation under ORCS would exceed the 1.5 million pounds but it is going to probably triple for the recreational sector as well. It is a proportional increase I guess is all I'm saying.

MR. SWATZEL: I just want to add from my perspective. The latest allocation went into effect this past April, a year ago. We're talking about the possibility of changing it a number of times within the next – between then and the next couple of years, which might add to some confusion. We have a substitute motion on the floor. Is there any more discussion?

MR. HARTIG: Just to Anna's point that the commercial sector is not going to reach their allocation; we don't know that. We have no idea. Depending on years and availability of fish, how many fishermen or fish, we don't know in any one year if they are going to get close. They did in one year in particular, not in the far distant past, so I think it is appropriate.

MR. SWATZEL: Okay, that was the final word. All those in favor of the substitute motion raise your hand. I am counting four in favor. All those opposed. I count five opposed so the substitute motion fails. We still have the main motion on the floor and that is to remove Action 3 from Dolphin and Wahoo Amendment 5 and then bring it back in the Generic Allocation Amendment.

Is there any further discussion on the main motion? Okay, all those in favor of the main motion please raise your hand. I count eight. Those opposed; I count four. The motion passes. This brings us to Action 4 and the Committee made three motions. Before I get to the motions, the Committee gave direction to staff regarding helping to make this action easier to understand.

The revisions below also add a text box that explains what the alternatives would accomplish. Additionally, the new text now includes the addition of wording to Alternative 2 that would allow changes to the ABC Control Rule through a framework action. I point out the staff changes are highlighted in green and that the IPT changes that our motion accepted are in yellow.

DR. CHEUVRONT: Just so you all know, we worked on this for a couple of days after the Dolphin and Wahoo Committee on Monday, and we worked with Monica to help us with the language on this, but we want you to know that this is the version just to get this out to public hearing.

The language could change slightly after we have some more review of this over time, and we have more time to work on this. But this is what we're suggesting that we take out to public hearing. It does include the directions that you gave us to consider. We think it is okay as it is now, but I think Monica wanted a little more time to consider this to make sure it actually fit all the requirements to make this thing work.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I had some minor revisions that I gave Brian that I think he already incorporated, and it is just that I guess if I have any further changes I will definitely bring them back to you at September. I don't anticipate those, but I want to make sure that we've covered all the bases and left open your options and given you as much flexibility as possible. I'll look at it again.

MR. HARTIG: Yes, I would just like to thank you all for doing this. Before in these complicated framework changes, we've never gone to the extent to explain it to the public about what we're actually trying to do. I really think this is a positive addition to this document. I like it, and if there were to be changes even more; I'm good.

MR. SWATZEL: Any further discussion about the clarifying word changes? If not, I will move through the motions concerning Action 4. The first motion was to accept the IPT's recommended wording changes for Action 4; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any discussion? Any objections? Then the motion stands approved.

Second motion; modify Alternative 2 to include changes to the ABC Control Rule; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any discussion? Any objections? The motion stands approved.

The last motion under Action 4 is to select Alternatives 2 and 3 for Action 4 as preferred alternatives; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any discussion? Any objections? Hearing none; the motion is approved.

That brings us to the last action in the amendment, Action 5. The motion was to move Alternatives 8 and 9 to the considered but rejected appendix; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Any objections? Hearing none; the motion stands approved. Now I will need a motion to approve Amendment 5 for public hearings. Will anybody offer that motion?

MR. HARTIG: Make a motion to move Amendment 5 to public hearing.

MR. SWATZEL: The motion was seconded by Doug. Any discussion of the motion? The motion is to send Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 5 out to public hearings. Any discussion? Any objection? Hearing none; the motion is approved.

Then at the bottom of the report we have a draft timing and task motion, which I will read and perhaps somebody will offer: that is to direct staff to edit and modify Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 5 according to council guidance; take the document out for public hearings in August, 2013, and bring the document back to the council at the September 2013 meeting ready to be voted on for submission to the Secretary of Commerce in the fall of 2013. Do I have someone that will offer that motion? Mel.

MR. BELL: A motion to direct staff to edit and modify Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 5 according to council guidance to take the document out to public hearings in August 2013 and bring the document back to council at the September 2013 meeting ready to be voted on for submission to the Secretary of Commerce in the fall of 2013.

MR. SWATZEL: Seconded by John. Is there any discussion? Any objection? Hearing none; the Timing and Task motion is approved. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Tom. Our next committee report is SEDAR Committee. The SEDAR Committee met on June 10th and received reports on current SEDAR activities: the SEDAR Steering Committee meeting in February of 2013; the Council's SSC ORCS workshop; the SSC's recommendation on assessment peer reviews; and the annual research plan.

The Committee made approvals and appointments for SEDAR assessments of king mackerel, blueline tilefish, gray triggerfish and snowy grouper. The Committee approved a number of motions. The first motion was move to modify SEDAR 32 to incorporate a desk review of gray triggerfish; and on behalf of the Committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Second; move to recommend to Full Council to adopt the ORCS approach for Tier 4, catch only, and move the decision tree approach to Tier 5; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Next; move to accept the 2013 research prioritization plan; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Next; move to approve the terms of reference for SEDAR 38 and the management specifications; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Next was a motion to approve the schedule for SEDAR 38; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Next is a motion to approve the management specifications for SEDAR 32 and 36; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Next was a motion to appoint Jeff Oden to SEDAR 36 contingent upon his appointment to the SEDAR pool. On behalf of the Committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Next was a motion to appoint Ben Hartig as a council member observer on SEDAR 36; and on behalf of the Committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Next was a motion to appoint the participants to SEDAR 38 as listed in Attachment 10. It is a long list and I'm not going to read off the names. On behalf of the Committee, I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

(Whereupon, the following participants were appointed to SEDAR 38)

Name	Affiliation	Expertise	DW	AW	RW
	1.State a	nd Agency Representatives			
Jeanne Boylan	SEAMAP	Indices and LH	Х		
Jon Richardson	SEAMAP	Indices and LH	Х		
Tracy Smart or	MARMAP	Indices and LH	х		
Julie Defillippi	ACCSP	Regional Data	Х		
Ed Martino	ACCSP	Regional Data			
Christian Johnson	Coastal Carolina	King Mackerel Rec Data, SC	х		
Stephanie McInerny	NC DMF	Commercial statistics	Х		
Chris Wilson	NC DMF	Recreational statistics	Х		
Amy Dukes	SC DNR	Commercial statistics	Χ		
Eric Hiltz	SC DNR	Recreational statistics	Χ		
Julie Califf	GA DNR	Commercial statistics	Χ		
Kathy Knowlton	GA DNR	Recreational statistics	Χ		
Steve Brown	FL FWC	Commercial Statistics	Х		
Beverly Sauls	FL FWC	Recreational Statistics	Χ		
	2.	AP Representatives			
Peter Barile	SFA	Fisheries Science	Х	Х	
Rusty Hudson	SFA	Commercial Fisheries	Χ		
Jodie Gay	AP	Commercial Fisheries, NC	Χ	Χ	Χ
	3. C	ouncil Representative			
Ben Hartig	Council		Х	Х	Х
Anna Beckwith	Council		Х	Х	Х
	4.	SSC Representatives			
Scott Crosson	SSC	SSC	Х	Х	
Marcel Reichert	SSC	SSC	Χ	Χ	
Jim Berkson	SSC	Reviewer, chair			Χ
Churchill Grimes	SSC	Reviewer			Х

Our last motion was to move to appoint Ben Hartig and Charlie Phillips as council member observers to SEDAR 38; and on behalf of the Committee I would so move. Is there any discussion? Ben.

MR. HARTIG: We went through this one pretty quick and Anna was thinking about 36 and she was going to get off. I am glad Charlie is willing to do king mackerel, but I think given the importance of king mackerel and that she actually fishes for king mackerel at times and could have some input into the assessment; I don't know what the rest of the committee thinks, but I think it may be more appropriate to appoint Anna Beckwith instead of Charlie for this one. I'll make that as a substitute motion.

MR. CUPKA: Substitute motion by Mr. Hartig to appoint Anna Beckwith to SEDAR 38 in place of Charlie Phillips. Is there a second to the motion? I need somebody to second Ben's substitute motion. Seconded by Mr. Jolley. Is there a discussion on the motion?

MR. HARTIG: Excuse me, David, but if there is consternation around the table that we don't want to do this, that is fine. I just thought just from the perspective of North Carolina that I would offer this motion; but if you all don't want to do that, that is fine with me as well. I've given some reasons and I didn't see any other discussion.

MR. CUPKA: Is there any further discussion on the motion? Seeing none; then we will take a vote. All in favor of the substitute motion please raise your hand; opposed. The motion carries and motion now becomes the main motion. Is there any objection to the main motion? Seeing none; then that motion is approved. That concludes the report of the SEDAR Committee. Next is the Council Member Visioning Workshop report; Dr. Duval.

DR. DUVAL: The summary from our June 2013 Council Member Visioning Workshop; I provided a brief summary of the March 2013 Visioning Workshop and an overview of what outcomes were hoped to be accomplished at the June 2013 Visioning Workshop to include development of a draft vision statement, review and discussion of a draft snapper grouper goals and objectives, and the next steps for the September 2013 Visioning Workshop and possible port meetings in the fall of 2013 and Spring of 2014.

With regard to development of a draft vision statement; prior to the June, 2013 council meeting, council staff requested that each council member submit their personal vision statement for the snapper grouper fishery. Council staff compiled these draft vision statements and included them in a vision statement decision document along with some guiding principles to consider when prioritizing outcomes of managing the snapper grouper fishery; to include achieving the maximum economic yield from the fishery, maintaining long-term sustainability of the stocks, maintaining the integrity of fishing communities and achieving the most equitable allocation of the resource.

During the June 2013 meeting, council staff presented the vision statement decision document that was prepared to guide the council's discussions of development of a draft vision statement during this third visioning workshop. The council received a brief presentation from staff on the components of a vision statement and examples of effective and non-effective vision statements.

The presentation also included a keyword analysis of the compiled draft vision statements submitted by council members. The analysis was aimed at helping council members visualize which keywords and management components were highlighted in the draft vision statement submitted by council members.

Listed below is a summary of the council's discussion of a draft vision statement, rationale presented during the discussion, and the draft vision statement that was crafted based on the discussion; make sure that documents do not simply say the council will since this is a stakeholder council-driven process.

Refer to all statements, goals and objectives as draft. We need to consider all stakeholders in the draft vision statement. The needs of all stakeholders can be addressed in the vision statement or they can be addressed via the objectives. The need to transition to managed fisheries based on economic efficiency and move away from legacy management based on how it has been done in the past.

Then you have a summary of the keyword discussion, which was availability for all stakeholders, sustainability, habitat, healthy fisheries, fish populations, fishermen, fishing communities, habitat, accessibility, abundant, confidence referring to monitoring and data collection, stakeholders referring to diversity, economic efficiency, balance, legacy fisheries management, and define a fishery as the fishery equals fish, habitat, fishermen and fishing communities.

We came to a draft vision statement which reads as follows: "The snapper grouper fishery is a healthy, sustainable fishery that balances and optimizes benefits for all citizens." Mr. Chairman, are you looking for a motion from the council to adopt this draft vision statement?

MR. CUPKA: Yes, I think we could do that. Let's go ahead and do that, recognizing it is draft.

DR. DUVAL: I guess if someone would be willing to make a motion to adopt the draft vision statement, that would be appropriate.

MR. HARTIG: I would like to make a motion that we adopt the draft vision statement.

DR. DUVAL: Seconded by Charlie. Discussion? Doug.

MR. HAYMANS: Well, it just occurred to me the use of the word "is". Although I know that that has come up in question in years past – I'm sorry that was another comment. I almost see it as a "will be". The fishery will be healthy; not necessarily that it is not healthy now, but our vision moving forward is that it will be; you know, it continues to be a healthy fishery. As we develop this, I would almost think we should substitute "will be" a healthy rather than is a healthy.

DR. DUVAL: We did have some discussion about this during the visioning workshop and that vision statements should be constructed using present tense, because that is what you want. That is what you are looking for as opposed to future tense.

MR. HAYMANS: I will simply say that there are as many opinions about how the vision statement should be drafted; and I simply look at GM's vision statement. I know it was wordy

and lengthy, but millions of dollars were spent by a corporation to build a vision statement that we saw. There are a lot of opinions, and mine is that it should be "will be", but, anyway, we'll move on.

MS. VON HARTEN: I just wanted to remind you that you are supposed to write this vision statement as if your vision has already happened, so "will be" kind of suggests that you are working towards that goal; "is" kind of suggests that it has happened.

DR. DUVAL: I will just say this is a draft, obviously. I don't expect it to stay as it is. Is there any other discussion on the motion? Is there any objection to the motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

Next we talked about the development of draft goal statements and review of the snapper grouper FMP objectives. Before the council started review of the current Snapper Grouper FMP objectives, a member suggested discussing broader goals before reviewing specific objectives. Staff led the council through a discussion of components that would contribute to achieving the vision statement.

These included number one; healthy ecosystem and habitat; number two, a stock that can replenish itself; number three, profitable commercial and for-hire trips; number four, recreational fishing opportunities; number five, stable and resilient community infrastructure; number six, public involvement and cooperation; number seven, minimal waste; number eight, sound science; number nine, adaptive management; and number ten, incentivize compliance and effective enforcement.

I will just note for the record that numbering has nothing to do with priority in this list. Staff was directed to craft goal statements from each component of successful snapper grouper fishery management. The council continued review of each FMP objective, including input from the Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel.

The first objective was to prevent overfishing and the input was to remove the objective, because this is mandated by the MSA. The second collect necessary data; and the input was to expand the objective to include using best information available, outreach to constituents, increase cooperative research and other ways to improve data collection.

The third, promote orderly utilization of the resource. The input was to make a goal statement that would include the components of predictable seasons and minimal waste. Number four; provide for a flexible management system; make the abbreviated version a goal statement and the longer version as objectives, which would be provide for a flexible management system that minimizes regulatory delays while retaining substantial council and public involvement in the management decisions.

Adapt to changes in resource abundance; new scientific information and changes in fishing patterns among user groups; and consider alternate management strategies for the recreational sector. The next objective, to minimize habitat damage – the input was to include this under component one and expand as minimize habitat damage due to recreational and commercial fishing activities.

Number six was to promote compliance and enforcement, and the input was to keep this as a goal statement and the objective would be promote public comprehension of, voluntary compliance with, and enforcement of the management measures; increase public comprehension of the regulations; increase compliance of management measures and promote effective enforcement.

Number seven was a mechanism to vest participants and expand this to develop a mechanism to vest fishermen in the snapper grouper fishery and create incentives for conservation and regulatory compliance whereby fishermen can realize potential long-range benefits from efforts to conserve and manage the snapper grouper resource.

Number eight was promote stability and facilitate long-range planning and expands this to provide a management regime which promotes sustainability and long-range planning, including predictable seasons. Number nine was to create a market-driven harvest pace and increase product continuity, and expand this to consider management strategies that reflect market needs and promote product continuity for commercial and for-hire businesses.

Note that a product can be a seafood product or a for-hire trip. Number ten was minimize gear and area conflicts among fishermen. Include this objective as part of a goal statement that would include consideration of regional differences such as regional availability, needs and characteristics.

Number 11 was decrease incentives for overcapitalization; and this falls under the goals of orderly utilization of the resource and profitable trips. Number 12 was prevent continual dissipation of returns from fishing through open access. Number 13 was evaluate and minimize localized depletion. Number 14; end overfishing of snapper grouper stocks undergoing overfishing; and Number 15; rebuild stocks declared overfished.

We were running short on time and Objectives 12 through 15 would be discussed at the September 2013 Visioning Workshop. The next steps at the conclusion of discussions on the draft vision statement, goal statement and objectives, the council outlined a plan for moving forward with getting information out to the public regarding the visioning process and the next steps for the September 2013 Visioning Workshop.

Listed below are the proposed next steps in the process. Council staff should have an e-mail address for the public to be able to submit comments and ideas about the visioning process. During August public hearings, the council staff will prepare a draft summary document with a well-crafted introduction defining what the visioning process is, what it is trying to accomplish, the draft vision statement and possibly the draft goal statements crafted by the council in June, and a timeline for proposed port meetings and how the public can participate; indicate that the visioning is a work in progress; possibly prepare a video PowerPoint presentation providing an overview of the visioning process.

At the September 2013 council meeting continue discussion of the draft snapper grouper objectives and goal statements. Council staff will take the draft vision statement and draft goal statements and objectives and plug them into a logic model to guide the discussions and then discuss options for proposed port meetings and facilitation of these meetings.

MR. JOLLEY: Could we go back to your ten goals, I think it was, in the beginning? My suggestion would be if the numbers don't mean anything, let's drop them out because the public perception would be that they do.

DR. DUVAL: I agree; that is a great point, John. Is there any other discussion? Seeing none; Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report unless staff has any other input; and they are shaking their head.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Michelle. Next is Mackerel Committee report; Mr. Hartig.

MR. HARTIG: The Committee received an update on current king and Spanish mackerel commercial and recreational landings from Jack. The Committee reviewed results from the SEDAR 28 stock assessment for cobia and Spanish mackerel, including ABC recommendations from the SSC.

Council staff provided a summary of the Mackerel AP meeting followed by review of Coastal Migratory Pelagic Amendment 19 and Coastal Migratory Pelagic Amendment 20, which incorporates Gulf Council actions and advisory panel recommendations. The Committee also reviewed the South Atlantic Coastal Migratory Pelagic Framework Actions.

Amendments 19 and 20 along with the Framework Actions were approved for public hearings. The first motion I bring before you; the Mackerel Committee made the following motion in regards to the SSC recommendations for the OFL and ABC for Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel.

The motion was request that the SSC review the Spanish mackerel projections and revisit recommendations for OFL and ABC. The SSC has asked to consider basing OFL on ABC on equilibrium projections of MSY in light of effects of selectivity and recruitment patterns on short-term yield estimates; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? That motion is approved.

I would like to add some clarifying language to that in that we are pretty specific in what we take to the SSC, and I'll read that into the record. This is for clarification to the SSC is considering the high degree of confidence that the stock is not overfished nor undergoing overfishing, but that the current biomass is high, SSB over MSST equals 2.29; and exploitation is low, F over MSY equals 0.53; and that the stock has not experienced overfishing over the assessment period, the council believes that the use of less risk-adverse reference points such as equaling MSY, 6.063 million pounds, and OFL for the 2013 through 2015 is justified.

Due to the exploitation history and stock status, the council believes such a reference point does not significantly increase the probability of overfishing during these years. The council recommends that the SSC consider whether OFL recommendations could be based on equilibrium conditions for stocks which are neither overfished nor overfishing.

Such an approach would provide stable landings; enable the council to implement constant regulations that will provide stability in the fishery. In addition, the council is willing to accept the risk approach with small buffers between OFL and ABC for stocks well above reference limits and request that the SSC provide guidance on OFL/ABC buffers in such situations. We

don't need a motion on that. That was just the clarification of what we actually wanted the SSC to do.

The next action item for the Mackerel Committee was Amendment 19. Under Action 1, sale of king mackerel and Spanish mackerel, the motion was to select Alternative 3, Option B and Alternative 4, Option A as preferred; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Under Action 2, elimination of inactive king mackerel permits, we had a motion to approve the IPT proposed wording changes under Action 2; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Action 2, an additional motion was to select Alternative 1 as the preferred; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: I think in light of some of the public comment that we heard regarding the industry having asked the council for consideration of a two-for-one permit reduction in this fishery for a long time, I think at least for purposes of public comment it would be my intent to offer a substitute motion that we select Alternative 4 as the preferred.

MR. HARTIG: Seconded by Doug. Discussion? Charlie.

MR. PHILLIPS: This just applies to the South Atlantic ones or the Gulf or both?

MR. HARTIG: That is a good question. We didn't have that discussion, and that is a discussion I think we need to have with Roy. Basically what happened with these permits is they were separated at one time, and then the agency decided that in the interest of efficiency basically that they didn't need the two sides. But it has created a problem where we have – I think, Kari, the number of permits in the Gulf, I think it is only 145 permits, if I am not mistaken. We need to find that.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: Doug has that permit file. Can you look that up?

DR. DUVAL: I agree it is a discussion we need to have, and I don't know if it might be easier with some other actions as we've done include a couple of subalternatives under Alternative 4 that would allow for that to happen in the South Atlantic jurisdiction and in the Gulf jurisdiction. I might look to Roy for some input on that before making any kind of motion to that regard.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, the question is could you do the two-for-one only in the South Atlantic and not in the Gulf?

MR. HARTIG: That is the question that we're asking in the South Atlantic's jurisdiction.

DR. CRABTREE: I think you would have to go in and create two separate permits in order to do that.

MR. HARTIG: You guys decided to make it one permit in the past.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, no, that is in the fishery management plan.

MR. HARTIG: It wasn't us that decided to do it.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, it wasn't me. That was before my time, but it is in the fishery management plan that it is one permit as I understand it. But regardless of how that came to be; that was a long time ago, it is what it is right now and we have a single permit, and I don't see how for a single permit you could have a two-for-one in one area and not in the other.

That would imply that a fisherman could drive across the state, and I just don't know how you would do it. It seems to me that if you wanted to do that, you would have to go in and create a South Atlantic Mackerel Permit and a Gulf Mackerel Permit. Whether we have any rationale to support doing that or not, I don't know.

I wouldn't necessarily assume that the Gulf is unwilling to do a two-for-one. They might be depending on what public testimony is now. The other complexity from what I've heard from fishermen is they want to do away with what they call the "corporate loophole", and I'm not quite sure how to do that.

That would be something I think we would have to rely on Monica and our permit shop to do it, but at any rate I don't see how you could have differing renewal requirements without splitting this into two separate permits.

DR. DUVAL: I think this is going to go to the Gulf for their consideration as well. I don't think there is anything wrong with us selecting this as a preferred alternative. I think it is something that the fishermen are familiar with. I realize that, as Roy said, it doesn't exactly get to the corporate permit loophole issue, but I'm not sure Alternative 3 does that either. I think this is an alternative that does maintain the value of the permit and I think that was one thing that fishermen were concerned about. I would say let's go ahead and put it out there for public comment.

MS. BECKWITH: If this were to go forward, I would want a little bit of clarification in the document that with two-for-one we would be allowing the individual permit to be passed down to immediate family members. But potentially – and this is a question for Monica – to try and get at that issue for the corporate loophole, if we could clarify in the documentation that any change in the shareholder makeup would constitute kicking in that two-for-one requirement.

I think in practicality what that would mean is when this would go into effect, everyone that owned a corporate permit would have to send in the makeup of their shareholder. On a yearly basis, when that is renewed, it would be up to the permit staff to look at those 400 or so permits and match to make sure that the shareholder makeup of the company is what it was the prior year. That is the only way I can see getting around that corporate loophole.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes, but I think it gets considerably more complicated. Take, for example, the situation we have two or three people who are partners in a boat and they have a king mackerel permit and one of them dies. Well, now you have had a change in the corporate ownership, but do you really want to have then the two-for-one kick in; or if you have three guys

who own a boat and one of them says I want out and so he leaves, do you then want to tell the remaining two guys you have got to go buy another permit?

Maybe you do, maybe you don't, I don't know, but I think there are a lot of complexities that are going to kick in when you do that that may have unintended impacts that would be perceived as unfair by some businesses. It is complicated and it is going to take a lot of thought I think to figure that out.

MR. HARTIG: Since it is complicated and take a lot of thought, we are not going to do that today. We've got a motion to select Alternative 4 as the preferred. We've had some discussion. All those in favor of the substitute motion raise their hand; all those opposed. The motion passes with two opposed. Now that becomes the main motion. All those in favor of the main motion, is there any objection? Let me do it another way. Is there objection to the main motion? The motion passes with two objections.

MS. BECKWITH: Under Alternative 2, I would make one additional suggestion, and I will put it as a suggestion prior to putting it out as a motion. It doesn't seem to me that the immediate elimination of any percentage of these permits is within a reasonable range of alternatives for this fishery, realistically.

My suggestion would be to eliminate the wording "invalid and not renewable" under Alternative 2, and allow Alternative 2 to read "renew the commercial king mackerel permits" so on and so forth, and permits that do not qualify will be nontransferable; and just leave that as the alternative rather than making it an immediate elimination of some percentage of permits.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: I think that is what Alternative 3 is supposed to do; it is just worded differently. Alternative 2 eliminates inactive permits. Alternative 3 makes inactive permits nontransferable except to family members and the vessel. I think that if you know that you are not interested in looking into completely eliminating permits, you only want to consider two-forone, nontransferable or any other option to reduce them, then you may want to consider removing Alternative 2, if that is something that the council knows that they're not interested in at all.

MR. HARTIG: What's your pleasure?

MS. BECKWITH: Let's leave it for public comment then?

DR. CRABTREE: It seems to me if you went down the path of Alternative 3, what you are really talking about is creating a second class king mackerel permit that is not transferable, kind of like we have with snapper grouper only without the trip limit part of it, but I don't know how else we would do it other than in that fashion.

DR. DUVAL: But, Roy, the 225 permits, those aren't transferrable even to family members, are they?

DR. CRABTREE: Right; this would be a little different than that, but it still seems to me you would have to have two types of king mackerel permits at that point. Otherwise, it would be very confusing.

MR. HARTIG: The thing I would suggest that in the near future we sit down with Monica at the council meeting, bring a presentation on the two-for-one and then the corporate so we can be clear on what happens and how the permits can be transferred under corporate. I think that would really – it would help me in particular. Monica.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Sure, we can do that and I would probably, if funding was available to bring her to the meeting, having Carolyn Sramek, who heads up the permits office, also at that meeting for that kind of presentation would probably be very helpful.

MR. HARTIG: Okay, are we good on that last motion? I'm going to tell you where we are. I am going to tell you that we are in Amendment 19, Action 3 now, and that is modify income requirements for Gulf and South Atlantic commercial coastal migratory pelagics. The motion was to select Alternative 2 as the preferred under Action 3; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

The next motion that follows was approve Amendment 19 for public hearings; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Monica, did you have a question?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: You can discuss this here or perhaps it is better to be discussed at the end of the committee report, I guess; but much as we discussed in the situation with the generic dealer amendment, and this FMP going up to the New York Border, perhaps some of these things like elimination of inactive king mackerel permits, that could affect people north of North Carolina, and you should think about maybe at the Mid-Atlantic meeting giving them yet another thing to look at. It is just food for thought. I think it would be a good idea to have a public hearing north of North Carolina.

MR. HARTIG: I think you are right; you are absolutely right. There may be people that don't use those permits very often there as well and may want to have something to say about those options, so I think we should include a Mid-Atlantic public hearing. I think we will do that; how is that?

All right, that brings us to Amendment 20. Under Amendment 20, Action 1 was to move Action 1 to the considered but rejected; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Under Action 2, modify the commercial hook and line trip limits for Gulf migratory group king mackerel. The motion was to move Alternatives 2 and 3 to the considered but rejected; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Under Action 2 we had a motion to add Alternative 6; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

We also had a motion to select Alternative 5, Options A and C, and Alternative 6, Options B as preferred; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Under Action 3, change the fishing season for Gulf group king mackerel for eastern and western zone. The motion was to remove Alternative 4 to the considered but rejected appendix; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

The next motion we have under Action 3, select Alternative 2 as the preferred alternative; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

That moves us to Action 4; establish transit provisions for travel through areas that are closed to kind mackerel fishing. The first motion was to remove Alternative 3 under Action 4; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

The next motion under Action 4 was to change our preferred to Alternative 5; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Doug.

MR. HAYMANS: I know I heard this last night from a couple of folks in public comment or night before last in public comment, and this will satisfy their comments quite well.

MR. HARTIG: Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved. We'll go back. .

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I'm not objecting, but I have a question on the transit. Kari, is there a gear stowage discussion somewhere? Is that part and parcel of what it means to transit?

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: In the document under Action 4, under the alternatives we have these notes that say for Alternatives 2 through 6 the following conditions apply only for vessels in direct and continuous transit with gear stowed only for fishermen holding a federal commercial king mackerel permit.

MR. HARTIG: Under Action 5; establish state quotas for Atlantic migratory grouper king mackerel and Spanish mackerel for North Carolina. The first motion under Action 5 establish separate northern and southern subzones for king mackerel with the boundary at the North Carolina/South Carolina state line and continue Options A through D under new alternative; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Are you clear on that one? Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

The next action was to establish separate northern and southern subzones for Spanish mackerel with the boundary at the North Carolina/South Carolina state line and continue Options A through D under the new alternative; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Under Action 6; modify the framework procedure. Go ahead, Kari.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: At the end of this document; the last three or four pages is the new language and organization. We are proposing to capture what you have in those two motions. Because you took out Action 1, this will be Action 4, so that is why it is written like that. We are going to split it into 4.1 and 4.2.

They are identical except one says king and one says Spanish. What we did was just take Alternative 2, and this is the one that establishes a North Carolina ACL, so you have the same time periods and proportion of landings that you had before. Then we added E, F, and G, which are the options about who would monitor and how it would be closed.

E; NMFS would monitor the landings in North Carolina and the rest of the states, which we call the General Atlantic ACL, and close the EEZ of each area when the respective ACL is met or expected to be met. NMFS would monitor the North Carolina ACL. When that is met or expected to be met, NMFS would close the EEZ off North Carolina.

When the General Atlantic ACL is met or expected to be met, NMFS would close the EEZ off all of the other states. In F; North Carolina would monitor the landings for North Carolina and prohibit landings in North Carolina when the North Carolina ACL is met or projected to be met. NMFS would monitor landings in the rest of the states and close the entire EEZ when the general Atlantic ACL is reached.

Then, G, North Carolina would monitor landings in North Carolina and inform NMFS when the North Carolina ACL is met or expected to be met. NMFS would then close the EEZ off North Carolina. NMFS would monitor landings in the rest of the states and close the EEZ off those states when the ACL is reached. Do those capture everybody's options? Okay.

DR. McGOVERN: My question is about the trip limit; would the same thing be true for the Spanish mackerel trip limit; would it be handled the same way?

MR. HARTIG: The question was would the trip limit be handled the same way? The procedures for changing the trip limits in season; would that be handled the same way? Was that your question, Jack?

DR. DUVAL: Yes.

MR. HARTIG: The answer is yes. Monica.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: What does yes mean; because right now what I read – and I believe there is an amendment maybe to change this whole adjusted quota under Spanish mackerel, right? I think we're coming to that in the framework.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: They took it out.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: My question is right now the regulations state when for Spanish mackerel at certain points the trip limit changes because you've reached a certain trigger of the ACL, a certain percentage of the ACL. I think Jack's question is a good one as to how does that work for down-stepping a trip limit like off of North Carolina. Do we just carve out an exception that the trip limit is not going to change?

DR. DUVAL: I don't think we have step-downs though, Monica. I mean, north of there we don't; it is just a straight 3,500 pound trip limit. That step-down applies to like the southern part in Florida.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: We wouldn't have any problems with it; it would just be one trip limit. Okay, thank you.

MR. HARTIG: All right, any other questions about the wording?

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: What that did was it took the alternative that you had, which creates a North Carolina ACL and then the General Atlantic ACL and then added in the options for monitoring and closing. Alternative 3 in this recommended language takes the motions that you just passed and creates that northern and southern zone.

The northern zone would be the EEZ off states from North Carolina north to New York, and the southern zone would be the EEZ off of South Carolina, Georgia and the East Coast of Florida. Under this alternative, NMFS would monitor the landings in both zones and close the EEZ of each zone when the respective ACL is reached.

Then we have the options that have those same poundage and time periods. Under Alternative 3, NMFS is monitoring these separate ACLs just like they do with the zones in the Gulf and everything. Then we have Alternative 4, which allows for transfer of quota between regions. North Carolina and Florida would be designated as the coordinating states for any transfer request in consultation with other states.

Under Alternative 2; that is the one that just creates the North Carolina ACL, and then everyone else fishes on the General Atlantic ACL. It reads, "Florida, in consultation with Georgia, South Carolina and the Mid-Atlantic states, may request approval from the Regional Administrator to transfer part of the General Atlantic ACL to the North Carolina ACL.

"Requests for transfers must be made by letter signed by the principal state official with marine fishery management responsibility and expertise or his/her previously named designee for Florida. After consultations with all other states, the letter must certify that all pertinent state requirements have been met and identify the amount of quota to be transferred.

"North Carolina may request approval from the Regional Administrator to transfer part of the North Carolina ACL to the General Atlantic ACL. Requests for transfer must be made by the letter signed by the principal state official with marine fishery management responsibility and expertise is his/her previous named designee for North Carolina. "The letter must certify that all pertinent state requirements have been met and identify the amount of quota to be transferred."

For 3 it would be the same – I'll just read it – this is Alternative 3 and creates the northern and southern zones. "Florida, in consultation with Georgia and South Carolina, may request approval from the RA to transfer part of the southern zone ACL to the northern zone ACL. Requests for transfer must be made by letter signed by the principal state official with marine fishery management responsibility and expertise or his or her previously named designee for Florida.

"After consultation with Georgia and South Carolina, the letter must certify that all pertinent state requirements have been met and identify the amount of the ACL to be transferred. North Carolina, in consultation with all Mid-Atlantic States, may request approval from the RA to

transfer part of the northern zone ACL to the southern zone ACL," and then the same requirements about the letter and who signs the letter.

What this does is we want to specify that Florida will be the coordinating state that makes the request even though they will be in consultation with whatever states that they are sharing an ACL with. Then for the northern zone, if you select Alternative 3, North Carolina would be the only state that would make that. That way it kind of simplifies the transfer process.

MR. HARTIG: That is a lot to digest. Monica.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I think it's much more clearer than before.

MR. HARTIG: I think it is, too. I think that was excellent wording. Kari did a great job.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I like it. I compliment you on your quick ability to put this together between the time of the committee and now; so I think it is very good.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: It wasn't me; it was Sue. I just edited it.

MR. HARTIG: It's a great team.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: However, if everybody is okay with the language that we're using and the organization, then we would need a motion from the council to approve the new language and organization of these alternatives.

MR. HARTIG: Of Action 5(4); so the motion would read to approve the new language and the organization of Action 5(4); and a motion from Anna; seconded by Michelle. Discussion?

DR. DUVAL: I would like to add my kudos to Kari and Sue for coming up with this language. I do think it is clearer. Again, I think we should just go out without a preferred and let the public digest it and react to it. I had also offered to Monica to get together with her and Jack and my boss to kind of go over maybe some of the questions with regard to how this process has worked in other states and clarify some of that in the document before it goes out for public hearing. I appreciate the indulgence of the committee and council in considering this. I know it is potentially quite a change, but no different than what is done in the Gulf.

MR. HARTIG: Other discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved. All right, under Action 6 in Amendment 20 was to modify the framework procedure. The committee had no motions. Action 7, modify the Gulf and Atlantic migratory group cobia annual catch limit ACLs and annual catch targets, ACTs.

The first motion I have for you is to approve the IPT language changes for Alternative 3; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Further motions under Action 7 were adopt Alternative 3, Option D as the preferred; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

The next motion is to approve Amendment 20 for public hearings; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Monica.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Similarly, I think you should think about taking this up to the Mid-Atlantic, because you've got a potential carve-out of some of the ACL for I think the northern states; is that right? That is one option, anyway, so you may want to allow affected individuals who reside in that area to have an opportunity to comment during the development of this.

MR. HARTIG: I was writing that down, thank you, and we'll do that. Is there any further discussion on approving the amendment for public hearings? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

All right that brings us to the framework actions, and under Action 1, modify Atlantic migratory group king mackerel minimum size limit. The motion was to remove Action 1 from the Framework Amendment; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Discussion: Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Under Action 2, modify restrictions on transfer at sea and gill net allowances for Atlantic migratory Spanish mackerel; we never had a committee motion under that one.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: Well, you wanted to tweak.

MR. HARTIG: That's right, we didn't have a motion because we met afterward and now we have staff suggesting wording to replace Alternatives 2 and 3 with new Alternative 2, Kari.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: Okay, this is taking the two components, the number of gillnets and then the prohibition to transfer at sea; putting them together in one alternative, because this provision can't happen unless you address both of those things, and I took some language from that Mid-Atlantic Scup Amendment. Then Ben and I sat down and revised the wording. That is in your committee report under the suggested Alternative 2.

That is very specific to Spanish mackerel harvest with gillnet and when exactly this can happen. This would put us at only two alternatives, no action and action. However, this tailors it specifically to these very specific situations, so that hopefully there would not be anybody taking advantage of these provisions, for example, allowing more than two gillnets on board and everything.

I am going to read Alternative 2: This is the suggested language that the council would need to approve that replaces the current Alternative 2 and 3. "Alternative 2 applies only to commercial harvest of Atlantic migratory grouper Spanish mackerel with gillnet. This alternative recognizes that the current biomass levels of Spanish mackerel may result in catches of Spanish mackerel in excess of the commercial trip limit by vessels using gillnets.

"Specifically, even with very short sets, these gillnets may exceed the daily trip limit. As such, the regulations would be modified to allow for the transfer of Spanish mackerel at sea. Any amount of Spanish mackerel less than the commercial trip limit could be transferred between two vessels given the following conditions.

"Transfer is allowed if directed harvesting gear used to harvest the Spanish mackerel being transferred is allowable net gear. Spanish mackerel harvested with other than directed allowable net harvesting gear shall not be transferred. Transfer shall only take place in the EEZ between vessels with valid Spanish mackerel commercial permits.

"The receiving vessel may possess no more than three gillnets on board after the transfer is complete. All fish exceeding the applicable daily vessel limit shall remain entangled in the meshes of the net until transfer. The quantity of fish transferred to any single vessel shall not exceed the applicable daily trip limit. Call-in required for both vessels engaged in the transfer."

Then we provide a specific description of how this would occur. "After catching the Spanish mackerel in the gillnet, the donor vessel would cut the net into two sections. The captain would transfer the portion of the net to the receiving vessel. The receiving vessel would accept the portion of the net and retrieve that portion on the vessel. Call-in by both vessels should be made prior to the net being cut."

DR. CRABTREE: The call-in; who exactly are they going to call?

MR. HARTIG: Well, since it occurs off the Cape, it would be my intent at least for them to call NMFS' enforcement at the office of – where is the office? Melbourne; is that where the office is?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I think there is an office in Titusville, but I'm not entirely sure.

DR. CRABTREE: What hours of the day might this happen?

MR. HARTIG: The fishery doesn't occur at night so it would be in the daytime between – we can put the hours.

DR. CRABTREE: There needs to be some coordination with law enforcement, because I am not at all sure that it is reasonable to expect that anybody will be in the office and available to respond to all of these. We'll need to figure out how to work this.

MR. HARTIG: I think your concerns are valid about if we need to work it out, but thinking how the fishery operates, it is a daytime fishery. When it would occur, it would be between the hours of nine and five in almost any circumstance that I can think of.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes; I'm just not sure that the law enforcement office over there has anyone who is in the office manning the phones between those hours. It may just be an agent or two and they're out chasing bad guys all day long. There will need to be some thought put into that.

MR. BELL: Yes, I was just going to say, my assumption was there would be a call to the Coast Guard or something. They are the easiest folks to reach 24/7; and most likely in terms of

somebody that is liable to stumble across this going on out there. I would think that would be the logical initial contact point or something. I'm not trying to find work for them, but they are easier to get a hold of perhaps than NMFS Law Enforcement.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Well, since Otha is at the table, perhaps he would like to comment on that.

MR. EASLEY: That last suggestion there that is included, the call-in requirement was something the LEAP – I wasn't at that particular meeting, but that is something the LEAP suggested. I am sure the folks through law enforcement will figure something out and that is part of the details. There are options. There is Coast Guard; there is our 1-800 hotline number to call.

This is a daytime fishery. We could put in here a stipulation that any transfers are only between the hours of so and so and so and so. But the devil is in the detail, I guess, with some latitude that law enforcement, state and Coast Guard and NMFS can put that detail to black and white and share it with you.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I think we could work out the details. I do support Otha's idea of adding into the action the timeframe in which you allow this to happen; you know, from nine to three, from nine to five, whatever you think that – you know, the fishery. You said that it normally operates during a certain daylight hours anyway, but I would put that in the action.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: Just really quickly; when the LEAP was looking over this and they were giving – they gave more suggestions, but I guess what their concern is that there be some kind of record that this is happening so that if that receiving vessel – if there is a law enforcement officer that comes in contact with this receiving vessel, there is some kind of record that they let somebody know.

I guess you could specify who they had the call into. They just wanted in some way to – if they come in contact with somebody who has fish over – who has that extra gillnet; that is the only way you would really know on board; that they would know that that is okay for this situation; some kind of accountability for the receiver vessel and donor vessel.

MR. JOLLEY: Well, I just thought let's don't make this more complicated than it needs to be. You call law enforcement, Titusville; you leave a message on the answer phone. I'm sure they've got an answer phone going. They can respond to it if they want to or not. How often is this going to happen? It's not going to happen every day, I will tell you that.

MR. HARTIG: No, it doesn't happen every day.

MR. JOLLEY: It seems to me we can keep it simple.

MS. BECKWITH: If we're going to allow the receiving vessel to have a third net on board, do we also want to mandate that it is a cut net below -I guess I am trying to envision. I can see the donor boat taking the fish out of the net, dropping the net back in the water, having the receiving boat come up and pick up the net and take the entire net on board rather than having to cut it. Do

we want to force the net to be cut in the way that we're writing this if we're already going to let them take on the third net?

MR. HARTIG: The way it is commonly done is the net is cut, and we want the fish to remain in the net when it is transferred. It is the cleanest way to do it. Trying to transfer fish at sea is not an easy thing to do especially in volume for these vessels. I think law enforcement also had that suggestion that the fish should remain in the net and that portion of that transferred.

We haven't defined a third net, because there were problems in trying to define a portion of a net when we talked with Otha before, so we just allow the third net to be on the vessel with the identifying criteria that you call in, and that is how it would work. Monica.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Remember, you're going to get public comment on this. Hopefully, you'll get a good amount of public comment. You are going to come back and see this – or the amendment is going to come back to you, and so you could always change it and tweak it in response to public comment or other good ideas that you have.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: I would need a motion from the council to replace Alternative 2 and 3 with the new Alternative 2.

DR. DUVAL: Mr. Chairman, I move that we replace Alternatives 2 and 3 with the new suggested language of Alternative 2.

MR. HARTIG: Second by Anna. **Discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.** Monica.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Then I'm sure there is going to be some appendix that is something like considered but rejected alternatives or whatever, and then there will be a discussion in there as to why Alternative 2 was placed in there and why it wasn't reasonable and things of that nature. I think you have talked quite a bit on the record, but we can always add to that rationale.

MR. HARTIG: That's great; and we had talked about some of the concerns you had about the transferrable. It wasn't specific to this fishery; you know, did we do this for this fishery in particular, and what were the reasons we did it for. Basically the transferability is a generic thing we do for all our fisheries. We don't allow a transfer at sea. It goes right down the line on the commercial side. I know that was one of your concerns.

Action 3; modify king mackerel commercial trip limit in the east coast Florida subzone. The motion was under that action to select Alternative 4 as a preferred alternative; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Under Action 4; modify the system of quota and trip limit adjustments for Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel. The motion was to remove Action 4 from the Framework Action for future – well, it says 2013 – for a future document; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

All right, since we changed some of the alternatives, removed some, the council needs to approve the purpose and need for the Framework Action. Since we didn't make this motion in the committee, we'll need a motion to approve the purpose and need for the Framework Action, .

MR. CUPKA: Mr. Chairman, I make a motion that we approve the purpose and need for the Framework Action as revised.

MR. HARTIG: Second by Doug. **Discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.** All right, the last option under the framework; the council needs to approve Framework Action for public hearings. We didn't do that at the committee level so we need a motion. Doug.

MR. HAYMANS: Mr. Chairman, I would make a motion we approve the Framework Action for public hearings.

MR. HARTIG: Seconded by David Cupka. Discussion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Under the Timing and Tasks Motion, we have some wording under there. The motion is to adopt the timing and tasks items as presented.

DR. DUVAL: I move that we adopt the timing and task items as presented.

MR. HARTIG: Motion by Michelle; seconded by Martha. **Discussion?** Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

(Whereupon, the following timing and task items were adopted: Make the necessary revisions to CMP Amendment 19 for public hearings in August and for the September 2013 meeting; make the necessary revisions to CMP Amendment 20 for public hearings in August and for the September 2013 meeting; make the necessary revisions to South Atlantic CMP Framework Action for public hearings in August and for the September 2013 meeting; target final approval of CMP Amendment 19, Amendment 20, and Framework Action for September 2013.)

MR. HARTIG: I believe that completes the Mackerel Committee Report, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Ben. Next would be the Advisory Panel Selection Committee report, Mr. Haymans.

MR. HAYMANS: The Advisory Panel Selection Committee met on June 13, 2013, and reviewed applications for seats on the following advisory panels: Coral, Dolphin Wahoo, Golden Crab, Habitat and Environmental Protection, Information and Education, King and Spanish Mackerel, Law Enforcement, Shrimp, Snapper Grouper, and the SEDAR pool.

The committee asked staff to re-advertise the Georgia commercial seat on the Mackerel AP and briefly discussed possible term limits for advisory panel members. The committee approved the following motions as recommendations to the council.

Motion 1; reappoint Margot Stiles, Dr. Steve Ross, Dr. Dave Gilliam, and Dr. Clark Alexander to the Coral AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; the motion is approved.

Motion 2; appoint Ty Conte to the Dolphin Wahoo AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; the motion is approved.

Motion 3; reappoint Chip Bethel, Howard Rau, and David Nielson to the Golden Crab AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? I will stop here for a moment and add that I did e-mail around to everyone the minutes from I think it was June of '12 regarding our discussion, and I think you will see that we had a motion about including all permit holders on the AP. That motion was withdrawn, so it is not effective policy yet.

I think we will continue along the lines if a permit holder seeks a position on the AP, then we will certainly consider that at each opportunity. Is there any additional discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 4; reappoint Dr. Chris Elkins and Terry Pratt to the Habitat AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 5; appoint Scott Baker to the Information and Education AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any discussion? Opposition? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 6; appoint Andy High to the Mackerel AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 7; reappoint Robert Pelosi and Bill Wickers, Jr. to the Mackerel AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 8; reappoint Michael Kennedy to the Law Enforcement AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 9; reappoint Scott Cook and Nancy Edens to the Shrimp AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 10; reappoint Don DeMaria to the Snapper Grouper AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 11; reappoint Terrell Gould to the Snapper Grouper AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 12; reappoint Robert Johnson to the Snapper Grouper AP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 13; appoint Jack Ollie Burrell to the Snapper Grouper AP Wreckfish Subpanel; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 14; appoint Fred Cruz to the Snapper Grouper AP: and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 15; appoint Jeff Oden to the SEDAR pool; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 16; appoint Paula Nielson, William Shearing, Jr., Christian Johnson, and Steven Klimlik, to the SEDAR pool; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Motion 17; appoint Dr. Doug Butterworth and Dr. Rebecca Rademeyer to the SEDAR Pool; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Discussion? Objection? Seeing none; the motion is approved.

Motion 18; The AP Chairman will work with the staff to develop recommendations regarding term limits on advisory panels; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any additional discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Mr. Chairman, that concludes the AP Selection Committee report.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Doug. The SSC Selection Committee report, Dr. Duval.

DR. DUVAL: The Committee reviewed SSC and SEP membership applications. All six existing SSC members whose terms expired this year were reappointed to the SSC, and two additional members were appointed to the SEP. The Committee made the following motions.

All right, the first motion was to reappoint Dr. Luiz Barbieri, Dr. Jim Berkson, Dr. Jeff Buckel, Dr. Steve Cadrin, Dr. Churchill Grimes and Dr. George Sedberry to the SSC; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The next motion was to move to appoint Dr. Ben Blount and John Hadley to the SEP; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Michelle. Moving right along, Law Enforcement Committee, Mr. Bell.

MR. BELL: The Law Enforcement Committee met in Stuart, Florida, on June 13, 2013. Law Enforcement Officer of the year award; this was the only action that the Committee had. It was actually an action that ended up being an action of the Full Council. Mel Bell, Law Enforcement Committee Chair, briefed the Committee on the process to select a law enforcement officer of the year to receive an award.

He stated five nominees were submitted; one from U.S. Coast Guard, one from each of the four state agencies. The Law Enforcement Advisory Panel voted on the nominee via e-mail. The top three nomination packages were then submitted to the Law Enforcement Committee and the rest of the voting council members.

The Law Enforcement Committee under closed session discussed the nominations, and individual council members made additional comments on the nominees. Council members were then provided a ballot to cast their vote for one deserving officer to receive the 2012 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award.

South Carolina DNR Officer Henry Huger McClelland was the nominee selected to receive the 2012 award. The award will be presented to Officer McClelland at the September 2013 meeting in Charleston, South Carolina. I might ask since this was actually done as an action of the Full Council, do we need a motion to make this official or is that sufficient?

MR. CUPKA: I don't think we need a motion because Full Council voted on the selection.

MR. BELL: Then under other business, Mel Bell expressed his concern that the Commercial Fishing Safety Advisory Committee of the U.S. Coast Guard lacks adequate representation from the South Atlantic Region. The Law Enforcement Committee directed staff to prepare a letter to request that this committee include a member.

We actually changed some wording – actually changed this to include broader representation of the commercial fisheries in the South Atlantic Region; because technically if you saw the list that we forwarded, there is one representative from the South Atlantic from Marathon, Florida, but I would offer that is probably not adequate representation for the entire South Atlantic commercial suite of fisheries. The Law Enforcement Committee made no motions, and, Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.

MR. CUPKA: All right thank you, Mel. Next is our Executive Finance Committee. We met yesterday in Stuart, Florida, and the minutes from the March 2013 Executive Finance Committee was approved. The committee received presentations on the following agenda items. Number 1; status of federal FY2013 funding, Bob Mahood provided an overview of our FY2013 funding.

He directed the members to Page 8 of the PowerPoint presentation and Attachment 1. He related that at the May Council Coordinating Committee meeting the councils received a presentation from Gary Reisner indicating the funding levels they would receive in 2013. The councils were told they would receive approximately a 10 percent reduction from the 2012 funding level. Bob indicated that we would be able to weather this budget reduction using funds we have carried forward from earlier grant years. He reminded the committee that we have been conserving funds critical to the council's future operations as we brace for these anticipated budget cuts.

In regards to the current year council budget expenditures, Mr. Mahood briefed the committee on the council's expenditures for this year. He noted that although we do not have our absolute final funding level for the calendar year 2013, we have been operating under a budget that will accomplish our goals for the year.

He explained how the budget would be funded with this year's allocation and carryover funds from last year. It was noted we are in good shape for this year as spending is slightly lower than anticipated when the budget was developed. Next was an update on the joint committee on South Florida Management Issues.

Chairman Cupka briefed the committee on the Joint Goliath Grouper Committee activities and the issues the joint committee has addressed. An update on the activities of the Joint Committee on South Florida Management Issues was also provided. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has taken the lead in establishing a series of public workshops to gather input on various issues.

The dates and locations of the workshops are listed in Attachment 3. At our September meeting more time will be allocated to address the Goliath grouper and other South Florida issues. In the interim, the workshops will be held and the Gulf Council will address the Goliath grouper issues and provide their recommendations.

In regards to the council followup and priorities, Bob Mahood provided the committee with background as to how the council and NMFS Regional Operating Agreement followup evolved. Gregg Waugh briefed the committee on documents provided for their consideration for followup, which includes an action priority form.

He explained how the followup was developed and the interactions between the council and the Southeast Regional Office staff in completing the operations document. Gregg reviewed where the council stood on meeting with priorities for the current ongoing amendments and other actions that were established at our last council meeting.

He pointed out the schedule has been very full. However, a number of the top priorities have already been accomplished. He indicated that six actions, if approved, would be going out to public hearing in August. It was noted that members should contact Gregg if they plan on attending any of the hearings. Gregg then went over the priority spreadsheet.

Chairman Cupka asked the committee chairmen to review the list to make sure they agree with the priorities. The committee voted to recommend approval of the follow up and revised priority table. Next was the Florida tarpon issue. Chairman Cupka briefed the committee on the letter he received from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission indicating they were considering management changes in the tarpon fishery, including extending state regulations into adjacent federal waters.

The letter indicated that tarpon are managed in state waters by the FWC and Chapter 68B-32, Florida Administrative Code, and there are currently no regulations pertaining to tarpon in adjacent federal waters. Martha Bademan also briefed the committee on the most recent FWC actions. The committee discussed the letter and agreed that council has no intention of managing tarpon in federal waters.

The committee voted to recommend sending a letter to Florida indicating that the council has no intent to manage tarpon. Next was the sustainable certification discussion. Chairman Cupka briefed the committee on the sustainable certification issue and the actions that have been taken by the New England and Mid-Atlantic Councils.

These councils have recommended adding to the list of reauthorization priorities the need for a sustainable certification program for our domestic seafood industry. Their intent would be to authorize NMFS to provide the U.S. industry with a sustainable certification program and certification mark, which would provide the industry with the ability to promote and sell its

seafood products in both domestic and export markets as sustainable based upon the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

This was also mentioned at the Managing Our Nation's Fisheries 3 Conference and testimony we have received before the council. The committee discussed the issue and there was some resistance to recommending a program that would increase government involvement. However, it was determined a program such as envisioned would be beneficial to our seafood industry.

The committee voted to recommend that the council add to the list of reauthorization priorities a need for a sustainable certification program. Under other business, Chairman Cupka briefed the committee on the assessment peer review process proposed by the SSC. He indicated this would be a living document and it would be subject to change as appropriate as time went on.

The committee indicated they thought the SSC did an excellent job crafting the document. However, NOAA General Counsel had a problem with Section 4.1.B, and Monica explained why the sentence was not appropriate. It was agreed by the committee to remove Section 4.1.B, which was one sentence. The committee then voted to recommend approval of the SSC-provided peer review process, with the exception of the section that was removed and to re-letter the process accordingly.

We made four motions during the Executive Finance Committee. The first was to approve the follow-up and advised priority table; and on behalf of the Committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

The second motion was to send a letter to Florida indicating that the council has no intent to manage tarpon in federal waters; and on behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

The third motion that council recommends to add to the list of reauthorization priorities the need for a sustainable certification program that would authorize NMFS to provide the U.S. industry with a sustainable certification program and certification mark, which would provide the industry with the ability to promote and sell its seafood products in both domestic and export markets as sustainable based upon the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act; and on behalf of the Committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Is there any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

Our final motion was to approve the SSC-provided peer review process document with the exception of Section 4.1.B; and on behalf of the Committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none; then that motion is approved. That completes the report of the Executive Finance Committee.

The next committee is the Protected Resources Committee. The Protected Resources Committee was briefed by the Southeast Regional Office Protective Resources Division staff on the following items: Atlantic Sturgeon, coral, right whales and the black sea bass pot fishery, status review for Nassau grouper and status review for river herring.

The committee discussed the ongoing reinitiation of formal consultation from the Coastal Migratory Pelagic Resources due to the Atlantic sturgeon listings, including the draft biological

opinion released by the Northeast Regional Office. Discussion also included types of data collection of the Southeast Region Atlantic sturgeon in consultation with the council during development of the biological opinion.

The committee discussed at length the current status of right whales and the black sea bass pot fishery. In Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 19, the council approved a closure for black sea bass pots from November 1st through April 30th to reduce potential right whale interactions during calving and migration in the winter months.

The Snapper Grouper Committee had discussed removing the closure in a future amendment if Regulatory Amendment 19 is approved by the Secretary and implemented by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Proceeding with the development of this action with a preferred alternative to remove the closure would trigger a reinitiation of formal consultation for the entire Snapper Grouper FMP.

The committee expressed their desire to be kept closely informed by the Southeast Regional Office Protected Resources Division should such a consultation be reinitiated. Several members of the committee indicated concern about estimates of co-occurrence of right whales with black sea bass pots and differences between various fisheries that could interact with right whales in other areas of the east coast.

The Southeast Regional Office Protected Resources Division staff suggested having a right whale specialist from the Protected Resources Division to attend a future council meeting to provide more information about the co-occurrence model for right whales. Thee U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff provided an update on the status review for American eel and the proposed designation of critical habitat for loggerhead turtles. There were no motions during the Committee and that concludes my committee report. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: I actually did want to make a motion and it would be that the council receives status updates from Protected Resources staff at each council meeting while their ongoing formal consultation is under way. I think the intent here – and I spoke with Jennifer yesterday after the meeting – is that this would facilitate communication between the council and Protected Resources staff and just allow for council input.

Under their process I understand that there is some level of discomfort with doing something similar to what the northeast has done in terms of releasing like a draft biological opinion or anything, but I think it would help us out to understand in advance maybe what they're thinking a little bit, so I make that in the form of a motion.

MR. CUPKA: Okay, we have a motion. The motion is for the council to receive status updates from Protected Resources staff at each council meeting while there are ongoing formal consultations. The intent is that this will facilitate communication between the council and Protected Resource staff and allow for council input during the process.

The second part is really not part of the motion, but we need a second on the motion. Seconded by Tom Burgess. **Is there a discussion on the motion? Is there objection to the motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved.** Thank you, Michelle, for that. You are up next with the Data Collection Committee report.

DR. DUVAL: The Data Collection Committee met on June 13th. The agenda was adopted and the minutes of the March 2013 meeting was approved. Our first order of business was an update on the Joint Gulf and South Atlantic Council Generic Dealer Amendment, and the committee received a status update on the Joint Gulf and South Atlantic Council Generic Dealer Amendment from Monica Smit-Brunello, NOAA GC.

The amendment was resubmitted for formal secretarial review on April 24, 2013; and in preparing the regulatory package, NOAA GC determined that the amendment did not state the requirements for dealers and fishermen north of North Carolina; and if those dealers and fishermen were included in the requirements, there were no public hearings held in those areas.

The committee discussed these issues; and on behalf of the committee I move the following: Number 1, clarify that the generic dealer permit requirements apply to any dealer purchasing South Atlantic Council managed species; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. Monica.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: It came to my attention that the Dealer Amendment also requires that all federal-permitted vessels sell only to federally permitted dealers. Perhaps it would be a good idea to have a similar motion such that you would clarify that in the Generic Dealer Amendment requirements apply to any federally permitted vessels that sell South Atlantic Council managed species.

DR. DUVAL: The motion would read clarify that all federally permitted vessels only sell to federally permitted dealers?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Federally permitted vessels that sell – generic dealer requirements would apply to any federally permitted vessels that sell South Atlantic Council managed species. The requirement will be for those people who hold federal permits north of North Carolina now that they can only sell to federally permitted dealers. Your intent is that for South Atlantic managed species that requirement be the full range of the FMPs, right, for mackerel from the South Atlantic up to New York and then for dolphin and wahoo up through Maine.

DR. DUVAL: Take a look at what is on the screen and see if that satisfies that need.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Could you add generic dealer permit in front of requirements like the above Motion Number 1?

DR. DUVAL: Then that reads clarify that generic dealer permit requirements apply to all federally permitted vessels that sell South Atlantic species.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: South Atlantic managed species. I would mirror just what you did in Motion Number 1 and put that in Motion Number 2.

DR. DUVAL: It now reads clarify that generic dealer permit requirements apply to all federally permitted vessels that sell South Atlantic managed species.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Yes, thank you.

DR. DUVAL: Is there someone willing to make that motion?

MR. HARTIG: So moved, Madam Chairman.

DR. DUVAL: Motion by Ben, seconded by Anna. I will read this one more time; "clarify that generic dealer permit requirements apply to all federally permitted vessels that sell South Atlantic Council managed species. Is there anymore discussion on this? Otha.

MR. EASLEY: Do you want to include whether that federally managed species comes from state waters or EEZ, to include both? Maybe this is the wrong section here or action.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Otha, I don't think you need to do that because the amendment already sets out what the coverage is. This is just to make clear that the council's intent that whatever is in the amendment right now as far as requirements apply north of North Carolina.

DR. DUVAL: Any other comments or discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. The next item is the Joint South Atlantic/Gulf of Mexico Generic Charter/ Headboat Reporting in the South Atlantic; and this is our amendment. The amendment was submitted for formal review on April 23, 2013, and Jack McGovern, NMFS SERO, reported that the amendment has been received and the Notice of Availability is being prepared.

The next item was a pilot study to test the feasibility of electronic logbook reporting in the Gulf of Mexico for for-hire vessels; and Gordon Colvin, contractor for ECS Federal, Incorporated, in support of National Marine Fisheries Service, briefed the committee on the context of the findings and possible next steps. Beverly Sauls, Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute Chair Project Team, presented the summary of the project report.

The next item was the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Framework for headboat reporting in the Gulf. The council staff reviewed the electronic reporting for Headboats Regulatory Amendment and codified text. The committee discussed the amendment; and on behalf of the Committee I move the following: **Approve the Gulf Council's electronic reporting for Headboats Amendment for formal review.** This will need to be a roll call vote, Mr. Executive Director.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Hartig.

MR. HARTIG: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Amick.

MR. AMICK: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Ms. Bademan.

MS. BADEMAN: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Ms. Beckwith.

MS. BECKWITH: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Bell.

MR. BELL: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Burgess.

MR. BURGESS: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Dr. Crabtree.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Haymans.

MR. HAYMANS: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Jolley.

MR. JOLLEY: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Phillips.

MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Swatzel.

MR. SWATZEL: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Chairman Cupka.

MR. CUPKA: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Chairman Duval.

DR. DUVAL: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: It passes unanimously.

DR. DUVAL: The next motion was to approved the codified text as necessary and appropriate and give the Gulf Council Chair authority to redeem the codified text; and on behalf of the Committee I so move. I believe this is another roll call vote.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Hartig.

MR. HARTIG: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Amick.

MR. AMICK: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Ms. Bademan.

MS. BADEMAN: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Ms. Beckwith.

MS. BECKWITH: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Bell.

MR. BELL: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Burgess.

MR. BURGESS: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Dr. Crabtree.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Haymans.

MR. HAYMANS: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Jolley.

MR. JOLLEY: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Phillips.

MR. PHILLIPS: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Swatzel.

MR. SWATZEL: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Chairman Cupka.

MR. CUPKA: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Chairman Duval.

DR. DUVAL: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Codified text is approved.

DR. DUVAL: Next council staff provided an update on staff IPT work on the Joint South Atlantic Gulf of Mexico Generic Logbook Reporting Amendment. The committee discussed the need for this amendment and provided guidance to staff as reflected below in the timing and task motion.

Council staff reviewed the status of work on charterboat reporting. Now that the MRIP Pilot Study Report is complete work can proceed. The committee discussed this amendment and provided guidance to staff as reflected below in the timing and task motion. With regard to Southeast Fisheries Science Center sampling protocols for biological sample size and age and research projects; Bonnie Ponwith, Southeast Fisheries Science Center Director, gave a report on the process used by the ACCSP partners to set target sampling levels.

The committee discussed this and on behalf of the committee I move the following; that the council write a letter to the SEFSC requesting sample sizes for individual species that are assessed in the South Atlantic. The intent is to have targets on what was achieved, assessed species, those planned to be assessed and part of the species 20 stocks in the research plan. Is there discussion on this motion? Any objection to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

Next we have a timing and task draft motion. Those were to make the necessary revisions to the Joint Generic Charter Headboat Reporting in the South Atlantic Amendment and codified text; hold public hearings in the Mid-Atlantic and New England Fishery Management Council areas; provide to the Gulf Council for approval for formal review at their August council meeting and bring back to the South Atlantic Council for formal review at the September council meeting. Second is to schedule a presentation from the science center on the details of commercial electronic logbook pilot study at the September 2013 meeting; and direct staff to work with Gulf staff and NMFS staff to plan for completion of the amendment, incorporating results from your one other pilot study and target regulations being effective on January 1, 2016.

Third was to direct staff to work with Gulf Council staff and agency staff on a generic amendment addressing charter reporting. I would entertain a motion to approve the task and timing as presented. Charlie.

MR. PHILLIPS: Madam Chair, I make the motion to approve the Timing and Task as presented.

DR. DUVAL: Motion by Charlie; seconded by Ben. Is there any discussion, any opposition? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Michelle. That takes us down to status reports from the Southeast Regional Office; Dr. Crabtree.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes, just a few things. The recreational and commercial quota monitoring tables have been updated and are available on our website. The proposed rule for Shrimp Amendment 9 published on March 4, 2013, and the comment period ended on May 3rd. The amendment was approved by NMFS on May 29th.

The final rule published yesterday, June 13th, and will be effective on July 15th. The final rule for Regulatory Amendment 13 will publish on Monday, June 17th, and be effective on July 17th. I think Jack mentioned yesterday that the jack complex will close at 12:01 a.m. on June 18, 2013. The jack complex includes almaco jack, banded rudderfish and lesser amberjack. I think the Fishery Bulletin went out late yesterday. Then we do have one EFP request from a Manny Toledo, who is asking to be allowed to use traps to collect spider crabs, and Jack can go over that if you would like, Mr. Chairman.

DR. McGOVERN: Mr. Manny Toledo is a commercial spiny lobster fisherman from Miami, Florida. He contacted Kim Iverson and myself earlier this year and he wanted to know if he could use traps to collect a species of spider crab, which are not managed, using modified traps similar to those used to target golden crabs.

He has caught this species of spider crab in his lobster pots. This species attains a pretty large size, and there is thought that they might be good to eat. We investigated this in the Regional Office. We found that the regulations are that golden crabs can only be caught with a directed fishery for that species. The traps for golden crabs can only be used for golden crabs.

Other traps, except for spiny lobster, black sea bass pots and crustacean traps, are considered to be fish traps and they are prohibited. Really, the regulations don't allow the use of traps except for directed fisheries, pretty much. Mr. Toledo is requesting an exempted fishing permit that would be valid for one year to determine if a modified golden trap can successfully be used to catch spider crabs in marketable quantities.

The dimensions of the trap that he is proposing are contained in the letter that is under Tab 13, Attachment 2. What he proposes to do is to fish 75 modified golden crab traps in federal waters off of Miami, Florida. He would use three mainlines with 25 traps each with a surface buoy on the first and last traps.

Each trap would have ID tags and they would be fished between 100 and 400 feet, which is inshore of where the golden crabs occur. The traps would not be set on hard bottom or in areas where there is deepwater coral or in HAPCs. He would soak them for three to four days. The data that he indicates that he will collect are the number of spider crabs harvested per set or mainline, the location of the set, the disposition of the crabs and the numbers and types of other organisms caught in the traps. Then he would provide market information on the sales of crabs.

MR. CUPKA: Any questions for Jack? I have Anna and then Martha.

MS. BECKWITH: What about the seasonality? I mean, as we've had the discussion with the November 1st closure for the black sea bass pots, this would be additional vertical lines in the water, so I don't know if there is any protected resource concerns. I didn't notice that he had mentioned a season that he would be fishing.

DR. McGOVERN: These traps would be fished south of the right whale calving season, but if it was moved forward it would be reviewed by Protected Resources and any stipulations about times of year to be fished or locations or anything like that would be in there. He has a buoy on the first and the last trap, but there is also a possibility that they wouldn't be buoyed and he could use a grappling hook and drag across the mainline or something like that.

MS. BADEMEN: I have some concerns about this one. Our institute has done some studies looking at bycatch in lobster traps. There are two kinds of traps that are primarily used in the fishery. Most people use the wood slat traps that you all may have seen. There are some that also use wire traps, and they have looked at bycatch in those traps.

The crab that he catches; at least in our studies it has been a very minor component of the bycatch in those traps. My concern is with using golden crab traps in shallower water, these are large traps. My main concern is bycatch of spiny lobster and finfish that would be caught in those traps. I would be inclined to not approve this EFP.

MR. HARTIG: My thoughts were similar along those lines. We were really specific in the golden crab fishery that those pots did not have a bycatch of snapper grouper species. There was a lot of work done to identify that in the past. They did not have much of a bycatch of our snapper grouper complex. That is why we went ahead with that. This is coming right into the area where most of our snapper grouper – right in the heart of our snapper grouper complex fishery, and it is going to have a substantial bycatch of our snapper grouper species. I couldn't support this EFP.

MR. JOLLEY: Yes, ditto, I have the same concerns.

MR. PHILLIPS: Yes, I can see the concerns; also, I love to experiment and try things. Maybe we could let him do it on a much shorter time limit; a much more limited scope and then see what it does. I mean, just give him a couple of months with just a few traps. That way if there is some bycatch, it would be limited, and it would give him and us a chance to see if there is a possibility of another fishery.

MR. CUPKA: Is there any other discussion? John.

MR. SANCHEZ: Just curious; is there any mention of where the throat is on this trap?

DR. McGOVERN: It does provide a pretty good description of the traps in the letter itself. I might be able to find that for you.

MR. HARTIG: I don't have a problem with this using wood traps and some kind of minor modifications to allow possible that crab to enter those traps, but we know wire catches more fish, period. That is just the way it is, John, and you know that as well, wire catches more fish. I don't think we want to be putting traps that have a significant impact on those species in depths of 100 feet and greater when you are going to have substantial discard mortality. That's my thoughts.

MR. CUPKA: All right, is anybody prepared to make a motion regarding this issue. Again, I would remind you it is not a council decision but a recommendation to Roy's office as whether or not to issue the EFP.

MR. HARTIG: Well, I would recommend that the council send a letter to SERO indicating that we do not want to approve this particular EFP.

MR. CUPKA: We have a second from Martha. Let's get it up on the board. Okay, we have a motion to submit a letter to the Regional Administrator that he not approve the EFP request for Caribbean spider crab research. Is there any discussion on the motion? Is there any objection? One objection; the motion is approved. Is that it, Roy? Are there any questions for Roy on any of his report? If not then we'll go to the Southeast Fishery Science Center report; Dr. Ponwith.

DR. PONWITH: I'll begin with an overview of the headboat survey and update since February. We do continue to collect data, a combination of paper and electronically at this point. The electronic collections that we're seeing are offered up by the headboat captains, and they are submitting their reports in a number of ways through a secure website, mobile applications and the use of computer, tablets, and phones.

So far the feedback that we're getting continues to be positive. The estimate for 2012 headboat landings and effort for both the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic were completed in March, and this was ahead of the schedule that we have set for ourselves. A lot of that is owed to receiving that information incrementally rather than in big batches and being able to make progress on the QA-QC and process that more efficiently.

We expect that that will, again as we've discussed, continue to improve. One interesting thing is that the data workshop has recommended for both gray triggerfish and blueline tilefish that these headboat data be used as an index of abundance for those two stocks. Of course, the assessment is still under way, and so the outcome of that decision remains to be seen, but that was recommended for both of those. That completes the update on the headboat.

The other thing that I would like to report on that was a significant event at the science center was the program review on data collection programs and data management programs supporting Magnuson-Stevens Act related stock assessments. First of all, let me express a word of thanks for the council sending representatives to that data review.

It gives a phenomenal opportunity to see a really broad overview of what data collections take place and hear a little bit about what we have to go through to make the decisions of weighing what data collection gets more emphasis and at the expense of what other data collection. That was really valuable. We received reports from each of the reviewers.

I'm studying those reports right now and owe a draft response to headquarters within 45 days of the end of the review and ultimately owe a final report to go up on the website and be publically available within 60 days of the close of that review. That means that by early August you will have the package of what was the findings from the review and then also what our reaction to those findings and plans for those findings are.

That serves as a really good launching point to be able to collaborate again with the council on where the squeaky wheels are to make sure that our operational plans are well aligned with the council's needs and the SSC's views on priorities. With that, I will close my report.

MR. CUPKA: Are there any questions for Bonnie? Seeing none; then we will move ahead to the report on the annual CCC meeting. This year's CCC meeting was held in conjunction with

the Managing Our Nations Fisheries Conference in Washington, D.C., and was hosted by the Pacific Council.

Behind Attachment 4 is a copy of the agenda for the meeting. The Pacific Council is still finalizing the written report from that meeting. As soon as it is available, I have asked Bob to send it out to people. If there aren't any specific questions based on the agenda, we will just update you once we get that written report. All right, that brings us down to update on the Marine Resource Education Program. Kim.

MS. IVERSON: I'll go through this fairly quickly. As most of you are aware, we do have the Marine Resources Education Program now here in the southeast. I wanted to provide you a quick update. The program is currently administered through the Gulf of Maine Research Institute. It is workshop based.

There were two workshops planned for the Southeast Program of fisheries science and fisheries management; and just to remind everyone that it is a program by fishermen for fishermen. It is not a council-administered program. I have included the list of goals in the briefing book material. The presentation is listed there; I won't go through those.

We do have a new logo for the program, so it makes it our own. The funding for the program began last year was secured through the National Marine Fisheries Service and the National Fish and Wildlife Federation. It is run through the steering committee that was established last year in September, and the steering committee was instrumental in developing the curriculums for both the science and the management workshops.

The workshops are held in conjunction with the South Atlantic, the Gulf and the Caribbean Councils. We are looking at holding regional workshops next year, separating out the South Atlantic and Gulf and Caribbean if all goes well with this year's workshops. The Gulf of Maine Research Institute publicized the program through the mailing of postcards and through the steering committee, by making lots of phone calls and personal contacts.

There was a great response. We had over 60 applications for 20 seats; and because of that, the Gulf of Maine Research Institute decided to increase the number of people to 32 so we had actually 31 participants. The workshop was held at FWRI in early April. We had a broad range of participants representing all of the sectors as well as media and industry representatives. We started with a classroom that morning.

It was really a nice facility to hold classroom presentations. Luiz Barbieri and Gordon Colvin provided instruction and an overview on sampling and survey methods. It was really well received. Then the participants moved into a rotating tour of the lab and the facilities that included a tour of the wet lab, age and growth, sampling gear tours and research vessels.

The FWRI staff were also there, and they worked very closely with the participants at the workshop talking about aging, otoliths sampling, answering questions. It was very informal. The participants actually got to cut the otoliths and mount the otoliths and talk about the aging process, and look at – they had otolith samples for everybody to take.

We had parting gifts from the wet lab. We had a tour of the research vessel. the Wind Bird, and the tour of the facilities there, how they collect samples. We actually got to go look at the electronics, at the bridge and talk with the captain. Yes, that is Chris McCafferty up there on the bridge and he had a lot of his questions answered.

Back at the wet lab, we took hard part samples, showing how they actually went into the fish, removed and extracted the otoliths, gonads, et cetera. There again the participants were able to touch the items. We looked at tagging, satellite tagging, acoustical monitoring, how those data were used in the fishery management process.

We looked at sampling gear, chevron traps, video monitoring, sonar sidebeam monitoring. The wonderful thing is it allowed a lot of informal Q&A between the participants and the people that are actually in the field. Again, FWRI staff did an awesome job of talking with everyone at the individual stations. There is Jack Cox looking a little bemused. They are at the sampling. I think those were eggs.

But. again, hands on, able to look through the microscopes, talk with the biologists with the people that actually collect the data and the information. We went back to the classroom where John Carmichael and Clay Porch managed to make modeling and mathematics interesting to all the participants.

Frank Helies talked about cooperative research and available opportunities there, answered a lot of questions. We had the gear specialist come in and talk about engineering and gear sampling, catch-and-release mortality. Again, lots of informal opportunities to ask questions throughout the presentations; also talk about oceanography and climate drivers and ecosystem-based management.

At the end, evaluations were distributed to all the participants, and the majority of the participants found the workshop excellent or very good. There were a lot of handwritten comments on the evaluations. I do have a PDF file of those. I didn't include those in the briefing book, but if anyone is interested I would be glad to send those around. It was very, very positive, good suggestions, good feedback.

Planning for the September management workshop is under way. We've decided to hold – there was a conference call this week – so the dates are the 24th through the 26th. I believe some folks at this table have been contacted as possible instructors for the management workshop. We'll include some role playing. It should be very interesting. We hope that the participants in the science workshop will be able to come back and follow up with the management workshop.

If not, then those participants or those applicants that applied back in the early spring will be looked at as additional participants. The curriculum is being developed. Again, the location will be in Tampa. We haven't determined – I think it is going to be at the hotel, but I did like using the FWRI facility, because it was very informal; it was very open.

You could watch the vessels coming in and out and the airplanes as well. If you have any questions, I will be glad to answer them. Again, this was a very quick run through and we do have our own page on the GMRI website now for the southeast program.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Kim, a good presentation and it is really an excellent program. I hope we're going to be able to continue it and expand it and maybe eventually find an acronym for it so people won't think they're talking about MRIP. But, anyway, I have John and then Ben.

MR. JOLLEY: I got a very significant compliment from David Webb, one of our Board of Directors at the West Palm Beach Fishing Club. He is very critical, and he was very supportive of what you did.

MS. IVERSON: Thank you, John. It was great to not only see familiar faces, but to meet gentlemen like Mr. Webb that weren't really actually – haven't been involved in the process to this point, and introduce them and also answer a lot of questions and have some new faces; people that really didn't understand what the council was about and the management process and how the science worked, and so that is the very rewarding part of the program, one of the many rewarding parts of the program, so thank you.

MR. HARTIG: Yes Kim, in the things that were done in northeast there was kind of a general moderator and then a fisherman-moderator type that complemented the general moderator. Did you have that same model in this?

MS. IVERSON: Yes, Alexa Dayton from GMRI was there representing the program, but Bob Gill was the facilitator, and Bob and Duane Harris kind of tag-teamed, but Bob was the moderator for all of the discussions and that worked out really well.

MR. HARTIG: Were there council members that participated in the process that you can remember?

MS. IVERSON: No, we had some advisory panel members that were there.

MR. HARTIG: When I went to the one in New England, there were council members there, and I encourage any of the council members, if they can take the time to go to this, this is a really rewarding and the stock assessment. The Carmichael/Porch team, my gosh, I want to go to that one. That is just phenomenal just from the way that those two people can explain – not to diminish any other people, but just the way that they explain to the public the stock assessment concepts; that is really a positive team there. I'm impressed.

MR. HAYMANS: Yes, I had the opportunity to spend the evening with one of the participants in that last night, and he said John Carmichael needs to go out on a comedy circuit. He just really enjoyed his presentation and learned a lot. I actually raised my hand to simply say that for a party of 20 we would love to host one at Coastal Resources Division in Brunswick. We can handle that. Our facilities aren't quite as large as FWRI, but we would love to host one.

DR. DUVAL: I would encourage the steering committee to think about moving around the region some of those workshops to enable – I guess maybe closer travel for some fishermen or something.

MS. IVERSON: That is the intent. This year being the first year that we've done the program, it is a combination of all three councils. We actually had a gentleman from Puerto Rico and one from St. Croix, and from the Caribbean Council. Once we get this established and we kind of do

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it jointly, the intent is for next year and beyond to make it more of a council-specific or region-specific so we will have ours in the South Atlantic, and they would have theirs in the Caribbean and then in the Gulf. That allows us that latitude to have them at perhaps Georgia DNR.

MR. HAYMANS: Perhaps I could answer this question by jumping online to that web address, but are the materials for the workshop online; the presentations?

MS. IVERSON: Yes, they are, and they will be for the management workshop as well. I just wanted to point out that John Carmichael was such a good instructor that they've invited him to come back for the management workshop.

MR. MAHOOD: Could I say a word; would you guys quit talking up John Carmichael? We've got everybody in the world trying to hire him away from us now, and I have to just keep paying him more money. Every time you complement him, it costs money.

MR. CUPKA: Other questions or comments? If not, thank you, Kim and we'll continue, and hopefully you'll update us in the future on some of the activities of the program. That brings us down to Agency and Liaison reports. I'm going to start on my left with Martha.

MS. BADEMAN: I'll just fill you in I guess on some of the other activities that our commission underwent this week. In addition to making some decisions on tarpon, they also refined the way that bonefish is catch and release in Florida. We used to have a permit. I guess we still do, but it is pending. They would get rid of a permit that allows for I guess temporary possession during tournaments to go to weigh in.

They are making it pretty much strictly catch and release. We're also undergoing an effort to clean up all of our rules, all of our statutes. The commission started that process on Wednesday. We also are reopening snook on the west coast of Florida. It has been closed for a couple years now because of that cold kill in 2010. It will open again in September when it would normally open if there wasn't this big, long closed season. That is about it for us.

MR. CUPKA: Are there any questions for Martha? Seeing none; then we will move on down. Monica, I don't know if you had anything else you want to add.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I think you probably heard enough from me this week, so, no, I have nothing more.

MR. CUPKA: Roy, is there anything else you want to provide for the good of the cause?

DR. CRABTREE: Just that I know we've made presentations to you, but we did change the way all of our regulations are organized and I think they are much more user-friendly now. If you haven't taken a look at them and you are looking for some really entertaining reading, I urge you to.

MR. CUPKA: Yes, those have been completed now, Roy?

DR. CRABTREE: Yes.

MR. CUPKA: Bob wants to know where they are.

DR. CRABTREE: Where they are? They're in the Code of Regulations.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: They're in the same location at 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 622. What they've done is they have some general regulations that are applicable across the board, and then they've broken it out into FMP species, sort of like the way we used to have it but not quite. I think they issued this through an interim final rule. But if there were any comments that were received on it, they will respond to those comments in a final-final version. I don't know how much that will change, but it is much more user-friendly.

MR. MAHOOD: Basically they put it back like it was 15 years ago.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: You could say that, yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Now we have to buy a new code book, right?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: No comment.

MR. CUPKA: Okay, thank you, Roy. Otha, did you have anything you want to bring forward?

MR. EASLEY: Yes, I had this long VMS acceptance speech written (laughter), but I guess that won't be necessary, right? It was full of nice things and clichés like I know this was a hard decision and, you know, half a step backwards, many steps forward, and it is the right thing to do. It would have been nice if I was able to say that to everyone officially.

On the serious side, I guess the encouraging thing was that at least a lot of people were exposed to VMS information that weren't exposed to it before. A lot of council as well as industry were able to know and learn – I can't say learn, but exposed some of the additional benefits that VMS offers a lot of us on both sides of the table; all three sides of the table, whatever. That is pretty much my report. I have nothing much to add unless you have any questions.

MR. CUPKA: Any questions for Otha? All right, Scot, did you have anything you wanted to bring forward?

LCDR GIBSON: Mr. Chairman and Council, just real quick I've got one law enforcement action of note since the last council meeting. Coast Guard Station, Marathon, boarded a Florida state-registered boat inside Sombrero Key Sanctuary, the preservation area. They had fish on board so they received a violation for that inside the Sanctuary; and then they were also anchored when the mooring ball was in the local area. They received a violation for both of those. That is the biggest case you've got to know.

The Coast Guard, as far as our enforcement actions and our assets remains the same; we're still in a shrinking budget environment and we really haven't increased – fisheries is normally a dual-hatted operation. If we have a vessel doing something else in the area, they will enforce fisheries in that area.

That is basically all I had. Once again, the Coast Guard position on VMS is please do not forget about it. Keep looking at the technology as it gets cheaper. It may be more viable, and we support the widest use of VMS, especially in the environment we're in right now. We're shrinking assets and we want more enforcement. Thank you.

MR. CUPKA: Okay thank you, Scot. Are there questions for Scot? Again, we want to wish you well in your new assignment. All right, Mel.

MR. BELL: Yes, just a couple things of interest here. We've already discussed the South Carolina Legislature determined that we'll have a year-round black sea bass fishery. One way or the other the governor will sign it or won't sign it, but it will go into effect. That will be in effect next year with the fishery.

We mentioned the tarpon. We established a 77-inch fork length tarpon minimum length. That is not really a council thing. Also back to black sea bass; I've been discussing with some of our fishermen since there are a lot of black sea bass out there, and our divers have confirmed there indeed are a lot of black sea bass on our reefs and things, the question keeps coming up, well, what are all those fish eating?

We are going to try to work with MARMAP a little bit and kind of maybe do some feeding studies just to see what they are eating when they are in these kinds of numbers. There have been feeding studies done in the past when they were at fewer numbers, perhaps. It is kind of an interesting question related to sort of the ecosystem-based management aspect of things.

You have a lot more hungry mouths down there and the fishermen are kind of concerned that they are gobbling up other snapper grouper species or something where that may or may not be the case, so we just thought that would be worth looking at. Also we hoped to actually have materials placed on our deepwater artificial reef, which is one of our MPAs.

Hopefully that will occur perhaps in the August timeframe, thanks to support from the South Carolina Memorial Reef Foundation Group. We're hoping to actually have the equivalent of about a 600-foot long ship, 60 foot wide. It is actually two very large deck barges that we will be modifying to place out there. It is not a ship, per se, but it is about the size of a ship so that will be interesting.

We are also hoping to get out with some assets prior to the deployment to do some preconstruction monitoring of the area to assess what is out there, document that through video and bathymetric measures. We'll have some baseline established for the site before we actually build the reef. That is good news.

Of interest, this was one of the years where we actually seemed to have had a calico scallop fishery. The council is probably aware of this going back in time. Every 20, 30 years or so there seems to be a pulse of interest in calico scallops in federal waters. Off of South Carolina, this is out in about 130 feet of water or so.

But this was one of those years where there was interest from a number of fishermen. They went out there, and we don't have the harvest numbers yet, but they were having a pretty good time of it. There were a number of offloads that occurred. I appreciate council staff's help with that. I

was asking questions and they were digging up stuff from the archives and the memory banks about when this occurred.

There actually was at one time almost a calico scallop management plan, but that didn't actually come to total fruition. This was one of those pulse years for this fishery. We also experimented around a little bit with a jelly ball fishery, just trying to keep up with Georgia, but I don't know that may be the one year we've tried that and that may be the end of it. That is really all I have, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: Any questions for Mel? Yes, I remember when we did have a scallop fishery off South Carolina, and we had a number of trucks and portable processing facilities that were moving around the state and then it petered out. I guess there was a cold kill or something, but it does occur occasionally. Doug.

MR. HAYMANS: I'll stick to board actions. I mentioned several times over the last year or so that we were seeking approval from the legislature for the board to be able to do certain things and we got that. It became effective January 1st. We are going to start using it in August with what we call our omnibus bill.

It is loaded up with a bunch of actions that we have been waiting to do, starting with giving a little bit back to the fishermen. We currently have a season on amberjack, cobia, Spanish mackerel, tarpon and bluefish, and we're going to pull those seasons off and open it up, except, of course, when they are closed federally.

We are the only state in the southeast that still manages Atlantic croaker and spot, and we're going to open that up a little bit as well, so try to give a little bit back. Then there are some things we've got to get right with our reporting requirements. We're going to work on those as well through that same omnibus bill.

As Mel said, they joined in with us on black sea bass. Well, I've been simply waiting for this council to sort of come to some stabilization with black sea bass, and then the state of Georgia was going to come alongside with it. We might leave Mel as the only one that is open year round, I don't know. We're going to work on that in August as well.

Our Coastal Conservation Association of Georgia did manage to push through a bill for redfish for game fish status in Georgia. It doesn't really have a whole lot of implications, because our landings in Georgia were so small on redfish, but I guess it has some positive effects. Finally, I'll reiterate what Mel was saying about reef deployment. We've got about four barge loads ready to roll. The last one, the barge is going down with a load. We continue to scrape money together for artificial reef deployment; you know, a little bit from our sport fish restoration dollars, a little bit from our fishing clubs and what not around the state, but it sure would be nice to get some federal support.

I know that dollars are limited, but it would be nice to be able to find some federal dollars for offshore reef deployment because it is habitat. Somehow I was hoping maybe through the Habitat Committee, as they develop their policy statement for artificial reefs, maybe we can take a stance and some sort of statement from this council goes out to NMFS that we need some support for habitat development offshore. With that, that is all I've got.

MR. CUPKA: Are there any questions for Doug? Steve.

MR. AMICK: I'm just curious about the Navy towers; you said that you were trying to get the towers.

MR. HAYMANS: The Navy towers; we've got seven Navy towers offshore that have been decommissioned. We've been working about three and a half, four years to get those towers. They have gone through the process of asking every other federal agency if they want them; nobody does. We have said all along we do.

We've permitted a one-mile square area around each of those Navy towers and we hope that sometime this summer we'll get final approval. Our plan is to simply cut them off at a recommended depth and lay them on their sides and continue that excellent habitat those Navy towers provide. We've said it for a couple of summers, but I think we are really close to getting those now.

MR. CUPKA: All right. our next person normally would be Wilson. I have a note here from Wilson. He had to leave the meeting early. Apparently a tree at his house decided to come down and took all the power lines with it. He is on his way back to North Carolina to deal with that; but he did want me to express his regrets to the council and to you all for having to leave early, and says he will provide the Fish and Wildlife Service report to all of us via e-mail, so be on the lookout for that. That brings us around to Michelle and North Carolina.

DR. DUVAL: Just a few updates; first of all our commission is moving forward with pursuing rules to allow for management of sheepshead. As you recall, that was one of the species that came out of the snapper grouper complex. We did have a game fish bill that was moving through out legislature with regard to speckled trout, red drum and striped bass, and that has been put on hold once again.

I will say that this was probably one of the strongest pushes in recent years for that. One of our other rules is effective June 1st. We have mandatory electronic dealer reporting for all dealers that report annual average landings of greater than 50,000 pounds of finfish for three consecutive calendar years.

We have had electronic dealer reporting software since the northeast mandated electronic reporting, but it has never been required of our dealers. This actually makes it a requirement with a certain threshold poundage limit. Then I guess South Carolina's recent legislative action leaves North Carolina as the only state that has always been compliant with federal rules on black sea bass, and that is going to put a lot of pressure on us certainly in state waters. That would conclude my liaison report, but I did have one quick item under other business once we get to that.

MR. EASLEY: You might not have thought about this, but what is the progress towards a joint enforcement agreement with NOAA, if you know that.

DR. DUVAL: Yes, thanks for reminding me of that. That is something that is being pursued. I think it is included in the budget right now. I think one of the problems that we're trying to work out and communicate with folks is that a JEA is supposed to supplement your resources for law

enforcement, and there are some legislative leaders who believe that this means that they can take money away from our enforcement budget if we get a JEA. Those are the kinks that we're trying to work out right now, but we're hopeful.

MR. CUPKA: Any other questions? All right, that concludes our agency reports and brings us down to other business and upcoming meetings. I don't know if Bob wants to say anything about upcoming meetings, but he is busy now talking to Gregg. I'll just say our next council meeting will be in Charleston in September, and we look forward to seeing everyone there. That brings us to other business. As Michelle said, she had one other item that she wanted to bring up, and then we will see if there are any other items.

DR. DUVAL: Really, this is just a followup from the Snapper Grouper Committee Report, and it is really a question for Monica. We had requested guidance from NOAA GC regarding the red snapper season opening and whether a three-day recreational opening only, that was still an option since the estimates of season length range from 3 to I guess it is 6.9 days or something like that. If that is not an option, then it appears the council would only have the option of opening for two three-day weekends. I didn't know if you had the opportunity to think about that a little bit and give us any guidance on what the season openings may end up having to be.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I wanted to look during this week. What I didn't have the opportunity to do is go back and look at council minutes to make sure that I was on the right track. I haven't done that yet. My initial advice is that because the projections — like along the lines of what Anna was saying, because the projections show that the season could be longer than three days; that means, yes, you could have a three-day season.

I think Anna was correct in that the reason you all discussed not having anything really less than a three-day season, or three days or less would be because the short length of that season would be because there was such a small amount of fish that could be taken, it was likely that the recreational sector would go well over that amount. I don't believe that is the situation in this case. My initial advice is that, yes, you could have just a three-day season, because the projections show that you could have more than that.

MR. CUPKA: All right, I'm going to ask Bob. I think he wanted to make a couple comments about meetings.

MR. MAHOOD: Yes; and just to reiterate the public hearings are going to be from August 5th through August 15th spread out. If there is one in your area and you intend to participate, Gregg is coordinating all that so if you will just let him know. Do you have all your chairmen?

MR. WAUGH: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Okay, that's it. Then, of course, we've got the September meeting in Charleston and December meeting in Wilmington. That is pretty much it, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: Is there any other business to come before the council? Seeing none; I want to thank the staff and the council members for all your hard work this week, and I want to wish everyone a safe trip home and we'll see you in Charleston in September. We are adjourned.

Council Session Stuart, FL June 14, 2013

	(Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m., June 14, 2013.)					
Certified By:				Date: _		

Transcribed By: Graham Transcriptions, Inc. July 3, 2013

INDEX OF MOTIONS

SNAPPER GROUPER COMMITTEE MOTIONS

- PAGE 5: Motion to approve the IPT suggestion for modifications to the needs statement as follows: ensure commercial harvest of greater amberjack occurs during March of each year; allow for consistent management of gray triggerfish off South Atlantic states; reduce harvest of hogfish; allow harvest of black sea bass and vermilion snapper to occur during times of the year when the harvest of co-occurring species is occurring; allow recreational harvest of gag to increase to achieve optimum yield and ensure overfishing of gag and vermilion snapper does not occur. Motion carried on Page 6.
- PAGE 6: Action 1: Motion to select Alternative 2 as the preferred. Motion carried on Page 6.
- PAGE 6: Motion to remove Action 2 from Regulatory Amendment 14. Motion carried on Page 6.
- PAGE 6: Motion to remove Action 3 from Regulatory Amendment 14. Motion carried on Page 6.
- PAGE 6: Action 4; motion to select Alternative 3 as the preferred. Motion carried on Page 7.
- PAGE 10: Motion to add a new action to Regulatory Amendment 14 to modify the accountability measures for black sea bass. Include the following as an alternative: "For the black sea bass recreational sector, NMFS will annually announce the recreational fishing season start and end dates in the federal register and by other methods as deemed appropriate. The fishing season will start on April 1 and end on the date NMFS projects the recreational ACL will be met. If landings exceed the recreational ACL, NMFS will reduce the length of the following recreational fishing season to ensure recreational landings do not exceed the recreational ACL in the following fishing year. If landings are less than the recreational ACL, NMFS will adjust the length of the following recreational fishing season by the amount necessary to ensure the recreational ACL is landed." Motion carried on Page 10.
- PAGE 10: Action 5; motion to move Alternative 5 to the considered but rejected appendix, Motion carried on Page 10.
- PAGE 11: Action 5; motion to move Alternatives 3 and 4 to the considered but rejected appendix. Motion carried on Page 11.
- PAGE 11: Motion to add an alternative that would change the commercial fishing year to start January 1; establish a trip limit for the hook-and-line sector until harvest with pots opens on May 1; consider trip limits of 100 pounds, 200 pounds, and 300 pounds. On May 1 the trip limit would be 1,000 pounds for both sectors. Motion carried on Page 11.
- PAGE 11: Motion to direct staff to begin development of a regulatory amendment that would remove the November 1 to April 30 black sea bass pot closure. Motion carried on Page 11.
- PAGE 11: Action 6, motion to select Alternative 3, Subalternative 3C as the preferred.

- PAGE 12: Action 6, substitute motion to make Alternative 1 the preferred alternative. Motion carried on Page 12.
- PAGE 12: Motion to remove Action 7 from Regulatory Amendment 14. Motion carried on Page 12.
- PAGE 12: Action 8; motion to accept the IPT's suggested language changes to the action and alternatives and accept the IPT's suggested wording for Alternative 2. Motion carried on Page 13.
- PAGE 13: Motion to move Subalternative 2A of Action 8 to the considered but rejected appendix. Motion carried on Page 13.
- PAGE 13: Motion to select Alternative 2, Subalternative 2B as the preferred.
- PAGE 14: Substitute motion to select Alternative 2, Subalternative 2D as the preferred. Motion carried on Page 14.
- PAGE 14: Action 9; motion to select Alternative 4 as the preferred. Motion carried on Page 14.
- PAGE 14: Motion to approve Regulatory Amendment 14 for public hearings. Motion carried on Page 14.
- PAGE 14: Motion to recommend to the council that development of Regulatory Amendment 16 not proceed any further. Motion carried on Page 14.
- PAGE 14: Motion to not approve Snapper Grouper Amendment 30 for formal secretarial review. Motion carried on Page 14.
- PAGE 15: Motion to direct staff to develop Amendment 29 to modify the council's ABC Control Rule and adopt new ABCs and ACLs based on those modifications. Motion carried on Page 15.
- PAGE 15: Motion to direct staff to begin development of a generic amendment to reexamine sector allocations. Motion carried on Page 15.
- PAGE 15: Motion to add an action to Amendment 22 to specify data collection requirements. Motion carried on Page 15.
- PAGE 15: Motion to direct the IPT to revise the existing actions in Amendment 22 to create a generic harvest tag program and tag issuance process for species with very low ACLs. Motion carried on Page 15.
- PAGE 16: Motion to direct staff to work with the Southeast Fisheries Science Center and Scott Baker to look at electronic monitoring for data collection and bring back to the council at the appropriate time. Motion carried on Page 17.

- PAGE 17: Motion to direct council staff, working in conjunction with NOAA General Counsel, to pursue use of the SSC third party approach for the wreckfish assessment prepared by Dr. Butterworth. Motion carried on Page 17.
- PAGE 18: Motion to adopt the Timing and Task as presented. Motion carried on Page 18.

ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT AND HABITAT COMMITTEE MOTIONS

- PAGE 19: Motion to add Deepwater Shrimp AP recommendation for northern extension, including both the eastern and southwestern boundary modifications from the AP as Subalternative 2C under Action 1. Motion carried on Page 19.
- PAGE 19: Motion to move Subalternative 2A to the considered but rejected appendix. Motion carried on Page 19.
- PAGE 19: Motion to select Subalternative 2C for action as preferred. Motion carried on Page 19.
- PAGE 19: Motion to adopt the no action, Option 2, for the western extension recommendation. Motion carried on Page 19.
- PAGE 19: Motion to select Alternative 3 under Action 1 as a preferred. Motion carried on Page 19.
- PAGE 19: Motion to adopt Deepwater Shrimp AP recommendation for revised Alternative 3 for Action 2, with the understanding this replaces Alternative 3, and accept this modified alternative as the preferred. Motion carried on Page 19.
- PAGE 19: Motion to add the Deepwater Shrimp AP recommendation for an additional alternative under Action 3 similar to Alternative 2, and with the inclusion of a shrimp fishery access area as an alternative for further analysis. Motion carried on Page 19.
- PAGE 19: Motion to select new Alternative 4 under Action 3 as approved. Motion carried on Page 19.
- PAGE 19: Motion to adopt Alternative 2 under Action 4 as preferred. Motion carried on Page 19.
- PAGE 19: Motion to approve Coral Amendment 8 for public hearings. Motion carried on Page 19.
- PAGE 19: Motion to adopt the timing and task items, which is council staff will revise Coral Amendment 8 according to council guidance. Public hearings will be held for Coral Amendment 8 during August 5th through 15th, 2013. Staff will prepare a public hearing version of Coral Amendment 8 for public hearings. The IPT will prepare a final version of Coral Amendment 8 for council review during September 2013 meeting. Motion carried on Page 20.

DOLPHIN WAHOO COMMITTEE MOTIONS

- PAGE 20: Motion to accept the IPT's recommended language for modification to the purpose and need. Motion carried on Page 20.
- PAGE 20: Motion to accept the IPT's recommended wording for Action 1. Motion carried on Page 20.
- PAGE 20: Motion to accept Alternative 2 as the preferred alternative for Action 1. Motion carried on Page 20.
- PAGE 21: Motion that to approve the modified language under Action 2. Motion carried on Page 21.
- PAGE 21: Substitute motion to select Alternative 4 under Action 3 as a preferred. Motion was defeated on Page 22.
- PAGE 22: Motion to remove Action 3 from Dolphin and Wahoo Amendment 5 bring it back in the Generic Allocation Amendment. Motion carried on Page 22.
- PAGE 23: Motion to accept the IPT's recommended wording changes for Action 4. Motion carried on Page 23.
- PAGE 23: Motion to modify Alternative 2 to include changes to the ABC Control Rule. Motion carried on Page 23.
- PAGE 23: Motion to select Alternatives 2 and 3 for Action 4 as preferred alternatives. Motion carried on Page 23.
- PAGE 23: Motion to move Alternatives 8 and 9 to the considered but rejected appendix. Motion carried on Page 23.
- PAGE 23: Motion to send Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 5 out to public hearings. Motion carried on Page 23.
- PAGE 24: Motion to direct staff to edit and modify Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 5 according to council guidance to take the document out to public hearings in August 2013 and bring the document back to council at the September 2013 meeting ready to be voted on for submission to the Secretary of Commerce in the fall of 2013. Motion carried on Page 24.
- PAGE 24: Motion to modify SEDAR 32 to incorporate a desk review of gray triggerfish. Motion carried on Page 24.
- PAGE 24: Motion to recommend to Full Council to adopt the ORCS approach for Tier 4, catch only, and move the decision tree approach to Tier 5. Motion carried on Page 24.
- PAGE 24: Motion to accept the 2013 research prioritization plan. Motion carried on Page 24.

- PAGE 24: Motion to approve the terms of reference for SEDAR 38 and the management specifications. Motion carried on Page 24.
- PAGE 24: Motion to approve the schedule for SEDAR 38. Motion carried on Page 24.
- PAGE 24: Motion to approve the management specifications for SEDAR 32 and 36. Motion carried on Page 24.
- PAGE 25: Motion to appoint Jeff Oden to SEDAR 36 contingent upon his appointment to the SEDAR pool. Motion carried on Page 25.
- PAGE 25: Motion to appoint Ben Hartig as a council member observer on SEDAR 36. Motion carried on Page 25.
- PAGE 25: Motion to appoint the participants to SEDAR 38 as listed in Attachment 10. Motion carried on Page 25.
- PAGE 26: Motion to appoint Ben Hartig and Charlie Phillips as council member observers to SEDAR 38.
- PAGE 26: Substitute motion to appoint Anna Beckwith to the SEDAR 38 in place of Charlie Phillips. Motion carried on Page 26.

COUNCIL VISIONING WORKSHOP MOTION

PAGE 27: Motion to adopt the draft vision statement. Motion carried on Page 28.

MACKEREL COMMITTEE MOTIONS

- PAGE 30: Motion to request that the SSC review the Spanish mackerel projections and revisit recommendations for OFL and ABC. The SSC has asked to consider basing OFL on ABC on equilibrium projections of MSY in light of effects of selectivity and recruitment patterns on short-term yield estimates. Motion carried on Page 30.
- PAGE 31: Under Action 1, motion to select Alternative 3, Option B and Alternative 4, Option A as preferred. Motion carried on Page 31.
- PAGE 31: Motion to approve the IPT proposed wording changes under Action 2. Motion carried on Page 31.
- PAGE 31: Under Action 2, motion to select Alternative 1 as the preferred.
- PAGE 31: Substitute motion to select Alternative 4 as the preferred. Motion carried on Page 33.
- PAGE 34: Motion to select Alternative 2 as the preferred under Action 3. Motion carried on Page 34.
- PAGE 34: Motion to approve Amendment 19 for public hearings. Motion carried on Page 34.

- PAGE 34: Motion to move Action 1 to the considered but rejected. Motion carried on Page 34.
- PAGE 34: Under Action 2, motion to move Alternatives 2 and 3 to the considered but rejected. Motion carried on Page 34.
- PAGE 34: Under Action 2, motion to add Alternative 6. Motion carried on Page 34.
- PAGE 34: Under Action 2, motion to select Alternative 5, Options A and C, and Alternative 6, Options B as preferred. Motion carried on Page 34.
- PAGE 35: Under Action 3, motion to remove Alternative 4 to the considered but rejected appendix. Motion carried on Page 35.
- PAGE 35: Under Action 3, motion to select Alternative 2 as the preferred alternative. Motion carried on Page 35.
- PAGE 35: Motion to remove Alternative 3 under Action 4. Motion carried on Page 35.
- PAGE 35: Motion under Action 4 to change the preferred to Alternative 5. Motion carried on Page 35.
- PAGE 35: Motion under Action 5 to establish separate northern and southern subzones for king mackerel with the boundary at the North Carolina/South Carolina state line and continue Options A through D under new alternative. Motion carried on Page 35.
- PAGE 35: Motion under Action 5 to establish separate northern and southern subzones for Spanish mackerel with the boundary at the North Carolina/South Carolina state line and continue Options A through D under the new alternative. Motion carried on Page 35.
- PAGE 38: Motion to approve the new language and the organization of Action 5(4). Motion carried on Page 38.
- PAGE 38: Action 7, motion to approve the IPT language changes for Alternative 3. Motion carried on Page 38.
- PAGE 39: Motion under Action 7 to adopt Alternative 3, Option D as the preferred. Motion carried on Page 39.
- PAGE 39: Motion to approve Amendment 20 for public hearings. Motion carried on Page 39.
- PAGE 39: Motion to remove Action 1 from the Framework Amendment. Motion carried on Page 39.
- PAGE 42: Motion to replace Alternatives 2 and 3 with the new suggested language of Alternative 2. Motion carried on Page 42.
- PAGE 42: Under Action 3; motion to select Alternative 4 as a preferred alternative. Motion carried on Page 42.

- PAGE 42: Motion to remove Action 4 from the Framework Action for a future document. Motion carried on Page 42.
- PAGE 43: Motion to approve the purpose and need for the Framework Action as revised. Motion carried on Page 43.
- PAGE 43: Motion to approve the Framework Action for public hearings. Motion carried on Page 43.
- PAGE 43: Motion to adopt the timing and task items as presented. Motion carried on Page 43.

ADVISORY PANEL SELECTION COMMITTEE MOTION

- PAGE 43: Motion to reappoint Margot Stiles, Dr. Steve Ross, Dr. Dave Gilliam, and Dr. Clark Alexander to the Coral AP. Motion carried on Page 43.
- PAGE 44: Motion to appoint Ty Conte to the Dolphin Wahoo AP. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 44: Motion to reappoint Chip Bethel, Howard Rau, and David Nielson to the Golden Crab AP. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 44: Motion to reappoint Dr. Chris Elkins and Terry Pratt to the Habitat AP. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 44: Motion to appoint Scott Baker to the Information and Education AP. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 44: Motion to appoint Andy High to the Mackerel AP. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 44: Motion to reappoint Robert Pelosi and Bill Wickers, Jr. to the Mackerel AP. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 44: Motion to reappoint Michael Kennedy to the Law Enforcement AP. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 44: Motion to reappoint Scott Cook and Nancy Edens to the Shrimp AP. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 44: Motion to reappoint Don DeMaria to the Snapper Grouper AP. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 44: Motion to reappoint Terrell Gould to the Snapper Grouper AP. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 44: Motion to reappoint Robert Johnson to the Snapper Grouper AP. Motion carried on Page 44.

- PAGE 44: Motion to appoint Jack Ollie Burrell to the Snapper Grouper AP Wreckfish Subpanel. Motion carried on Page 44.
- PAGE 45: Motion to appoint Fred Cruz to the Snapper Grouper AP. Motion carried on Page 45.
- PAGE 45: Motion to appoint Jeff Oden to the SEDAR pool. Motion carried on Page 45.
- PAGE 45: Motion to appoint Paula Nielson, William Shearing, Jr., Christian Johnson, and Steven Klimlik to the SEDAR pool. Motion carried on Page 45.
- PAGE 45: Motion to appoint Dr. Doug Butterworth and Dr. Rebecca Rademeyer to the SEDAR Pool. Motion carried on Page 45.
- PAGE 45: The AP Chairman will work with the staff to develop recommendations regarding term limits on advisory panels. Motion carried on Page 45.

SSC SELECTION COMMITTEE MOTIONS

- PAGE 45: Motion to reappoint Dr. Luiz Barbieri, Dr. Jim Berkson, Dr. Jeff Buckel, Dr. Steve Cadrin, Dr. Churchill Grimes and Dr. George Sedberry to the SSC. Motion carried on Page 45.
- PAGE 45: Motion to appoint Dr. Ben Blount and John Hadley to the SEP. Motion carried on Page 45.

EXECUTIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE MOTIONS

- PAGE 48: Motion to approve the follow-up and advised priority table. Motion carried on Page 48.
- PAGE 48: Motion to send a letter to Florida indicating that the council has no intent to manage tarpon in federal waters. Motion carried on Page 48.
- PAGE 48: Motion that council recommends to add to the list of reauthorization priorities the need for a sustainable certification program that would authorize NMFS to provide the U.S. industry with a sustainable certification program and certification mark, which would provide the industry with the ability to promote and sell its seafood products in both domestic and export markets as sustainable based upon the requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Act. Motion carried on Page 48.
- PAGE 48: Motion to approve the SSC-provided peer review process document with the exception of Section 4.1.B. Motion carried on Page 48.

COUNCIL MOTION

PAGE 49: Motion for the council to receive status updates from Protected Resources staff at each council meeting while there are ongoing formal consultations. Motion carried on Page 50.

DATA COLLECTION COMMITTEE MOTIONS

- PAGE 50: Motion to clarify that the generic dealer permit requirements apply to any dealer purchasing South Atlantic Council managed species. Motion carried on Page 50.
- PAGE 51: Motion to clarify that generic dealer permit requirements apply to all federally permitted vessels that sell South Atlantic Council managed species. Motion carried on Page 51.
- PAGE 51: Motion to approve the Gulf Council's electronic reporting for Headboats Amendment for formal review. Motion carried on Page 52.
- PAGE 52: Motion to approve the codified text as necessary and appropriate and give the Gulf Council Chair authority to redeem the codified text. Motion carried on Page 54.
- PAGE 54: Motion that the council write a letter to the SEFSC requesting sample sizes for individual species that are assessed in the South Atlantic. Motion carried on Page 54.
- PAGE 54: Motion to approve the Timing and Task as presented. Motion carried on Page 54.

COUNCIL MOTION

PAGE 57: Motion to submit a letter to the Regional Administrator that he not approve the EFP request for Caribbean spider crab research. Motion carried on Page 57.

FULL COUNCIL - ROLL CALL VOTE

Date: June 2013

Meeting Location: Stuart, FL

ISSUE: GMFNC FLECTRONIC REPORTING HEAD BOATS ANEUD

•	YES	NO	ADCTAIN
	TES	NO	ABSTAIN
CUPKA	V		
HARTIG			
AMICK	V		
BADEMAN	V		
BECKWITH			
BELL			
BURGESS			
CRABTREE			
DUVAL			
HAYMANS			
JOLLEY			
PHILLIPS			
SWATZEL	$\sqrt{}$		

FULL COUNCIL - ROLL CALL VOTE

Date: June 2013

Meeting Location: Stuart, FL

Issue: GMFMC AMEND CODIFIED TEXT

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
CUPKA			
HARTIG			**************************************
AMICK			
BADEMAN			
BECKWITH			
BELL	V		
BURGESS			
CRABTREE			·
DUVAL	V		
HAYMANS	V		
JOLLEY			
PHILMPS			
SWATZEL	V		

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kari.maclauchlin@safmc.net

Staff Economist

∕Dr. Brian Cheuvront brian.cheuvront@safmc.net

Science and Statistics Program Manager John Carmichael john.carmichael@safmc.net

SEDAR Coordinators
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Julia Byrd - julia.byrd@safmc.net

SEDAR Admin/Outreach Andrea Grabman andrea.grabman@safmc.net

Administrative Officer
Mike Collins
mike.collins@safmc.net

Financial Secretary
Debra Buscher
deb.buscher@safmc.net

Admin. Secretary /Travel Coordinator Cindy Chaya cindy.chaya@safmc.net

Purchasing & Grants Julie O'Dell julie.odell@safmc.net

OTHA EASLEY
LT: MORGAN FOUNLER
BONNIE FOUNDITH
SACK MCGOVERN
SOHN SANCHEZ
MONTCA SMIT-BRUNELLO

PLEASE SIGN IN

may be included in the minutes, we ask that you sign this sheet for the meeting shown below. So that we will have a record of your attendance at each meeting and so that your name

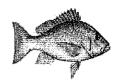
South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting: **Full Council Session**

Friday, June 14, 2013

AREA CODE & EMAIL PHONE NUMBER ADDRESS	P.O. BOX/STREET CITY, STATE & ZIP
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South Atlantic Fishery Management Council 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201 North Charleston, SC 29405 843-571-4366 or Toll Free 866/SAFMC-10

SOUTHEASTERN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION (SFA)







EAST COAST FISHERIES SECTION (ECFS)

Robert K. Mahood, Executive Director South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201 North Charleston, South Carolina 29405

SGAmend30Comments@safmc.net

Wednesday May 01, 2013

Re: Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) Snapper-Grouper (SG) Amendment 30 Proposed Rulemaking

To: Bob Mahood,

The Southeastern Fisheries Association (SFA) East Coast Fisheries Section (ECFS) Board and Membership wishes to submit this written comment about the SAFMC proposed rulemaking with the Snapper-Grouper (SG) Amendment 30 to mandate a vessel monitoring system (VMS). The "persistent surveillance" requirements proposed for the commercial SG unlimited permits and the 225-pound trip limited permit owners is not needed.

In short, most of the Commercial SG permit owners, and their crew, and the fish houses oppose the further development of the VMS SG Amendment 30 efforts. We request that the SAFMC membership vote against any further pursuit of this expensive and invasive SG Amendment 30 VMS action during the June 10-14, 2013 SAFMC meeting to be held in Stuart, Florida.

We are conveying the message that most of the Commercial SG Permit Owners in the SAFMC region <u>support Alternative 1</u>, <u>No Action</u> with regard to the SG Amendment 30 VMS proposed rulemaking. This is based on a majority of fishing interests who turned out for the Public Hearings, the webinar and with various written comments we have read to date.

We support the SAFMC SG Advisory Panel recommendation from when they voted last week by a majority of 11 Panelists for stopping the SG Amendment 30 efforts, while 3 SG AP members voted to continue the VMS work and 3 other SG AP members abstained from the vote. The message is loud and clear opposing a VMS requirement upon the SAFMC SG Commercial fishing vessels. This fleet probably makes up less than 5% of the vessels that can be found in the SAFMC area every year fishing for SG species.

Thank you for considering our choice for No Action, Alternative 1 with regard to a VMS mandate. We understand this written comment needs to be submitted to the SAFMC before the May 03, 2013 deadline by 5 PM EDT.

Jimmy Hull, Chairman SFA ECFS JGH/rhh

SOUTHEASTERN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION (SFA)







EAST COAST FISHERIES SECTION (ECFS)

Action 5. Modify the fishing year for the black sea bass commercial sector SFA ECFS Prefers Alternative 6 to modify the commercial BSB fishing season to May 01 and end on April 30.

Action 6. Modify the commercial fishing seasons for vermilion snapper SFA ECFS Prefers <u>Alternative 1 for No Action</u> to maintain the current commercial fishing seasons for Vermilion Snapper. The SG AP preferred this Alternative.

Action 7. Modify the aggregate grouper bag limit

SFA ECFS Prefers Alternative 1 for No Action with the aggregate Grouper bag limit. The SG AP supports this choice as the Preferred Alternative.

Action 8. Modify the accountability measure for the commercial sector for gag grouper

SFA ECFS Prefers Alternative 2 to modify the accountability measures (AMs) for the commercial sector for Gag Grouper. Reduce the trip limit to 300 pounds when 75% of the Gag commercial annual catch limit (ACL) is estimated to be landed. The SG AP supports this choice as the Preferred Alternative.

Action 9. Modify the recreational accountability measure for vermilion snapper

SFA ECFS Prefers Alternative 4 to if recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director (SRD), reach of are projected to reach the recreational ACL, the AA will file a notification to close the recreational fishery for the remainder of the fishing year. Payback of a recreational overage would only take place if vermilion snapper are overfished and the total ACL is exceeded. The SG AP supports this choice as the Preferred Alternative.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written comment on these proposed actions in SG Regulatory Amendment 14.

Jimmy Hull, Chairman SFA ECFS JGH/rhh



to SAFMC

1118-B Thomasville Road—Tallahassee, Florida 32303

Re: Pre-Council meeting with tilefish endorsement holders

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Bub Preston Two Cal	ber brown caro	GTFE-22 endorsement holde

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John Polston	67 Ruschman br. Brown 67 Buschman br. Pance Into	Spian GTFF-Q
bings sected inc.	P.O. Box 29 1607 Port Orang Flaga	A STFF-21

1118-B Thomasville Road—Tallahassee, Florida 32303

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05/28/2013 18:27

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SEAFOOD ATLANTIC INC

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SOUTHEASTERN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION INC.

1118-B Thomasville Road -- ":illahassee, Florida 32303

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SEAFOOD ATLANTIC INC.

PAGE 01/02

SOUTHBASTERN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION INC.

1118-B Thomasville Road-Tullahassee, Florida 32303

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SEAFOOD ATLANTIC INC

PAGE 01/02

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Petition for Pelagics

By Nikolaus Schroth (Contact)

To be delivered to: The Florida State House, The Florida State Senate, Governor Rick Scott, The United States House of Representatives, The United States Senate, and President Barack Obama

PETITION STATEMENT

Allow recreational sport fishermen traveling home from vacation in the Bahamas on private vessels to possess a bag limit on filleted pelagic fish (mahi mahi, tuna, and wahoo) based on pounds per person, per day, capped at a certain number of days, with proper documentation of having been in the Bahamas.

Petition Background

The Federal Government has banned recreational fisherman from bringing back filleted Pelagic fish (mahi-mahi, Wahoo, Tuna). The problem primarily impacts recreational fisherman on the Florida East Coast travelling to the Bahamas. Recreational boats are not equipped with coolers large enough to keep whole fish fresh for trips of a duration greater than 2 or 3 days and many of the islands do not have stable supplies of Ice, causing these fish to rot and go to waste. Also recreational boats, unlike commercial fishing boats, lack the ability to freeze fish whole. We are proposing a recreational per person per day bag limit of fillets measured in pounds to be capped at a certain amount. This would allow recreational anglers to fillet fish, freeze them at the place they are staying and legally return with this fish to Florida.

There are currently 450 signatures

NEW goal - We need 500 signatures

Previous petition signers

#450	jeff bast	Jun 11, 2013	jupiter, FL
The th	ie people keep their legal	l fish.	
#449	Mark Lunden	Jun 11, 2013	Palm Beach Gardens, FL
#448	Kevin Hartig	Jun 11, 2013	West palm beach, FL
#447	matthew burman	Jun 11, 2013	APO, AE
#446	David Kipper	Jun 10, 2013	Palm Beach Gardens, FL
#445	Rob Thomson	Jun 10, 2013	Jupiter, FL
#444	Dean Panos	jun 10, 2013	Pembroke Pines, FL
#443	Bill Byrnel	jun 10, 2013	Jupiter, Fl.
#442	Kenny Klepper	Jun 10, 2013	Franklin Lakes, NJ
#441	rose mary	Jun 9, 2013	Jacksonville, FL

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1118-B Thomasville Road—Tallahassee, Florida 32303

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Jim Freeman FV little Jo	122 Springwood Dr. Dayton	CTFE-12
Jim Freeman TV lady Haritza	122 Springwood Dr. Daytone	GTFE -A
Sames STORY FV STILL FIShing	79 E Dunlawton Que For Orange	e GTFE-10
Jam loiston	67 Buschman Dr. Brown	38127 GTFE-8
John Polston	67 Buschman Dr. Pance In 18732	GTFE-3
Kings Seatered Inc.	P.O. Box 291607 Port Ocena 1/30	IN STFF-21
KellyMarie Inc.	P.O. Box 291607 Bit Oning Flas	129 GTFE-16

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PAGE 01/02

SOUTHEASTERN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION INC.

1118-B Thomasville Road-Tillahassee, Florida 32303

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PAGE 01/02

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PAGE 02/02

05/28/2013 10:27

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SEAFOOD ATLANTIC INC

AGE: 01/01

SOUTHEASTERN FISHEIVES ASSOCIATION INC.

1118-B Thomasville Road— Cillahassee, Florida 32303

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Re: Pre-Council meeting with tilefish endorsement holders

Ben,

We have been informed that you intend to have a meeting on the Sunday night prior to the South Atlantic Council meeting with tilefish endorsement holders. We assume you have invited all endorsement holders and hope you have invited the fish houses that handle tilefish.

As in all fisheries, few times is there consensus about anything. If the intent of this meeting is to create a management plan to bring up at the Council meeting before an updated and more precise stock assessment is made similar to black sea bass, we strongly believe more than half of the people involved will be against going forward until after the stock assessment. We further believe the overwhelming majority of the people involved with tilefish do not even want catch shares on the table until a precise stock assessment has been approved.

We think Dr. Bonnie Ponwith has scheduled a tilefish stock assessment for 2014 or 2015. We will be doing all we can to move those dates forward so we can get on with our lives and our business. We think the ACL will be high enough to discuss a split season.

As a member of the South Atlantic Council you have an obligation for fairness and transparency the same as you have been pushing for NOAA in all the dealing we have had with you. We ask for fairness in this instance.

We know there are those who would like to make this a boutique fishery for themselves and prohibit the long line fishermen from harvesting tilefish in the deeper waters. The management plan must be open to all historical gear and not designed to prohibit gear just because somebody doesn't like it.

The following fishermen and businesses oppose a different management plan for tilefish until a new stock assessment is done.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Endorsement</u>
		Holder/Affiliation (i.e.
		Restaurant, Business, Bait
		<u>Shop)</u>
Deduding	POBOL 1152 Oak HUP, Fl.	Holder-GTF6-15
U	POBOX/152 Oak Hill, Fl. 32759	



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting	
LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)	DATE OF MEETING
Stuart, FL	June 12, 2013
YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)
Joe Klostermann	772 461 2499
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE) 251 Bunini Do H Pierce FT 34949	
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)	
BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)	
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Other	
SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405 PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD	
South Atlantic Fishery Management (Council June Meeting
LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)	DATE OF MEETING
Stuart, FL	June 12, 2013
YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT) CHESTER BREWER	TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE) 561-655-4777
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)	BEACH FL. 33408
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) WILLIECHET O AOL. C	om
BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)	
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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Stuart, FL

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

DATE OF MEETING

June 12, 2013

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting

M34Y FHOSON	386-239-0948	
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)	32120-9351	
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) AS 72009@aol.com		
BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)		
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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405 PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD		
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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

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South Atlantic Fishery Management (Council June Meeting
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YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)
1em Orbson 7	71-285-7683
MAILING ADDRÉSS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE) 2060 NE 23 TC 15, Jensey Beach	FL 74950
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) Worth Suc Il Mclis, Cur	
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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

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South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting DATE OF MEETING **LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)** June 12, 2013 Stuart, FL TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE) YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT) DREW MARTIN MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE) 500 CARE AVE #102 CAKE WORTH, PC 33460 EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) DMandCH Gaol. ccm DM and CH @ col. com BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE) SIRRA CCUB **CHECK IF YOU WISH TO Snapper Grouper Amendment 30 MAKE A STATEMENT** Other



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting		
LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE) Stuart, FL	DATE OF MEETING June 12, 2013	
YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE) 32/960-4885	
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE) 807 Hampton Way Merrit Island	Fl 32953	
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)		
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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Stuart, FL

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

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DATE OF MEETING

June 12, 2013

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South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)	DATE OF MEETING	
Stuart, FL	June 12, 2013	
YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)	
James Reeves	772-332-2828	
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE) 14390 OF ANGE AVE FT. PIECCE FL 34945		
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)		
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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 **NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405**

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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting	
YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT) BILL KELLY	TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE POB 501404 MARATHON FL 33050	=)
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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

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South Atlantic Fishery Management	
LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)	DATE OF MEETING
Stuart, FL	June 12, 2013
YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)
Nikolaus Schroth	172-403-3752
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)	FL 33454
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) N. L. Schsoth DNAT	South Codst. com
BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)	
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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

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South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting

Stuart, FL	June 12, 2013		
YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT) TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)			
Sherri McCoy			
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)			
715 N Tropical Trail Me	nitt Island, Il.		
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) Shevin @ wild occan may	ket. com 32953		
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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting **LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)** DATE OF MEETING June 12, 2013 Stuart. FL TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE) YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT) 12- 25te - 4PS1 MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE) **EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)** BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE) ConerCIAL FITHEMAN CHECK IF YOU WISH TO Snapper Grouper Amendment 30 MAKE A STATEMENT Other SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 **NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405** PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD **South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting** DATE OF MEETING **LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)** June 12, 2013 Stuart, FL TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE) YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT) 843.819.8169 _IAM MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE) 40 Box 609 EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE) Pew Charitable Trusts **CHECK IF YOU WISH TO** Snapper Grouper Amendment 30 MAKE A STATEMENT Other



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 **NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405**

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Stuart, FL	June 12, 2013			
YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)			
BICHEN BROME	910-599-5245			
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)	-			
517 BAADDOCK ST WILMINGT	on, NC 28409			
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) Chrame 55@GMAIL	Com			
BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)				
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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting

LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE) Stuart, FL	June 12, 2013
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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405

PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council June Meeting			
LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)	DATE OF MEETING		
Stuart, FL June 12, 2013			
YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)		
	5-852-8108		
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE) 129 TEQUESTA ST TAVERNUER FL 3307	0		
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE) Keys Kelly Caol. com			
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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL 4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201 NORTH CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA 29405 PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD			
South Atlantic Fishery Management (Council June Meeting		
LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)	DATE OF MEETING		
Stuart, FL	June 12, 2013		
YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT) TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE) 85-32-7845			
MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE) 2 1 07 Mil berry Blut. Tallahassca F2 32303			
EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)			
BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)			
CHECK IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT Snapper Grouper Amendment 30			

70	w, m	matthew.walia@noaa.gov	1 min
59	raine, karen	karen.raine@noaa.gov	117 min
44	Austin, Tony	redress@ec.rr.com	179 min
43	gerhart, susan	susan.gerhart@noaa.gov	145 min
34	Mehta, Nikhil	nikhil.mehta@noaa.gov	54 min
31	pugliese, roger	roger.pugliese@safmc.net	52 min
30	Byrd, Julia	julia.byrd@safmc.net	150 min
30	DeVictor, Rick	rick.devictor@noaa.gov	74 min
30	c, m	mec181@yahoo.com	183 min
28	Baggins, Bilbo	kari.maclauchlin@safmc.ne	124 min
27	Neer, Julie	julie.neer@safmc.net	59 min
23	Eich, Anne	annemarie.eich@noaa.gov	33 min
23	Abeels, Holly	habeels@ufl.edu	5 min
52	DeLancey, Larry	delanceyl@dnr.sc.gov	5 min
51	c, m	mec181@yahoo.com	24 min
47	Stump, Ken	magpiewdc@gmail.com	1 min
46	Abeels, Holly	habeels@ufl.edu	24 min
42	gerhart, susan	susan.gerhart@noaa.gov	13 min
40	Neer, Julie	julie.neer@safmc.net	1 min
26	raine, karen	karen.raine@noaa.gov	24 min
20	Package, Chrisitna	christina.package@noaa.go	24 min
16	Mehta, Nikhil	nikhil.mehta@noaa.gov	24 min
14	Gore, Karla	karla.gore@noaa.gov	24 min
11	Eich, Anne	annemarie.eich@noaa.gov	0 min
11	Baggins, Bilbo	kari.maclauchlin@safmc.ne	23 min
11	Baker, Scott	bakers@uncw.edu	7 min
11	steele, phil	phil.steele@noaa.gov	13 min
10	holiman, stephen	stephen.holiman@noaa.gov	14 min

10	Byrd, Julia	julia.byrd@safmc.net	24 min
10	Ballenger, Joseph	ballengerj@dnr.sc.gov	23 min
6	pugliese, roger	roger.pugliese@safmc.net	9 min
59	gerhart, susan	susan.gerhart@noaa.gov	4 min
59	Davis, Greg	burlynomad@yahoo.com	4 min
58	steele, phil	phil.steele@noaa.gov	4 min
57	Byrd, Julia	julia.byrd@safmc.net	4 min
48	Eich, Anne	annemarie.eich@noaa.gov	4 min
38	holiman, stephen	stephen.holiman@noaa.gov	4 min
27	DeLancey, Larry	delanceyl@dnr.sc.gov	4 min
24	Abeels, Holly	habeels@ufl.edu	4 min
9	Mahood, Robert	robert.mahood@safmc.net	4 min
60	Austin, Tony	redress@ec.rr.com	140 min
41	Mehta, Nikhil	nikhil.mehta@noaa.gov	100 min
37	steele, phil	phil.steele@noaa.gov	113 min
36	raine, karen	karen.raine@noaa.gov	91 min
33	gerhart, susan	susan.gerhart@noaa.gov	3 min
25	holiman, stephen	stephen.holiman@noaa.gov	99 min
23	Package, Chrisitna	christina.package@noaa.go	63 min
19	Mahood, Robert	robert.mahood@safmc.net	48 min
14	w, m	matthew.walia@noaa.gov	45 min
14	pugliese, roger	roger.pugliese@safmc.net	101 min
13	Eich, Anne	annemarie.eich@noaa.gov	121 min
11	Knowlton, Kathy	kathy.knowlton@gadnr.org	80 min
10	brennan, kenneth	kenneth.brennan@noaa.gov	18 min
8	DeVictor, Rick	rick.devictor@noaa.gov	95 min
8	Gore, Karla	karla.gore@noaa.gov	95 min
8	Strelcheck, Andy	andy.strelcheck@noaa.gov	89 min

8	c, m	mec181@yahoo.com	103 min
6	Ballenger, Joseph	ballengerj@dnr.sc.gov	95 min
5	Abeels, Holly	habeels@ufl.edu	70 min
5	Byrd, Julia	julia.byrd@safmc.net	69 min
3	Helies, Frank	fchelies@verizon.net	54 min
1	g, a	andrea.grabman@safmc.net	25 min

70	McGinn, Rebecca	littleriverfish@yahoo.com	10 min
61	DeLancey, Larry	delanceyl@dnr.sc.gov	182 min
57	Mehta, Nikhil	nikhil.mehta@noaa.gov	257 min
56	Musolino, Amanda	amanda@teamwhippersnapper	49 min
49	holiman, steph	stephen.holiman@noaa.gov	227 min
48	steele, phil	phil.steele@noaa.gov	217 min
39	McCoy, Sherri	sherrim@wildoceanmarket.c	184 min
39	gerhart, susan	susan.gerhart@noaa.gov	235 min
38	Clemens, Anik	anik.clemens@noaa.gov	181 min
38	McCaffity, Chris	freefish7@hotmail.com	144 min
36	DeVictor, Rick	rick.devictor@noaa.gov	242 min
35	Eich, Anne	annemarie.eich@noaa.gov	234 min
34	Stump, Ken	magpiewdc@gmail.com	130 min
29	sandorf, scott	scott.sandorf@noaa.gov	207 min
29	gore, karla	karla.gore@noaa.gov	205 min
29	Bresnen, Anthony	anthony.bresnen@myfwc.com	227 min
29	Michie, Kate	kate.michie@noaa.gov	139 min
28	Helies, Frank	fchelies@verizon.net	188 min
28	c, m	mec181@yahoo.com	225 min
28	Byrd, Julia	julia.byrd@safmc.net	218 min
22	Tsao, Fan	fan.tsao@noaa.gov	36 min