SUMMARY REPORT FROM THE JOINT DOLPHIN WAHOO AND SNAPPER GROUPER COMMITTEE

New Bern, NC

December 4, 2014

The Joint Dolphin Wahoo and Snapper Grouper Committee met December 4, 2014 and received updates on the status of commercial and recreational landings for dolphin and wahoo species. The Committee then discussed Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7/Snapper Grouper Amendment 33 (Fillets from The Bahamas) and Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 8/Snapper Grouper Amendment 34 (Generic AM and Dolphin Allocation Amendment).

The Committee voted on the following motions as recommendations to the Council:

Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7/Snapper Grouper Amendment 33 (Fillets from The Bahamas):

PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION

MOTION 1: ACCEPT THE IPT'S RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE CHANGES FOR THE NEED.

MOTION APPROVED BY COMMITTEE APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Need for Action

The management measures are needed to increase the social and economic benefits to recreational fishermen and aid enforceability by modifying the regulations in the U.S. EEZ regarding the possession of fillets from fish that were legally harvested in Bahamian waters.

ACTION 1

MOTION 2: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 1 (NO ACTION) AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.
MOTION FAILS.

ACTIONS 2 & 3

No Motions were made.

MOTION: DESELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 AS A PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE AND SELECT ALTERNATIVE 1 (NO ACTION) AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR ACTION 2.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

ACTION 4

MOTION 3: ACCEPT IPT'S RECOMMENDED WORDING CHANGES FOR GEAR STOWAGE.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Action 4: In addition to possessing valid Bahamian cruising and fishing permits, require stamped and dated passports to prove that vessel passengers were in The Bahamas if the vessel is in possession of snapper grouper fillets in the U.S. EEZ.

Alternative 1 (No Action): Vessels bringing snapper grouper fillets into the U.S. EEZ from The Bahamas are required to have valid current Bahamian cruising and fishing permits onboard the vessel.

Preferred Alternative 2: Vessels bringing snapper grouper fillets into the U.S. EEZ from The Bahamas are required to have stamped and dated passports to prove that the vessel passengers were in The Bahamas, as well as valid current Bahamian cruising and fishing permits onboard the vessel. All fishing gear must be appropriately stowed while in transit.

ACTION 5

MOTION 4: APPROVE THE IPT'S RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE CHANGE

MOTION APPROVED BY COMMITTEE APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Action 5: Specify the number of snapper grouper fillets lawfully harvested in The Bahamas that may be brought into the U.S. EEZ.

Alternative 1 (No Action): Fishermen must abide by both U.S. and Bahamian bag and possession limits, in other words, the more restrictive of the two, when in the U.S. EEZ. **Preferred Alternative 2**: Two fillets of snapper grouper species, regardless of the size of the fillet will count as 1 fish towards the possession limit. Fishermen must abide by both U.S. and Bahamian bag and possession limits, in other words, the more restrictive of the two, when in the U.S. EEZ.

The Committee discussed the codified text and suggested that specific references to "U.S. passports" be revised to apply to any "valid government passport."

MOTION: NO RECREATIONALLY CAUGHT FISH FROM THE BAHAMAS MAY BE SOLD OR PURCHASED.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

ADDITIONAL MOTION

MOTION 5: APPROVE DOLPHIN WAHOO AMENDMENT 7 AND SNAPPER GROUPER AMENDMENT 33 FOR SECRETARIAL REVIEW, AND DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT/CODIFIED TEXT AND GIVE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS AND REDEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT.

MOTION APPROVED BY COMMITTEE APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Generic Accountability Measure and Dolphin Allocation Amendment:

ACTION 1

MOTION 6: REMOVE RED SNAPPER FROM ACTION 1.

MOTION APPROVED BY COMMITTEE APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 7: MAKE THE APPROPRIATE EDITORIAL CHANGES AS DISCUSSED.

MOTION APPROVED BY COMMITTEE APPROVED BY COUNCIL

ADDITIONAL MOTION

MOTION 8: APPROVE DOLPHIN WAHOO AMENDMENT 8, AND SNAPPER GROUPER AMENDMENT 34 FOR SECRETARIAL REVIEW, AND DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT/CODIFIED TEXT AND GIVE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS AND RE-DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT.

MOTION APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION 8: APPROVE DOLPHIN WAHOO AMENDMENT 8, GOLDEN CRAB AMENDMENT 9, AND SNAPPER GROUPER AMENDMENT 34 FOR SECRETARIAL REVIEW, AND DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT/CODIFIED TEXT AND GIVE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS AND RE-DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL (UNANIMOUSLY)