

**SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL SESSION**

**Charleston Marriott Hotel  
Charleston, SC**

**September 15-16, 2011**

**SUMMARY MINUTES**

**Council Members:**

David Cupka, Chair  
Robert Boyles  
Bill Teehan  
Lt. Robert Foos  
Dr. Michelle Duval  
Charlie Phillips  
Dr. Wilson Laney

John Jolley  
Dr. Roy Crabtree  
Duane Harris  
Mac Currin  
Tom Burgess  
Tom Swatzel  
Doug Haymans

**Council Staff:**

Bob Mahood  
John Carmichael  
Mike Collins  
Dr. Kari MacLauchlin  
Kim Iverson  
Julie O'Dell

Gregg Waugh  
Dr. Mike Errigo  
Anna Martin  
Myra Brouwer  
Roger Pugliese  
Andrea Grabman

**Observers/Participants:**

Monica Smit-Brunello  
Rick DeVactor  
Mike Travis  
Kate Michie  
Dr. Todd Kellison  
Dr. Marcel Reichert

Dr. Jack McGovern  
Carolyn Sramek  
Bob Gill  
Dr. Bonnie Ponwith  
Captain Brandon McPherson

Additional Attendees Attached

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council convened in the Topaz Room of the Charleston Marriott Hotel, Charleston, South Carolina, September 15, 2011, and was called to order by Chairman David Cupka.

MR. CUPKA: I'd like to call the council meeting to order. Our first order of business will be to go around and have a roll call. I did want to take this opportunity to welcome our new council members John Jolley and Michelle Duval. I'm sorry that Jessica McCawley isn't here, but she is still recuperating and we wish her well and a speedy recovery. I also want to recognize Robert Foos, our new Coast Guard representative. We look forward to working with all of you. John, if you don't mind, we'll start with you and go around for voice identification.

MR. JOLLEY: John Jolley, state of Florida.

DR. DUVAL: Michelle Duval, North Carolina.

MR. BURGESS: Tom Burgess, North Carolina.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Monica Smit-Brunello, NOAA General Counsel.

DR. McGOVERN. Jack McGovern, NOAA Fisheries.

DR. CRABTREE: Roy Crabtree, NOAA Fisheries.

DR. PONWITH: Bonnie Ponwith, NOAA Fisheries Service.

MR. MAHOOD: Bob Mahood, council staff.

MR. CUPKA: David Cupka, South Carolina.

MR. CURRIN: Mac Currin, North Carolina.

LT. FOOS: Lt. Rob Foos, U.S. Coast Guard, 7<sup>th</sup> District.

MR. SWATZEL: Tom Swatzel, South Carolina.

MR. PHILLIPS: Charlie Phillips, Georgia.

MR. HARRIS: Duane Harris, Georgia.

MR. HAYMANS: Doug Haymans, Georgia.

MR. BOYLES: Robert Boyles, South Carolina.

DR. LANEY: Wilson Laney, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

MR. TEEHAN: Bill Teehan, Florida.

MR. GILL: Bob Gill, Gulf Council Liaison.

MR. CUPKA: I also want to recognize Bob and thank Bob being here as the Gulf Liaison and congratulate him on his election as chairman. I also want to thank Mr. Teehan who is filling in for Ms. McCawley and now gets to have double fun since he serves on the Gulf and the South Atlantic for the time being. Bill, we welcome you and appreciate all that you're willing to do.

MR. TEEHAN: Mr. Chairman, just real briefly, Jessica is doing better. She is taking physical therapy at home and is trying to get her right leg back to where it's working again. It might be a stretch, but she could be here for December.

MR. CUPKA: At some point we need to have a swearing-in ceremony and I guess we ought to go ahead and do that first. In case Mr. Jolley might want to make a motion somewhere along the way, we want to make sure he is valid and certified.

(Whereupon, Dr. Roy Crabtree conducted the swearing-in ceremony for Mr. John Jolley and Mr. David Cupka.)

MR. CUPKA: All right, the next order of business is adoption of the agenda. I do have one change I'd like to make, and that's the Snapper Grouper Committee Report. Instead of going into that the first thing, we'll wait until in the morning and give staff time to put that report together. With your indulgence, I will make that one change.

Are there any other changes to our agenda? Seeing none, then the agenda is approved. Next is approval of the August 2011 minutes. Are there any corrections or additions to the minutes of our last meeting? Seeing none, the minutes are approved. That brings us down to elections and I'm going to turn it over to our executive director.

MR. MAHOOD: All right, are there any nominations for chairman? Mac.

MR. CURRIN: It would be my honor and pleasure to nominate our current chairman, David Cupka, to serve another term as our chairman.

MR. MAHOOD: Are there any other nominations? Robert.

MR. BOYLES: I was going to second the nomination, Mr. Chairman, and move that the floor be closed to nominations and Mr. Cupka be appointed by acclamation.

MR. MAHOOD: Is there any objection to that motion? Hearing none, you're accepted by acclamation, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: Thank; I appreciate that and will do my best to represent this council in my year as chair. That brings us down to vice-chairman. Nominations for vice-chairman. Charlie.

MR. PHILLIPS: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to nominate Ben Hartig for vice-chairman.

MR. CUPKA: Okay, we have a nomination; is there a second? Robert.

MR. BOYLES: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to second that motion and move that we close the floor to nominations and accept Mr. Hartig by acclamation.

MR. CUPKA: Okay, I think this is a first. Is there any objection to that? Seeing none, then Mr. Hartig is elected vice-chairman. I don't think this has ever happened before, Ben, so congratulations. That is going to take us down to the Mackerel Committee Report.

The report was sent out so each of you should have received a copy of it from Mike. The Mackerel Committee met on September 13, 2011, in Charleston, South Carolina. The committee received status report on; one, the commercial and recreational catches versus quotas for king and Spanish mackerel; two, Mackerel Amendment 18; three, the terms of reference and appointments for SEDAR 28; and, four, items pending for future mackerel amendments.

The committee directed staff to move forward with updating the data in Amendment 18, particularly the data in Table 2.16.4.1. The issue of alternative allocations for cobia will be evaluated in the future after the MRIP numbers are available. The committee expressed their intent to have the document submitted for formal review and implementation as soon as feasible.

The committee discussed the terms of reference and appointments but did not provide any specific recommendations. In evaluating items pending for future mackerel amendments, the committee was provided a list of suggestions from Ben Hartig who could not attend the meeting. These suggestions come from our decision document, which you all received. It was Attachment 5 under the Mackerel Committee materials.

The committee approved the following motions: **Direct staff to continue development of Amendment 19 to evaluate a prohibition on sale of coastal migratory pelagics and permit issues. On behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Is there any objection? Seeing none, then that motion is approved.**

**The second motion was do not continue with LAPP in Amendment 20 and direct staff to work with the council to evaluate allocating the commercial king mackerel quota and other issues in the lost provide. 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.**

The next two pages is a list of the items to be considered for future amendments. I'm not going to read through all that, but it covers things like the king mackerel size limit, retaining one king mackerel greater than 50 inches, trips limits for king and Spanish mackerel, Spanish mackerel gill net endorsement, permits.

Also, there was an additional issue identified which was in regards to undersized Spanish mackerel in the North Carolina pound net fishery, and that also will be evaluated to determine whether a regional and/or seasonal exemption may prevent discards. That concludes the report of the Mackerel Committee.

Next is the Golden Crab Committee. The Golden Crab Committee met on September 14, 2011, in Charleston, South Carolina. The committee reviewed Draft Amendment 6 and the recommendations from the Advisory Panel, IPT and council staff. Howard Rau of the Golden Crab AP also participated in the discussions. Council staff presented each action in the amendment and the committee discussed and made some changes to the amendment, which are recorded in the motions below.

Additionally, staff were directed to change the language in some actions and alternatives for clarification of the intent. For a new entrant's program, which is Action 15, the IPT will develop options and the AP will review those and provide feedback, which will be presented at our December meeting. We made a number of motions. If you want to follow along on that, you could use the decision document, because we pretty much just have the action mentioned and not the title, so if we can pull that decision document up, you might be able to follow it a little more closely.

**The first motion in regard to Action 1 was to move Action 1 to the considered but rejected appendix, 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.**

**In regard to Action 2, the motion was made to move Alternatives 5, 6 and 7 to the considered by rejected appendix, 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.**

**Another motion in regard to Action 2 was change "2009" to "2010" in Alternatives 2 and 3, 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.**

**Another motion in regard to Action 2 was to select Alternative 4 as the preferred alternative, 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 fifth motion in regard to Action 2 was to use the control date, which is December 7, 2010, plus six months to renew as a cutoff for Alternative 4, 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.**

**Under Action 3, a motion to establish the timeframes as 1997 through 2010 in all alternatives and subalternatives. In behalf of the committee, I would so move. Is there any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none, that motion is approved. Another motion in regard to Action 3 was to move to the considered by rejected appendix Alternatives 4, 5, 6, 7 and 10, and on behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Is there any objection? Seeing none, then that motion is approved.**

**Another motion in regard to Action 3 is to move Subalternatives C, D, E and F under Alternatives 8, 9 and 11 to the considered but rejected appendix, 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.

Action 4, there was a motion to move Action 4 to the considered but rejected appendix, and on behalf of the committee I would so move. Any discussion on the motion? Is there any objection? Seeing none, then that motion is approved.

In regard to Action 5, a motion to accept the staff recommendations on Alternatives 1 and 2 and not to include Alternative 3, 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.

A second motion in regard to Action 5 was select Alternative 2, Subalternative A as our preferred alternative, and on behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none, that motion is approved.

Action 6, a motion to move Alternative 2 to the considered but rejected appendix. 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.

In regard to Action 7, move Alternatives 6, 7 and 8 to the considered but rejected appendix and modify Alternative 5 to indicate a maximum of 49 percent, and on behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none, then that motion is approved.

In regard to Action 8, move Action 8 to the considered but rejected appendix. On behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none, then that motion is approved.

In regard to Action 9, add revised Alternatives 1, 2 and 3 but not Alternative 4, 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.

Action 10; accept the revised wording and specify the following preferreds, Subalternative 2B, Subalternative 3B, and Subalternative 4A, 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.

Action 11 through 15, there were no motions on those. Those are ones we'll be hearing back on at our December meeting. Action 16; a motion to move Action 16 to the considered but rejected appendix, 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.

In regard to Action 17, a motion to move Action 17 to the considered but rejected appendix, and on behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Is there any objection to the motion? Seeing none, that motion is approved.

**Action 18; a motion to change Alternatives 2 and 3 to 10 and 20 percent respectively and to add language for a payback requirement. On behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection? Seeing none, that motion is approved.**

**Action 19; a motion to direct staff to add the following phrase “in consultation with state law enforcement” to both Subalternatives 2A and 2B and to select Subalternative 2A as the preferred, 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.**

**Action 20; there was a motion to move Action 20 to the considered but rejected appendix, 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.** There were a lot of motions but we had a lot of actions to take to try and move that amendment along.

All right, next is the Report of the Executive/Finance Committee Meeting. The Executive/Finance Committee met in joint session on the morning of September 13, 2011, in Charleston, South Carolina. The minutes from the June 2011 Executive/Finance Committee were approved. The committee received presentations on the following agenda items:

Number 1; Status Report on the Calendar Year 2011 Council Expenditures and Activities. Mr. Mahood briefed the committee on the status of the Calendar Year 2011 expenditures. He indicated that we are in good shape and that the expenditures for the year are lower than would be expected. This is primarily due to implementing a number of cost-saving policies and reduced spending to address the uncertainty of funding levels in the future.

He also reminded the council we re in the second year of our five-year funding grant and that the unexpended funds from years one and two can be carried forward. The budget being used to track expenditures is based on projected needs for Calendar Year 2011. He explained that we were level-funded for this calendar year and have now received 100 percent of our base line item funding from NOAA.

Second; we reviewed and discussed development of the Calendar Year 2012 council budget and activities schedule. Bob noted that congress has not produced a Fiscal Year 2012 budget to date and that it is anticipated the government will be operating under a Continuing Resolution again during this year.

Since the council has not received its funding level for Calendar Year 2012 and since the activity schedules are based on the budget, staff has not developed the Calendar Year 2012 activities schedule at this point. The council will address approving next year’s budget and activities schedule at our meeting in December.

Under other issues, Chairman Cupka briefed the committee on an issue that may arise at the upcoming Council Coordination Committee Meeting. The New England Council Executive Director has indicated he would like to see the councils’ funding allocation formula revisited. His rationale is that some of the councils, primarily the South Atlantic and the Gulf, are turning management of some species over to the states.

Mr. Mahood indicated the issue of readjusting the council funding allocations has risen from time to time, but the councils have retained the current formula for over ten years and that he does not expect it to change. There were no motions passed at the Executive/Finance Committee Meeting.

Next I'd like to do the SEDAR Committee Meeting. The South Atlantic Council SEDAR Committee met September 13, 2011, at Charleston, South Carolina. The committee discussed the following items: Number One; SEDAR Activities Update – The committee was updated on progress on SEDAR 25, South Atlantic black sea bass and tilefish.

Item 2; SEDAR Process Update – John Carmichael gave a presentation on SEDAR procedural changes implemented over the last several years. We then discussed the Southeast Fisheries Science Center Data Program Update. Dr. Steve Turner of the Southeast Fisheries Science Center gave a presentation on data program improvements at the Center. His presentation was given on the morning of the 14<sup>th</sup>.

In regards to incorporating observer comments, the committee endorsed the proposed process for incorporating the comments and observations of council-appointed observers to SEDAR workshops. The committee reviewed a draft SAFE report for snapper grouper and provided comments to staff. Report content and approach were acceptable and staff was requested to keep such reports up to date in the future.

We then discussed the SEDAR Steering Committee recommendations. The committee prioritized stocks for assessment in 2013. Members were advised to forward any procedural concerns or suggestions to the steering committee representatives prior to their next meeting, which be held October 13, 2011.

Prioritization of council assessments in 2013; number one is a red snapper benchmark and note that the Southeast Fisheries Science Center was requested to review independent monitoring program data on red snapper and report to the committee in December of this year and March of next year on program findings and the prognosis for developing an informative assessment in 2013.

The second priority was a blueline tilefish benchmark assessment; third, red grouper update or standard assessment and request a review of review of red grouper data and bio-sample progress by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center and consideration of whether it should be an update or a standard assessment by the Science Center and our SSC.

The fourth priority was a snowy grouper standards and fifth was a gag grouper standards. Alternatives, if one of the above should prove not feasible or an additional assessment slot should become available were gray trigger, white grunt and scamp.

In regards to SEDAR 28, the committee approved the schedule and terms of reference for SEDAR 28. The following bullet was added to the Data Workshop Term of Reference 4 for both Spanish mackerel and cobia, and that is to provide a single table showing landings by sector in



whole weight using the methods developed by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center for ACL tracking to estimate recreational landings by weight.

The committee then met in closed session to discussion appointments to SEDAR 28 and we have a number of motions in regard to those appointments. **The first is a motion to accept the recommended process for incorporating council-appointed observer comments, and on behalf of the committee I would so move.** Mac.

MR. CURRIN: Mr. Chairman, a point of order, I guess. I didn't realize that I had seconded a motion on the SEDAR Committee, but I'm not a member of that committee, so that's a faux pas on my part. I just wanted to notify the council that in fact apparently has occurred.

MR. CUPKA: All right, the full council can consider a motion to accept the recommended process for incorporating council-appointed observer comments. Second by Mr. Harris. Is there any discussion on the motion? Is there any objection to the motion? Seeing none, that motion is approved.

As I say, a number of motions were made in regards to appointments to SEDAR 28. **The first was to move appoint the listed state and ACCSP representatives to the SEDAR 28 Data Workshop. The South Carolina DNR would be Marcel Reichert, Jeannie Boylan, Pierce Webster, Mike Denson, Justin Yost, Karl Brenkert, Matt Perkinson, Tanya Darden, Amy Dukes and Julia Byrd.**

**For North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, it would be Randy Gregory, Chip Collier, Stephanie McNerny" or Alan Bianchi\*, and Doug Mumford\*; Georgia DNR, Chris Kalinowski and Julie Califf\*; Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Steve Brown and Beverly Sauls"; for the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, Joe Cimino; and for ACCSP, Julie Defillipi\*.**

**A number of these will be appointed but will not be attending the data workshop. They will be providing data to the data workshop but will not actually be in attendance. On behalf of the committee I would so move to approve those appointments of those state and ACCSP representatives that I just named. Is there any discussion on the motion? Is there any objection to the motion? Seeing none, then that motion is approved.**

**The second motion was to appoint Tom Ogle, Bob Pelosi, Rusty Hudson and Robert Johnson to the SEDAR 28 Data Workshop, 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.**

There was also interest on the part of Mr. Wally Phinney to be appointed to the SEDAR 28 Data Workshop, but first he needs to be appointed to the SEDAR AP Pool. We have not received all his documentation yet, but we will be having an AP Selection Committee meeting in December, so we'll be able to take up his request at that time.

**There was a motion to appoint Anne Lange, Mike Denson and Bob Muller to the Assessment Workshop Panel, and on behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Is there any objection? Seeing none, then that motion is approved.**

**A motion to appoint Tom Ogle and Rusty Hudson as observers to the SEDAR 28 Assessment Workshop. On behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Is there any objection? Seeing none, then that motion is approved.**

**Motion to appoint Luiz Barbieri to Chair and SEDAR 28 Review Workshop and Steve Cadrin as an SSC reviewer, 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.**

**Next is move to appoint Ben Hartig as the council observer to SEDAR 28, and on behalf of the committee I would so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection to the motion? Seeing none, then that motion is approved. Gregg.**

MR. WAUGH: Your list of committee motions do show that one with Wally Phinney was approved by the committee. Is the intent just to hold off on that until his review is completed?

MR. CUPKA: Well, what happened was that we did discuss him and for some reason there was some misunderstanding and we thought that in order for him to participate that he would have to be approved for the SEDAR Pool at this meeting and then considered for appointment. We found out later that we do have another meeting in between and so we will wait and consider his appointment at our December meeting. All right, I'm going to ask Mr. Harris if he's ready for his Ecosystem-Based Management Committee Report.

MR. HARRIS: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. The Ecosystem-Based Management Committee met on September 13, 2011, in Charleston, South Carolina. NOAA Fisheries Service referred to the Snapper Grouper Committee briefing materials for an update on the status of catches versus quota for octocorals.

The committee received an update on the status of Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 2, including approval by the Gulf Council during their August 2011 meeting on the measure that amends the Joint Coastal Migratory Pelagic FMP, Action 4, Preferred Alternative 3; and also Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission's approval to extend state management measures for octocorals into adjacent EEZ waters in Florida.

NOAA General Counsel advised that CE-BA 2 remains under review at the NMFS Southeast Regional Office. The committee also received an overview of potential management measures for consideration in CE-BA 3 and discussed approval of a comprehensive list of measures during the December 2011 council meeting for public scoping in January and February 2012.

Measures discussed for consideration in CE-BA 3 include refining the boundaries for Coral Habitat Areas of Particular Concern, including the Oculina Bank HAPC, Stetson-Miami Terrace

HAPC and Cape Lookout HAPC; possible expansion of the Snowy Wreck MPA; bangsticking prohibition in North Carolina EEZ; wreckfish fishery impacts on bottom habitat; and additional protections for the mid-shelf fishery, including speckled hind and Warsaw grouper. An update of council activities pertaining to ecosystem-based management in the region was provided. The Ecosystem-Based Management Committee did not make any motions. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Mr. Harris. The Shrimp Committee, Mr. Boyles, are you prepared to give your report? Monica.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Mr. Chairman, I should have brought this to your attention earlier. In the Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 2 one of the actions the council took was to change the fishery management unit for octocoral, and then you also took an action that set the ACL for octocoral at zero, which is great. There are no issues there.

There are also other species of coral in the South Atlantic Coral Fishery Management Unit that contain prohibited corals, and you did not set the ACLs for those prohibited corals. But those corals to my understanding – and maybe we could have some discussion on the record – have never been allowed to be harvested since the FMP came into existence.

As per the National Standard 1 Guidelines that the Fisheries Service put out, I would assume that the council, of course, would want the ACL, if there was such a thing, for these prohibited corals to be zero and not allow any harvest of those corals.

The guidelines allow that if there is current terminology, which is basically the functional equivalent to some of the new terms, the ACLs and those sorts of things, that an FMP contains current terminology which is equivalent to ACLs, we could state that in a rule or in a notice, actually, in the Federal Register and announce to the public that we're retaining prohibits, for example, no harvest on prohibited corals, the ACL would be zero and that sort of thing.

I'd like some discussion of that on the record. CE-BA 2 obviously has been submitted and is under review, so it would be my – if this is what the council wants, then it would be my suggestion that in the probably proposed rule you'd bring it forth but definitely in the final rule, we would announce that there is zero harvest of those prohibited corals as well. They're not ecosystem species, you didn't make them ecosystem component species, so they remain in the management unit, and I think they should be addressed in some way.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes, that makes sense to me. I don't recall specifically if we had discussion, but I know we discussed some species that were closed and ACLs that were zero. We're going to handle them along that line, so I think that's a sensible approach and what we should do.

MR. CUPKA: Well, do we need to take any action as council to concur with that recommendation or how do we go from here?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Well, I assume all the silence around the table means that you agree with what I just laid out and what Dr. Crabtree said?

MR. CUPKA: Yes. All right, if there is anybody that objects to that, speak now or forever hold your peace. All right, now, Mr. Boyles, I think we're ready to go.

MR. BOYLES: The Shrimp Committee met on September 13, 2011, here in Charleston, South Carolina. Fred Dockery who chairs the Shrimp AP and Steven Wilson who is vice-chair of the Deepwater Shrimp AP and was acting chair of the Deepwater Shrimp AP during this meeting also participated in the committee meeting.

Mr. Dockery presented the report from the Joint Deepwater Shrimp and Shrimp AP Meeting, including the recommendations on several items under consideration for Shrimp Amendment 9. The AP meeting report is attached to the report that I am giving here. The committee reviewed the potential items for Amendment 9, including adding royal red shrimp to the fishery management unit; removing the limited access program from the rock shrimp fishery; modification of the process for the concurrent EEZ closures during severe weather events; revising the MSST for pink shrimp; and develop measures to reduce takes of smalltooth sawfish.

The committee decided to begin development of Amendment 9 with two specific actions; one, modifying the process for concurrent EEZ closures by allowing states to request closures directly from the Regional Administrator if certain environmental and shrimp abundance criteria are met; and, two, have staff develop options to improve the method used to determine MSST for pink shrimp.

The committee made the following motion: **Motion 1; move to include an option for Shrimp Amendment 9 which would authorize the Regional Administrator, at state request, to close the EEZ off the state or states requesting to the South Atlantic Shrimp Fishery. Staff should consider using the following criteria as possible triggers: water temperatures inshore; duration of water temperatures inshore during the months of December, January or February; and state samples reflecting high mortality of the stock. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there any discussion on the motion? Any objection to the motion? That motion is approved.**

**Motion 2 is move that staff examine options to improve the method to determine the MSST for pink shrimp, and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there any discussion of the motion? Any opposition to the motion? Seeing none, that motion is approved.**

At this time the other potential items will not be included in Amendment 9, but the committee requested briefings on the royal red shrimp fishery and the rock shrimp limited access permits at the next committee meeting. An options paper/scoping document will be presented at the December council meeting.

Bonnie Ponwith addressed questions and provided clarification on information presented at the AP meeting on Monday in regards to the sea turtle take estimates. Sea turtles will be addressed along with the smalltooth sawfish in the forthcoming biological opinion. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report of the Shrimp Committee.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Robert. Any questions for Robert? All right, I guess we'll go ahead get into tomorrow's stuff. Obviously, it makes sense to start tomorrow off with a closed session, and then we'll go into snapper grouper and then see what we have left. Mr. Harris, if you have a Law Enforcement Committee Report you're prepared to give, we can take that up next.

MR. HARRIS: Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Law Enforcement Committee met on September 13, 2011, at the Charleston Marriott Hotel in Charleston, South Carolina. The committee discussed the following:

Number one was the Law Enforcement Advisory Panel Report. Council staff referred the committee to the report from the July 20, 2011, meeting of the Law Enforcement Advisory Panel. Some of the recommendations the LEAP made had already been addressed at the August 9, 2011, council meeting since they pertained to the Comprehensive ACL Amendment and Regulatory Amendment 11.

Staff mentioned that the LEAP had made recommendations from items under Snapper Grouper Amendment 18A, and those will be brought to the Snapper Grouper Committee during the discussion for that amendment. In addition, the LEAP provided outreach recommendations.

With respect to the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award, council staff updated the committee on the proposed changes to the nomination and election process for a Law Enforcement Officer of the Year. At their meeting in July 2011 the LEAP made changes to the protocol and proposed forwarding a single nominee to the committee for presentation of the award.

After some discussion, the committee opted not to adopt the LEAP's recommendation and instead request that the LEAP forward three nominees and indicate their top candidate. The committee would then consider the LEAP's suggestion and select a deserving officer to receive an award at a subsequent council meeting.

The committee made the following motions: **Number 1, change the process for selection of the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year to obtain three nominees from the LEAP and request the AP provide their top choice, and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Is there objection to that motion? Seeing none, that motion is approved.**

**The second motion is to ask the LEAP to submit their nominees to the council and that the council meet via conference call/webinar to select the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year and present the award at the December meeting, and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of the motion? Is there objection to the motion? Seeing none, that motion is approved.** Mr. Chairman, that completes my report.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Duane. Any questions for Duane? Seeing none, then, Mr. Teehan, are you prepared to give the Spiny Lobster Committee Report?

MR. TEEHAN: The Spiny Lobster Committee met on September 13, 2011, in Charleston, South Carolina, with Bill Teehan as acting committee chair. All members were present with the exception of Ben Hartig. The committee received a presentation from Andy Herndon, SERO Protected Resources, on development of new alternatives for Spiny Lobster Amendment 11.

The first action in Amendment 11 will address requirements in the biological opinion to establish closed areas to protect elkhorn and staghorn corals. Mr. Herndon presented the outcomes of the workshops held with stakeholders in the Florida Keys to improve the proposed closed areas. Information from stakeholders was incorporated to identify areas to protect and to include coral nurseries.

Additionally, proposed closed areas that were based on inaccurate data were removed. Lt. Robert Foos, United States Coast Guard, stated that straight line areas, Alternative 3, would be more enforceable than the alternatives that use buffers. Currently maps of the closed areas are being reviewed by stakeholders. Maps showing areas proposed in the alternatives will be made available to the committee with Draft Amendment 11 at the December meeting.

Additionally, Amendment 11 will include an action to implement a specific color, white, for lobster trap lines, which will meet the biological opinion requirements to monitor the effects of the fishery on protected resources. Mr. Herndon discussed different ways that lines may be marked – spray paint, tape, et cetera – or that the entire trap line will be white.

At this time the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, FWC, has not discussed implementing the same requirements for lobster traps in state waters. The current proposed alternatives for Amendment 11 are included below. A completed Draft Amendment 11 will be ready for the December meeting. This committee had no motions, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: All right, thank you, Mr. Teehan. The status reports from the Southeast Regional Office, Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: Just a few things. I think we've been through all of the landings in other parts of the meeting. That quota report was e-mailed out to everyone. A lot of this may be repetition, but we exceeded the black sea bass quota last year, which result in a reduction of the ACL for this year. We're going to send out a Fishery Bulletin shortly announcing the reductions.

We're still working on projections, et cetera. I've already started getting reporters calling about recreational black sea bass, but we won't make any determination regarding closure until October when we get the Wave 4 data. The landings data we have indicate that the recreational golden tilefish ACL has been exceeded and we're working on closure of that fishery as quickly as we can.

We're continuing to watch snowy grouper recreational landings, but so far this year I believe only 21 have been reported. We're still looking to the Science Center for some new projections on commercial vermilion snapper, but I think the closure of that fishery is not very far away. The only other thing we have is we do have one exempted fishing permit from the North

Carolina Aquarium, and I believe Kate Michie is prepared to go over that when you'd like to, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: All right, that is the next item on our agenda, so, Kate, if you want to go over that.

MS. MICHIE: The North Carolina Aquarium applied for an EFP for a period of two years for their aquarium in Fort Fisher, at Pine Knoll Shores and Roanoke Island. The North Carolina Aquarium would like to collect various snapper grouper species and up to 300 pounds of live rock. The collection of some snapper grouper species could be outside the bag and size limit. The purpose is to include North Carolina species into educational exhibits at three of the North Carolina aquariums. It's a continuation of an EFP that we've done previously for them.

MR. CURRIN: Just a question; I looked at that briefly and saw that they're requesting to collect some number of speckled hind and Warsaw grouper and probably some red snapper as well, although that didn't stand out at me. Is there any concern or problems that we might have with allowing those folks, if they're able, to collect those species that are prohibited from harvest? It didn't give anybody any concern?

MS. MICHIE: Their application says they're requesting 16 speckled hind, 2 Warsaw and 26 red snapper over a period of two years.

MR. CURRIN: If that's not a problem with anyone, then I would make a motion, if it's needed, to recommend that the EFP for the aquarium be approved.

MR. CUPKA: Okay, we have a motion by Mac; second by Michelle. **The motion is to recommend to the Regional Administrator that the Experimental Fishing Permit for the North Carolina Aquarium be approved.** Any further discussion? Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: I think the ACL for speckled hind and Warsaw is zero landings, so these would not be considered landings because we wouldn't want to result in overfishing. I think that's the gist of what Mac was asking, so these would not be considered landings, then?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Well, they certainly wouldn't – well, I'll have to think about it. It's a really interesting issue. For example, in the Highly Migratory Species FMPs there is a certain amount set aside for scientific research or I think for EFPs and those sorts of things.

I don't know that we've ever really talked about doing that with any of the fishery management plans that you all manage. I don't see how these would be counted against the ACL such that the ACL would be exceeded. These EFPs are issued for activities that would otherwise be prohibited, so we would be authorizing those activities.

DR. CRABTREE: And you could certainly ask that we grant it except for I guess Warsaw, speckled hind and red snapper if you'd like to, and we could do that.

MR. CURRIN: It's not a huge concern, Roy, because if they're out there collecting and they catch one of these things; and we tell them they've got to throw it back and there is some likelihood mortality associated with it, I would rather see it perhaps in the aquarium than thrown back dead.

I just want to make sure that we're not creating any kind of legal problems. I presume that there are also Goliath grouper in aquariums around the southeast or elsewhere in the United States. Whether those are routinely allowed under EFPs, I guess that's not dissimilar than this request. In fact, they may have a Goliath grouper in their list, I don't know.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, we'll look at that when we get back to the office and see what we can figure out.

MR. CURRIN: If it's a problem I would just suggest, with the concurrence of the council that if it's a problem, that we prohibit the collection of speckled hind, Warsaw and red snapper and Goliath grouper if those are going to cause any kind of legal issues.

MR. CUPKA: And certainly we're not approving anything; we're just making a recommendation. We're not binding Roy to anything. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: Mr. Chairman, just to remind everyone, North Carolina currently has an EFP for blueline tilefish, and one of the conditions of that EFP is that the trips be observed and that fishermen bring in speckled hind and Warsaw grouper, if they encounter them, so that they can be measured and biological information can be collected from them.

MR. CUPKA: Further discussion on the motion? Is there any objection to the motion? Seeing none, then that motion is approved. That's all of them, Kate, just the one?

MS. MICHIE: Yes.

DR. CRABTREE: And that concludes my report, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: This takes us down to the Southeast Science Center Status Reports. Bonnie.

DR. PONWITH: We have from a staffing standpoint good news, and that is we've brought on a new stock assessment scientist in July – his name is Luke Higgins – and that rounds out the hires that we were making based on that 2010 increase that we got to beef up our stock assessment staff. That's very, very good news.

And then the bad news is that a month later, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August, Doug Vaughan retired. It's a wonderful opportunity to recognize the fantastic contribution that he has made to the staff at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center, the Beaufort Lab, and certainly to the council. He was in the Beaufort Lab for almost 29 years and was an institution among us there.

It was sad to see him go but certainly a well-deserved rest. We are in the process of advertising for that vacancy right now, and again we'll focus on getting someone with good, strong stock



assessment skills to backfill that position. We have been asked by SERO to generate some projections, as Dr. Crabtree has mentioned, for some headboat landings for black sea bass, snowy grouper and golden tilefish, and those will be provided by the end of this month.

Again, the MRIP electronic logbook study has been completed and the results of that study include a recommendation to move to electronic reporting for the headboat industry. We have talked about that already in more detail, but I think that this is going to be a good way to go forward and increase the timeliness of those data. Unless there are questions, that's my report, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: Questions for Bonnie? All right, Bonnie, I know you talked about it some last night at our question-and-answer period, but is there anything else you want to report in regard to the Fishery-Independent Monitoring Program that the Center has got going?

DR. PONWITH: What I will do is defer a discussion of the fishery-independent because we have presentation on that that is going to be given by Todd Kellison the first thing tomorrow morning. What I would do is rather than going into that, go ahead and defer until after that discussion because my expectation is a lot of the questions you may have and information you may wish will be included in that presentation.

MR. CUPKA: Okay, I didn't realize that we had somebody giving a presentation. All right, I think we'll go on down then and agency and liaison reports. We'll start down there in the corner with Mr. Gill. Do you have anything you'd like to liaison report to us?

MR. GILL: No, Mr. Chairman, but I would like to express my pleasure at your kindness towards me during this week. It's always a pleasure to be here and I look forward to coming back again at the earliest opportunity. Thank you, sir.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Bob. Bill, do you want to give one for the Florida State Agency Report?

MR. TEEHAN: No, we don't really have much to report. We're waiting for consistency issues with black sea bass and so forth as far as the South Atlantic is concerned. Thank you.

MR. CUPKA: Wilson, Fish and Wildlife Service.

DR. LANEY: Mr. Chairman, I'll mention a few things. The eelways at Roanoke Rapids Dam on the Roanoke River in North Carolina continue to pass remarkably high numbers of American eels. I think we're up to nearly a quarter million eels so far this year, so those are working very well. We had some fish kills, and maybe Mac knows more current information or Michelle.

After Hurricane Irene, as is typically the case in these northeastern North Carolina rivers we get a tremendous pulse of very low oxygen water that comes out of the back swamps. It was very interesting this year because we happened to have a bunch of striped bass and Atlantic sturgeon out there swimming around with transmitters in them, so we're getting some very interesting

information on how those animals are moving around as a result of the pulse of low oxygen water that went down the river.

Lastly, with regard to budget for 2012, if the House mark and the President's mark are approved as they are currently, then that will have quite an impact on the fisheries program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The American Fishery Society recently sent a letter to congress laying out the potential impact. If any of you are interested, I'd be more than happy to share that letter. As a matter of fact if you haven't seen it, I'll go ahead and distribute it to the council members just as an FYI. That concludes my report, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Wilson; questions for Wilson?

MR. HARRIS: Not a question, Mr. Chairman; I'd just like to have an eelway. Do you have an eelway? I'd like to have one.

MR. CUPKA: Wilson is going to get you one.

DR. LANEY: To that point, Mr. Chairman, there is one proposed or planned for Blewett Falls Dam which is basically going to pass eels from South Carolina on up into North Carolina. I think Progress Energy is doing the preliminary sampling now like we did at Roanoke Rapids. I'm not aware of one planned for Georgia, Duane, but I'll be happy to work with you on that.

MR. CUPKA: All right, other questions or comments? Seeing none, then we'll go to Robert for South Carolina.

MR. BOYLES: Mr. Chairman, a brief report just for the council's information. In anticipation of actions under the Comprehensive ACL, some of the species removal, I'm happy to report that our staff made a presentation to our Marine Advisory Committee last week regarding the sheepshead fishery.

As you all know, that's a very interesting fishery and important fishery inshore in South Carolina. At this point our Marine Advisory Committee has recommended to our DNR Board that the board pursue legislation that would enact a ten-fish bag limit with a 12-inch minimum size.

Again recognizing that under the authority of South Carolina State Code we adopt by reference the regulations promulgated by the Service under the Magnuson Act authority, so it's something that we'll be paying attention to and working on here as we prepare our legislative package for next year. One other thing; our recreational shrimp baiting fishery opened back last Friday.

Again, thanks to recommendations from this council, you all are well aware of the status of our white shrimp fishery. I think Mel Bell was able to give you some good comments on that, particularly to the Shrimp and Deepwater Shrimp APs. We had sold as of last Friday about 5,700 shrimp baiting permits, which is down considerably from where we have been historically, but it's something that we will continue to keep our fingers crossed and try to our fingers on the

pulse of that very, very important fishery to us commercially as well as recreationally. I'll stop there, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: All right, thank you, Robert; any questions for Robert? Doug.

MR. HAYMANS: Keeping it in the same line, I'd gotten an e-mail earlier from our Chief of Fisheries. Basically our August surveys for white shrimp for creeks, sounds and beaches is only 4 percent below the long-term average and the occurrence of black gill is only at 16 percent, both of which are well below the averages. For white shrimp it looks like things are coming on strong.

The only other thing I would mention again is along the same vein as Robert is I'm working on a – I think I've mentioned it before – game and fish revision. It's an extensive revision with regards to saltwater fishing. Of primary interest for us in this group is that one of the things we hope to be able to do is to provide our commissioner and our board some additional authorities to be able to react to federal changes.

Right now if I were to try to match black sea bass, it would be about a minimum of a 90-day process and by that time black sea bass is probably already going to reopen. I'm working on that change. I just submitted it to the governor's office and hopefully it will go to the legislature and have it in place by January of 2013. That's in the works and that's all I have.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you, Doug; questions for Doug? Seeing none, then, Robert, do you have anything you wish to report from the Coast Guard? I think you're going to be joined tomorrow and we're going to be joined by someone from the Coast Guard Headquarters?

LT. FOOS: That's partially correct, Mr. Chairman. First of all, I'd like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the rest of the council for your very warm welcome. I'm very happy to be here. I do respectfully request to defer the Coast Guard comments until tomorrow morning when the Chief of Enforcement of District 7 will be in attendance.

MR. CUPKA: Very good, thank you.

MR. MAHOOD: Who is that now?

LT. FOOS: Captain Brandon McPherson.

MR. CUPKA: All right, going around, Monica, do you have anything you want to bring to the forefront that you're not going to cover in the morning?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: No.

MR. CUPKA: Wonderful! Michelle, North Carolina.

DR. DUVAL: Mr. Chairman, Louis didn't tell me I would have to do stuff like this when he asked me to do this. I think almost everyone was sitting around the table when I updated folks

on the status of our tilefish exempted fishing permit. We've had 41 trips and 19 percent of those have been observed – whatever that amounts to; our requirement is 20 – we have not encountered any of the other deepwater snapper grouper species, including Warsaw and speckled hind, that would result in termination of the permit or closure of that experimental fishery.

I'm not sure if Louis mentioned this at the August meeting or not, but our legislature just passed a rule that would not allow the state to adopt any regulation that is stricter than those adopted by the federal government, which can pose some interesting issues for us. We do adopt the council's regulations by reference and have a rule in place that allows us to do that.

MR. CURRIN: Michelle, just out of curiosity are you aware of other species, not speckled hind and Warsaw, that are being encountered in the deepwater fishery like rosefish or oilfish or barrel fish?

DR. DUVAL: No, none. Our observers haven't seen any. All the observer reports that I have seen, there have been a few conger eels, there have been a couple of shark species, I think a couple of random black sea bass, and that's about it.

MR. CUPKA: Any other questions for Michelle? Seeing none, then I think what we'll do is we will recess and begin again at 8:30 in the morning with a closed session for a briefing by Monica. We still have a couple of other things to do, but I think we'll finish up ahead of schedule barring any unforeseen problems.

(Whereupon, the meeting was recessed at 5:17 o'clock p.m., September 15, 2011.)

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council reconvened in the Topaz Room of the Charleston Marriott Hotel, Charleston, South Carolina, September 16, 2011, and was called to order by Chairman David Cupka.

MR. CUPKA: I'd like to reconvene the meeting of the South Atlantic Council. The first order of business this morning, we're going to have a report during a closed session from Monica on litigation issues.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Good morning. Joe, would you go off the record, please.

(Legal briefing on litigation issues was held.)

MR. CUPKA: The next item on our agenda is the Snapper Grouper Committee Report, but before we get into that I want to take this opportunity to introduce Captain McPherson who is with the 7<sup>th</sup> Coast Guard District out of Miami, who has joined us here today, and ask the captain if he wishes to make a comment or two and then we'll go ahead with snapper grouper.

CAPTAIN McPHERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It's very much a pleasure to be here today. I'm Captain Brandon McPherson, the Chief of Enforcement for the Coast Guard 7<sup>th</sup> District in Miami. Lt. Foos works in my office. As you know, he is the representative for the district commander here on the council. I'm very much happy to be here.

I look forward to working with the council in the future along with Lt. Foos. I also just want to take a moment to thank the council for the great work that they do, recognizing that they have to balance many competing interests in the interest of the fisheries. As the Coast Guard's role in providing advice and counsel regarding enforcement issues, we're happy to do that and look forward to doing that in the future.

Finally, I just want to take a moment, if I could, Mr. Chairman, I understand there was a question or an issue regarding northern right whale enforcement during one of the previous meetings, and what I'd like to do is just briefly reiterate what the Coast Guard policy is on that, if I could, sir. As Lieutenant Foos recently took this position on the council and with our office, I've provided him a memo that reiterated what the Coast Guard policy is on enforcement in northern right whale. I'll read just a portion of this, and I'm happy to make a copy of this available to the council.

Ship strikes jeopardize the survival of the species, which is why a mandatory ship reporting system for vessels greater than 300 gross tons entering specific areas commenced on 1 July 1999, and a mandatory speed reduction rule was enacted in December 2008 for all vessels 65 feet or greater and subject to U.S. jurisdiction entering right whale critical habitat areas per the references in the memo.

Primary enforcement for the mandatory speed reduction rule is conducted by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration Office of Law Enforcement primarily ashore. In addition, Coast Guard surface ships are directed to monitor vessel traffic for potential violators in the course of normal operations in a consistent and not-to-interfere basis with our mission priorities.

The Coast Guard does not normally conduct any at-sea boardings for the sole purpose of enforcing the rule. The Coast Guard detects, hails, identifies, informs and reports potential violations to NOAA OLE through the chain of command in accordance with Coast Guard policies. I hope this clarifies what the Coast Guard role is in enforcement. Thank you for this opportunity.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you. What we generally hear about in terms of whale interactions is from entanglement in fishing gear, but actually ship strikes is an even more serious problem and a higher cause of mortality than gear entanglement is. We're glad that those rules have been developed and that they're being enforced because it is a serious problem. All right, Mac, are you ready to get in the Snapper Grouper Committee Report?

MR. CURRIN: I think so, David, thank you. The Snapper Grouper Committee met over a couple of days earlier in the week. We had a status report of commercial and recreational landings from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center and SERO. Then we jumped into one of the numerous amendments that we have on our plate.

The first one was the Comprehensive ACL Amendment. Before I get into the motions and the like, there is one clarification that Myra wanted to make just to make sure everyone on the

council understands about some changes that we didn't talk about but have been made in that document for accuracy sake.

MS. BROUWER: I neglected to let you all know the other day, when we were going over the issues paper, the table that had the different allocations percentages as calculated with average landings instead of total landings also had the percentages displayed with two decimal points. That was done mainly to avoid confusion over rounding errors that may have arisen. The decision was made – David and Mac were aware of this – and that is why now the allocations are shown with two decimal points as opposed to being rounded to the nearest whole number. That was just to avoid, like I said, the rounding errors.

MR. CURRIN: Any questions for Myra on that? All right, as you all are aware the Comprehensive ACL Amendment was back on our plate due to some errors that were found regarding how the allocations were calculated. Those were corrected and the committee reviewed those. There was some discussion about allocations for a number of the different species, several from Florida and also blueline tilefish which had changed fairly significantly from the earlier document.

There was a failed motion to reconsider the blueline tilefish allocation. **Other than that, there was a motion from the committee to recommend submission of the Comprehensive ACL Amendment to the Secretary of Commerce.** Bob, I'll turn it over to you.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Boyles.

MR. BOYLES: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Burgess.

MR. BURGESS: No.

MR. MAHOOD: Dr. Crabtree.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Dr. Duval.

DR. DUVAL: No.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Harris.

MR. HARRIS: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Jolley.

MR. JOLLEY: I'll abstain on this.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Haymans.

MR. HAYMANS: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Teehan.

MR. TEEHAN: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Phillips.

MR. PHILLIPS: No.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Swatzel.

MR. SWATZEL: No.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Hartig is absent. Chairman Cupka.

MR. CUPKA: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Chairman Currin.

MR. CURRIN: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: The motion on the Comprehensive ACL Amendment passes seven to four with one abstention and one absent.

MR. CURRIN: Thank you, Bob. Roy.

**DR. CRABTREE: I move that we deem the regulations for the Comprehensive ACL Amendment necessary and appropriate and give the chairman license and staff license to review changes to the rule as needed.**

MR. CURRIN: Motion by Dr. Crabtree; second by Doug Haymans. Any discussion on that motion? Is there any objection to that motion?

MR. MAHOOD: Do we need a roll call on that, Monica, on the rule? I think we have done it in the past.

MR. CURRIN: Yes, I think we have.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Boyles.

MR. BOYLES: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Burgess.

MR. BURGESS: No.

MR. MAHOOD: Dr. Crabtree.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Dr. Duval.

DR. DUVAL: No.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Harris.

MR. HARRIS: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Jolley.

MR. JOLLEY: Abstain again.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Haymans.

MR. HAYMANS: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Teehan.

MR. TEEHAN: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Phillips.

MR. PHILLIPS: No.

MR. MAHOOD: Mr. Swatzel.

MR. SWATZEL: No.

MR. MAHOOD: Chairman Cupka.

MR. CUPKA: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: Chairman Currin.

MR. CURRIN: Yes.

MR. MAHOOD: The rule is deemed appropriate by the margin of seven to four, one abstention and one absent.

MR. CURRIN: All right, thank you again, Bob. Monica.



MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I would ask that you also give staff any editorial license that is needed to make any kinds of minor editorial changes with the chairman allowed to review those and approve those. You've had this amendment before you several times. I don't anticipate there are going to be hardly any editorial changes, but to the extent that there would be I would ask you give staff latitude to make those and then the chairman can review those.

MR. CURRIN: Is there any objection by the council members to providing that guidance to the staff for editorial changes? I see none, so with that guidance. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: Mr. Chairman, I was obviously disappointed with the blueline tilefish vote that failed in committee, and I did just want to bring up here I had asked Jack if he might be able to provide me with some landings that wasn't from the ACL data set but just to see sort of how things have varied over the years.

There has pretty significantly been a lot of participation on the side of the commercial fishery with regard to the landings. I know that Ben had brought up some concerns that he had had about using the last three years certainly with regards to the MRFSS numbers in terms of calculating that 50 percent due to Boyles' Law.

I just did some quick calculations using the numbers that Jack had given me looking at the last five years as the most recent for that chunk of the 50 percent of the allocation, and it actually flip-flopped the commercial and recreational allocation on blueline tilefish. I just make it point that I think maybe down the road Ben has a point in terms of discussing if we revisit the whole allocation formula issue. Thank you.

MR. CURRIN: Anything else on the Comprehensive ACL Amendment before we move on? All right, we received an update on the status of Regulatory Amendment 11. That, very soon, will be submitted to the Regional Office and then to the Secretary of Commerce after some editorial changes have been taken care of.

We got into Amendment 24, which is the red grouper rebuilding plan, and received an update from the staff on public hearings that were held in a number of areas. Some of those will be held in the future. They were cancelled due to the hurricane. There were several motions as result of discussions on Red Grouper Amendment 24. Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: I'm sorry, but I want to go back to the ACL Amendment just for a second. To the extent it's possible, Bob, if staff could get this amendment submitted formally I would hope by the end of next week, because we are really under the gun to meet the timelines, and I don't think we changed anything. I'm not clear how much more work is needed to be done, but we ought to try and get this wound up as quickly as we can.

MR. MAHOOD: Yes, I think that's everybody's intent, Roy, on both sides.

MR. WAUGH: It certainly is our intent to get it completed as soon as possible, but there is no way that will be done next week. This is a huge document. Myra has been going through it and finding issues that just need to be clarified. Just to remind everybody and for those newer

members what our process is, is when the IPT completes a document it's provided to the chairman and then we go through and give it an editorial review while the chairman is giving it an editorial review as well, but this is a huge document. Quite frankly, we'll be lucky to get it back to us from the IPT by the end of next week, but we certainly intend to move it as quickly as is possible.

MR. CURRIN: Thank you, Gregg. Anything else? All right, back to Amendment 24, several motions from the committee. **There was a motion to modify our Preferred Subalternative 2E to use Boyles' Law for the 1986-2008 time series, and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there any discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.** Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: Yes, just to point out that on Action 3 where we were establishing a rebuilding schedule, you all gave us direction to make some editorial changes to Alternatives 3 and 4. That didn't make it into the committee report because it's just direction to staff. But, given that establishing a rebuilding schedule is a big item, I just wanted to get on the record. It doesn't affect your preferred.

MR. CURRIN: Thank you very much. **All right, another motion from the committee to move Alternative 3 to the considered but eliminated from detailed consideration appendix, and on behalf of the committee I so move. Any discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

**Regarding Action 6, specify annual catch limits and optimum yield, there was a motion from the committee that the increases in 2013 and 2014 will not automatically occur if the total ACL for the preceding year is exceeded. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.** Bill.

MR. TEEHAN: I'm sorry, just to back up to the other motion for a second about removing Alternative 3, which is the sector separation, just for my own edification and for my briefing to the commission in Florida, is this a statement by the council that sector separation is not going to be considered overall or is it just pertaining to this particular amendment or is it really too early to ask that question?

MR. CURRIN: Well, it may be too early to answer that question. Certainly, clearly, the council has decided that they did not care to separate the recreational sector into private boat and for-hire in this particular amendment. If I had to give you my opinion, I'd say that the likelihood of considering that in the near future is pretty low based on conversations that we've had in the council to date, but that is always subject to change.

**Regarding Action 7, to specify a commercial ACT for red grouper, there was a motion to accept the suggested wording for Action 7. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there any discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

**Regarding Action 8, specify a recreational annual catch target for red grouper, a motion to accept the suggested wording for Action 8. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.**

**On Action 9, specify commercial accountability measures for red grouper, there was a motion to accept the suggested wording changes for Action 9. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

**Regarding Action 10, specify recreational accountability measures for red grouper, a motion from the committee to accept the suggested wording changes for Action 10. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

I believe that's all the motions from the committee regarding Amendment 24 on red grouper. Anything else anyone has on Amendment 24? All right, we will move on. Then the committee began discussing Amendment 18B on golden tilefish. **A number of motions from the committee; on Action 1; to limit participation in the golden tilefish fishery, there was a motion to select Subalternative 2A as the preferred and on behalf of the committee I so move. Any discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.**

**Also, a motion from the committee to add an alternative under Action 1 that only establishes an endorsement for the longline sector and to select that as the preferred. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see one objection; the motion is approved with one objection.**

**Another motion from the committee regarding Action 1 was to move Subalternatives 2C and 2D to the considered but rejected appendix. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see one objection; the motion is approved with one objection.**

**Under Action 2, there was a motion to move Subalternatives 2D and 2E to the considered but rejected appendix. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved. I would note that there was also guidance to the staff to replace the word "individual" within the subalternatives under Alternative 2 with the word "permit".**

**Another motion under that action to deselect Alternative 2A as the preferred, and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none and motion is approved.**

**Another motion from the committee to select Alternative 1, which is no action, as the preferred alternative. That alternative would not establish a hook-and-line endorsement in the golden tilefish fishery. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of**

**that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see one objection; the motion the approved with one objection.**

**Another motion from the committee to move Subalternatives 2B, 2C, 2F, 2H, 2J and 2K to the considered but rejected appendix. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Is there objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.**

The committee at that point recessed for the day and took up the next morning – due to prioritization of the amendments, we jumped into Amendment 18A and a number of motions there. Yes, Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: I would like to make one motion relative to 18B; would you like me to do that now?

MR. CURRIN: Yes, that would be fine.

DR. CRABTREE: I would like to make a motion relative to Action 3. This is the action that establishes eligibility requirements for a golden tile longline endorsement. **I move that we add an alternative that looks at the time series of 2007-2010 as the qualifying period and includes landing levels of 10,000, 20,000 and 30,000 pounds as subalternatives.**

MR. CURRIN: Motion by Roy; second by Charlie to add a new alternative to Action 3. Discussion?

DR. CRABTREE: It includes subalternatives for the level of landings of 10,000, 20,000 and 30,000 pounds. My rationale is we have repeatedly heard from a couple of longline vessels in South Florida that got into the fishery, had put considerable time and monetary investment in it, but because we're not using 2010 may not qualify. I would like to at least have an option to look at that. I also would like to look at some higher poundage qualifiers. It bothers me that we've got 2,000 and 5,000 pound qualifiers for longline vessels when I think that's one and maybe two trips. I would at least like to have us have that analyzed so we could take a look at it.

MR. CURRIN: Any further discussion of the motion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved. **Under Amendment 18A, black sea bass participation limitation; under Action 1A, modify the rebuilding strategy and set the ABC for black sea bass, there was a motion to move Alternative 4 and Alternative 3, Options 1, 3 and 4 to the considered but rejected appendix and make Alternative 3, Option 5 our preferred. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

I would also note that the intent of the committee and now the council is that during the rebuilding period that OY is equal to F rate to rebuild and that after the stock is rebuilt, that we move to an Foy approach. **Under Action 1B, to set an ACL for the black sea bass fishery, there was a motion to select Alternative 2 as our preferred and on behalf of the committee I**

**so move. Discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

**Under Action 1C, to set annual catch targets for the commercial black sea bass fishery, a motion to select Alternative 1 as our preferred for Action 1C. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.**

**Under Action 1D, to set annual catch targets for the recreational black sea bass fishery, a motion to select Alternative 4 as our preferred and add “recreational” in front of the term “ACL”. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.**

**Under Action 2, limit participation in the black sea bass pot fishery through an endorsement program, there was a motion to select the effective date of the final rule applicants must have a valid or renewable snapper grouper unlimited permit. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion on that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.**

**A motion that the council’s intent is that NMFS administratively prohibit transfers of unlimited snapper grouper permits for the necessary amount of time, not to exceed 45 days, until the new endorsements are required. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved. Roy.**

DR. CRABTREE: Before we get to the motion on the preferred alternative for the sea bass qualifier, I would like to add another alternative to the suite of alternatives for the qualifiers, but I want to explain what I’m trying to do so it doesn’t seem too complicated. Mr. Teehan raised this issue yesterday in terms of impacts on fishing communities and areas.

In public testimony we heard concerns about large areas, particularly Florida where no one would qualify under the 3,500 pound scenario, and that does concern me how that is coming out, but at the same time I’m trying to find a way to address that without simply lowering the qualifier and letting many more vessels in.

What I want to do would be to try and add another alternative which would be selected in addition to an alternative that specifies the qualifying poundage level. I would like to add an alternative that provides that no state shall have less than two permits that qualify provided that no permit with landings, at some level to be chosen by the council, below the qualifying period will qualify.

Staff would have to work on this to tweak it a little bit, but what I’m getting at is if we stay with our current preferred of 3,500 pounds, for example, we could choose this alternative in addition to that, and that would say that every state shall have two permits at least except that no permits will be qualify that have, for example, less than 2,000 pounds of landings.

MR. CURRIN: For a total?

DR. CRABTREE: Well, it would set it up the same way as the current qualifying alternatives. I think staff would have to give us some alternatives. Maybe it's no vessel qualifies that has – you know, if we choose 3,500 no one qualifies with less than 25, no one with less than 2,000. What I'm trying to do is if you go into a state you may have some vessels that just barely missed the 3,500 but they still have substantial landings, and I'm trying to let at least a couple of those in from that region, but I don't want to let anybody in who doesn't have any landings.

So if a state doesn't have any vessels that qualify and it doesn't have anybody that has any landings, they wouldn't qualify. It seems to me that's a way to kind of even this out geographically and make sure that we don't have some broad area that doesn't have any vessels in it, but at the same time we're not just opening the door for more vessels up in the heart of the range where there are already lots of vessels qualifying and let even more in. Do you follow what I'm saying, Myra?

**Okay, so let's say that we add an alternative that states that no state shall have less than two permits that qualified provided that no permit shall qualify whose minimum landings are 1,000, 2,000 or some other alternative to be worked out by staff and chosen by the council.**

If my motion passes my intent, Myra, would be that you guys have quite a bit of leeway on this. You could look at no more than three permits qualify, whatever, because I don't have any analysis so I really don't know what the appropriate choices are. I want you all to set up a suite, but you understand what I'm getting at is I want to make sure that we don't have a thousand miles of coast somewhere and nobody qualifies even though at least what I heard from the testimony we have some people who are participants in this fishery. It seems like this might be a way to get at it.

MR. TEEHAN: I'll second the motion.

MR. CURRIN: Second by Bill Teehan. Robert.

MR. BOYLES: Roy, if I understand what you're saying in essence could the argument be made that I'm a commercial fisherman from Florida and but for my Florida residency I would not qualify; is that not a legal chink?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Well, it kind of straddles the line of a couple of different national standards. You've got a National Standard 4 which is you're supposed to be fair and equitable to all fishermen. You can assign privileges but you have to do that fairly and equitably. National Standard 8 talks about taking into account the importance of fishing resources for fishing communities. I understand what you're saying and I guess we just have to evaluate it and take a look at it and see if we've got national standard problems or whether it falls within the gamut of what the national standards would allow.

MR. BOYLES: And I recognize it's probably a jurisdictional thing, but we have lost cases in state court that were so structured. That's why I asked the question.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Well, I think it's a good question and we definitely have to take a close look at it.

DR. CRABTREE: And I did think about that, Robert, when I tried to address this, but on the other hand it's treating all of the states exactly the same. If you think about it, if we were to have state-by-state quotas it's possible that fishermen in one state would be able to fish only by virtue of the fact that he's a resident of that state and fishing on that quota.

There may be some gray here, but I think it's worth putting in here. I'm sure our attorneys will look at that very carefully. Our other alternative, I'm afraid, is we end up – we don't want to have all of Florida, for example, with no fishermen but in order to let a couple of fishermen in down there, we end up letting eight other fishermen in, and that may be good but it may not be and I just want to give us some flexibility.

MR. WAUGH: Just to clarify the direction we're getting, so we're going to be approving this to go out to public hearing, and this is going to be an alternative you're directing the staff and the IPT to work up. We'll certainly get with Monica. Then that will go out to public hearing without any of the analyses coming back before the council, which I don't see as a big problem because we have a lot of flexibility when going out to public hearing. I just wanted to make sure that's exactly what you're doing is giving staff and the IPT the direction to come up with these different alternatives.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes, that's right. I haven't really talked to Jack about this because it only came to my mind after public testimony, but I suspect all of the analyses he has right in his hands and could in a matter of minutes tell you exactly how this works out, because there are not that many vessels, and I'm pretty sure he knows where they come from.

MR. CURRIN: Roy, I think the staff could probably benefit from as much direction as possible, and so far in the motion – and average landings is what you specified because that's what we've used to qualify under the 3,500 and the 2,500, and we took the aggregate landings out because we felt like that was too liberal. If you remember that whole alternative got removed. Are you fairly content with the bounds of 1,000 and 2,000 or would you like to set a lower average landing value to include, say, 500 as a lower one or are you content with the 1,000 as the lower average landings bound for the alternative or you just want to give them some latitude to look at.

DR. CRABTREE: I want staff to have latitude to look at how it works and give us what – I think they understand what we're trying to accomplish and give us some alternatives that get us there. When I say no state shall have less than two permits, each of these permits has a vessel who I think has a home port or some sort of basis, so I'm not looking at where they have landings. I'm looking at where is that vessel physically located, I guess.

MR. HARRIS: Mr. Chairman, I support the motion and let me tell you why. I'm concerned about capacity in this fishery as Robert spoke to yesterday; however, these fish are so spread out

there is not a lot of trap fishermen in the fishery. Given the tagging studies that we did in Georgia back in the seventies, these fish are not moving up and down the coast very much.

There might be a very few migrations, but what they're catching off Florida is not going to impact the fishery off North Carolina except they're going to be taking part of the quota. Well, I found out yesterday that one fisherman had been taking part of the quota for 20 years. I didn't realize that. I thought it was a relatively new fishery off the coast of Florida and that's not the case. I support this motion and I think we've got to do something to make sure that some of these folks qualify in these other states that have been fishing for a long period of time.

MR. CURRIN: Well, just one point, Duane, to the comments that you made is that when you say that what is going on off of Florida would not affect what is going on north of there, I think from a landings perspective of adult fish that's very true, no disagreement, but I have a hard time believing that spawn and larvae and eggs that are produced off of Florida and south of North Carolina and South Carolina don't have a high likelihood of providing recruits to those areas.

MR. HARRIS: To that point, Mr. Chairman, you may be right. To my knowledge there are no studies that speak to that, but we've got a lot of adult fish in both areas and where those recruits come from – when we build an artificial reef in the summertime, that artificial reef on barren sand bottom is populated by black sea bass within two weeks, and it's unbelievable. Where do they come from? Well, we don't know, they come from a live bottom area somewhere, but they're pretty prolific. They're also the easiest fish to catch in a trap that exists. You can fill a trap up in 20 minutes with black sea bass. Thank you.

MR. JOLLEY: Thank you, Duane, ditto. I just want to thank Roy because the Florida contingent was worried about this particular problem and it sounds very good to me.

MR. PHILLIPS: I was just going to make – I guess we're using the same number of years or are we going to have a range of years on this, too?

DR. CRABTREE: The years would be chosen in the qualifier. This isn't a standalone alternative. This would have to be in addition to picking the poundage level and the years somewhere else. This is just going to potentially let two boats in that have slightly fewer pounds of landings.

MR. WAUGH: Just quickly, so the goal is to have at least two, but we don't need to have subalternatives that go higher and allow four, six, eight, ten per state?

DR. CRABTREE: No, and I don't want to let anybody in that isn't in the fishery and doesn't have landings, which is the purpose of it.

MR. CURRIN: Okay, any further discussion on this motion? Any objection to the motion? I see none; that motion is approved. **Okay, a motion from the committee to select Alternative 2D as our preferred. There were two substitute motions.**



The last substitute, which became the main motion, I will present on behalf of the committee and that was to select a new Alternative 2F as our preferred. That alternative contained 3,500 pound whole weight excluding fishermen with no reported commercial black sea bass pot landings between January 1, 2008, and December 31, 2010. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.

Another motion from the committee to add a new Alternative 2G that has a 2,500 pound whole weight excluding fishermen with no reported commercial black sea bass pot landings between January 1, 2008, and December 31, 2010. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there any discussion of the motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.

Another motion from the committee to move Alternative 3 to the considered but rejected appendix. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.

Under Action 3, to establish an appeals process for fishermen excluded from the black sea bass pot endorsement program, a motion to accept the staff recommendation for wording changes and that Alternative 2 remain our preferred. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.

Under Action 4, to allow for transferability of black sea bass pot endorsements, a motion from the committee to accept the recommended language changes and not a select a preferred. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.

Under Action 5, to limit effort in the black sea bass pot fishery each permit year, there was a motion to change our change our preferred to Alternative 9. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? The motion is approved with one objection.

Another motion from the committee to move Alternatives 5 through 8 to the considered but rejected appendix. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.

All right, under Action 7, to modify accountability measures for black sea bass, a motion to simplify Action 7 to eliminate the use of multi-year averages in the recreational accountability measures. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Is there any objection to the motion? I see none; that motion is approved.

A couple of motions that were made to select different preferreds were not approved by the committee and we won't need those in the record, I presume. Under Action 9, to establish a commercial trip limit for black sea bass for all gear types, there was a motion to select

**Alternative 5 as our preferred. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.**

MR. WAUGH: Just one quick item; back on Action 7, the accountability measures for black sea bass, we were given direction to add that additional contingency that the ACL increases are contingent on not exceeding the total ACL. Again, that was direction to staff to do that.

MR. CURRIN: Thank you for bringing that up. It wasn't on my note here and I appreciate you bringing that up. It's the same thing we did with red grouper, I believe, so it should be straightforward and clear.

MR. WAUGH: That's correct. Generally we don't bring those directions to staff up, but on these big items I think everybody needs to be aware of them.

MR. CURRIN: Okay, on to Action 10, to modify the recreational bag limit for black sea bass, a motion and a substitute motion, which became the main motion, and I will provide that on behalf of the committee. **The motion was to move Action 10 to the considered but rejected appendix. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.**

**Under Action 11, to modify commercial and/or recreational black sea bass size limits; there was a motion and then a substitute motion, which was approved as the main motion. That motion, on behalf of the committee I would move to accept the proposed wording changes in Action 11 and move Alternative 2B to the considered but rejected appendix. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

Another motion that was defeated regarding Action 12; and then a **motion by the committee to approve Snapper Grouper 18A for public hearings. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.** Yes, David.

MR. CUPKA: Also, in regards to those public hearings I guess we've worked out so that we can hold an additional public hearing now in the North Myrtle Beach area in addition to those other ones that were scheduled.

MR. CURRIN: I'm not sure whether it's an additional one or whether the South Carolina meeting was moved and Gregg may clarify that or Myra.

MR. CURRIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman, and these are scheduled for the week of November 14<sup>th</sup>; Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding one in Savannah. We're trying to finalize the location. Then on the 15<sup>th</sup> concurrently there will be one in Jacksonville, and we were going to do one here in Charleston but we're moving that up to North Myrtle Beach. Then on Wednesday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, in the Port Canaveral area; and Thursday, the 17<sup>th</sup>, in Key Largo.

MR. CUPKA: That's in addition to the hearing that we will have in Raleigh when we meet there.

MR. WAUGH: Yes, and the final one, I believe it's the Tuesday of our council meeting week. I'll double-check on that. I'm pretty sure it's Tuesday. That would be in the evening and that would be the final public hearing.

DR. DUVAL: Mr. Chairman, I just want to thank staff for their flexibility in that regard. I think it will make a big difference. As Mac has pointed out to me, the way that the public hearings are conducted with having the information session, it's just really helpful to the fishing public to be able to have a place where they can have their questions answered so that when they provide their testimony they have a better understanding of what is going on. That probably wouldn't happen at the council meeting in Raleigh, so thank you very much.

MR. CURRIN: Yes, and I would echo Michelle's thanks to the staff and the folks from South Carolina for being willing to be flexible. I hope that the fishermen in South Carolina aren't disadvantaged by that move up to Myrtle Beach, but it will provide a great opportunity especially for the fishermen in the southern part of our state to have an opportunity to talk to the staff about what is being proposed. I think it will make things in Raleigh go a little more smoothly as well. Thanks very much and I appreciate it. Yes, Bill.

MR. TEEHAN: In the spirit of trying to indoctrinate new council members, I would like to volunteer John Jolley for all three of the Florida public hearings if I'm not out of line.

MR. CURRIN: I think that is very appropriate. His predecessor I don't think missed a public hearing anywhere in the state of Florida in the nine years he was on the council. I would expect John to jump right in and take over that tradition. I'm not being serious about that, John, but I would encourage you to attend at least some of those. I think you'd find them informative and helpful to you. It gives you a chance to interact with the fishermen, too.

Okay, on to Amendment 20A regarding the Wreckfish ITQ, some of those issues, anyway. **Under Action 1, to define and revert inactive wreckfish shares, there was a motion from the committee to accept staff recommendations for the minor changes in the language and accept Alternative 3 as the preferred in Action 1. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.**

**Under Action 2, to redistribute reverted shares to remaining shareholders, a motion to move Alternative 5 to the considered but rejection appendix. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none and motion is approved.**

**Another motion to select Alternative 3, Option B as the preferred under Action 2. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

**Another motion from the committee to redistribute any amount in excess of the share cap among the other shareholders according to the method selected in Action 2, Subalternative 3B. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

**Under Action 3, to establish a share cap, a motion to select Alternative 4 as a preferred under Action 3. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

**Also, a motion to indicate that the council's intent was that NMFS administratively prohibit transfers of wreckfish shares for the necessary amount of time, not to exceed 45 days, until the reverted shares are redistributed. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? I see none and that motion is approved.**

**Under Action 4 a motion to select Alternative 2, Subalternative 2B as the preferred in Action 4, with the revised alternatives as suggested by the IPT. On behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? I see none; that motion is approved.**

**Another motion from the committee to approve Snapper Grouper Amendment 20A for public hearings, and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion of that motion? Is there objection? I see none and that motion is approved. Bill.**

MR. TEEHAN: At some point before we close on this one, if Gregg could give us some idea of the dates and locations of the public hearings that would be great.

MR. CURRIN: I think they're going to mirror the public hearings that we've just discussed with Amendment 18A; is that correct, Gregg?

MR. WAUGH: Yes, Mr. Chairman, that's correct. It will be on Red Grouper Amendment 24, the Wreckfish Amendment 20A, and 18A; those three amendments during the week of November 14<sup>th</sup>.

MR. TEEHAN: Are they going to be the same night for three subjects?

MR. WAUGH: Yes, the way we've evolved to conducting these is we will have multiple rooms available where individuals can go and meet with the staff and get a presentation. The intent is that they go in and hear those presentations, get their questions answered, and then go into another room where the council member is and give their testimony in that room.

MR. BOYLES: Gregg, thanks for that clarification. That does present an issue I think for South Carolina with wreckfish. I'm not sure that I would have been so magnanimous with supporting moving the South Carolina hearing to Myrtle Beach particularly with the wreckfish fishery; the heart of it being here in Charleston. I'm just wondering and it may not be a big deal. I'll look to Tom and David for further guidance.

MR. WAUGH: And if that's the case I can certainly understand that and I'll get with Mike now and see if we've locked in a location for a date for North Myrtle Beach. We're talking about the Tuesday; but if that's a concern, then if we have that flexibility we'll either move that North Myrtle Beach to a different night and then do the original one here in Charleston. It's not that difficult to do a public hearing here in Charleston; so if the concern is that we need to hold one here – and I can certainly understand that for wreckfish – then that's something we can handle.

MR. BOYLES: And certainly I think the potential magnitude of attendance for black sea bass is going to be greater in Myrtle Beach, but I'm wondering if we could do an additional – a standalone Amendment 20 hearing in Charleston. We'll talk about it offline.

MR. BURGESS: Well, that was cleared up. I was just concerned about keeping that one in Myrtle Beach so that North Carolina would be able to attend that concerning black sea bass.

MR. CURRIN: I think we can work something out. I hope so, anyway. We'll rely on the staff to do that. We did vote on approving 20A for public hearing. The committee got back into or at least discussed getting back into Amendment 18B. I think because of some of the difficulty we had in the first several actions in that and then some confusion and the fact that Ben was not here – Ben has participated in that fishery and knows a lot about it. He was a member of the workgroup – and the fact that it's not as time-critical as 18A and 20A, the committee decided that we would defer further consideration of 18B until the December meeting. Unless there are any questions, Mr. Chairman, that concludes my report.

MR. CUPKA: Okay, thank you, Mac, good job as usual. I think you and the staff and the IPT and everyone involved. There was a lot of work involved and a lot was accomplished I think so we appreciate that. All right, next is a report on the Southeast Fisheries Science Center Fishery-Independent Monitoring Program, and, Bonnie, do you want to make the introduction on that.

DR. PONWITH: Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to introduce Dr. Todd Kellison, who is leading up the development of the Fishery-Independent Data Collection Program. He is a branch chief at the Beaufort Lab. Without further ado, I'll turn it over to him.

DR. KELLISON: Thanks, Bonnie, and good morning, everyone. I'll note following that introduction that Nate Bacheler is the coordinator of the survey program. The survey is housed within my branch in Beaufort. Typically he would be here giving this talk; however, he and his wife are expecting a second daughter in the very near future, so he thought it appropriate to stick around Beaufort and I agree.

I'm happy to be here this morning to speak with you about our Southeast Fishery-Independent Survey Program. I'll try to do so in four general steps. The first is providing some background on what led to the establishment of the Southeast Fishery-Independent Survey, which I'll refer as SEFIS as I go throughout this talk. The second is to provide a review of our program.

The third is to sort of briefly go through some accomplishments from 2010 and thus far in 2011. And, lastly, in response to a direct request from the council is to spend some time talking about

our use video as a survey gear and implications for the use of video data to support stock assessments in the South Atlantic.

As background, due predominantly to decreasing availability of fishery-dependent data and thus an increasing need for fishery-independent data, in November 2009 we housed at our laboratory in Beaufort a workshop titled “The South Atlantic Fishery-Independent Monitoring Program Workshop, which is a mouthful, but I will refer to that as I go through the talk as the SAFIMP Workshop.

So we held this workshop in 2009 over a period of four days at our laboratory in Beaufort. The workshop was attended by researchers from NOAA Fisheries laboratories from throughout our Southeast Fisheries Science Center, state representatives from fishery management agencies from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, and then many industry representatives as well.

The working group at the workshop provided recommendations for fishery-independent survey approaches and levels of effort in the South Atlantic. Those recommendations are documented in a final report for the workshop. You can see the cover is pictured there on the slide. The recommendations included surveys focusing on reef fish and continental shelf and shelf-break waters, a level of effort that would require about \$11.5 million in the first few years, so more than \$2 million of survey efforts were recommended for optimal levels of sampling.

The recommendations from this workshop led directly to the creation of our SEFIS Survey in 2010. I will take the opportunity to note here that sort of the combined funding for fishery-independent surveys starting in reef fish in the South Atlantic is well below that recommended optimal survey effort.

The specific objectives of SEFIS – our overarching objective is to provide data to support stock assessments for reef-associated species on the continental shelf and shelf-break. Importantly, this is a strongly cooperative effort with MARMAP and SEAMAP. While our surveys have different names, we work very closely together. We’re integrated.

Note that MARMAP and SEAMAP are both there. MARMAP historically has been the fishery-independent survey program for reef fish in the South Atlantic. In recent years the MARMAP Reef Fish Survey efforts have been greatly supplemented with SEAMAP funding. As I go through the remainder of this talk, I’ll refer to that reef fish survey program as a MARMAP/SEAMAP program.

We work very closely with Marcel and with Roger to coordinate our survey efforts, and I’ll explain a little more of that as I go through the talk. Major objectives for our survey as recommended from the SAFIMP Workshop are to increase the number and spatial distribution of samples in the South Atlantic. One of the issues that the workshop recognized was a need to increase sampling effort and spatial distribution of sampling in the South Atlantic, so SEFIS is filling that need.

We're also implementing video cameras as a survey gear to develop indices of abundance and address trap selectivity issues, and this was also a major recommendation of the workshop in 2009. SEFIS also works to map hard bottom habitats to improve survey designs. Our knowledge of hard bottom distribution in the South Atlantic is somewhat limited, and so one of SEFIS' goals is to use multi-beam mapping to identify new areas that we can then incorporate into survey design.

Finally, we perform applied research to inform survey methods, so we have a goal of improving over time the surveys and also to address management needs. Our sampling universe – this is the sampling universe for SEFIS and MARMAP/SEAMAP – ranges from Cape Hatteras in the north to Port St. Lucie in the south, down here in the southern end where the shelf narrows. The depths range from about roughly 20 to 90 meters, and these are depths targeted by our trap and now trap video surveys, so the continental shelf and shelf breakwaters.

The figure there shows what was sort of the MARMAP sampling universe in maybe the mid-2000's, so this was the known distribution of hard bottom size from which every year a subset of those areas were sampled with traps. The focus of SEFIS, which was again initiated in 2010, has been to try to fill in some of the gaps here in the southern area off of Georgia and Florida.

Just to give you a little better idea about sampling distribution, this figure shows from the year 2000 the MARMAP sampling effort, so this is a subset of the entire universe that they sampled for traps in 2000. I believe there was somewhere around a 400 trap sample size. I'll note that each circle represents a trap sampling size, but some of those circles are relatively close together and sort of lie on top of each other. If we zoomed in you would be able to see many more circles.

So this was sort of MARMAP sampling distribution in 2000 and there was a relative lack of samples in this area. In recent years MARMAP has been able to supplement their survey effort again with SEAMAP funding, so that's a cooperative effort. Their sampling distribution to the south has increased, as shown here, so this was 2009 survey efforts from MARMAP.

And then on this next slide I've superimposed the SEFIS survey efforts from 2010, shown here in red, so you see that our goals have been to focus on Georgia and Florida waters and fill in some of the gaps from the previous survey. At the same time we work cooperatively with MARMAP and SEAMAP; and so this sort of line off of Georgia, our group, SEFIS, has been sampling to the south.

MARMAP/SEAMAP historically sampled those southern waters as well, but they have pushed all their efforts up here off of North Carolina and South Carolina now, so that area is also receiving increased sampling distribution. The SEFIS sampling approach in general is identical to that used by MARMAP, so we use Chevron traps, the identical gears, identical methodologies as the MARMAP/SEFIS survey.

We have MARMAP/SEFIS personnel that come out on all of our cruises to ensure that we're utilizing the same methodologies, so a lot of cross-pollination between groups. Beginning in 2010 SEFIS utilized video cameras on all of its traps, and I'll go through that in more detail in a

few moments. Again, SEFIS uses multi-beam to map habitats. An example of the output of that is shown here on the bottom right.

SEFIS also does applied research as needs arise. We've done some remotely operated vehicle surveys in shelf breakwaters to accomplish a number of objectives. Bonnie I believe has previously conveyed to the council results from a longline survey targeting red snapper that we carried out in 2010.

We're also investigating the use of fisheries acoustics, specifically split-beam sonar, as a fishery-independent survey tool. Our results, in 2010 we had 63 days at sea. A little more than half of those days were aboard a NOAA ship, the NOAA Ship Nancy Foster. The remainder was on a vessel called the RV Savannah, which is based out of Skidaway Institute of Oceanography. We're using that vessel again this year. In this total of 63 days at sea we deployed 480 traps; 97 percent of those were affixed with video cameras.

We mapped a little less than 400 square kilometers of bottom with multi-beam sonar to identify new hard bottom habitat. We did a number of remotely operated vehicle dives, the longline survey and we collected more than 200 hours of split-beam sonar surveys for subsequent analysis.

In 2011 we had a reduction in our available days on the NOAA ships. We had 12 days at sea on the NOAA Ship Pisces. We had that cruise in May and that was in Florida waters. We completed 130 trap/video samples during that cruise and a significant amount of bottom habitats as well.

If you've looked at the presentation that was distributed as part of the meeting materials, this slide is a little outdated, so that number said 31 in the presentation that was distributed. We have a cruise that's out right now in Georgia waters, but they're heading south to Florida. As of yesterday we had 43 days on the RV Savannah this year and more planned.

Our hope is to realize somewhere around 800 and 1,000 trap/video samples this year, and that's a combination between SEFIS and MARMAP/SEAMAP. We hope to realize that this year and coming years. I'll note this is greater than a hundred percent expansion of our recent South Atlantic trap sampling efforts over sort of the mid-2000's level. That's a result of the SEFIS addition and also the SEAMAP supplemental funding to MARMAP.

Video was used only by SEFIS in 2010 so that means that we have video surveys from Florida and Georgia waters in 2010, but MARMAP/SEAMAP added video cameras to their traps in 2011, so beginning this year we have a system-wide trap and video surveys. Now I'll spend a little time focusing specifically on the use of video as a survey gear.

Again, video was strongly recommended by the SAFIMP Workshop in 2009 as a gear to be used to both generate abundance indices and also to address potential trap selectivity issues. It's used by a number of groups in the Gulf of Mexico so we had some existing expertise to lean on. It has not been previously used as a survey gear to develop indices of abundance in the South Atlantic.



I'll note that MARMAP has used still cameras for a number of years on its traps to document habitat and to identify whether the traps were fishing correctly. They've also used video to identify habitat and for other means, but video has not been used as a gear to develop indices of abundance in the South Atlantic previously.

In the Gulf of Mexico video surveys are used by the National Marine Fisheries Service. They run surveys out of the – well, we run surveys out of the Pascagoula and Panama City Laboratories, and the state of Florida also utilizes video surveys. The state of Florida and the Pascagoula and Panama City laboratories coordinate closely and utilize the same methodologies so that their data can be combined into one data set for use in assessments. Unlike in the South Atlantic where we put cameras on traps, in the Gulf they use these video arrays, which are basically just frames on which they mount cameras, typically they mount four cameras, sometimes only two.

Based on the combination of data developed from the Pascagoula, Panama City and state of Florida laboratories, video-based indices of abundance have been generated and used in assessments for a number of species listed here, so a number of grouper, snapper, including red snapper and triggerfish species.

I will also note that these laboratories in the Gulf of Mexico have begun utilizing stereo video cameras, typically incorporating one and sometimes two cameras in these four-camera arrays. Stereo video enables the generation of length measurements from the video. They're building in not only video surveys but length information from the video surveys.

Video in the South Atlantic, again used by SEFIS in 2010 in Georgia and Florida waters; SEFIS and MARMAP/SEAMAP in 2011 and beyond; so again in 2011 and beyond, it's system-wide in the South Atlantic. We put cameras on the traps and not these camera arrays. The reason for that is that our assessment people in the South Atlantic indicated that we really couldn't sacrifice – well, we needed all the biological samples that we were collecting from our trap survey, so the traps enable us to take otoliths and gonads from the fish that we collect in the traps.

So putting the cameras on the traps allowed us to maintain that level of biological collections but also to generate these video surveys as well, so cameras are on traps and not on arrays. Again, we hope to realize about 800 to 1,000 video samples each year from North Carolina to Florida in waters roughly 10 to 90 meters deep.

I say that we have no length information yet so thus far we've not used stereo video cameras. We're using these Canon high-definition cameras, which are the non-stereo video cameras that are used in the Gulf. We also outfit our traps with these smaller Go-Pro Video Cameras. We have been a little hesitant to jump in with stereo video cameras because of their expense. Stereo video cameras are not typically available in an off-the-shelf mode.

We need to work with engineers to build them in a unit costing a range of about \$20,000 to build a camera. In the South Atlantic we experience a lot of high current conditions, particularly down off of Florida where the Gulf Stream comes in. It's not unusual to lose traps and so we have

some hesitancy of having a trap with one or two \$20,000 cameras units on it and not being able to recover it.

The cameras that we do use are not inexpensive, so the high-definition cameras and their housings together cost in the range of \$4,500 to \$6,000, so they're not inexpensive but it's still not a \$20,000 unit. I imagine that over time we will go towards a stereo video approach as well but as of yet we have not.

I'll talk in a moment about how we're reading the videos for fish species, but we're focusing on – because of some of the time limitations involved in reading videos, we're focusing on priority species that are within the snapper grouper complex and some pelagics, and there are a total of 107 species for which we're currently reading videos. At this point I'll take the opportunity to show an example of a video clip.

Just an example of one of our video surveys; you can easily identify fish, a red grouper, vermilion snapper, triggerfish there up at the top. A few things to note; one is that we identify fish as far as we can into the video; so as far as we can see, as we're able to identify fish, we will count those fish.

Obviously visibility can play into the number of fish that we're able to count. From CTD casts we measure a water quality component called transmissivity, which is essentially a measure of visibility. We have that for all of our video surveys and we will be able to go in and essentially standardize for visibility when we post analyze the data. We're also able to note the type of habitat on which the surveys occur.

We classify the habitat based on a number of separate categories, so we will be able to go and standardize the video surveys by habitat. Another point of me showing this video was that – so that was a tiger shark that just swam by and video enables the quantification of species that are unlikely to end up in a trap. We probably would not catch that tiger shark in a trap, but we do get that information from videos. There you see red grouper, gray snapper.

MR. JOLLEY: Did you lose any of your traps as a result of sharks trying to get into them?

DR. KELLISON: No, but we've lost a few traps in 2010 and 2011. I think as Marcel would tell you that's not an uncommon experience every year, but they're predominantly been to just hang up. When we're fishing high-relief habitat and particularly when the current picks up very strongly, sometimes the traps just get wedged on rocks and it's difficult to retrieve them.

If they're in shallow enough waters – well, if they're in areas that enable this, we'll definitely try to pull grappling hooks for them and recover them, so we make every effort to pull them back up. We've had no shark-related trap losses. Counting fish on a video clip; so how do we do this? I would like to clarify that our goal in a video metric is to have a linear relationship between our metric – between the fish that we count on a video and the true abundance around the trap.

As our counts go up from the video, we want that to equate linearly with the actual abundance in the water. Groups that have used video have used approaches to counting fish. Some groups have used a count all fish seen so they might view 20 minutes of video and every individual of, for example, vermilion snapper or red snapper that they see cross the video frame, they would count.

That could be problematic if you, for example, had a red snapper individual that just swam circles around the trap, then you would count the same individual numerous times. That methodology has some issues. Other groups have used a time to first arrival with an assumption that a short time relates directly to a higher abundance, so that more abundant species would be seen more rapidly and rarer species less rapidly. That has some issues as well.

The groups in the Gulf of Mexico use a metric of the maximum number seen in a single frame, so they view typically 20 minutes of their video survey; so for an example for vermilion snapper the greatest number of vermilion snapper in a single frame during that 20 minutes, that's the number that they will use, the metric from that video survey.

In SEFIS we wanted to make sure that we were using the appropriate video metric in going forward. We did some empirical and some modeling work to look in this and it turns out that this maximum number seen, this number three up here, the maximum number seen in a single frame tends to underestimate true abundance at relatively high densities.

So relatively low densities it tracks very linearly with true abundance, but as densities get higher and higher it tends to underestimate the actual number in the environment. We found that calculating the mean number from a series of frames – so what we do is we always view 20 minutes of video like the groups do in the Gulf, but instead of looking at the entire video we look at one frame every 30 seconds.

This gets us 41 frames and in each of those frames we count the number of species-specific fish and then we calculate a mean for each of those based on across the 41 frames. We have determined that metric tracks much more linearly with abundance throughout the range of abundance, and so it will give us a better ability – particularly for species that have very large changes in population sizes over time, large decreases or hopefully for red snapper large increases, it will give us a much better ability to measure those large increases.

We're using this mean number of individuals, an average mean number across a series of frames as our video metric. So what have we found thus far? These are results from the 2010 videos that we've read so this is from 247 videos, and it's only looking at presence at absence. I'll note that for any fishery-independent survey our goal is to minimize the number of sort of zero occurrences, so we wanted to minimize the number of times that we deploy a gear and don't catch or see any of the species are our targets.

Those zero incidences tend to add a lot of variability to the overall population estimates, and our overall goal is to minimize the variance around our annual population estimates or abundance estimates. This table here, this column is common name, scientific name, and then the following two columns are traps and video results, and I'll ask that you take a look at the numbers in

parentheses, which are basically the percentage of in this column traps and in this column videos in which these species were observed based on our 2010 surveys.

The next to last column is the percent increase and frequency of occurrence that we saw in the video gear, and then the last column is whether or not that increase was statistically significant. For this group in here, all the increases – well, there were statistically significant increases in frequency of occurrence for all these species in our video surveys relative to the trap.

As an example if we look at red snapper we see them in a little more than a third of our video surveys and about a sixth of our trap surveys and increases are relatively large, so INF is infinite increase. And then for a few species we didn't see any statistical difference, so most of these had relatively low or very low sample sizes.

I believe that we probably will see difference once we get larger sample sizes, and we'll have that after this 2011 season when we've had system-wide surveys. Black sea bass is an interesting one because their frequency of occurrence with relatively large sample sizes was greater in our traps than in our videos, which suggests that the traps may be a better gear than videos for indexing black sea bass. I know they have been effective in doing that in the trap index that is being used in the current assessment.

Well, based on this, the video is definitely giving us typically a much higher frequency of occurrence, which speaks to a likelihood of decreasing the variability about abundance indices, so this is promising for video surveys. I will note that there are challenges of underwater video, some of which include – definitely we encounter conditions that are not good for videos.

These are just screen shots from some of the videos that we've collected. In cases where we can't read the videos, we have to exclude those samples from our survey. We are trying to control for visibility, as I mentioned, by measuring and including transmissivity with our surveys. We're looking into ways of potentially more directly measuring visibility in the future.

Videos, like any gear, they're selective so we may miss smaller fish in our video surveys. Cryptic fish are difficult to observe. Fish identification, when we have nice, clear conditions, fish identification is relatively easy, but it's always easier to identify a fish if you're holding it in your hand. With trap surveys, we can key out a species, do fin counts or spine counts, those kinds of things.

Of course, we can't do that with fish that we see on video, so that's a potential issue. And, of course, video cameras are expensive. As we've learned, we can lose them in high current conditions. Finally, one of the biggest challenges associated with using video is that reading videos, counting the fish on those videos takes a considerable amount of time.

Depending on how I'll use the word fishy our videos are, a video might take anywhere from one to eight hours to read for all of our priority species; so if we consider that we might have a thousand video samples in a year and average videos might take four hours to read, that's essentially 500 person days of reading time, so it's a personnel-intensive effort to do this.

How will videos be used to benefit assessments in the U.S. South Atlantic? Well, maybe I'll jump to the second bullet here which is I think that indices of abundance will be generated for a number of species as we've seen has occurred in the Gulf. The Gulf has been successful in utilizing videos to support their stock assessments.

Our planned sample sizes are greater than I believe has occurred in Gulf waters in any of their survey years, so that speaks very well to the probability of us replicating their success and building successful, useful indices of abundance for numerous species. I will note that ultimately will be dependent on two issues which are listed in the first bullet, which are the variance levels about our abundance indices and population dynamics.

For us to be able to document significant trends in increases or decreases over time, those increases or decreases, the population dynamics have to be greater than our error bars. Until we get a couple of years under our belt, we won't be able to say for certain that this is the case. Again, I feel confident based on the sample sizes that we're achieving, which are greater than that in the Gulf and the Gulf's ability to do this for many species, that we will reach that point as well, but we can't say that for certain until we get there.

We anticipate being able to generate useful indices for numerous species, including red snapper, based on solely our 2010 results. I think we'll have a better feel for that after looking at the videos from 2011 and probably will add to that list as well. Just to conclude, the creation of SEFIS – so SEFIS' efforts and correction with MARMAP and their supplemental SEAMAP funding has resulted in greater than a hundred percent increases in sample size in fishery-independent survey efforts from five or six years ago.

We're very much ramping up sample sizes in the South Atlantic, expanded spatial distribution of samples so filling in gaps where not much sampling had occurred historically. We feel relatively confident that underwater video will result in improved abundance indices for multiple species. I just want to note that we need to have realistic expectations.

Our current survey efforts, despite the fact that we're ramping them up, are still well below those recommended by the SAFIMP Workshop. The number of species that will benefit will be determined by that level of effort so as level increases, the number of species that we generate useful indices will presumably increase as well. Reading videos is labor intensive. It requires a lot of personnel support and multiple years will be needed to develop robust indices of abundance. With that, I thank you very much for your time; and as directed, I will be happy to answer any questions.

MR. CUPKA: All right, thank you; questions? John.

MR. JOLLEY: Thank you; I really enjoyed that. I have some real reservations with this technique, however, especially in the early stages; so like you say you're going to have to learn how to use this stuff and interpret everything. I would like to know if you used divers to try to help corroborate some of the evidence that you gathered as well?

DR. KELLISON: Sir, we have not used divers. The SAFIMP Workshop talks a lot about the utility of incorporating diving into these surveys. In a previous life I worked at the Miami Lab and I ran a visual survey program in the Florida Keys, so their fishery-independent surveys in the Keys is entirely diver based. We talked a lot about the advantages of doing that in the South Atlantic. Unfortunately, the area that we need to cover and the logistical constraints of diving cause that not to be a recommended survey approach. We have not utilized divers.

MR. JOLLEY: Do you plan to use them in some tests, though, where it would be applicable to be able to compare what the divers are seeing versus what the video is producing?

DR. KELLISON: Sir, we could do that. We also have some plans to – I mean, is your question getting to how cameras relate to true abundance?

MR. JOLLEY: Well, yes, and my question would be why wouldn't you use them to try to –

DR. KELLISON: One of our next steps is to – in some controlled environments, in tanks or using some data aquariums, we're going to basically replicate our camera surveys where we know the total abundance of fish in a larger area and we can see what our cameras are measuring. Obviously, that is still not an open ocean environment. Your recommendation is that we might perform some controlled studies, putting a diver down by a trap where the diver counts fish?

MR. JOLLEY: Well, I have some experience in this, and I would think that in testing this methodology and improving its accuracy you'd absolutely want to put some trained human eyes down there with the same equipment to do similar counts, for example, and identifications to see how much variability there might be because cameras can look in one direction and see a certain amount of fish, and 20 yards to the left there can be nothing or there can be ten times as many fish. You alluded to this, of course, in the studies. Did you also conduct transects where you were pulling underwater gear along the bottom contour?

DR. KELLISON: We have not utilized a transect methodology in our surveys.

DR. PONWITH: These are really good points and we appreciate all the feedback and all the questions. Of course, what we're looking at here are indices of abundance as opposed to doing a raw census of what is out there. The main thing is seeing what the gear can see, setting the gear in a way that is consistent and then comparing inner-annual variability within that to see if we see a trend.

Certainly, sending a diver down or sending a large camera down that is wide angle and that's capable of seeing 360 and compare that to what we see on a two-dimensional access of that video camera is doable. The main thing is that every decision we make in terms of groundtruthing the methodology is a decision that we have to make in the other direction in terms of cost.

What we're doing right now is very, very carefully taking an adaptive sampling approach, and that is to create a study design and hold true that study design to stabilize the information that

we're getting so it is usable as an index of abundance as we accumulate years, but also to use the information that we gather to do adaptive sampling which means that as we obtain those data, use those data to determine the statistical power of the data that we're collecting and make adjustments to improve and maximize that statistical power per dollar.

There are any number of different combinations we could use, but we have to be careful that we don't make wide changes to the survey that then disrupts the continuity of the data time series. Again, it's the same sort of thing that we discussed in the Q&A. It's a balancing of the financial limitations we have and making the adjustments that make the biggest bang for the buck. We're eager to hear your ideas. We'll throw them into the balance of this. The main thing is balancing the costs versus the benefits to maximize the information content of those data.

MR. BURGESS: Thank you for that presentation; that was great. Do you put a video inside the trap to see what is in there and maybe what goes out, back and forth?

DR. KELLISON: We have not done that specifically. We do plan to do some of that. Marcel, I don't know if you guys have done that. They have and our colleagues out of the state of Florida also have. Others have looked into that and we plan to spend a little more time doing that as well.

MR. CURRIN: Todd, thank you very much. It's very exciting to see the expansion of the range of samples geographically as well as an increase in numbers. That's real good news. I know you said a couple of times that reading these videos is time-consuming and expensive. Has much thought been given to trying to automate a system that would tabulate what is in a freeze frame? I know that's probably fraught with problems as well as the attitude of the individual species might change, and it's difficult probably for an automated system as well as a human to tell whether it's a vermilion snapper that you can only see a tail and outline of the body from the hind end, but have you guys thought about that or is does that offer any promise for the future?

DR. KELLISON: Absolutely, and I would be happy to speak to that, but I think Bonnie wanted to address that issue.

DR. PONWITH: Yes, and we have put some thought to that. We have funded a study that's going to be conducted in the Gulf of Mexico but has utility not only in the southeast region proper but actually nationwide and worldwide, and that is looking at putting video equipment on AUVs to be able to do broader sweeps. Of course, the limitation to that is how tedious and time consuming the analysis of those data would be.

One of the important steps they're taking in this study is to look at methodologies for character recognition, face recognition, those types of software to automate the use of this. You're absolutely correct, one of the biggest challenges is that a fish that is laterally compressed, when it turns sideways you don't see much of it, and so there will be some challenges, but we're looking into that.

DR. DUVAL: Thanks, Todd, that was a great presentation. My question is very basic. I'm just curious what is the northern most extent of your sampling?

DR. KELLISON: Well, the northern most is just south of Cape Hatteras. Marcel could speak to that more.

DR. REICHERT: That's correct, and with the new effort we hope to be able to sample that area just under Cape Hatteras a little more, but generally we just sample a little north of Cape Lookout.

DR. LANEY: Great presentation, Todd. Do you all bait the chevron traps and what is your soak time?

DR. KELLISON: We do bait the traps with menhaden. The baiting technique is identical to that which has been used historically by MARMAP. The idea was we wanted to develop this video index without affecting the long time series that was available from the traps. We used the same baiting techniques. The trap soak time is targeted for 90 minutes.

DR. LANEY: A followup, Mr. Chairman; Todd, given the number of acoustic tags that are present along the Eastern Seaboard now, have you all thought about possibly putting VR-2 receivers on your trap arrays, maybe on a subset of them, and then just checking to see if you are picking up any of these acoustically tagged fish? It might be something you might want to think about.

DR. KELLISON: That's a great point, Wilson. I know particularly in the northeast there are some very large arrays of receivers and everyone is picking up everyone else's surveys and working cooperatively, so that's a great idea for future work.

DR. LANEY: Yes, we're definitely doing it. I'm funding the East Carolina array, which is just southeast of Cape Hatteras there, and we've been picking up a tremendous number of fish that other folks that tagging, spiny butterfly rays and American shad and spiny dogfish, of course, and Atlantic sturgeon that we have assisted people with putting out there, but I know those sturgeon in particular are moving long distances up and down the coast.

I know one of Duane Fox's Delaware Bay fish was picked up at Grays Reef National Marine Sanctuary, and some of the fish actually that we tagged in collaboration with North Carolina DMF and Wildlife Resources Commission last September have already been picked up in Delaware Bay to the north and in that array southeast of Cape Hatteras. It's something you might want to think about for the future.

MR. CURRIN: I seem to remember – and correct me if I'm wrong and maybe Marcel can answer this best, but it seems to me that I remember some hook-and-line effort on the MARMAP cruises in the past. Are you still doing some of that to generate some hard parts for needed species?

DR. KELLISON: Speaking for SEFIS, we do hook-and-line sampling but not as a survey gear; to not to establish indices of abundance, but we do – as time permits or conditions permit we try to attempt additional species to collect hard parts, otoliths and gonads.



DR. REICHERT: And MARMAP is still conducting what we call the short bottom longline and the long bottom longline. The short bottom longline is a 20-hook longline for reef fish, and the long bottom longline is specifically targeted to catch golden tilefish. That is what MARMAP continues to do.

MR. CUPKA: Other questions? Seeing none, then we'll move ahead and that brings us down to other business and upcoming meetings. We'll go into other business first. Doug.

MR. HAYMANS: Mr. Chairman, two quick things and I apologize to staff for not thinking of these earlier, but with regards to bag limit sales on king mackerel is it possible that in December maybe we could get some sort of analysis of the number of tournaments that are out there from North Carolina to Florida and the relative weights of the fish that are brought into those tournaments and sold?

I would think a quick call to Jack Holmes would probably get most of those. I know I can certainly help fill in gaps in Georgia and I'm guessing, Robert, that maybe you can fill in gaps in South Carolina. Also, I got an e-mail this morning from our representative on the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team, and he is suggesting that maybe there is a proposed rule coming out in January with regards to pot fisheries in the South Atlantic; and if we could get some sort of read on that in December as well, as that ties into our pot limits and reductions. I would think we would get some sort of credit for the severe cut that we're suggesting with pots. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

MR. CUPKA: Tom, do you want add something. I think we've got a meeting but it's after the first of the year, I believe.

MR. BURGESS: Yes, we do have a meeting for the first of year to address this vertical line strategy that is proposed for the large whale take reduction plan, how to address vertical lines. We did move forward at our last meeting, I'll say in the spring in Baltimore, as addressing this issue and identifying the concerns of the Protected Resources Northeast Branch that is kind of the lead on the east coast piece here. We're moving forward in that, but I'm not sure to what – we had scoping meetings and those results have come out. I think it won't be finalized just yet so I'm not sure how much information will be available in December, but I sure can look into that and provide any information.

MR. CUPKA: Okay, other business to come before the council? Bob, did you have anything you wanted to say about upcoming meetings/

MR. MAHOOD: The calendars with the upcoming meetings are behind Attachment 10. Kim will be getting some information out about the public hearings. I think that she keeps everyone pretty well informed of what is happening. One thing I would like to say; I know we encouraged John Jolley to attend, but we do have a policy where if a council member wants to attend the hearings in their state, we certainly encourage that, and right now we have funding to cover that. If you want to make any of the hearings that are occurring in the state you're presenting, just let us know and we'll get you a TO.

MR. CUPKA: Yesterday when we were giving agency reports, the Coast Guard deferred until today. Did you have anything else you wanted to add, Robert? I don't want to cut you out.

LT. FOOS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman; we have nothing more to add.

MR. CUPKA: Thank you. Any other business? Seeing none, then we are adjourned and I wish everyone a safe trip.

(Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 10:26 o'clock a.m., September 16, 2011.)

Certified By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Transcribed By:  
Graham Transcriptions, Inc.  
September 26, 2011

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Atlantic States Marine Fisheries  
Commission  
1050 N. Highland St., Suite 200 A-N  
Arlington, VA 20001  
703/842-0740 (ph); 703/842-0741 (f)  
voshea@asmfc.org

**Charles Phillips**

Phillips Seafood / Sapelo Sea Farms  
1418 Sapelo Avenue, N.E.  
Townsend, GA 31331  
912/832-3149 (ph); 912/832-6228 (f)  
Ga\_capt@yahoo.com

**Tom Swatzel**

P.O. Box 1311  
Murrells Inlet, SC 29576  
843/222-7456 (ph)  
tom@swatzel.com

*MONICA SMIT-BRUNELLO*

*CAROLYN SKAMEK*

*MIKE TRAVIS*

*JACK MCGOVERN*

*RECK DEVICTOR*

*BOB GILL*

*KATE MICHIE*

# FULL COUNCIL - ROLL CALL VOTE

Date: 9/16/11

Meeting Location:

Issue: REGS FOR ACL AMENDMENT

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
CUPKA	✓		
CURRIN	✓		
BOYLES	✓		
BURGESS		✓	
CRABTREE	✓		
DUVAL		✓	
HARRIS	✓		
HARTIG	ABSENT		
JOLLEY			✓
HAYMANS	✓		
MCCAWLEY	✓		
PHILLIPS		✓	
SWATZEL		✓	

# FULL COUNCIL - ROLL CALL VOTE

Date: 9/16/11

Meeting Location:

Issue: COMPREHENSIVE ACL AMENDMENT

	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
CUPKA	✓		
CURRIN	✓		
BOYLES	✓		
BURGESS		✓	
CRABTREE	✓		
DUVAL		✓	
HARRIS	✓		
HARTIG			
JOLLEY			✓
HAYMANS	✓		
MCCAWLEY- <del>TEEHAN</del>	✓		
PHILLIPS		✓	
SWATZEL		✓	

# South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Staff

## Executive Director

✓ Robert K. Mahood  
robert.mahood@safmc.net

## Deputy Executive Director

✓ Gregg T. Waugh  
gregg.waugh@safmc.net

---

## Public Information Officer

✓ Kim Iverson  
kim.iverson@safmc.net

## Assistant Public Information Officer

✓ Andrea Grabman  
andrea.grabman@safmc.net

## Senior Fishery Biologist

✓ Roger Pugliese  
roger.pugliese@safmc.net

## Fishery Scientist

✓ Myra Brouwer  
myra.brouwer@safmc.net

## Coral Reef Scientist

✓ Anna Martin  
anna.martin@safmc.net

## Fishery Biologist

✓ Dr. Mike Errigo  
mike.errigo@safmc.net

## Fisheries Social Scientist

✓ Dr. Kari MacLauchlin  
kari.maclauchlin@safmc.net

## Staff Economist

Dr. Brian Chevront  
brian.chevront@safmc.net

## Science and Statistics Program Manager

✓ Dr. John Carmichael  
john.carmichael@safmc.net

## SEDAR Coordinators

Dr. Julie Neer - julie.neer@safmc.net  
Kari Fenske - kari.fenske@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/Adm. Assistant

✓ Julie O'Dell  
julie.odell@safmc.net

## SEDAR/ Staff Administrative Assistant

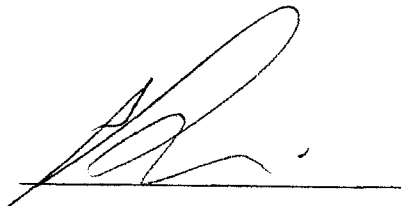
Rachael Silvas  
rachael.silvas@safmc.net

**RELEASE OF DOCUMENTS AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION**

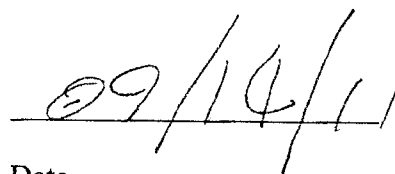
STONEBASS FISHERIES, LLC  
135 Queen Street  
Charleston, SC 29401

**RE: Log book data 2004 to 2010**

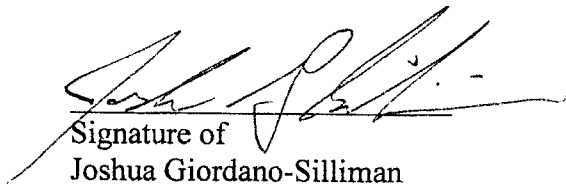
I Paul W. Reiss give permission and authorization for Joshua Giordano-Silliman to have full access to the above-referenced matter.



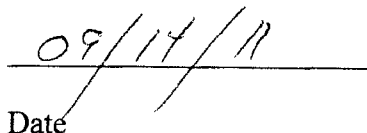
Signature of  
Paul W. Reiss



Date



Signature of  
Joshua Giordano-Silliman

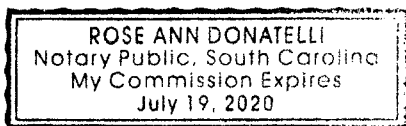


Date

Sworn to before me this 14th day of September, 2011.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC FOR SOUTH CAROLINA

My commission expires 7/19/2020





**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric**

**Administration**

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southeast Regional Office

263 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue South

St. Petersburg, Florida 33701-5505

(727) 824-5301; FAX (727) 824-5320

<http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov>

F/SER:REC

Mr. Robert Mahood, Executive Director  
South Atlantic Fishery Management Council  
4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201  
North Charleston, SC 29405

Dear Bob:

I am appointing Rick DeVictor to serve as my official designee on the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council on September 16, 2011.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy E. Crabtree".

Roy E. Crabtree, Ph.D.  
Regional Administrator





# PLEASE SIGN IN

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

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING**  
September 15, 2011  
Charleston, SC 29403

P.O. BOX/STREET  
CITY, STATE & ZIP

EMAIL  
ADDRESS

AREA CODE &  
PHONE NUMBER

NAME &  
ORGANIZATION

Belknap, NC  
SC 29403

htakade@edf.org

bellm@dnr.sc.gov

SC 29403

SC 29403

PO BOX 322  
Morehead city NC

ballengerj@dnr.sc.gov

Reichartm@dnr.sc.gov

gimartin@edf.org

Helena Tabude - Heimmacher

Maed Ball

Joey Ballenger - SC 29403

Maed Reichart

Gretchen Bath Martin (EDF)

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council  
4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201  
North Charleston, SC 29405  
843-571-4366 or Toll Free 866/SAFMC-10

# PLEASE SIGN IN

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**FULL COUNCIL MEETING**  
**September 16, 2011**  
**Charleston, SC 29403**

P.O. BOX/STREET  
CITY, STATE & ZIP

EMAIL  
ADDRESS

AREA CODE &  
PHONE NUMBER

NAME &  
ORGANIZATION

lebane@dnr.sc.gov

843-473-0910

Elizabeth H Weber

NOS/SCDWR WARMAP

CAPT BRENDAN METHERSON

CGDF CHIEF ENFORCEMENT

305-415-6022

Sera Deenok (Row)

SCONS

Joey Ballenger

Kenny Lee AP

RICHARDS HALL NORA

David Hoke NORA

Samantha Port. Minner Ocean Conservancy

Rusty Anderson

Bolivia, NC

Charleston, SC

Charleston, SC

Charleston, SC

Charleston, SC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

Wintoco NC

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council  
 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201  
 North Charleston, SC 29405

843-571-4366 or Toll Free 866/SAFMC-10

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September 16, 2011  
Charleston, SC 29403

P.O. BOX/STREET  
CITY, STATE & ZIP

EMAIL  
ADDRESS

AREA CODE &  
PHONE NUMBER

NAME &  
ORGANIZATION

Michelle J. Rice @ uscg.mil 196 Trade St, Charleston, SC 29401  
John A. Savarese @ uscg.mil 196 Trade St, Charleston, SC 29401

843-740-7084

MICHELLE RICE, USCG

843-740-3182

gmartin@edf.org

Cherlene S

JOHN SAVARESE, USCG

252-648-8543

Reichertm@DNR.sc.gov

NMFS - Beaufort, NC

Gretchen Beth Martin (EDF)

843 953 5778

todd.kellison@noaa.gov

Tampa, FL

Marcel Reichert

252-838-0810

feheliess@verizon.net

1050 Highway 51, 29405

TODD KELLISON

GSIAFF

Nathan.R.Dawmond@USCG.Mil

FRANK HEELIES

843-740-3179

Nathan Dawmond

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council  
4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201  
North Charleston, SC 29405  
843-571-4366 or Toll Free 866/SAFMC-10



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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

### Agenda Item Comments

LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

*Paul Reiss*

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

843 870 9810

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

*135 Queen Street Charleston SC 29401*

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

*Stonebass Fisheries*

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A  
STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected  
Comp ACL

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY  
IF AVAILABLE)



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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

### Agenda Item Comments

LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

toxy Austin

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

276 Goose Creek Rd, Hubert, NC 28539

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

address @ ec . rr . com

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A  
STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected

Comp ACL

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY  
IF AVAILABLE)



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201  
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## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

Angela Boehm

(305) 451-3916

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

500 Geiger Ct Key Largo, FL 33037

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

peccu@ets.5@bellsouth.net

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

Sustainable Seafood Solutions

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY IF AVAILABLE)

Comp ACL



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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Samantha Fort-Minner

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

449 Central Ave, Suite 200

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

sfort-minner@oceanconservancy.org

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

Ocean Conservancy

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected  
Comp ACL

Other  
Warsaw grouper  
& Speckled hind

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY IF AVAILABLE)



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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Robert Johnson

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

(904) 794-2628

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

804 SHORE Dr St Augustine FL 32086

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

rlfishing@bell.south.net

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

Jodie Lynn Charters

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A  
STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY  
IF AVAILABLE)





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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Bill Kelly

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

305-619-0039

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

FKCEA1@Hotmail.com

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

FL Keys Commercial Fishermen's Assn

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected

Comp ACL

Other

SL Amens II

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY IF AVAILABLE)



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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Sera Drevenak

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

910-685-5705

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

25 Corbett St. Bolivia, NC 28422

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

sdrevenak@pewtrusts.org

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

Pew Environment Group

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A  
STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected

Comp ACL

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY  
IF AVAILABLE)



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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Joshua McCoy

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

321 960-4885

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

307 Hampton Way Merritt Island FL 32953

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

Cape Canaveral shrimp co

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected  
Comp ACL

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY IF AVAILABLE)



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL  
4055 FABER PLACE DRIVE, SUITE 201  
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## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Joshua Giordano - Silliman

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

1026 Lockley Dr Charleston, S.C. 29405

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

hortfine@yahoo.com

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected  
Comp ACL

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY IF AVAILABLE)



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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

*Kenny Fex*

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

*910-620-5847*

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A  
STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected  
Comp ACL

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY  
IF AVAILABLE)



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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

### Agenda Item Comments

LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Rusty Hudson

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

DSF2009@aol.com

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected  
Comp ACL

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY IF AVAILABLE)

56



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

# PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Legare Smith

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

843-345-6779

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

1470 Goblet Ave

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

oceanlegare@gmail.com

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected  
Comp ACL

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY IF AVAILABLE)



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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

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LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Jimmy Hull

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

P.O. Box 1674

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

HULLS SEAFOOD @ AOL.COM

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected  
Comp ACL

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY IF AVAILABLE)





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

## PUBLIC COMMENT ATTENDANCE RECORD

### Agenda Item Comments

LOCATION OF MEETING (CITY & STATE)

Charleston, SC

DATE OF MEETING

September 15, 2011

YOUR NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

Mike Merrifield

TELEPHONE NUMBER (& AREA CODE)

MAILING ADDRESS (PLEASE INCLUDE STREET OR BOX NO., CITY, STATE, & ZIP CODE)

688 S. Park Ave Titusville FL 32796

EMAIL ADDRESS (IF APPLICABLE)

BUSINESS OR ORGANIZATION YOU REPRESENT (IF APPLICABLE)

CCSC

DO YOU WISH TO MAKE A STATEMENT?

NO

YES:

Corrected

Comp ACL

Other

(PLEASE ATTACH A WRITTEN COPY IF AVAILABLE)