

**SUMMARY REPORT
FROM THE
GOLDEN CRAB COMMITTEE MEETING
ORLANDO, FLORIDA
June 14, 2012**

The Golden Crab Committee met on June 14, 2012. The Committee discussed the results of the “Indication of Interest” in participation in a catch shares program by permit holders who had landed at least one pound of golden crabs in two of the three following years: 2008, 2009, or 2010. The Council gave direction to staff to convene a meeting of the golden crab permit holders to discuss the catch share program prior to the September 2012 meeting and try to avoid the Florida spiny lobster opening in August. The Committee reviewed confidential data relative to the golden crab fishery and then discussed Amendment 6 of the Golden Crab Fishery Management Plan.

The Committee made the following motions and gave the following direction to staff.

MOTION #1: Continue with the development of Amendment 6. Motion approved by committee.

Purpose and Need

MOTION #2: Accept the proposed language change for the purpose and need:

Historical fishery participants came to the Council and requested that a catch share program be established with the following purpose and needs: ~~The purpose and need of developing a golden crab catch share program is to:~~

Motion approved by committee.

The Council gave direction to staff to provide additional rationale for the purpose and need such as for:

5. Provide economic incentives for the fishery to operate more efficiently;

Need to explain how having the catch share will allow the fishermen to determine whether it is economically feasible to install a “refrigerated sea water system” based on whether the amount of annual pounds a given fishing entity.

Action 2

MOTION #3: Create an alternative that distributes 35% of share allocation equally among all permit holders and distribute the remaining 65% using historic landings for years 1997 – 2010. Motion approved by committee.

MOTION #4: Remove sub-alternatives under alt 4 to the considered but rejected appendix. Motion approved by committee.

The Council gave direction to staff – work up annual pounds allocations based on Action 2 alternatives.

Action 4

MOTION #5: Accept the IPT recommendation to remove the phrase “or renewable” from the alternatives. Motion approved by committee.

Action 5

MOTION #6: Change the preferred alternative to alternative 4 (35% share cap). Motion approved by committee.

Action 6

MOTION #7: Accept IPT’s recommended wording change for action 6, alternatives 3 & 4: “Shares that remain inactive for 3 consecutive years will be revoked and proportionally redistributed among the remaining shareholders (subject to share cap restrictions) based upon the amount of shares each holds immediately prior to the redistribution.” Motion approved by committee.

The Council clarified their decision that participants who have shares revoked in any given year cannot participate in any redistribution of shares revoked by other catch share participants in that year.