

**JOINT SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
AND
GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL SESSION**

**Doubletree Grand Key Resort
Key West, FL**

June 11, 2015

SUMMARY MINUTES

SAFMC Council Members:

Ben Hartig, Chair
Mel Bell
Dr. Jack McGovern
Jessica McCawley
Chris Conklin
Doug Haymans
Dr. Wilson Laney
Lt. Morgan Fowler

Dr. Michelle Duval, Vice-Chair
Jack Cox
Anna Beckwith
Charlie Phillips
Chester Brewer
Mark Brown
Zack Bowen

GMFMC Council Members:

Kevin Anson, Chair
Dr. Pam Dana
David Walker
Leann Bosarge
Harlon Pearce
Doug Boyd
Martha Bademan
Myron Fischer
Dr. Roy Crabtree
Dave Donaldson

Roy Williams, Vice-Chair
John Sanchez
John Greene, Jr.
Corky Perret
Campo Matens
Dr. Greg Stunz
Dale Diaz
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Karen Hoak

Charlotte Schiaffo

Observers/Participants:

Monica Smit-Brunello
Dr. Bonnie Ponwith
Dr. George Sedberry
Capt. David Dipre
Erika Burgess
Mike Larkin
Sue Gearhart
Mara Levy

Capt. Mark Gordon
Capt. Rob Beaton
Rick DeVictor
Dr. Luiz Barbieri
Dr. Marcel Reichart
Adam Bailey
Sp. Agt. Jeff Radonski
Steve Branstetter

Additional Observers Attached

The Joint Council Session of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council convened in the Tortuga Ballroom of the Doubletree Grand Key Resort, Key West, Florida, June 11, 2015, and was called to order at 8:30 o'clock a.m. by Chairman Ben Hartig and Chairman Kevin Anson.

MR. HARTIG: I would like to call the Joint South Atlantic and Gulf Council meeting to order. The first item of business is to approve the agenda. Are there any changes to the agenda? Seeing none; the agenda is approved. The next is welcome and introductions. Welcome, Gulf Council, Gulf Council public as well as the South Atlantic public. It is good to see you in the room today. We will go around and have the introductions.

DR. PONWITH: Bonnie Ponwith, NOAA Fisheries, dual citizenship.

DR. McGOVERN: Jack McGovern, NOAA Fisheries.

MR. BRANSTETTER: Steve Branstetter, NOAA Fisheries.

MS. LEVY: Mara Levy, NOAA Office of General Counsel.

DR. CRABTREE: Roy Crabtree.

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

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

LT. FOWLER: Lt. Morgan Fowler, U.S. Coast Guard.

MR. BREWER: Chester Brewer, South Atlantic, Florida.

MR. PHILLIPS: Charlie Phillips, Georgia.

MR. BOWEN: Zack Bowen, South Atlantic, black sheep from Georgia.

MR. CONKLIN: Chris Conklin, South Carolina.

MR. BROWN: Mark Brown, Charleston, South Carolina.

MS. BECKWITH: Anna Beckwith, North Carolina.

MR. COX: Jack Cox, North Carolina, commercial.

MR. WAUGH: Gregg Waugh, South Atlantic Council staff.

MR. HAYMANS: Doug Haymans, Georgia.

MR. BELL: Mel Bell, South Carolina.

MS. McCRAWLEY: Jessica McCawley, state of Florida.

DR. DUVAL: Michelle Duval, state of North Carolina.

MR. MAHOOD: Bob Mahood, South Atlantic Council staff.

MR. HARTIG: Ben Hartig, council member, Florida.

MR. ANSON: I'm Chairman Kevin Anson with the Gulf Council. I look forward to a productive session today.

MR. GREGORY: Doug Gregory, Gulf Council staff.

MR. WILLIAMS: Roy Williams, Florida.

MS. BADEMAN: Martha Bademan, Florida.

MR. SANCHEZ: John Sanchez, Florida.

MR. WALKER: David Walker, Alabama.

DR. DANA: Pam Dana, Florida.

MR. GREENE: Johnny Greene, Alabama.

MS. BOSARGE: Leann Bosarge, Mississippi.

MR. PERRET: Corky Perret, Mississippi.

MR. DIAZ: Dale Diaz, Mississippi.

MR. MATENS: Camp Matens, Louisiana.

MR. FISCHER: Myron Fischer, Louisiana.

MR. BOYD: Doug Boyd, Texas.

DR. STUNZ: Greg Stunz, Texas.

MR. ROBINSON: Lance Robinson, Texas.

LT. CMDR: Lt. Cmdr. Jason Brand, U.S. Coast Guard.

MR. DONALDSON: Dave Donaldson, Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission.

MR. ANSON: We have one more member of our council who unfortunately couldn't be here due to some health issues, but he is participating via the phone. Harlon, are you there.

MR. PEARCE: I'm here Mr. Chairman and ready to go. Harlon Pearce, Louisiana.

MR. HARTIG: That actually brings us to our first item of business, the Joint Charterboat Reporting Amendment. That's behind Tab 1A. We're going to go with an overview of the decision document by Gregg Waugh and John Froeschke. Go ahead, Doug.

MR. GREGORY: I just wanted to point out that all the documents are on our website for the Gulf Council. If you go to the Gulf Council briefing materials, click on Thursday for the joint meeting. All the committee reports are there under the agenda on the website. I know we got a lot of e-mails yesterday, and it is hard to determine what was for the joint meeting and what was not, but they're all there in one place. That's available for anybody.

MR. WAUGH: Ryan is going to show on the screen where you can find the materials.

MR. HARTIG: The other thing is in general it won't always be this way, but the committee chairs are usually going to give the report during this meeting. That is how it is going to work in most instances.

MR. BELL: The document we'll be working from, the South Atlantic folks should have received that yesterday from Mike, and that is what we're going to kind of work through. What we will do is work through this. I will make motions from the committee and then our council will vote on anything we need to vote on.

Then Johnny will do the same for the Gulf when we get to that point if there is anything that needs to be voted on there. We will kind of go back and forth a little bit, but it is just like we're in full council and we're doing our committee report. Getting into this document, which will contain sort of everything we need to look at in an orderly fashion, we will start out with the purpose and need.

Recall yesterday in our committee meeting we looked at the purpose and need and we actually have a couple of motions. The first one was just dealing with the purpose. We're recommending to adopt this particular wording for the purpose. I can go ahead then I guess and make that as a motion.

On behalf of the South Atlantic Data Collection Committee, I would move that we approve the purpose as modified. That would be now open for any further discussion. Any desire to change anything; we're all good with that from our perspective? Any objections to that motion? Seeing none; that motion would pass. That is now our purpose statement.

Then to the second motion, which is the need, so on behalf of the South Atlantic Data Collection Committee, I move that we adopt this as our wording for the need within the document. Any discussion of that? Is everybody still okay with that? Objection? Seeing no objection; that motion passes. That is now our need statement. Now, that covers purpose and

need for us and everybody can see what we've adopted from the Gulf perspective. Johnny, I understand you kind of have something different, perhaps.

MR. GREENE: Well, we never had an opportunity to review the changes that you made in the purpose and need. The Gulf Council did not have an opportunity to review the changes you made. Would you guys want to elaborate a little bit on what you changed or can you elaborate?

MR. BELL: Without the previous document, it seems like actually some of the wording – was this some of it where we actually picked up some of their wording that we had access to? It may look rather close to what you have. You might want to take a look at that side by side, but I think we really liked your wording and kind of tweaked it a little bit just to make sure it fit for us. There you go, and that's on the screen right there.

MR. GREENE: Okay, I guess at this point we would need to call for a motion for the Gulf Council to accept this information; is that correct? Ms. Bademan.

MS. BADEMAN: I will make that motion to use the South Atlantic language for the Gulf purpose and need.

MR. GREENE: Okay, we have a motion going on the board and it has been seconded by Corky Perret. Okay, Gulf Council members, is there any objection to the motion on the board? Point of order here. Chairman Anson, do you want me to conduct the voting or do you want to do that as council chair?

MR. ANSON: No, I think you can go ahead and handle it. It would probably be more efficient.

MR. GREENE: Okay, Gulf Council members, is there any opposition to the motion to board before you?

MR. PERRET: I've got a question. The purpose is accuracy and timeliness, but the need is monitoring and compliance. That's two different things in my mind. Why aren't we consistent with the purpose and need? We all want better and more accurate data. We want it in a timely fashion. We want to improve monitoring, and I guess we're going to improve compliance. How is it going to improve compliance? Are we going to have the better data and it is going to get to us in a quicker fashion; is that going to improve compliance?

DR. CRABTREE: I'm reading the compliance as compliance with ACLs; and if we have more timely data, it will help us avoid going over ACLs.

MR. FROESCHKE: The other thing that we have envisioned for this document is similar to what we did in the headboat and dealer such that your permit is only considered valid and legal if you're up to date on your reports, which discourage the back-ending of the reporting at the end of the year, which in the past has caused late-season overages because of unexpected reporting.

MR. GREENE: Okay, any further discussion about the purpose and need? **Any opposition to the motion? The motion carries.** I guess at this point I'll turn it back to Mr. Bell.

MR. BELL: We have an agreed-upon purpose and need. Moving through the document, there are only three actions in the document. We will see that we may have some wording and you have some different wording, and we'll need to work through that. That takes us to Action 1. Gregg, the Action 1 that we're looking at on the screen; this will be our Action 1.

I might point out that you'll see in the document we included – just to kind of show you what we were doing yesterday, we provided direction to staff and IPT. That was to add some additional things between now and when this goes out for public hearing. One of the questions that came up for us was we're kind of getting into what sort of specific data elements – what data are we going to require.

We agreed that we would come back and when we go to public hearing be able have something to show the public. One of the things, of course, I guess maybe South Carolina may be the only state that actually has a charterboat logbook program in place. We've had that in place since 1993; and we have a data collection form.

That is the type of data that we would envision that we would be trying to incorporate into any kind of overarching federal form or data requirement. That would be one example. As we've mentioned, part of what we're trying to do is bring the headboats and charterboats into kind of a common reporting system.

The headboat logbook program that exists right now has data elements that are required; so that would be another example that we would show the public. It was add some sample forms; but this again was direction to our staff for our going forward with this; and under compliance measures indicate the timing would be either – we've seen different timings.

If you go to a weekly reporting, there is mentioned Sunday in there as a date or Tuesday as a date. We just need to – based on which way we go with that, we would need to refine how we're explaining this to the public. That was just some background from what we did yesterday. Then Action 1 in the blue font; that is our Action 1, Gregg?

MR. WAUGH: Yes, it is; and there are some slight differences in wording between what we approved for Action 1 and the alternatives and what the Gulf looked at and approved. As we discussed during our committee, rather than trying to resolve the specific wording here, just give direction to staff and the IPT to come up with some common language before when you see this document again.

MR. BELL: I think what you'll see is we're very close on things; and rather than to try to perhaps get into detailed wordsmithing and matching up everything right here in this large setting, if we could defer to staff to try to make the language come together in a common, mutually agreeable form, that would make sense. Johnny, does that make sense to you guys?

MR. GREENE: Yes, I believe so. I'd certainly like to hear what the other council members think about it, but I certainly see that direction that you're describing.

MR. BELL: We didn't have a motion associated with Action 1. Where is it?

MR. WAUGH: Yes, number three.

MR. BELL: What I will do then from our standpoint, the South Atlantic has a motion to accept the IPT recommended wording for Action 1 and the alternatives; and with that would be direction to staff. On behalf of the South Atlantic Data Collection Committee, I so move. Any discussion of that motion? Any objection to the motion? Okay, that motion number three would carry. Doug.

MR. GREGORY: In the document, Action 1 is listed twice. Which one is the one that the South Atlantic approved? The second time it is listed as 2.1. It looks very similar.

MR. WAUGH: That is what I just explained. The wording under our motion is the wording for Action 1 and the wording of the alternatives that we approved. Then you come down to the second set is what the Gulf looked at and what the Gulf approved. This is the Gulf motion to select Alternative 4 as the preferred alternative for the Gulf of Mexico. That is why you have two versions. Again, we'll let the two staffs and the IPT resolve the wording differences and bring that back to you at the next meeting.

MR. GREGORY: Okay, we'll need a track-changes version to try to figure that out.

MR. BELL: Then do they need to take any action on their version? I guess, yes, you have a motion, Johnny, that you guys would need to move on.

MR. GREENE: Okay, one question. It seems a little odd to me that the council is directing the science center on which data fields to use. Maybe I misread part of this; and if I have please correct me. Is that part of what I'm understanding because I'm trying to digest all of this real quickly?

MR. WAUGH: There was nothing in this action that gets into data elements. We deal with data elements in Action 3. We had an Action 4 in there that dealt with data flow, but you have recommended that go into the considered but rejected. Our council approved moving that into the discussion of the document as a need with the understanding that the center is going to look at that and discuss how they would implement those measures. Those data flow and processes were developed by the technical subcommittee that included representatives from the center, the region, HMS and NMFS Headquarters. This Action 1 doesn't get down into the actual data elements. That comes later.

MR. PERRET: It looks like your group has approved a motion and we have a preferred alternative that is going to require electronic reporting prior to the dock. Whether that changes or not, I don't know. Can somebody from NMFS tell us if we're going to require these charter guys and gals to have real timely reporting how quickly is NMFS going to respond with the data that is submitted in generic form to let us know what is going on? If we're going to give to you daily, are we going to get it back in a month or two months or three months or are we going to have a summary within a week or so?

DR. PONWITH: The notion of reporting before you get back to the dock is less about having Uber timely data than having a secondary motivator for reporting with a high level of accuracy.

The notion is that if a for-hire vessel submits their report before they get to the dock, they will be doing that before they know whether there is someone standing at that dock, whether they be an enforcement officer or a biologist doing an intercept survey. What it does is it creates a motivation to report with as much accuracy as is possible.

In the pilot study that we did in the Gulf of Mexico, one of the things that we found was that when people would provide their reports electronically within a week of when they were landing and we used dockside intercepts as a way to validate that, we were making comparisons; and that was comparing what the average report looked like and comparing that to what the average intercept looked like to see if we saw trends.

Were those data identical or was there a consistent difference between the two. Whenever you compare an average to an average, you end up with some precision issues in addressing that question. If you report before you hit the dock and then you're intercepted, we can do one-to-one matches and say this is the report and we know that a charter trip or a headboat trip is a chaotic event and when you report you may not get it exactly right.

There may be reporting error. We're able to actually quantify the amount of reporting error by comparing what was submitted then to what was seen by the intercept and then create a calibration factor based on that for inaccuracies in reporting. That is the total intent of getting back to the dock or reporting before you get to the dock as opposed to saying five minutes after you caught the fish we know that you caught it.

Now, to your question, Mr. Perret, what would the periodicity of the data availability be; that actually depends quite a lot on the decisions made here, if people are reporting at the end of a week versus if they're reporting at the end of the day and what your intent is in making that decision. To be able to use these data for real-time closures – in other words, knowing tomorrow whether you hit or will hit your ACL – that requires those correction factors to be applied fairly quickly.

I think the answer to your question is to be determined depending upon what your intent is and how we're able to resource that collection. Again, as is always true, providing the numbers of fish caught will always be easier than post-conversions of that to weight, because we need to have the dockside intercept data in our hands to be able to do those conversions to weight,.

MR. PERRET: If I may, it just seems like we're going to require reporting on a fairly frequent basis. I just hope that the agency responds with a summation of the data in a very timely manner for the industry. That's my point.

MR. BELL: And just so you kind of know what we were thinking, we don't have a preferred alternative yet. In discussion within our group – and I can tell you that the system we run in South Carolina is a monthly reporting system. The headboat program, which exists, is a weekly reporting system, and then your commercial is weekly.

My personal desire would be get at least to that weekly, understanding that the daily and even before you get back might be the gold standard of what would be really, really great to achieve,

but maybe that first step is getting headboat, charterboat, all the for-hire on kind of the same type of system in terms of the timeliness and all.

MR. PERRET: I just want to make sure – you know, the industry is going to do this and submit it. I want the agency to also be timely in getting the information back for the user groups. I guess why this is fresh on my mind, we were given a presentation yesterday relative to an amendment that we, the Gulf Council, submitted to Big NMFS in 2009 and it is finally at about the approval stage. I don't want them to sit on data that the industry is trying to get in as rapidly as possible; let's have some turnaround. Dr. Crabtree is going to tell me how they're going to do it.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, I don't think the Aquaculture Amendment timing and data reporting are the same thing. Bear in mind really the only species right now that we have a separate charterboat quota for is red snapper with Amendment 40. For everything else, in order to determine if the ACL is caught, we're going to have to pull in the MRIP data, which comes to us in two-month waves and significantly later.

It is not like even if we had perfect daily charterboat reporting that we're going to be able to do real-time monitoring of the overall ACL because there is still, for most species – well, for everything but one, they're still lumped in with the private sector. We're still going to have to go through all the projections and everything else with that.

MR. BOWEN: Dr. Crabtree, one of the goals of this – correct me if I'm wrong – is once we this implemented is to pull the charterboat sector out of MRIP, correct or not?

DR. CRABTREE: Well, that will be a determination to made down the road when we see how well this works; but I think if this produces high-quality data and that we would then get it certified through MRIP as an acceptable program and that would be where we'd wind up.

MR. BOWEN: That would definitely be my hope.

DR. CRABTREE: But we're still going to have to run the MRIP Survey because we're going to have to deal with the private sector catches. Also remember the state-permitted guide boats and things won't be part of this, because this applies to federally permitted vessels. We're still going to have to deal with that component of the fishery as well.

MR. BELL: Yes; that is very good to keep in mind; there are many steps to this and this is just the initial step dealing with the federally permitted step. But, again, South Carolina is an example. We have 500-plus for-hire licenses issued. Eventually in the perfect world, you'd like to get to a system that is all based on reporting and then that whole for-hire sector can perhaps move out of MRIP, and now you've got that whole sector participating in their own data collection.

Then perhaps the full forces of MRIP could be placed on making the private boat sector data better. That is way down the road. Like Roy says, it is sort of step-by-step process. So kind of getting back on track here, Johnny, there is a motion for the Gulf. If you want to deal with that, we can then move to the next one.

MR. GREENE: Okay, we've already selected a preferred in the Gulf. Is there any discussion by the council to change the preferred? I don't guess we have to vote on this. Myron.

MR. FISCHER: Listening to some of the discussion and looking at where we are at the infancy of this program, I strongly feel we should go into this with no preferred at this time. Requiring daily reporting is quite aggressive on a system that is not even created yet. I think we're setting ourselves up to fail. I think we should march slowly, get data in a timely manner; and as everything is proven and perfected, start narrowing the timeline for reporting this data. I really sincerely feel – and, secondly, at the vessel – I can only speak for Louisiana.

And as everyone on the Gulf Council knows we've brought up out of our 105 permits, about 100 of them are outboards. Although this system works on outboards, there are days when it is choppy and when it is rough when you don't get transmission. Requiring it prior to the dock I think is quite aggressive at the inception of the document. I would move we go into this with no preferred at this time if I would have a second.

MR. MATENS: Second.

MR. GREENE: We have a motion on the board and it has been seconded. Ms. Levy.

MS. LEVY: You have a committee motion that was already on the board, and the full council needs to vote that committee motion up or down to choose Alternative 4 as the preferred. If you don't want it, don't vote for it at full council and it won't be the preferred. You don't need to make another motion.

MR. GREENE: Okay, Mr. Fischer, I think the process here would be for you to withdraw your motion, let's go back to the motion on the board, and then we'll either vote it up or down.

MR. FISCHER: Withdrawn.

MR. GREENE: Okay, so with that, the motion is withdrawn. Mr. Diaz.

MR. DIAZ: I tend to agree with Myron for right now. I don't know where I'll be at the end of the day on this; but I did hear during public testimony yesterday – they had a guy with a small boat, said he run a lot of kid trips and reporting it before he gets back to the dock – he runs the boat by himself and it might be difficult for him.

He also said his boat is small and weather and getting saltwater on his instruments, electronic equipment might be somewhat of a problem. At the end of the day I want to get to where we pick the option that is the most efficient, that moves us the furthest along, and has the minimum amount of expense on the industry. I think picking a preferred right now, today, might be a little bit early. I would vote against keeping the preferred as it is for the time being.

MS. BOSARGE: Yes; first a comment as far as the equipment is concerned, we use a lot of this reporting equipment on the commercial side in the red snapper fishery already. A lot of those boats at least off of Mississippi are 28-foot center console contenders, it is open to the weather.

They have to hail in three hours before they hit the dock with all their information. They can't hit the dock for that three-hour window. I think that part has been tested a little bit. It will work, but my question is on this preferred, picking a preferred, remind me where we're at on this document and when it is supposed to go back out to the public. Where are we here?

MR. WAUGH: That is an item that we will deal with at the end, but our committee has recommended that this go forward for public hearing, I believe. Yes; we approved it for public hearings; and if you go along with approving it for public hearings, we have a block of time in August where we would take it out to public hearings.

MS. BOSARGE: Okay, and I don't know if we'll go that route; but if we're considering that, then I do think it is probably important that we have a good discussion on a preferred alternative and pick one so that the public knows what direction we're thinking about going; so they that they can say, "Whoa, back up the train" or if that's okay.

MR. WILLIAMS: Just a point of order; I don't understand why Myron couldn't offer a substitute motion for the committee motion and then we're done with this. If we defeat this, then we can still go through and choose if we want to make another one of them preferred or Myron could simply make a substitute motion that we have no preferred and we're done.

MR. GREENE: I understand your point; and it may be a little of me not leading the correct way. I'm just trying to kind of understand everything that is going on here. Mr. Pearce.

MR. PEARCE: Thanks for recognizing me, Mr. Chairman. I know this is a decision that we can't take lightly; but in all the discussions we've been having and that I've been having with the charter vessels in the Gulf and with the headboats in the Gulf – and even the Headboat AP suggested daily reporting in their AP Report – they're very interested in reporting at sea so that we get timeliness of data, the ability to validate at dock a lot better.

In fact, I don't know if the South Atlantic Council knows that in the Gulf we're going to be having a Volunteer VMS Program starting very shortly for 350 charter vessels in the Gulf so that we can begin working on the VMS Program for the Gulf and working on the timeliness of reporting and working on all the problems we may have.

We're going to be practicing this for the next two years with that particular program. I think the vessels that I've talked to and the boats here in the Gulf are clearly excited about at-sea reporting and even the headboats, which they want at-sea reporting or at least before they hit the dock so that the validators are there.

Everybody gets a better reporting system in place. If we pick a preferred or not, that's up to the council, but I do believe that the direction of the charterboats in the Gulf are going is to be reporting prior to arriving at the dock similar to what the commercial guys are doing right now, which has proven out to work fairly well.

DR. DANA: Just a point of clarification; as a charterboat operator, I do know that the charterboat by and large in the Gulf are very supportive of reporting real time, but they're not excited

necessarily – I think that’s the wrong term – about reporting while at sea. I think they want to be able to electronically report as quickly as possible. The same day is the preferable, but I don’t think the at-sea thing is necessarily an accurate statement.

DR. STUNZ: I just wanted to speak in favor of this Alternative 4. If we don’t pick one today, I’m not going to lose any sleep over the preferred. In addition to Harlon and Pam’s point, I wanted to bring up the technical group that did a lot of work on what would be needed for this type of reporting. It was pretty clear in their report that it needed to be as fast and as timely as possible. I just wanted to reiterate the validation component of this is going to be really key for any type of this activity to go on; so the more frequent and preferred reporting before you hit the dock is going to be essential for the success of some of these programs.

MR. GREENE: Well, I want to have the opportunity to speak to a few of these points as well. I’ve operated boats from center consoles to multi-passenger charterboats with enclosed wheelhouses. I can operate a GPS; I can punch numbers in; I can read a fish finder; I can turn the VHF up and down; I can talk on the radio; I can do a lot of things. I don’t think that having one more piece of equipment that I have to scroll through and hit a picture of a red snapper and how many I caught is going to be that much more difficult.

In the Gulf I think a lot of impetus behind this is red snapper based more so than probably what the individuals in the South Atlantic are facing; understanding that there is a little bit of behind the scenes in the direction that we’re trying to go. Now, whether I have to report at sea or that day is not a big deal to me.

It is not a deal breaker at the end of the day; but I do think that if I can operate a GPS, fish finder, a radar, a VHF and all sort of stuff, I think one more small piece of equipment would be fine. Now, there are waterproof VHF’s; there are waterproof displays on Ray Marine type equipment; so I think that the technology is there.

But by the same token, I think that my personal opinion is to kind of to push a little bit to make it as best we can. If we have to challenge the electronic industry to better product, that’s fine. That is just my personal opinion. I don’t want to get hung up so much on the equipment. Whether we do it daily or at sea, I can live with either one, because I understand that there are things that happen and going on in small boats and weather. I understand all of that; and I think there should be a little bit of leeway there as well. With that, I will circle back around and try to keep us on schedule as best we can and try to help with the confusion. I’m probably 90 percent of it, but we’ll go from there. One more comment; David Walker.

MR. WALKER: Yes; the presentation we heard yesterday from Dr. Carmichael from SEDAR was the closer you can get to real data would improve their process. I actually spoke with him after the meeting, and he said that they could speed it up as much as six months by having real-time data.

MR. BELL: If you don’t mind, I can kind of comment on something. I think we can achieve a system here where exactly what you’re describing is an option for people; so the folks that can

multi-task and are comfortable, even in smaller vessels, and the hardware exists and it is hardened, they could have the option to report that way at least initially.

If we kind of think a little bit broader and try to include – because I don't think we would have that same – I can't say that I have that same degree of support for the daily or before you reach the dock in our area; but if you have it set up so that becomes sort of, let's say, the minimum, weekly report becomes the minimum or something; but, options exist for daily.

And then, like you said, the industry will respond and provide technologies and technologies will get better and better or products will be out there. Some of our guys might like to do that and some might not. That's just another thing to keep in mind. It doesn't have to be everything is forced into right now; everything is forced into a before-the-dock type reporting. Just something to think about.

MR. GREENE: Thank you, and certainly an effort to try to cut down on recall bias is something that has been big to me; because if I don't do it every day, then I'm going to forget it. With that, I'll turn to Dr. Stunz.

DR. STUNZ: I just had a quick point that I didn't bring up a minute ago. In the recent evidence, in the peer-reviewed literature and other work coming out is showing that recall bias and this sort of thing is a serious issue. It is not necessarily intentional; it is just people forget what happened. I can imagine a charter captain doing a bunch of clients and a bunch of trips; you just begin to forget what happened even under the best circumstances. That is one more reason that I support more frequent reporting.

MR. GREENE: Okay, I think we have talked about this. We had a motion withdrawn so now we're back to the motion on the board. **The Gulf Committee selected Action 1, Alternative 4, as the preferred alternative for the Gulf of Mexico. Alternative requires that federally permitted charter vessels submit fishing records to the SRD for each trip via electronic reporting, via National Marine Fisheries Service approved hardware/software, prior to arriving to the dock. All those in favor please raise your hand. That is eleven in favor. Opposition, please raise your hand, four nays. The motion carried eleven to four.** Okay, with this, I will turn it back over to the South Atlantic for them to continue.

MR. BELL: Okay, that takes us to Action 2. We have in here our Action 2 and a motion associated with that, and then we'll do your Action 2. **Related to our Action 2, there is a motion to approve the IPT recommendation for Action 2 and the alternatives with deleting "south" and approve for detailed analyses. That was approved by our committee; so behalf of the committee I so move. From the council perspective, is there any discussion of that motion? Any objection to that motion? Okay, then for the South Atlantic, that motion carries.** The next one would be their Action 2, Gregg?

MR. WAUGH: That's correct.

MR. BELL: So the next one in blue would be your Action 2; and you have an associated motion with that.

MR. GREENE: Okay, just to kind of make sure that the Gulf Council is familiar with where we are; this is on Action 2, which is modify frequency and mechanism of headboat data-reporting requirements for the Gulf/South Atlantic Snapper Grouper Coastal Migratory and so on. The motion that we have before is pertaining to Action 2, Alternative 4.

With that, unless there is any discussion or confusion of where we are and what we're doing, I'll just go to the motion and then we can debate if that point. **The Gulf Committee selected Action 2, Alternative 4 as the preferred alternative for the Gulf of Mexico. Alternative 4 requires headboats submit fishing records to the SRD for each trip, via electronic reporting to the National Marine Fisheries Service approved hardware and software, prior to arriving to the dock.**

This was a committee motion that I'm bringing to you at the council. Is there any opposition to this motion for headboats? The motion carries with one opposition. Okay, I'm requested to do a hand vote. All those in favor of the motion on the board please raise your hand; all those opposed like sign. The motion carries ten to three.

MR. BELL: All right, we can move on down in the document, which will take us to Action 3, for-hire location reporting requirements. We had a lot of discussion yesterday. We have two associated motions related to that. **Our Motion Number 5, which is direct staff to add an alternative to Action 3 that would allow for charter vessels to report location manually by latitude/longitude in degrees and minutes or by clicking on a headboat grid. That was approved by the committee; and on behalf of the committee I so move.** Any discussion of that? Again, this was getting us kind of in line with the headboat – providing that as an option to be in line with the headboat concept of using – because the headboat requires indicating which ten-mile box you're in.

MR. WAUGH: And we've got in this document some draft language for what that alternative would look like, and that is right here. On this one, since we're adding a new alternative, we will need the Gulf Council to also approve adding that as a new alternative.

MR. BELL: And again with that, what we were working towards is providing an option – again, that matches up pretty much with what the headboats are doing now, and the idea was to build into this flexibility to provide options for people. Again, it doesn't mean that the system can't handle other more direct reporting as well as inclusion of geo-referenced electronic data. It provides us the option for folks to again do it like the headboats do it right now. Back to our business on our side of the table here, any further discussion on Motion 5? Yes.

MR. FROESCHKE: One thing I am wondering about this is similar to Actions 1 and 2 in that language in this only refers to the charter vessels; but since the headboat and the charter vessels have different preferred alternations, I'm wondering if we should split this into separate actions just as we did for Actions 1 and 2.

MR. BELL: Yes; I think the way we were going, since the headboat already had that option, we weren't worried about headboats. We were bringing charterboats into matching up with the headboat requirement. Technically speaking, in terms of what would work best I'm not sure.

MR. WAUGH: It depends. What this would do if you selected this as your preferred, ultimately this would match up with how the headboats are reporting now; so it wouldn't need to change anything to what the headboats are doing. It does make the no action alternative a little more complicated in that you have to explain what the headboats are doing now and what the charterboats are doing now. Some of the IPT members and NOAA GC may prefer to see it as two separate actions.

MR. BELL: And that could be worked out.

MR. WAUGH: Yes; we could work that out. It does raise the issue that if we're going out to public hearings, then you're giving staff and the IPT direction to construct alternatives that you would not see before it goes out to public hearing.

MS. LEVY: Just a question to make sure that I'm understanding because it just dawned on me that we have the headboat survey, and the things that those vessels are reporting are the things that the Science Center Director is asking them to report, whatever data elements they're being asked to report, which includes currently this location information.

We don't have, as far as I understand it, a specific action in any document that said, "Headboat vessels, you're part of this survey and you shall report your location in this way," meaning it is something that the science center has asked then as part of the reporting requirements, but now we're developing – or the councils are thinking about developing an action that is specifically directing for this type of information in a particular way.

I think that is how it is now, so I just wanted to raise that; that what you're doing here with respect to them saying you have to report this type of information in this way is different than the way the current headboat survey is operating in the sense that the science center is telling folks how to report their location information.

MR. BELL: Right; so we're talking about directing that, but right now that's the way the science center is doing it at the moment. Bonnie.

DR. PONWITH: And just for clarification, we don't use the headboat grid anymore. We use a point-and-click map that reports degrees and minutes in the version that we're using now.

MR. WAUGH: And that is the intent this. That is why it says "clicking on a headboat grid". As it was explained to us, there is two ways that the headboats can report now is to fill in the latitude and longitude or on a screen they view the headboat grids and click where within that headboat grid they did the bulk of their fishing; and then that records the latitude and longitude in degrees and minutes. That is the intent here.

MR. BELL: All right, so again it is to match up with what is being done at the moment. It is kind of a different way of getting there, I guess.

MS. LEVY: Right; and just so everyone is on the same page is that it is one of those things where if you specify exactly how something is supposed to be reported like location information; then if

that changes in the future and you want a different way or the science center, oh, is this is a different way, then instead of having the latitude to just require that specific information in a different way, you have to go back and change your plan or your framework.

With the headboat, it was like report and report what the Science Center Director tells you to report; and these are the types of things that you're going to have to report, but not exactly how that is going to happen. You might want to think about doing that same thing here unless there is some particular compelling reason to say location and in this specified manner.

MR. BELL: Any further discussion about the motion or any desire to tweak the wording or change approach? Is in there as an alternative at this point. We can still adjust it later. Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: It does seem to me it is getting too in the weeds about the details of exactly what needs to be reported. I'm not sure we want that in the FMP at that point; because then if we want to change it, it is going to have to go through a whole process.

DR. DUVAL: Roy, we're definitely sensitive to that. I think our concern was just that we're going to be requiring reporting from a sector that hasn't had to report in this fashion before and that the level and manner of reporting for charter vessels be brought up to that sort of minimum level where the headboat vessels are right now and sort of have parity in the way in which they're being asked to report.

Having the option of being able to go back and manually enter that latitude/longitude or do the point and click on the map; that is the council's concern is just that you're asking a sector to begin electronic reporting via a logbook when there has never been a logbook before; so just kind of bringing things up to that same standard at which the headboats are currently operating and doing this in a step-wise approach. We're definitely sensitive to what Ms. Levy has said with regard to having to actually go back through an amendment and change things if you're trying to specify exactly in this way, but our hope is that we could address that concern through this. Bonnie may want to respond to that.

DR. PONWITH: I think the idea is to contemplate in your minds are location data valuable to the council's decision-making practices. If the answer is, yes, to include in there a provision that location is one of the parameters that we would be requesting to be collected and then leave the details of how that is done – as we had talked before, leave the details about how that is done to the more technical side.

That way you don't get into a situation where you're prescribing and then finding out that there was a better way to do it and having to go back and change that regulation. From a science standpoint, my view is that the location data is profoundly valuable. It helps us to understand discard mortality more precisely and credit the industry if they are indeed fishing in shallower waters with a discard mortality differential.

It helps us get at ranges and distributions of these animals as we discuss issues like using protected areas for spawning and things like that. I think the data are going to be really valuable. The trick is how do we deal with it in the amendment that makes that point without tying our hands going

into the future. I like having it in the amendment. I also like leaving the details for the technical side with maybe including some discussion points in the discussion section of this.

While on the microphone, if I may indulge you, on an earlier decision there was discussion about periodicity of reporting and whether it is daily, whether it is daily before you hit the dock or whether it is weekly. One complication is that if we end up picking a periodicity that's different in the Gulf compared to the South Atlantic, that periodicity will drive the structure of the dockside validation process, the study design for the dockside validation and all the algorithms that are used for using those data to calibrate for reporting error.

Basically what that does is doubles the amount of sample designs you have for the dockside work and doubles the amount of algorithms. There is an economy of scale by having some harmonic aligning of these choices in the Gulf and South Atlantic. I just wanted to bring that to your attention.

MR. BELL: And I don't think anybody would disagree at all that location data is not very, very important and useful data. What Alternative 5 was doing for us was explain to people that, hey, look, this could not be the same degree of difficulty or detail that headboats are already reporting. As Michelle said, we're talking a whole big group of people here that have no reporting requirement whatsoever. I think the idea was to explain, look, this is an alternative, this is how this could turn out. It is no more arduous than what the headboats are already required to do.

MS. BECKWITH: I was going to say that this is exactly my intention is for the moment at least for this council to prescribe at what level of location. It is still my interest to retain some control of this and not to put it in the hands of the technical staff yet. I would like to see this retained; and if the intent is to prescribe, then that's where I am at this moment.

MR. BELL: Okay, so we have a motion, our Motion 5 on the floor right now. We'll take a vote. **All in favor of the motion raise your hand; all opposed to the motion. The motion carries.** That takes us to Motion 6.

Our Data Collection Committee Motion 6; approve Action 3 and the alternatives as modified with the proposed Gulf staff changes to the wording. That was approved by the committee; and so on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there any discussion of this motion? Any objection to the motion? Seeing none; Motion 6 from the South Atlantic carries. Johnny, we're back to you now. You had no motion associated with Action 3. You would need to have some discussion of Action 3, I guess.

MR. GREENE: Okay, we're back to the Gulf Council here. I appreciate the conversation that we just had on Action 3. That was certainly a different point of view or different angle than what I had thought about. I recognize Leann Bosarge.

MS. BOSARGE: Can we get a quick-and-dirty summary of what is required in the South Atlantic for headboats and charterboats as far as what do you have on the books right now. I'm confused as to what they're doing right now versus what maybe the charter and headboats in the Gulf are doing. We can see where everybody is at now and how far we're changing these and throwing

them – can we get that and if there is any equipment on the boats electronically; are you doing this from the house; what is the timeliness, monthly – can we get some information?

MR. BELL: Let me let Gregg weigh in first and then maybe Bonnie for more detail.

MR. WAUGH: As we understand it, the headboat system is the same in the South Atlantic and the Gulf. They have to report weekly electronically. There is a set of data elements that they have to report, but it does not need to be submitted before they hit the dock. It has to be turned in by the Sunday of the following week. Those requirements are all the same in both the South Atlantic and the Gulf. For charterboats in the South Atlantic, they're a part of the MRIP Program. I believe that's the same in the Gulf.

MR. BELL: Right, there is no reporting requirement now for charterboats; so it is really the same, common headboat reporting requirements and nothing for charter at the moment with the exception – and again in South Carolina we have our own state-run system, and I guess we're the only state that has that, and at the moment that's all paper-based.

MS. BOSARGE: So I'm assuming by the discussion that I've heard on your motions, essentially what you have kind of been looking at is to take the charterboats and have them do electronic reporting that is very similar to what the headboats have where it would be something you can do from home after you get back to the dock. You aren't leaning towards having any new electronic equipment on the boat that would be recording these locations automatically, essentially. That's why you were looking at the pick-the-grid thing? Okay.

MR. BELL: The way to think of this is that would be sort of the base package. That would be the minimum, let's say; but we build this correctly, if folks wanted to use other technologies and we wanted to do further pilot programs to develop systems, that could happen. But at a minimum you'd basically be bringing the charterboat guys up to what the headboat guys are doing right now at the minimum.

MR. WAUGH: There are alternatives in here. That new alternative that we just added would bring the charterboats up to what the headboats are doing now; but there are other alternatives in here. Alternative 3 is one that would require VMS in the Gulf that you were considering. Alternative 2 would require federally permitted for-hire vessels to use the NMFS-approved electronic device that automatically records fishing location.

There is a range of alternatives in here where our council is leaning towards this new alternative that we've added. We didn't approve a preferred alternative; but that is sort of the overall intent of the South Atlantic Council right now is to match up the charterboats with what the headboats are currently doing.

MS. BOSARGE: I'll be the antagonist. We're here to talk about it. We don't get together very much. Anna, you have a charterboat, right? Okay, obviously we've got some things we're working with on this side, but we have to understand where you are coming from on that side. It sounds like you don't want any equipment on the boat. I mean, just talk to us about it; where are we going with this?

MS. BECKWITH: Well, I think our motivations are very different in the South Atlantic versus the Gulf. You guys are certainly in a different position where you're trying to get your sector separation, and you're trying to reduce uncertainty in order to achieve some more days for your sector-separation charter portion for specific species. We're not in that position yet.

Our small boat charter fleet has not been required to report. They don't have that experience. They're very resistant. There is no buy-in from the majority of our fishermen, which also is very different than what you guys are experiencing. We are more interested in taking a step-wise progression to start to have our charter guys' report, to get them accustomed to the process, to better our data, to get everybody on the same playing field.

And then as the needs presents itself or as our folks sort of get some buy-in into the process, then to consider some additional reporting requirements or some more timeliness. We're simply not at this point necessarily interested in just jumping to that gold standard, but to sort of bring people up in a step-wise progression.

MR. BOWEN: I think Anna is speaking on behalf of North Carolina and charterboats out of North Carolina. I'm going to speak on behalf of charterboats for the rest of the three states. Yes, I am presumptuous, but we are wanting electronic reporting. We are wanting to get up with the headboats. Anna comes from a smaller boat. I come from a larger boat that would be easier.

We need to work out the details on how that would happen with our electronics. The majority of the South Atlantic, from the people that I have spoken with, that have called me or e-mailed me or texted me, we do want electronic reporting and we do want to be held accountable. We do want to know what we're catching; and not only what we're catching, but what we're discarding. I just wanted to put that on the record.

MR. BELL: I would just say that obviously we may be in some different worlds and whether you're big boat/little boat, Atlantic/Gulf, I think the way the action is structured provides options in there for this to develop. I just fall back on the fact that right now, outside of our state system, there is no reporting requirement whatsoever.

This is all about improved data, timeliness of data, accuracy of data, better recall. I think we're moving in that direction, but I can't say that everybody in my state would want – we're hearing a lot about wanting to be able to report electronically, but the devil is sort of in the details a little bit. I think we're all trying to get to the same place, which is a better system for reporting and allowing the industry to basically take responsibility for that.

What we may end up with is a document which gives us some flexibility to kind of – if you are a little bit ahead on some things in direction in the Gulf, options are available if we're more – however it breaks down on the Atlantic side, we're more prone to want to go one way, we can kind of get there again with common data elements that have to come in on a minimum timeframe. I think we're going in the right direction here; but the way it is set up, in my opinion it gives us some flexibility right now as we kind of move forward and ask people to do something they've never had to do before.

MR. GREENE: Thank you for those comments. I'm certainly a charter fisherman and have been for 24 years now. If I'm going to have to report something and I'm going to have to take a piece of paper and scribble down what I caught that trip and now I've got to do with where I caught it, well, I've never known a fisherman to lie about where he caught a fish by more than 25 or 50 miles.

I kind of worry about that point-and-click thing, so I can't promise you that I'd click the appropriate grid because it is fishing; it is one of those things. If you're going to take a sector who has never had to report before and bring them into the component, my personal thought is if you're going to bring them in and teach them something new – I mean, fishermen are kind of old dogs here.

We don't like new tricks; we don't like new stuff of anything. If we're going to have to learn something, I don't want to have to learn step one, step two, step three if we're ultimately trying to get to step three. With that, I worry about – I don't operate a headboat, but I didn't realize that they were doing daily reporting but an electronic submission once a week, because that means that somebody has got to sit down.

If they run multiple trips a day, they have still got to sit down and write what they've caught and everything else. It seems like the work is duplicative accordingly; and if they don't, then it is like, well, I had 33 people this morning and we kind of did this, and I don't see where that's doing anything. I think that's why I'm beginning to lean more toward the electronic reporting because it just – I've got to do the work anyway and I might as well just sit down, take a few minutes and get it over with, but those are my personal opinions and everything else. Is there anybody on the Gulf Council that wishes to speak anymore or anybody else? Harlon Pearce.

MR. PEARCE: This particular meeting is exciting to me. In the short nine years I've been on this council – and it seems like time flies when you're having fun, right, guys – the one thing that has always been yelled at is poor data, poor data, poor data, we need better data. At the Gulf Council we've been working very hard and diligently with Bonnie and her staff and everyone involved to get where we are today. With the passage of Amendment 40 now and when we get finished with this particular amendment, over 70 percent of the Gulf will be real-time reporting.

The harvesting component is already there. The charter component is begging to get there at some level so that we can get the numbers that they need to manage their fishery in a different way; get their fisheries so they can have a business plan and move in a direction that allows them to figure out different ways to fish other than days at sea as I see really doesn't work.

We worked very hard to get where we are today and we're going to continue working hard to where we're going. It is exciting for me to see where we are, exciting for me to see the real-time data that we're going to get out of what is going on with this amendment.

It will give all of us time as both councils to then be able to concentrate on how do we help the private recreational fishermen get into this semi-real-time world or what real-time world we can do for them so that we have clearly a quality data system in the Gulf that allows us to do timely management and quota monitoring and all the above that lets us really know what our fishery is doing.

It is exciting for me to see everything that is going on today. I'm glad to see that at least in nine years we got a little bit done and we're moving ahead. I thank the South Atlantic Council as well as all my members in the Gulf Council that have worked with me as I've been chair of the committee to get us to where we are today. Let's keep it going, guys, let's get it moving and let's get it done.

MR. ANSON: I think we have to deal with Alternative 4 in this action like we did in the previous action. I had one other item.

MR. GREENE: Well, I was going to get to a procedural question after that, but I think there is a couple of individuals over there. Zack.

MR. BOWEN: To the point that you raised a while ago, I think you used the number 33 – you know, you fill out 33 fishermen or whatever. I just want to let everybody know we have to do that anyway. It is Coast Guard mandated, already mandated for us to fill out who is on the boat, the number of people, so that wouldn't be that much more pain to do.

MR. GREENE: Well, my point to that was what those 33 people caught, how many fish were released by those 33 people, et cetera. I certainly understand. The logbooks, passengers, I understand that completely. I was just speaking more into catch and location than I was passenger capacities or so on and so forth.

My understanding is that the South Atlantic Council has introduced a motion. Do we have to accept this motion for it to be part of the Gulf? If we don't accept this motion, how do the documents transition? If they approve it and we don't, where do we go from there?

MR. WAUGH: Yes, the two councils need to agree on the alternatives that are going in the document for public hearing. What you would do is if you approve the motion to add this new alternative, it would be added. If you don't, then it won't go into the document.

MS. BECKWITH: To that point, you can certainly specify that it would only be an option for the South Atlantic just like we have specified that VMS is not an option for the South Atlantic; it is only the Gulf, if that is more comfortable.

MR. GREENE: Fair enough; and I don't wish to restrict the South Atlantic or Gulf Council in any way. Okay, somebody help me here. I guess we need a motion to adopt the South Atlantic's new motion, which would be Motion 5; am I correct?

MR. WAUGH: I would suggest just approve adding new Alternative 4 to Action 3; and the wording of that you can see in the document right there. If you want to condition that it apply just in the South Atlantic, you can do that as well.

MR. GREENE: Is there anyone on the Gulf Council who wishes to make this motion?

MR. WILLIAMS: I would move that we approve adding new Alternative 4 to Action 3 with the understanding that it only apply in the South Atlantic.

MR. GREENE: We have a motion by Roy Williams and a second by Corky Perret. Is there any further discussion about this before we go to vote? Seeing none; please raise your hand if you're in favor of this motion; all those opposed like sign. Thirteen to zero; the motion carries.

MR. ANSON: One other point while we're still on this action and it relates to the Gulf; but Alternative 3 and Alternative 2, I'm having a hard time understanding the difference and the subtlety of electronic devices in Alternative 2 that would track location versus the VMS. VMS essentially tracks your location.

I'm just wondering if there is any desire – and particularly Alternative 3 applies to the Gulf only, so would it be appropriate if we feel that's – I feel it is a little confusing in that somebody might think, well, they're just going to talk about VMS; so if Alternative 2 is approved, they won't be talking about VMS; but VMS in my mind could fall under Alternative 2 as one of those approved devices. I'm just wondering if you all feel the same; that we might take this opportunity to go ahead and strike it from the document.

MR. GREENE: Now you're speaking on the motion that was just passed?

MR. ANSON: No; I'm speaking within that same action and Alternatives 2 and 3. I'm suggesting that Alternative 3 is essentially encompassed in Alternative 2 and that we might want to consider removing Alternative 3 to help shorten the document again maybe reduce some confusion and such. I just put it up for discussion for other members.

MR. GREENE: That certainly can be your desire if you wish. That's obviously up to you if you wish. I think we have had some testimony in the Gulf about VMS and so on and so forth, but it is up to you in your decision. Ms. Beckwith.

MS. BECKWITH: For us, our thought process there was if we developed an application or an iPad application – I haven't decided what route I'm going to take yet; so it is not that – I want to differentiate that we are not thinking about VMS, but the GPS application associated with an iPhone or an iPad would fall under Alternative 3 but not force us to have that VMS conversation or rather to, but not force us to have that VMS conversation as an option with our fishermen. We would like sort of retain that differentiation between VMS as a monitoring and enforcement tool and Alternative 2 which would be able to pick up your GPS points along the way and transmit them later. It is not necessarily real time the way VMS is.

VMS is real time with ping rates versus Alternative 2 that your iPad application might be grabbing your GPS coordinates as you're fishing but for later transmission and is not real time and is not an enforcement tool. I think there is a difference, and I would like to retain that difference, if possible, but I do think that the wording could be clarified to explain that better.

MR. GREENE: That is certainly a good point. I guess I'm going to take the bait here because I understand everything you said, I believe, but my understanding of the VMS is that it sends a signal randomly one time an hour to a computer. It doesn't say that the boat is moving, fishing. It just sends a signal right then and right there; and it operates one time randomly in an hour.

The program that you speak of with a GPS-based program is monitoring everywhere you go, everywhere you went. That GPS signal is as accurate as it can be, and that is what you guys are kind of more in favor of as opposed to a VMS doing a random signal. Did I misunderstand or am I correct with that?

MR. BELL: Some of the R&D work that is going on right now related to other systems; there are other ways recording georeferenced data points as you move along. We were distinguishing those types of things. We're interested and actually we're trying to participate in pilot projects to look at some of that, but that is very distinctively different from VMS.

That is why the VMS part, of course, is key for the Gulf because you guys were perhaps a little more receptive to that, I don't know. We were trying to structure this so that it allowed – if that is the direction you wanted to go in, then fine, but the things that Anna is describing is – and technologies will continue to develop, but there are ways of capturing georeferenced through other things other than VMS. That is distinguished between 2 and 3, I guess.

MR. GREENE: Well, that's absolutely correct, but at somewhere – because I've had a bunch of people ask me what the difference between a GPS is and a VMS. I think that should be spelled out in here because there seems to be a lot of confusion in the Gulf, especially me, that doesn't understand exactly what the difference is when I'm approached by the public saying, well, what is this? Well, I don't know, so I would hope that as this moves along that is identified as part of it.

MR. HARTIG: Johnny, I brought it up yesterday in our committee discussions. We had a Sea Grant Experimental Project with VMS in commercial vessels and trying to figure out if – and I can't remember what the impetus for it was; but I do know that when we had the presentation; that Scott Baker was saying in the VMS you would have to turn the ping rate up to such a high degree to capture the location that it became prohibitively expensive.

That is one of the reasons why in VMS in ours, I shied away from it. Some way to get to this GPS tablet type reporting technology to me seems to be a better way to go. Even talking to your fishermen, some of them are going, yes, maybe that's a different way; that's another way we can do this.

MR. GREENE: I understand; I just think it was good to have that discussion on the record because there has been a ton of confusion. Mr. Cox.

MR. COX: Just for the record, VMS, there are some people on this council that are in support of it. We're kind of watching you guys to see how it plays out. I think a lot of the pushback on our council has been the cost of it. I just want to say there are – we're kind of split in that area.

MS. LEVY: Just a question; is the real goal here to distinguish capturing location information for later transmission and capturing location information in real time as you're moving? One suggestion I have is to maybe give approval for staff to work on the language of the alternatives to be much more specific; that we're not talking about necessarily, quote, VMS and something else. It is just that VMS we're using as an example of something that actually captures your

location in real time as you're moving; so to distinguish them more clearly for people, to just draft the language of the alternatives a little bit differently.

MR. BELL: Gregg might want to weigh in on that, Johnny.

MR. WAUGH: Just for some clarification; that alternative for VMS is in there because the Gulf Council was interested at one time of possibly requiring VMS. I don't think the intent is to distinguish between technologies. The intent is either you put a VMS on the boat that you can track them in real time to do law enforcement, and it has all those associated costs and vessel needs in terms of power supply and so forth. That is what Alternative 3 talks about.

Alternative 2 talks about using newer technology to get vessel location information that is not real time and not used for law enforcement like VMS is. It could be set up that you only record at the fishing location versus tracking all the time. I don't think we want to smooch this together and talk about differing technologies. If you are interested in taking out an alternative to require VMS, then that should stay in there. If we're just talking about some electronic technology to get location, then my suggestion would be to take Alternative 3 out of the document because that would be encompassed in Alternative 2.

MR. ANSON: Going back to Ms. Levy's comments, in my mind I think if staff maybe could change some of the language here and maybe take out the reference to VMS and just make it more generic potentially; that might be a little better and make it more clear as to the distinction between the two alternatives, potentially, although it does recognize VMS. It just would help to pull out that subtlety between these two alternatives of the later transmission and the actual real-time location information, potentially.

MR. GREENE: I believe, Mr. Anson, you made a motion to –

MR. ANSON: No; I didn't make a motion. I just brought it up for discussion.

MR. GREENE: Just to be clear, we have no motion on the board. We are moving on through the document.

MR. ANSON: Yes; I guess as long as everyone is kind of clear on both sides of the table that staffs are going to go ahead and make that change and everyone is okay with it, then we can proceed. If we don't get nods of agreement, then we might need to make a motion in order to change that so it can be done in the document or not.

MR. GREENE: Well, I certainly don't have a problem with that. Is there anybody on the Gulf Council that wishes to weigh in on that or South Atlantic?

MR. BELL: So that would be direction to your staff to examine the wording of Alternative 3 related to VMS and enhance it or kind of flesh it out a little more?

MR. ANSON: Yes; and if you all didn't mind allowing Gulf Council staff to do that; then that would be okay.

MR. BELL: This applies to the Gulf, really, so, yes. You probably know VMS is an established system that is managed by – I know Pat O’Shaughnessy I think is the guy. I don’t know if you’ve ever talked to him, but it is definable as to what it is.

MS. LEVY: I didn’t want to confuse anything. If the intent is to require VMS on the Gulf side as one of the options, we can still leave that language in there but add like an explanation VMS to do X. It is true, VMS is an established system. It is approved. It has a process for approval so it is very different than your Alternative 2 in that regard. We don’t necessarily need to take out the words “VMS”, but you can be more specific that what that does is allow real-time location information.

MR. HARTIG: I think Harlon has been instrumental I guess on your side in getting a charterboat voluntary program on trying to see if VMS will work for this; so you guys will have a program to see if VMS is actually appropriate for location information.

MR. GREENE: That is correct; and certainly the enforcement side of it is a big part in the Gulf as well; not that it is not in the South Atlantic, but that has been some of the comments I have had brought to me that we don’t care what you have to do. We don’t care if you have to have the man in the badge ride on the boat with us; we just want to go fishing. That’s one of those things as well. I think we’re back up to speed; so with that, I’ll turn it back over to the South Atlantic.

MR. BELL: Okay, that would take us to Action 4. Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: Just for clarification here; so you approved a motion adding this Alternative 4 to the action and the other alternatives so that whole package of that action and alternatives, now four alternatives, with the direction to staff to clean up the wording; that is approved?

MR. GREGORY: Alternative 4 was approved for the South Atlantic area only.

MR. WAUGH: Correct, but now this whole package of action and the four alternatives are approved on the Gulf side, because we passed a specific motion approving that action and alternatives. I just want to make sure you have done basically the same thing now.

MR. BELL: That just keeps us in step together.

MR. GREENE: Okay, so I guess we need to remove Subalternative 4A; is that correct? Is that my understanding?

MR. WAUGH: By virtue of how you approved your motion saying it was only in the Atlantic, then this was draft language so the Alternative 4A would disappear and this wording – we would modify the wording of Alternative 4 to indicate that it just applies in the Atlantic.

MR. GREENE: Yes, sir, I think that was the intention and that should be done.

MR. BELL: All right, Action 4 – we had an Action 4. **The South Atlantic Council Data Collection Committee has a motion, number seven, move Action 4 and the alternatives into**

the discussion of the joint amendment. That was approved by the committee; so we basically took that off the table, but still discussing. That is the motion before the council. Is there any discussion of that motion? Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: Perhaps just to clarify for the Gulf because we had some discussion at the last two council meetings as well. The center and NOAA GC raised concerns about this action. What our motion does is take it out as an action, but keep it in the document. In the discussion we talk about the need for all the recommendations from this technical subcommittee to be acted upon.

We put that in the document and then leave it up to the agency to implement those actions. We just need some clarification between the two motions now, because we are keeping it in the document, in the discussions; and when we get to the Gulf's motion, they have said move it to the considered but rejected. We just need to resolve those two positions.

MR. BELL: That's an area where we were kind of down into the weeds a little bit on data flow and how we were going to do it, and we decided to basically continue the discussion of the importance of how data flows. Again from a state perspective, so I'm a state charterboat program, I want to make sure the states are satisfied, that we're satisfied at the federal level, everybody is all on the same sheet of music. That's why the discussion still needs to happen, but we're not trying to specify any particular route, so we just moved it over to discussion. You guys basically just put it to considered but rejected. Monica.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I think these two motions actually can be read together. This alternative actually, with what the South Atlantic did, does move it to considered but rejected; but what you're doing is the council, in the discussion part of the document, is talking about what the technical subcommittee wants and how you think the data flow ought to go. I actually think the motions aren't opposed to each other. They can be read together.

MR. BELL: Okay, that seemed to be kind of logically; it was just worded differently. Again, that further discussion on the wiring diagram of data flow and how everybody is satisfied that is in place. Then back to us, our motion is on the table. Any further discussion of Motion 7 from our side. **Any opposition to the motion. Seeing none; Motion 7 for the South Atlantic Council carries.** Then, Johnny, you have your motion related to this similar item.

MR. GREENE: **Okay, the motion before the Gulf Council for Action 4; the Gulf Committee recommends and I so move all of Action 4 to considered but rejected. It does need a second and it seconded by Camp Matens.** Any discussion about this. Mr. Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS: Given Monica's advice that they really do the same thing, wouldn't it be a little smoother if we had the same motion? From what I heard Monica say, they're essentially the same motion. **I'm going to offer a substitute motion to adopt the South Atlantic's position of Motion Number 7; move Action 4 and alternatives into the discussion of the joint amendment.**

MR. GREENE: Okay, we have a substitute motion; seconded by Martha Bademan. Any further discussion? All those in favor please raise your hand; any opposition, please raise your hand. Thirteen to zero, the motion carries.

MR. BELL: So that basically puts us on the same sheet of music there, which takes is Motion 8 from our Data Collection Committee.

MR. WAUGH: We've got to deal with the Mid-Atlantic and New England first.

MR. BELL: We have in here; you'll see because some of the fisheries we manage – some of the fish don't mind and go into other areas and we have to deal with some Mid-Atlantic and New England issues here. In ours we have direction to staff to add wording to clarify that we're extending the reporting requirements of this amendment through the Mid-Atlantic and New England Councils for federally permitted for-hire vessels harvesting species managed in our FMPs, which would be for us dolphin and wahoo, coastal migratory pelagics, South Atlantic snapper grouper and Gulf reef fish.

Basically, since the fish don't pay any attention to the regional boundaries; but they may hold a permit under our jurisdiction, our authority, this basically helps us to work that. Then direction to staff was to add wording to clarify that we're not trying to duplicate reporting for individuals that may have to report already due to a permit related to a northeast activity or Mid-Atlantic activity. One report submitted to, for example, the ACCSP would then be available to each agency needing the data.

This was a clarification of some concerns with things going on in the Mid-Atlantic or northeast under fisheries that we are managing. We did that in direction to staff; so that is what that is about. **Then we have a last Motion 8 to include additional information on data elements, clarification on how the northeast vessels would report without duplicate reporting, and approve the Joint For-Hire Reporting Amendment as modified for public hearings.**

We approved that so basically this motion tidies up a little bit of the northeast reporting, and then we're saying that we're ready to move it forward to public hearing. That's the motion before the South Atlantic Council. **On behalf of the committee I so move. Any discussion of the motion? Any objection to the motion? Seeing none; Motion 8 for the South Atlantic passes.** That's all from our standpoint. Doug.

MR. GREGORY: I just have a question. I've noticed that each of the actions repeats pretty much the list of amendments that are in the title of the document. Is that something the South Atlantic just routinely does or is that something we can take out to shorten the action titles, because it is repetitive from the title of the document? We don't do that on the Gulf side.

MR. BELL: Specifically give me an example.

MR. GREGORY: Well, in all the actions it says, "Amend the Gulf Reef Fish/South Atlantic Snapper Grouper, Coastal Migratory Pelagics and Atlantic Dolphin and Wahoo Management Plan to" do something, but –

MR. BELL: Okay, so it is kind of like boilerplate in front of each one.

MR. GREGORY: And that is in the title of the whole document, that same list of plans, the generic amendment to those plans. I don't understand the need to repeat in each action unless that's something you just do on a regular basis.

MR. WAUGH: Well, we were just being clear and I would ask NOAA GC if it should worded like that to make it clear for each action which FMPs are being amended or is simply having it on the title page of the document is sufficient?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Well, I think if every action is amending the same FMPs, as long as you had it in the title of the document itself and then you're going to have some discussion in the introductory section as to which FMPs it is amending, I think that's fine to remove that; as long as the discussion after the actions reflect that, yes, you're amending all these FMPs. I think what Doug says is just fine. We can incorporate it. It is up to you as to whether you want it that way every time or whatnot.

MR. BELL: Is that something that we can just let staff –

MR. WAUGH: Direction to staff.

MR. BELL: Yes, direction for staff to kind of work through; but if we can save some ink and maybe paper or the Paperwork Reduction Act. Okay, anything else, Johnny?

MR. GREENE: I want to kind of bring up a timeline thing here of what we're working on. We had an AP meet recently, less than a month ago or so, somewhere in that timeframe, and they had a motion specifically to the fact of wanting to have something in place by June of 2016, which is awful suggestive that they're ready to move on. I think there is a little bit of optimism in the Gulf, maybe more so than the South Atlantic, so I'm trying to get a timeframe from you guys in how we move from here. It seems a bit concerning.

DR. PONWITH: I'm glad you brought up the timeline because there are a couple of things in play here. One is the timeline for preparing this amendment. The other is the timeline that it would take to actually implement something like this from a science standpoint and also from a financial standpoint.

The notion of developing this amendment is good thinking; because if you go back to the NOAA Electronic Reporting and Electronic Monitoring Policy Statement, it is that we believe that this is a direction we need to be going, but creating a desire for this has to be accompanied with a plan for how it would be financed.

I think what we need to do now is make sure that we're working collectively among the two councils, the Southeast Fisheries Science Center, SERO and certainly with the MRIP Program because we talked a little bit about how the dominoes have to fall to make this happen. That includes developing a really good plan for how we stand would this up, how we would finance it, how we would build the calibration of the current MRIP and Headboat Data Collection Programs,

the way they stand right now, so that we've got context for these data when we are successful in standing this up and moving forward.

I think that is a part of the conversation we need to have that's running parallel to the actual development of this plan. We didn't want to be in the situation where we've found the money, but we didn't have the regulations in place to get legs under that money. We also don't want to find ourselves in the opposite situation where we've got the regulations but actually no way to fund the program and get the program up. I really look forward to continuing that discussion with both councils, with Science and Technology, with SERO to keep that moving.

DR. DANA: I don't know, maybe it is just me, but there seems to be an elephant in the room. Johnny, you're right, the Gulf is at a different place than the South Atlantic. The elephant in this room in my mind is why do we have to have a joint plan on this? How did we get to this point where we have to agree on the whole reporting?

The Gulf for the charter sector is ready to move forward; and from what I'm hearing, the South Atlantic is not necessarily. If it is going to bog down things, again why do we have to have a joint amendment on this?

DR. CRABTREE: Well, we have separate permits I think by and large; so I don't guess technically that you have to, although the mackerel permit is in a joint plan and so both councils would have to approve it. You could move forward – if you wanted to go faster in the Gulf, I guess you could move forward with dealing with reef fish and Gulf king mackerel requirements and split it.

Now, if we have very different data streams coming in on some of these things, it probably makes the program more costly and less efficient and who knows how many difficulties that may create. Legally I think you could proceed independently on it except that mackerel is a joint plan and both councils will ultimately have to look at it.

MR. SANCHEZ: I guess that's why divorces cost so much because they're worth it.

MR. GREGORY: The South Atlantic Council motion approved this document to go to public hearing, and you can see on the timeline it has us going in July. They're going in August. We're not ready to go to public hearing with this. There is a lot more writing that needs to be done, the Effect Section. The IPT needs to work on it. We certainly are not ready to go to public hearing at this stage. Maybe after our August council meeting we could do that.

MR. GREENE: So if this stays together, when would there be another joint meeting to continue this path? I assume that if we stay together on all this, I guess August would be our next joint meeting. I have no idea here; I'm just asking for some information.

MR. GREGORY: I would suggest if this stays together; that the next joint meeting be a joint committee meeting to work out any differences before it comes to the two councils. To me that would work better than the joint council meetings. We could have another version of the draft for the Gulf Council in August and then plan public hearings after that.

MR. GREENE: Does anybody wish to move forward with anything here or are we satisfied with where we're at? Okay, I don't see anything from the Gulf side. South Atlantic, I'm just going to kick it back to whatever you want to do from here.

MR. BELL: So based on that, we won't be going to public hearing on the schedule that we'd proposed.

MR. GREENE: Well, I don't think it is our intent to keep you from going to public meeting. I certainly didn't that was the intent of the Gulf Council was to prevent you from going to public meetings. That was certainly not the intent that I had. Now, somebody else may want to weigh in and say I'm not ready for them to do it, but I'd certainly like your feedback.

MR. BELL: Well, my understanding is since it is at the moment a joint document and if you're not ready, then we really couldn't go forward. We just have to adjust our timetable. We can still move forward and we can still have it jointed constructed. It is just going to throw the timetable off if I'm understanding this correctly.

MR. GREENE: Well, I certainly do not want to slow you down. It seems like no one wants to disrupt the flow of anything or separate it, because everybody is wanting to do the right thing and move it. If it is better for us to separate it so you can go to the public and move on for reef fish, then I'm fine with that. I don't have an issue whatsoever. I just don't want to stop processing in any shape, form or fashion. Jessica.

MS McCAWLEY: As a member of the South Atlantic, I'm fine waiting to go to public comment and the South Atlantic can just look at this again in September. I think it's fine.

MR. BELL: Yes, because really we wouldn't have anything we could actually move forward with.

MR. GREGORY: I think part of it is the difference in our schedules. The South Atlantic meets four times a year. We're meeting again in August. If we didn't meet until September, yes, we probably could have come back in September with some public hearing stuff. With our schedule, we just can't do it that quickly.

MR. BELL: Right, I understand. Anybody else want to weigh in on that? I think we want to make sure we do this right. We don't want to rush and create problems or something. The term I like to use is let us not rush to failure. If we need to go a little slower, we will go a little slower and we'll hang together here for a little while.

MR. GREENE: Well, let's be careful with our words. I certainly don't want Harlon Pearce to have another heart attack over us slowing down.

DR. CRABTREE: I know the timing is a concern to everyone; but there are going to be complications that we will have deal with before we can actually use this data when it is put in place. For example, imagine if we put this requirement in place and the catch reports from the logbooks are way higher than anything we've ever seen before.

If you just started using them all of a sudden, we'd shut everybody down. If they come out substantially different than what we've seen in the past, we're going to have to go through a calibration process and scale the ACLs and all those things. It could have implications for allocations and all sorts of things.

Now, if comes out that they're right within the range of what we've seen in the past, they're just more timely but they're giving us roughly the same number, that is one scenario. There is no way of knowing if they're going to come out real different or pretty close. Depending on how that works, it could have a big impact on how quickly we're able to actually start using them.

MR. HARTIG: To that point, Roy, do you any indication from the ISnapper stuff that the charterboats used in the Gulf of how that plays out?

DR. CRABTREE: I don't know right now and I don't know if Bonnie does. A lot of the ISnapper work is being done in Texas, and Texas does their own survey so it would vary regionally in the Gulf. I think somewhere in the document it needs to reflect that there are potentially these steps we're going to have to go through before we're going to start using this data so that we don't get ourselves in a situation where people are overexpecting or where we end up in a confrontational situation about which are the best available numbers and things.

MR. GREENE: Well, I think it certainly bodes to the fact of the 350 boats in the Gulf and the information that they turn in may be a precursor to what you're talking about; is that a fair assumption?

DR. CRABTREE: I think it is, and I think that will be valuable in terms of getting some sense of how this may play out.

MR. GREENE: Any other conversation before we move on. I know everybody is dying to get to the South Florida reef fish.

MR. BELL: I'd suggest we'd just turn it back to our council chairs and move from there.

MR. HARTIG: Thanks to you and Johnny; you did a great job. We're going to take a ten-minute break. The next item of business to come before the joint meeting is the Mackerel Committee. We're going to discuss Amendment 26 and Amendment 28. Under Amendment 26 we have a purpose and need that has not been acted upon by either council. We have some wording for the purpose and need, and I'm going to turn it over to Kari and Ryan.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: First of all, for the South Atlantic Council we are going to using a document that Mike Collins send you yesterday afternoon. It is that document for Joint Mackerel Meeting. What we're going to be walking through is Tab 2B, the Gulf and South Atlantic Mackerel Committee motions. It is also on the South Atlantic briefing book website under the joint committee and the Gulf's website under joint council meeting.

MR. RINDONE: Is everybody ready to go? We have a draft purpose and need up on the board for you guys, and I'll go ahead and read it out to you. The purpose of this amendment, which is

CMP Amendment 26, is to modify the stock boundary and revise the ACLs for Atlantic and Gulf migratory group king mackerel; to modify the commercial zone quotas for Gulf migratory king mackerel; to revise recreational and commercial allocations for Gulf migratory king mackerel; to create an incidental catch allowance of Atlantic migratory king mackerel for the shark gillnet fishery; and to revise or create management measures for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel in the Florida East Coast Subzone.

The need for this amendment is to ensure annual catch limits are based on the best scientific information available and to ensure overfishing does not occur in the coastal migratory pelagics fishery, while increasing social and economic benefits of the CMP fishery through sustainable and profitable harvest of Gulf and Atlantic migratory group king mackerel in accordance with provisions set forth in Magnuson-Stevens Conservation and Management Act. Do you guys have any thoughts on this proposed purpose and need or perhaps a motion to approve it?

DR. DUVAL: Mr. Chairman, I move that we approve the purpose and need for CMP Amendment 26.

MR. HARTIG: Second by Doug. We've got a motion and a second from the South Atlantic to approve the purpose and need. Is there any discussion on the purpose and need? Is there any objection to approval of the purpose and need? Seeing none; that motion is approved. I will turn it over to Dr. Dana.

DR. DANA: From the Gulf Council; do I have a motion to approve the purpose and the need for Amendment 26? Corky Perret moves; Martha Bademan seconds. All those in favor say aye; opposed. The motion passes.

MR. HARTIG: That brings us into Amendment 26 if I'm not mistaken, Kari.

DR. MacLAUHLIN: Correct.

MR. HARTIG: Under Amendment 26, which deals with king mackerel ACLs and stock boundaries, the first motion to come before our committee was to approve the new language for Alternative 2 and Alternative 3 under Action 1; and on behalf of the committee I so move.

DR. MacLAUHLIN; We would like to ask if the South Atlantic would approve the language in Alternative 2 and 3 that takes out this highlighted area. It is just a description of the mixing zone, and we don't need that to be in the actual alternative. We can just put it in the explanation in Chapter 2. We just wanted to ask if the committee would approve that without that highlighted section in there.

MR. HARTIG: So essentially you need another motion to approve the new language without the highlights or the new language would – go ahead. Jessica.

MS. McCAWLEY: I move that we approve the new language with the deletion.

MR. HARTIG: Motion by Jessica; second by Jack. Okay, a substitute motion by Jessica; second by Jack. Discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Now that becomes the main motion. Discussion on the main motion? Objection to that motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved. That brings us to the Gulf, if I'm not mistaken.

DR. DANA: Okay, the Gulf Council Committee CMP did meet this week. We were looking to the South Atlantic to provide guidance since much of this amendment pertains to the South Atlantic. The Gulf Committee recommends and I so move that the council accept the alternatives proposed in Action 1 for further analysis. Ryan, what am I doing here.\?

MR. RINDONE: You're good. You might just add for clarification to use the South Atlantic's language since there was a little bit of modification on their part. **The committee recommends and I so move that the council accept the alternatives proposed by the South Atlantic Council in Action 1 for further analysis. Is that okay.**

DR. DANA: Is there any opposition to this motion? The motion carries.

MR. HARTIG: That brings us to the South Atlantic's second motion; and that motion was to approve the new language for the biological parameters in Action 2. On behalf of the committee I so move.

MR. RINDONE: I just wanted to provide a little bit of guidance for you guys as we move forward. Actions 2, 3 and 4 are primarily South Atlantic Council actions, so we'd like to lead with the South Atlantic Council on those first since you guys had some language changes that you needed to address with the proposed alternatives in those. Then 5 through 8 are primarily Gulf Council actions; and so moving forward with those, we were going to lead with the Gulf Council making motions first. Does that sound acceptable?

MR. HARTIG: Yes, thank you for that clarification. **That brings us back to the second motion and that was to approve the new language for the biological parameters in Action 2; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved.** Dr. Dana.

DR. DANA: To the Gulf Council, the Gulf committee recommends and I so move that the council accept the alternatives proposed in Action 2 based on the South Atlantic revisions. Johnny Greene moved; Martha Bademan seconds. Any opposition to the motion? The motion carries.

MR. HARTIG: The next motion that came before our committee was to make the suggested changes to Action 2-1; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there discussion on that motion? Is there an objection to that motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

DR. DANA: The Gulf Committee recommends mirroring the South Atlantic's changes to Action 2-1. Motion by Johnny Greene; Martha Bademan seconds. Any opposition? The motion carries.

MS. LEVY: Can I just ask a question? I don't think we did this in committee, right? We didn't look at the South Atlantic changes and the committee didn't take action to recommend that the council approve the South Atlantic changes; am I correct about that?

DR. DANA: The Gulf Committee met this week and reviewed the actions and alternatives proposed in CMP Amendment 26 Options Paper and focusing on those actions which were Gulf of Mexico focused. After reviewing the various actions in one through four, many of which focused on stock benchmarks and catch limits for the king mackerel, The Gulf's CMP Committee chose to withhold reviewing other South Atlantic actions until the South Atlantic Council Mackerel Committee reviewed those actions.

MS. LEVY: Right; my point is that the committee did not look at what the South Atlantic's proposed changes were and then actually have motions to adopt those changes to present to the council. What the council is hearing here now about the South Atlantic Committee's changes is the first time that anybody on the Gulf side is hearing about it; so it is more of a procedural thing. I think the Gulf Council as a whole should be approving what the South Atlantic approves – when they approve their committee motions. We don't have pending Gulf Committee motions on that new South Atlantic language is what I'm trying to say.

DR. DANA: So what is your guidance to the Gulf Council?

MS. LEVY: My guidance is to have the Gulf Council as a body of the whole, if you want to adopt the South Atlantic's language, is for someone to make a motion for the Gulf Council to do that; second, and vote it up. It is not a committee action is all I'm saying.

DR. DANA: It was my understanding that it was the council voting on that; so maybe I misspoke. However, when I was calling for a motion and seconded and vote, I was asking the Gulf Council to vote.

MR. MAHOOD: I think the premise was we are operating as Committees of the Whole; and Pam is getting a motion and a second from the council, operating as a Committee of the Whole; so I don't know that they would have to go back and the council approve it. When we meet and we haven't finished our business, we go to full council and we then meet as a Committee of the Whole for the particular committee we did not finish and we take one vote. We don't take two votes.

MS. LEVY: I wasn't suggesting that you had to take two votes. All I was saying was that this was not something that the committee had already voted on and had a motion to present to the council; and the way that it was being read and typed up there was as though it was a committee motion that was being presented to the council. All I was trying to clarify was that was not the procedure that happened, but however you all want to decide to do it from this time forward is fine with me.

MR. GREGORY: I would like to suggest that we let the South Atlantic Council go through their four actions that pertain just to the South Atlantic area and then the Gulf Council vote them in all at once instead of doing it action by action, if that's okay. That would be quicker. Is that okay,

Mara, that we do something like that and it won't be a committee motion. We will address all four actions at one time after the South Atlantic has approved their four actions.

MR. HARTIG: Okay, from this point on then, I would continue with the committee report and then you would approve the rest of the South Atlantic actions in a combined single motion. Kari, are you good on that? **The next motion that the committee approved was to accept the changes in Action 2-2; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there any discussion on that motion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion is approved.**

The next motion we had at the committee level was to accept the changes in Action 3, with Alternative 3 moved to the considered but rejected appendix. On behalf of the committee I so move. Discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Action 4, we need to have some direction from staff and some wording changes that we need to consider.

DR. MacLAUHLIN: This action has three sections; and so we're going to go through each sub-action. In Action 4-1, you approved this at committee, and we did not make any changes to this one. You can make that motion, Ben.

MR. HARTIG: The motion was to accept alternatives as proposed under Action 4-1; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Is there any discussion? Is there any objection to this motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved. That brings us to some wording changes.

DR. MacLAUHLIN: In Action 4-2, this is the one that considers allocating quotas from the southern zone, king mackerel quota, and you approved a couple of alternatives, but we wanted to make a change in Alternative 2 and then also provide you with a little more information about how that would work if we considered that.

Alternative 2 is the one that set up a Florida East Coast Subzone sub-quota out of the Southern Zone King Mackerel Quota. We have a couple of options about how that proportion would be calculated. One was using the last five years, ten years and then fifteen years. Then we have in here how much that would be expected to be based on the landings that I had.

If you were setting up a Florida East Coast Subzone sub-quota out of the Southern Zone Quota, it would be 93 percent, 92.3 percent or 90.5 percent under these; just to give you guys an idea of how much of the Southern Zone Quota is actually made up by landings in the Florida East Coast. If you want to keep Alternative 2 in, we would like for you to wordsmith this, if you need to, but to approve the language in the alternatives and options for Alternative 2 and 3. Alternative 3 is the one that you approved at committee except that we added some more language to clarify that it would a split season of only the Southern Zone Quota.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Kari, could explain again what it means under the new 2A, 2B and 2C of the expected percentages. It says a certain percentage of the Florida East Coast Subzone; what does that mean exactly?

DR. MacLAUHLIN: What I did was I had the landings of king mackerel for the area that will the whole Southern Zone. That would include from the small new mixing zone in the Keys and then all way up to the east coast to the South Carolina/North Carolina boundary.

I have those landings and then I have the Florida East Coast Subzone landings, using what we call the Florida East Coast now, so it was Volusia/Flagler to Dade/Monroe and then calculated the percentage of that; because if the councils are going to set up this sub-quota for that area and they were going to base it on the proportion of historic landings in the last five, ten, fifteen years or whatever you guys wanted to look at, this is what it would look like. It would allocate 93 percent of the Southern Zone Quota to the Florida East Coast. With those being such a large proportion of the Southern Zone Quota, you may want to have a discussion about keeping that alternative in or tweaking it.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: In the discussion under the alternatives, I would just make it real clear as to what that means, but that's a good explanation. Thank you.

MR. HARTIG: Essentially, if you read the first sentence, "establish the Florida East Coast Subzone Quota within the Southern Zone Quota for Atlantic group migratory king mackerel," that makes sense if you use the old way that it was managed with the wintertime timeframe. It doesn't make a lot of sense for an entirely yearly East Coast Subzone Quota to be done since such a large percentage of the fish caught in the Southern Subzone are caught within the area that we used to manage in the wintertime is Gulf stock fish.

The real essence of this is to try and get at something that we had before, something similar during the winter; that we have some kind of trip limits – and may or may not be a quota, but some kind of trip limits as you see in this split season that allow for the difference in the two fisheries to operate because they are markedly different.

The trolling fishery operates primarily in the wintertime and it is primarily a live-bait fishery that operates at least in the spawning time in the May area where a large portion of those fish are caught out of the Atlantic group stock. It is complicated, but it gives the fishermen an option to set up their zone or do it by split seasons. We may get rid of the zone. I think keeping all the options in allows the fishermen the most flexibility in fleshing out what they probably want to see in the future. That is why it is done like this. Jessica.

MS. McCAWLEY: I move that we accept the suggested wording changes for the alternatives under Action 4-2.

MR. HARTIG: Motion by Jessica; second by Michelle. Is there any more discussion on this motion? Is there any objection to the motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved. This also had wording changes, correct, Kari?

DR. MacLAUHLIN: Yes.

MR. HARTIG: Okay, so I'll turn it over to you.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: Coming to Action 4-3, this is one that we'll probably have to actually bring back again and get you to approve some language changes. This one is going to be tricky to talk about the no action and kind of all these things occurring simultaneously and depend on each other. For now we have a couple of language changes.

You have under the motion the language that you approved and then we have – what we did was we moved Alternative 2 up. That would just clean it up. That's the year-round trip limit. Then Alternative 3 and 4; three is the 75 fish with the step-down to 50 fish. This was based on an AP recommendation for a step-down during that first part of the split season that they proposed.

This split season would have to exist in some kind of way, and we'll sort out how that would work exactly with and without setting up the split season. That is what that is; and we included the option that you guys approved yesterday with the April 15th through May 15th. Then Alternative 4 is the one that is the step-up if the percentage hasn't been met of their quota. This one, we added the option so that you could see what this would look like.

You would need to review and approve all the language in these, but four we want to make sure that under these options we have everything that you guys would like to have in there. This is based on how the system is set up in the winter for the East Coast Subzone now. Option 4A is what it is exactly right now.

It is a trigger in the last month of their season; and it has to be less than 70 percent of their quota is met to trigger that step-up to 75 fish. But, just to have a range of alternatives, we added a couple more of these in there. If they are ones that you would also like to add in here, let us know.

We have one that it would be the last two months of their season at 70 percent; and then we added one last month of the season and 80 percent. I don't know if there are other percentages or last month or two months that you would like to consider. These were just some that we have a range and we also include what they're working under right now.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Kari, in Alternative 2 and 3, in the second sentence it states, "The commercial trip limit north of the Florida East Coast Subzone northern boundary is 3,500 pounds," and I guess in both places it is 3,500 pounds. My question is when you're saying the commercial trip limit north of the Florida East Coast Subzone; are you talking about just in the Southern Zone or are you talking about also that would apply up into the Northern Zone?

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: Well, we were I think thinking that it was all the way through both zones; so we could clarify that.

MR. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Well, you could even do that in the discussion because it says north of the Florida East Coast Subzone. I wasn't sure if you were going all the way through North Carolina or just up through the Southern Zone.

DR. MacLAUCHLIN: That is what it is now for those areas.

MR. HARTIG: Yes; as long as we're clear and we make sure that we don't impact North Carolina's trip limits, that's the key in the Northern Zone. It may cleaner not to even mention the Northern Zone because they have their own trip limit. They're managing that through North Carolina. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: Just to be clear, that trip limit is 3,500 pounds right now; and it is North Carolina through New York. That's that Northern Zone.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: And if you leave it the way it is written now; that's the way it is. I just wanted to make sure we weren't just talking about the Southern Zone.

MR. HARTIG: Kari, are you confident with what you've told us on all the verbiage for this action?

DR. MacLAUHLIN: Yes; I think that covers everything that we talked about yesterday. Well, we'll probably have some language changes for you in September, but what everybody was talking about and interested in yesterday is in here so we can at least start the analysis.

MR. HARTIG: I think your range alternatives are appropriate that you've added; so if we could get a motion to approve the wording. Jessica.

MS. McCAWLEY: I move that we approve the modifications to the alternatives under Action 4-3.

MR. HARTIG: Second to that motion by Charlie. Discussion? Is there any objection to that motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved. We'll turn it over to the Gulf to approve all of those motions in a single motion from the Gulf.

DR. DANA: Can I get a motion by the Gulf Council to mirror the motions of the South Atlantic Council on Actions 2 through 4? Motion by Martha Bademan; second, Doug Boyd. Is there any opposition to the motion? The motion carries.

MR. HARTIG: Do we need to deal with the timing and task or do we need to deal with Amendment 28 first? I am going to turn it back over to Dr. Dana and we'll go through the Gulf recommendations for this amendment.

DR. DANA: I am going to turn to Ryan and ask him to set the stage for Action 5.

MR. RINDONE: Action 5 will modify the ACLs for Gulf kingfish. The current ACL is from Amendment 18 and is 10.8 million pounds. We had the SEDAR 38 stock assessment, which gave the SSC some new numbers to work with, and their ABC recommendation is there under Alternative 2.

Just to clarify again for you guys, just to remember that even though the ABC projections are less than Alternative 1, this is because the Florida East Coast Zone is now being considered part of the Atlantic migratory group; and with that goes a certain poundage fish but more effort than fish. And so even still with these lower ABC numbers, this results in more fish per area in the Gulf.

Alternative 2 would set the ACL equal to the ABC for 2015 to 2019. You can see those values there in millions of pounds whole weight. Alternative 3 would set a constant catch scenario where the ACL during a selected time period would be the same for however many years you guys select. We had options for three years or five years. Madam Chair, I believe you guys had a motion for that one.

DR. DANA: Are there any questions, first of all, on this particular action? **Seeing none; then the Gulf Council Committee recommends and I so move that the Gulf Council accept the alternatives proposed in Action 5 for further analysis. Motion by Dale Diaz; second by Kevin Anson. Any discussion? Any opposition to the motion? The motion carries.**

MR. RINDONE: We will move over to Ben now for the South Atlantic or do you want to do the same thing; we just go through all of them?

MR. HARTIG: Yes; let's do the same thing for efficiency.

MR. RINDONE: All right, so we will go on to Action 6 now. Action 6 will revise the commercial zone quotas for Gulf kingfish. Currently those zone quotas are 31 percent for the Western Zone, 5.7 percent for the Northern Zone and 15.96 percent, respectively, for the southern handline and gillnet. You guys might notice that we've changed the names of the zones here. Just to clarify that to you, previously the Northern Zone was the Eastern Zone, Northern Subzone; and the Southern Zone was the Eastern Zone, Southern Subzone. To simplify things, we're just calling it the Northern Zone and the Southern Zone.

Alternative 2 would revise the commercial zone quotas for kingfish by dividing the amount vacated by the Florida East Coast Zone moving over to the Atlantic Zone by four and just putting those four pieces into each of the remaining four pots.

Alternative 3 is the proportional method, which takes the amount that is in a particular zone currently; so in the Western Zone's case 31 percent and divides it by the sum of the remaining zones, which is about 68 percent, and then the resulting percentage shown here is what that new allocation would be for that zone. Alternative 4, which was recommended by the Gulf Council's Mackerel AP, has the specific recommendations that they've provided for each of the four commercial zones in the Gulf.

DR. DANA: Any questions of Ryan on that Action 6? **Seeing none, the Gulf Committee recommends and I so move that the council accept the alternatives proposed in Action 6 for further analysis. Is there any opposition to that motion? The motion carries.**

The Gulf Council further recommends and I so move that the council make Alternative 4 in Action 6 the preferred alternative. Alternative 4 is to revise the commercial zone quotas for Gulf migratory group king mackerel as follows: 40 percent for the Western Zone; 18 percent for the Northern Zone; 21 percent for the Southern Zone Handline component; and 21 percent for the Southern Zone Gillnet component. Is there any opposition to the motion?

MS. LEVY: I think we talked about this during committee, but just remind council members that this document really doesn't have a complete analysis regarding the effects of all these different allocation decisions. It would be helpful, whether you do it now or some time in the future, if you're going to pick this Preferred Alternative 4, that there is some discussion about the rationale for the allocation, why it is fair and equitable and all of those things that we need to talk about when we're talking about allocation decisions, because I haven't heard much of that.

MS. BOSARGE: I am good with all the alternatives that we have in here, but I did want to discuss adding possibly another alternative, so do you want to pass this motion and then we will go on to discuss that?

DR. DANA: Yes, the motion is on the board. If there is further discussion on this particular motion, I'll take that now. Yes.

MS. BADEMAN: I was just going to say I'm okay with waiting to pick a preferred. I think it is reasonable to wait to have some numbers in front of us and some more information; not that I necessarily would oppose this, but I'm good with waiting.

DR. DANA: Mr. Perret, you originally made the motion in the committee or you supported this particular preferred. Did you have any comment?

MR. PERRET: Well, since this is my last meeting, do we have other preferreds that have been accepted? No, if we haven't, then I'll go with that; we don't need to have a preferred at this time.

DR. DANA: What I'm going to do is I'm going to call for a vote on the motion to make Alternative 4 in Action 6 the preferred alternative. You can either vote it or vote it down. **All those in favor signify by raising your hand, three in favor; those opposed raise your hand. The motion fails three to eleven.** Okay, we just had Action 6. We've moved and passed that the council accept the alternatives proposed in Action 6 for further analysis, which addresses Mara's initial concern. Ryan, do you want to move us through Action 7.

MR. RINDONE: Action 7 would revise the recreational and commercial allocations for Gulf kingfish. Currently that allocation is split 68 percent to the recreational sector and 32 percent to the commercial. Alternative 2 would revise those allocations by shifting a percentage of the recreational allocation to the commercial sector; and you have options for 5, 10 or 20 percent shift.

Then Alternative 3 would revise those allocations by shifting incremental percentages from the recreational sector to the commercial sector until such a time that the recreational sector lands 80 percent of its allocation, after which no additional allocation would be shifted from the recreational sector to the commercial sector. You have options there for shifting 2 percent of the recreational allocation annually to the commercial allocation and then 5 percent.

DR. DANA: Any questions for Ryan? Myron.

MR. FISCHER: Ryan, are there any provisions to shift any of this allocation back if the recreational sector begins harvesting more, because we also have thoughts in here about increasing the bag limit?

MR. RINDONE: No, sir, not currently.

MR. FISCHER: On a full range of analysis, shouldn't we have something to look at regarding shifting quota back if it is necessary?

MR. RINDONE: We certainly can; we just haven't heard anything yet from the public outside of – at one point there was talk of a loan program like – I'm trying to think of how to explain this. This was not recommended by the AP, but it was discussed by the AP – it ultimately wasn't recommended – where the recreational sector would loan some percentage annually after a certain point in the year.

Administratively that might prove difficult to do just with the timing and accuracy of reporting of recreational landings especially halfway through the year. After the end of Wave 3, you still have 45 days before you even know what those numbers are. That puts you halfway into Wave 4 and most of the way through the fishing year. Implementing something like that would have proven difficult and perhaps not quite as beneficial as intended. Outside of that, we haven't had any other recommendations along that avenue.

MR. DIAZ: Ryan, your answer might be the same exact for what I'm going to ask you; but at public testimony yesterday, I did hear somebody say something a little different. If I remember right, they said something to the effect that they were asking if the commercial fishermen could get half of the prior year's unused amount of the recreational allocation. Has that been discussed; and if so, is your answer any different than the answer to the previous question?

MR. RINDONE: I haven't heard that one before; but off the top of my head, we don't get the final commercial numbers from the states until usually about the end of August; so to get 2014's numbers will take until the end of August of 2015. We get the recreational estimates usually, like I said, about 45 days after the end of a wave.

That's about how long it takes to do all the data retrieval and QA/QC. You would have the recreational numbers fairly soon but still end of the season, and then NMFS would still need to do the rulemaking and noticing of the change in the quota. There would still be delay, but I can't really speak to how exactly. I would consider it to be less than the previously proposed suggestions that was discussed during the AP meeting, but how much I can't say.

MR. SANCHEZ: In the interest of just approaching this fairly, there is always the need to maximize the benefits to the nation; and clearly if one group is catching their quota and could benefit from more quota, then we should take a look at some appropriate level of shift.

But also in the interest of fairness, if we're going to give them an opportunity to raise their bag limit at some point, maybe we should let that shake out and see how that results in the overall quota. Then if there is still some left over, then revisit this and make that shift with the

understanding that if it every goes the other way, there may not be opposition to giving it back or something based on historical figures. That is about as fair as I can couch this reallocation.

MS. BOSARGE: I was looking at this and I was trying to think if the shoe was on the other foot, if we had a bunch of commercial quota that was unused, it is always your natural instinct to not let it go, don't shift it. That's scary and ends up being a bloody battle. I was trying to think of some way where we could allow the commercial fishermen to use these fish and not have to get into this huge hard-shift allocation battle.

Ryan touched on it, but it seems to be really complicated the way we've talked about it so far. If we increased the bag limit on the recreational side to three fish, our analysis shows that could increase the percent of their quota that they catch anywhere from 0.9 percent, so less than 1 percent, up to about 10 percent. That still puts them far, far from hitting their quota.

What I would offer would be to allow a yearly 20 percent soft shift of the recreational allocation over to the commercial sector each year unless the recreational sector has bumped up against its quota. The year the recreational sector bumps up against its quota, then it all reverts back to where we've been, the 32/68. Essentially each year we will compute our quotas, we'll shift over 20 percent to the commercial side, let them catch that 20 percent of the fish.

Hopefully, recreational will be increasing theirs a little bit with their increased bag limit; but still if you add 20 percent that the commercial is going to go catch plus possibly 10 percent from increasing the bag limit, that's 30 percent that the recreational would be increasing; even then they're still 15 or 20 percent from their quota, under their quota. I'm not going to make it a motion to put that alternative in there, but I would like to get some feedback on what the recreational sector thinks about having a soft shift and essentially letting us borrow a specific percentage each year until you've hit your quota.

MR. RINDONE: Something just to remember that the AP discussed, one of the things they said was of paramount importance was to try to make sure, if at all possible, that the recreational sector's kingfish access was available 365 days a year. In light of that, that's kind where the 80 percent buffer came in for Alternative 3. Just to contribute to your discussion and I guess on behalf of the AP, that might be something to consider when you guys are talking about this, a buffer between wherever that shift would stop and then the ACL might help prevent bumping up against it in the first place, but just food for thought.

MS. BECKWITH: I'm curious; we've had similar discussions on the South Atlantic and one of the questions we struggled with is when a discussion on potential allocations would occur, where would shifting percentage sort of play into? Would it somehow eventually negatively impact what the recreational allocation was; would it not be taken into consideration during future allocations discussions? I'm curious to know where you guys might be heading because we struggled with that discussion.

MS. BOSARGE: Well, if you were fine to the borrowing that I was talking about; that was the whole point, so that you don't change that hard allocation. It stays 32/68; 68 percent recreational in the Gulf for this particular stock; 68 percent recreational and 32 percent commercial. I'm sure

you don't look at these numbers; I don't know why you would, but over the past 15 years the recreational sector has been landing anywhere from, I don't know, about 50 to 65 percent of their portion of their quota; so a little over half.

What I was suggesting was let's take some steps to try and get them to utilize their percentage but also at the same time take a step that will allow the commercial sector to utilize some of those fish in a borrowing capacity – don't change the hard allocation – up until the point where they start getting close to bumping up against that threshold, their quota; and at that point we will have to revert back to the 68/32 and we quit borrowing it.

MS. BECKWITH: To that point, that was also the discussion that we had, but with the reauthorization of Magnuson coming down the pike and some discussion that there may be some requirement possibly to rediscuss allocations on some certain time period in the future, those allocations may be set right now, but in twenty years or ten years there may be a discussion of allocation percentages again. I guess one fear that the recreational sector would have is in five or ten years for some reason that percentage is up for discussion again; how would this borrowed shifting allocation come into play for a potential redistribution towards commercial.

DR. DANA: Okay, follow-up and then I'm going to make a motion.

MS. BOSARGE: Okay, and I can see where you're going with that, but essentially if we have to look at Magnuson right now, it says that we need to try and achieve the maximum sustainable yield and we're not doing that. Well, that would lend itself to a hard shift from recreational to commercial so we can achieve MSY. That is a bloody battle; I was trying to avoid that. What I was doing instead of this being hard shifted right now, let us borrow it. Yes, the argument could definitely be made to do this hard shift so we can reach MSY and utilize the fishery, but I was trying to come up with a compromise.

DR. DANA: I'm going to make a motion here; and then if there is discussion on the motion, we can take up further discussion, but it has been good discussion. **The Gulf Committee recommends and I so move that the council accept the alternatives proposed in Action 7 for further analysis.** Is there any discussion on that motion?

MS. BECKWITH: Well, the only additional point I was going to make was part of our discussions have been that the recreational sector does consider retaining some unharvested fish in order to increase abundance of those fish and make them easier to catch as one definition of optimum yield for our side of the fishery.

DR. DANA: We have a motion on the board. **Is there any opposition to the motion? The motion carries.** Ryan, walk us through Action 8, please. Leann.

MS. BOSARGE: Well, if staff going to be doing the analysis on this, I guess it would be best that we put it in there eight now if we have support for looking at that alternative. We haven't heard from Dr. Crabtree yet, and I figured for sure he was going buck the system on this because it seems like a hurdle for NMFS to calculate.

I would to see an alternative added to Action 7 which explores the possibility of a yearly utilization of a certain percentage – and that would probably mirror the 5, 10, and 20 percent we have in the other alternative – a certain percentage of the recreational quota by the commercial sector – yes, unused recreational quota up until the point that the recreational quota is met – and maybe Mara can help us wordsmith it.

MS. LEVY: I'm just wondering if – I understand what you're saying about a yearly thing, but I'm wondering if you achieve essentially the same result if you have an alternative that does the shift of whatever percent you want, but then also include the provision that says if the recreational sector lands X amount, there is an automatic shift back.

I think you might run into some sort of administrative issues with this yearly rulemaking that would have to go on with shifting the quota. If you just establish what allocation you want to move but then have a provision that automatically kicks it back to the recreational sector once a certain limit is hit, then you've done that but you don't have to make that yearly determination. I'm not sure how integral the yearly thing is to your idea.

MS. BOSARGE: So essentially, Mara, there could be some sub-options added to Alternative 2. For each one of that 5, 10 and 20 percent shift, there would be some kind of sub-option that says permanently or, b, that until the recreational sector meets its quota?

MS. LEVY: I think that you would have an alternative that is structured very similar to number two, but it would have additional language in it that had that extra provision about automatically shifting back. That would probably be easiest because you already have sub-options under Alternative 2. If you have more sub-options, it is going to be a very complicated alternative.

MR. RINDONE: Speaking on behalf of those that would be writing it, I think a separate alternative would be easier to analyze and would still achieve the goal that you're going for. One thing that I would point out to you is in the language that you've proposed you've said a certain percentage of the unused recreational quota, which is going to be a smaller amount than the total recreational quota; and so just pointing that out to you ahead of time.

For instance, if they're leaving 3 million pounds of fish in the water, then it would be based on that 3 million pounds of fish and not the 7.2 million pounds of quota they have altogether, using arbitrary numbers here.

MS. BOSARGE: Okay, I'm not greedy. I mean, I'm not so concerned about the size there; but what I am concerned about is I don't want this to get to a point where we have to compute unused each year and go from there. Strike "unused" and at the end of that motion say "and give staff editorial license to craft this alternative appropriately".

DR. DANA: We have a motion on the board; second by John Sanchez. Discussion; Corky Perret.

MR. PERRET: Leann, I assume what you mean is – of course, you've got "unused" out there now, but that portion of the recreational quota that was not taken in the previous year? In other

words, if they catch 60 percent of their quota in 2015; then a possible shift would be of a percentage of the 40 percent for 2016, for the next year.

MS. BOSARGE: No; I'm talking about let's come up with a percentage. Let's look in the past how much have they landed. I don't want to get in the position where every year we're revisiting this and trying to tweak this a little bit.

We don't need to bump it all the way up against their quota. Let's come up with something conservative. Even if you went to the 20 percent, they've still got a 15 percent buffer. Do you see what I'm saying? I don't want to get that close to it. I want to leave some room there, but let's come up with a percentage so that we don't revisit this over and over.

MR. ANSON: Anna summarized some of the concerns with the South Atlantic Council; and I kind of share some of their concerns relative to fixing this and making it a permanent change. I was wondering, Ryan, if this could one of the alternatives, maybe, is that there would be a defined time period that would be in the alternative that you say for five years, if this would work.

Then there would be a chance for the council to kind of evaluate how the performance was, if you will, of meeting those unmet needs that are currently in the commercial sector and yet did we get an improvement in the access or did it go too much. I'm just wonder that maybe we should look at maybe a sunset provision and whether or not that needs to be in the motion. If that could be an alternative I'm unsure of. I guess I just wanted to get that out for some discussion.

MS. BOSARGE: I guess I sunsetted it in the sense that I said when they bump up against that recreational quota, what automatically happens is it reverts.

MR. ANSON: Right, but this is an ongoing thing and it will go on in perpetuity under this scenario as I interpret it; and unless we come back and revisit it, it is just going to remain that way. I'm looking at something that would kind of put a little bit of stopgap in that style or that management approach and that you would define a number of years potentially that this management approach would occur; and then you would have time at that point to analyze and look at the actual results of how the landings occurred recreationally and commercially relative to their respective quotas. That's all I'm trying to suggest.

MS. BOSARGE: I'm not opposed to that.

MR. BOYD: The numbers for the recreational catch come from MRIP, is that correct, in king mackerel?

DR. DANA: Ryan, do the king mackerel numbers come from MRIP? Yes.

MR. BOYD: Okay, we are in a recalibration for many species in MRIP. Are we sure that these numbers represent the recreational sector not catching their quota are accurate?

MR. RINDONE: They're good. Ms. Bosarge, if you can see that up on the board, I have added a sentence here which you had described during the discussion that you had given that I think

captures part of what Chairman Anson's concern was with when does this end. It says, "If the recreational ACL is met, the recreational and commercial allocations will revert to 68 percent for the recreational sector and 32 percent for the commercial sector". Does that capture what your intent was originally?

MS. BOSARGE: Yes, sir.

MR. RINDONE: And so for the sake of just repeating the discussion for clarity for everybody; as this soft shift is going on, then if that ACL is met, then it goes back. The other thing was there was discussion of this word right here, having this be a yearly utilization; and so does that need to continue to be included with the inclusion of the sentence that I've just read?

I guess my point is that the way this is structured right now, this would be reviewed each year. NMFS would have to publish some new each year; but if you remove the yearly part of it, then it gets put out there initially with whatever percentage the Gulf Council agrees upon. Then if the recreational ACL is met, then it reverts back to the old allocation and then the council can take up further action to address it at will.

MS. BOSARGE: Yes; I see what you're getting at. From paperwork, administrative bureaucratic standpoint, we can remove the word "yearly", and staff has editorial license and you've heard what Chairman Anson said about a possible timeframe for this to happen in five, ten, fifteen years, whatever. That's part of staff's editorial license if you want to add those options.

DR. DANA: Okay, Ryan, I think you understand where Leann is going so you have the editorial license to refine this motion. To go back to Doug Boyd's question on MRIP, he asked the question of given that there is a recalibration ongoing and given that king mackerel falls under the MRIP for recreational – Doug, do you want to ask your question on recalibration?

MR. BOYD: Well, I just have a concern that the numbers are not accurate. We've seen a change in the catch numbers in red snapper and in other species; and so I'm not convinced that we are not catching more than what really has been reported. I would hate to see us move any allocation until we have good numbers and we've tried other management options.

DR. DANA: I'll remind folks this is just to add an alternative. Corky Perret to the point.

MR. PERRET: All I wanted to say is this is only an alternative. If the data changes higher or lower with new MRIP calibration and that's the best science, so be it, but I think John Sanchez summed it up very well. We are not fishing at MSY. We're not getting the greatest benefit for the nation, and that is what we're trying to do, provide that as required by Magnuson now. If the numbers on the recreational sector change and they go up, this is moot, forget about it, but it is trying to utilize fish that are not being taken.

DR. DANA: Okay, Camp Matens and Myron Fischer and Zack and then I'm going to call the vote.

MR. MATENS: I want to go on record as saying from the recreational standpoint, I'm in favor of this kind of move. The devil is always in the details. I am mindful of Mr. Boyd's comment about MRIP. I also am mindful that in my personal experience in questioning fishermen, I don't think there is a lot of recreational fishermen that can move from a limit of two to a limit of three or anything else greater. I just don't think the desire is that great for people to do that. Again, I want to give my support for this concept. Who knows how we vote when we see the numbers, but thank you very much for doing this.

MR. FISCHER: I don't want to make a substitute motion or amendment and I'll just ask Leann at the beginning where it says "which explores the possibility of a utilization of a certain percentage", if we just say "temporarily transfers a certain percentage". I don't know the possibility of utilization; just say "temporary transfers".

DR. DANA: Let Ryan address that.

MR. RINDONE: Might I suggest swapping "temporarily" with "conditionally" since within the proposed alternative there is a pretty clear condition on which that would change back?

DR. DANA: Are you okay with that, Leann?

MS. BOSARGE: Honestly, I didn't put "transfer" in there because I thought would scare the hell out of the recreational sector. I was trying to get away from the word "transfer".

MR. FISCHER: That is why I used "temporarily".

MS. BOSARGE: So I said just let us use it; we don't want to take it, just use it, but we left staff editorial license or however they want to put it, I'm good with it.

DR. DANA: For the record, Leann said "heck". (Laughter)

MR. BOWEN: My question is to Mr. Doug Boyd. Your concerns about MRIP and the numbers; is your concern that MRIP's numbers are higher than what is actually going on or lower than what is actually going on?

MR. BOYD: My concern is that I don't think they're accurate. I don't know where they're going to go. We've seen that the numbers have changed. I don't know in every species, but it looks like they're significantly different in some species. Before we do anything, I think we ought to have accurate numbers and we ought to look at all the management options available for the recreational sector.

DR. DANA: Ryan, to that point and then I'm calling the vote.

MR. RINDONE: In the king mackerel stock assessment, which was SEDAR 38, there was an adjustment that was made for the change in the charterboat reporting that was initiated in 1997 and fully implemented in 1999, and that resulted in a pretty significant drop in the recreational

landings. That was fully hindcast in the most recent stock assessment back to the beginning of the recreational time period.

Also, done in this most recent stock assessment was the MRIP calibration which raised those recreational landings' numbers up again after they were dropped from the previously stated recalibration. The numbers are very accurate with low percent standard error for king mackerel. As MRIP continues to evolve certain changes in its program, there is always the possibility that those adjustments could result in some tweaks in what the numbers actually are; but for the data that we have and from what came out of the stock assessment, they are accurate.

DR. DANA: We have a motion on the board to add an alternative to Action 7 which explores the possibility of utilization of a certain percentage, 5 percent, 10 percent, 20 percent, of the recreational quota to the commercial sector up until the point that the recreational quota is met. If the recreational ACL is met, the recreational and commercial allocations will revert to 68 percent for the recreational sector and 32 percent for the commercial sector. We are giving staff editorial license to craft the alternative appropriately.

MR. WILLIAMS: Somebody offer some change in language under the "explores the possibility" or Myron offered a change and then Ryan suggested – could we make that change? Does the maker have any objection to that change? Was it conditionally transfers?

MR. FISCHER: My thought was I didn't like the "explores the possibility". It is a motion to do an action and not explore the possibility. I still like temporary transfer because conditionally transfer could be understood to be a permanent transfer under certain conditions. I think you want to let the public know that it is a temporary measure and that it could revert back. I think on a level like the public. I don't think like you scientists.

MR. RINDONE: Using a word like "temporary" suggests time which would require some sort of formal time period after which this is no longer the case. By saying "conditionally", the rest of the language in the alternative allows for this alternative to lapse back to what we currently have in the event the recreational ACL is met. That's just the difference there. I guess I'm kind of asking for an either/or or and or try to figure out what exactly your goal might be.

DR. DANA: Roy, are you satisfied with the change? Okay, Leann as the maker of the motion, are you satisfied to let staff now move forward on this?

MS. BOSARGE: Yes, because they have editorial license; I trust them.

DR. DANA: Myron, I'm assuming that you're okay with this language?

MR. FISCHER: Yes, as long as Ryan – Ryan is going to be one explaining it at all the public hearings; so if he can explain it here, that's good.

DR. DANA: Do I need to read this motion again, Mara?

MS. LEVY: Why don't you just do it for the record so we can record it?

DR. DANA: For the record, we have a motion on the board to add an alternative to Action 7 to conditionally transfer a certain percentage, 5 percent, 10 percent, 20 percent, of the recreational quota to the commercial sector up until the point that the recreational quota is met. If the recreational ACL is met, the recreational and commercial allocations will revert to 68 percent for the recreational sector and 32 percent for the commercial sector. We give staff editorial license to craft the alternative appropriately. All those in favor please signify by raising your hand; those opposed. Fourteen to one; the motion passes. Ryan, take us through Action 8, please.

MR. RINDONE: Action 8 would modify the recreational bag limit for Gulf kingfish, which is currently two fish per person per day. Alternative 2 would increase that to three fish, and Alternative 3 would increase it to four. The council and AP had requested a bag limit analysis on seeing what the impacts would be of raising the recreational bag limit.

They used a couple of different methods. One assumes that folks that are currently discarding fish after keeping the bag limit would keep them. One assumes that folks that are currently catching two would catch three or would catch four, depending on what is chosen. The cliff notes version of this is that method notwithstanding, increasing the bag limit is not projected to increase the amount of fish kept by the recreational sector by an amount that is going to substantially change how much of their quota they actually land.

DR. DANA: The Gulf Committee recommends and I so move that the council accept the alternatives proposed in Action 8 for further analysis. Is there any opposition to that motion? The motion passes. I don't know, Ryan, if you or Kari that goes into the task and timing.

DR. MacLAUHLIN: We would like the South Atlantic to maybe make a motion for Actions 5 through 8 or discuss those.

DR. DUVAL: Mr. Chairman, I move that the South Atlantic Council approve all the changes made by the Gulf Council for Actions 5 through 8.

MR. HARTIG: Seconded by Doug. Further discussion by the South Atlantic Council? Is there any objection to this motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved. Before we go back to Kari on the timing issues, I'd like to thank the Gulf Council for their discussion on that Action 7. We've had some extensive discussions. It is not king mackerel so much in our area; it is Spanish. We would like to see if you can something that is operational; we may actually use it in Spanish in the future on our side.

DR. DANA: Ryan and Kari, on the timing and task.

MR. RINDONE: Chairman Hartig, do you want to lead the South Atlantic Council on timing and task?

MR. HARTIG: Yes; and that's what happens when you get into discussions. All right, timing and task motion; the motion is to adopt the timing and task items as presented: to prepare Draft

Amendment 26 for review in September of 2015; allow the staff and the IPT to reorganize the document and actions as necessary. I need someone to make that motion. Jessica.

MS. McCAWLEY: I move that we adopt the task and timing items as presented.

MR. HARTIG: Seconded by Mel. Is there any discussion on that motion? Is there objection to that motion? Seeing none; that motion is approved.

DR. DANA: Can I get a motion from the Gulf Council to adopt the task and timing items as presented? Corky Perret made the motion; Martha Bademan seconded. Any discussion? Is there any opposition to the motion? The motion carries.

MR. HARTIG: That brings us to the end of 26, if I'm not mistaken. It is lunchtime and we're eight minutes in your lunch. I'm still going to ask you to be back by 1:30.

(Whereupon, the meeting was recessed at 12:08 o'clock p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 o'clock p.m.)

MR. HARTIG: The next item of business to come before the joint council is Amendment 28, separate FMPs and permits. I'll turn it over to Dr. Dana.

DR. DANA: CMP Amendment 28; the South Atlantic Council has directed their staff to discontinue work on CMP Amendment 28. The Gulf Council needs to decide whether they want to continue working on Amendment 28. In our committee meeting, staff summarized public comments received with respect to the main purpose of the amendment, which is to split the commercial king and Spanish mackerel fishing permits into a Gulf and Atlantic permit, respectively.

Though not many public comments were received during scoping meetings, those which were received indicated general support for splitting the permits so long as historical fishermen were protected. **The Gulf Committee recommends and I so move that staff continue work on CMP Amendment 28. Is there any discussion on that motion? Is there any opposition from the Gulf Council on that motion? We've got one opposed. Those in favor of moving forward continuing the work on Amendment 28 from the Gulf Council. Eleven for and one opposed; the motion passes.** Again, this is just to continue work on Amendment 28; nothing more and nothing less.

MR. HARTIG: If you're going to continue working on it, it would be nice to know what you're going to try and do. Are you still considering a possible divorce and things of that nature? Possibly, okay. When we see this options paper again, that is what you're going to be trying to do for the future?

DR. DANA: Ryan can help me with this to refresh my memory; but our King Mackerel CMP AP came together several months ago and debated this particular amendment in detail. By and large, they were very supportive of investigating the permit split and other aspects of the amendment.

MR. RINDONE: The Gulf AP met and they spent a lot of time crafting a motion – not a motion, sorry, an alternative that they thought would help with determining who would get a Gulf permit. They had recommended establishing two separate permits; one which would be fully transferable, meaning it could be sold to anybody; and then one which would be non-transferable, which would mean that the current permit holder wouldn't lose their permit but they wouldn't be sell it either.

They had a couple of different ideas for who would get the fully transferable permit, such as using landings, like historical landings, to determine possibly how long someone has held on to a permit to help protect some of the historical fishermen. They had tossed around some other ideas, but ultimately they liked the idea of using landings.

We did receive some comments while we went out to scoping that how long you've held your permit should also come into play in whether or not yours is fully transferable. The only requirement for the non-transferable permit – the only big requirement was that you had to have a hailing port that was in the Gulf of Mexico.

On your permit it might say David Walker lives in Orlando but has a hailing port of Tampa Bay. You could get a non-transferable permit in the Gulf at a minimum; but if your hailing port was, say, Daytona Beach, then you wouldn't qualify for one the way that the AP had written it. Of course, that was just one alternative that they proposed and certainly it doesn't have to be the entire scope; but that was kind of the direction that they were going in.

MR. HARTIG: It has been an interesting ride. In 20A, I guess it was, we had a whole suite of things which is essentially what the Gulf AP put back together, reconstituted. Sometimes these things are a question of timing. We wanted to move forward; you guys weren't comfortable at the time. Now you want to move it forward and we're not so sure.

We have had comments from our AP not to because they're basically scared to death of what may happen with how the permits are structured and whether or not traditional fishermen will still be able to participate in Gulf fishery. I see it as a package. I see some good things in being able to bring something to the public that you guys develop and that our fishermen can see what you're doing; and then I see some things on our side we could do in 28 that might help us as well.

Even though our AP has said and we have said we're going to quit working on 28, I think at least personally I could be convinced that we may want to stay – get back on the road to 28, see what possibly our council could do in that and then see how your 28 develops.

If it gets to the point where it looks like our fishermen are not going to be considered in your permit considerations; then we may have to throw up our arms in the end to go; but if it is a fair and equitable way, I see us moving forward. As far as the divorce goes, I think we're probably ready if you guys want to consider that. You can't afford it, I know. That's my personal comments and I don't know how the rest of the council feels about 28.

DR, DANA: Ryan and then I would open it up to South Atlantic and Gulf Council comments, if any.

MR. RINDONE: As far as the divorce or for those playing the home game, the division of the FMP into Gulf and Atlantic components, we don't have formal alternatives in an options paper for you guys to look at that; so that is something that staff would have to develop. If that is something that you guys want to consider is formally dividing the FMP, the purpose of Amendment 28 currently was to divide the permits. If you want to divide the FMPs, then you would need to add that to the scope of work.

DR. DANA: You as in Ben or you as in Pam?

MR. RINDONE: You as in y'all, everybody, the whole you less the two of us over here in the corner.

MR. HARTIG: Well, you've heard my personal ideas on the subject. Any other ideas from the other council members on a possible divorce? Do you want to wait and separate the permits and maybe take that up down the road later? That's another possibility and see how the separation of permits works.

MS. BADEMAN: Well, just based on I think the discussion that the Gulf had at the last meeting, I think what you were trying to maybe accomplish with this permit split is splitting the FMP and being able to go out on your own on things. I think it would make sense to look at the whole package. I imagine this is a pretty formidable task, so I'll hear what other people have to say as well.

MR. PHILLIPS: I'm also thinking about Leann's additional – so if the Gulf fishermen figure out a way to fish longer, maybe then they aren't so much worried about a split. I think it is all about them being able to fish longer; and if they can fish longer in some method; maybe it doesn't matter so much. Maybe then there might be enough fish to go around; just a thought.

MR. HARTIG: Well, there is the fishermen's concerns and there is the efficiency that would work for the councils. Basically, sometimes we get into your business and sometimes you get into ours, and that is not very productive at times. I hate to be put in that position, frankly. I don't like to be put in that position.

Eventually I'd like to see us manage the stocks because the stocks are much more succinct now. We gave a much smaller mixing zone, and I think we're going to let you guys manage that mixing zone because it makes more sense. From my perspective I'd like to see us manage our own stocks of animals.

MR. SANCHEZ: I agree with Ben. It is not just numbers of fish and this and that. I think we're working towards sorting that out with all the boundary changes and stuff. It is a matter of efficiency in this process. It is a very slow process by design; and then when you make it a joint situation, it exponentially makes it slower. I think that's what we're trying to address with this; not so much numbers of fish in the Gulf and prolonged seasons, just efficiency in this process. That is something that I would to see. I guess in summary you're not just a little divorce; you're either divorced or you're not.

MR. RINDONE: Chairman Hartig's comment about efficiency in the process is certainly one that has been talked about at least at the IPT level. Something I guess for you guys to consider is that if it is the will of both councils to have the Gulf ultimately manage the mixing zone for king mackerel, the option that is currently present in CMP Amendment 26 for that is to set the boundary at the Dade/Monroe County Line, that also happens to be the same boundary that both councils use for Spanish mackerel.

Cobia; currently the boundary for that stock for the Gulf versus the Atlantic is at the Florida/Georgia Line. Cobia might be a little bit more tricky to tease apart if the FMPs were divided. I couldn't say how hard or not hard that would be right now. If that was something that you were looking for, you guys are kind of putting the pieces in place that would need to be put in place to make the division of the FMPs more feasible. But without 26 having been passed yet – we're still obviously in the development stages on that – there are components of that would need to go through to make a division of the FMP a little bit more doable.

MR. HARTIG: Any other thoughts? All right, is anybody willing to make a motion to add that into 28? I don't see any will on either side; so given that, we won't. Where does that leave us, Ryan?

MR. RINDONE: In the absence of a motion from the South Atlantic Council to resume work on the amendment, then it would just be the Gulf. The Gulf can direct their staff I suppose to continue work on it, but it is still a joint FMP so it would still require the South Atlantic Council to adopt for it for it ever mean anything. At that point it is just whether or not the Gulf, in light of the South Atlantic Council not wanting to take it up again; does the Gulf still want to take it up.

MR. HARTIG: Well, you don't need a motion from us basically or do you? You need a motion if we're going to reinitiate 28, I guess.

MR. RINDONE: Correct. Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: It seems to me like we're just going to be spending a lot of staff time on something that's not going to be very productive at the moment. We've got a lot of other things we're working on; so I guess my preference would be to drop it for now.

MR. HARTIG: Yes; and we have a lot of things we're doing on our council side as well and staff time is precious, I understand. I don't know if it's the will of our council to want to deal with 28 anytime soon.

DR. DANA: I'll just remind the Gulf Council the reason that our AP and some of the industry – a lot of the industry was supporting moving forward with Amendment 28 is because of the zoning on the choose-your-zone controversy; fishermen going outside of their zone and fishing out the king mackerel, whatever the allotment is for the various regions before the people who lived there even had an opportunity to fish it. At least in the Gulf there is angst in the industry, and that is what prompted the continued support on moving forward of Amendment 28. Ryan.

MR. RINDONE: I guess if you guys are looking for an idea of what you could do next; we obviously have a little bit of information that we've developed. We have the scoping comments that we have received. If you didn't want to completely do away with this but you just wanted to sit on it for a while until perhaps a more opportune moment comes up in the future, you could table it.

MR. SANCHEZ: I don't know if the motion I'm kind of contemplating making will address all of the issues or something but at least maybe it will get us going in that direction of looking at it. I will make a motion that we add to the scope of work in this amendment to proceed with some mechanism that allows us to proceed with separate fisheries' management plans for the Gulf and the Atlantic with respect to king mackerel and Spanish mackerel.

DR. DANA: Kevin, did you have a comment that you wanted to make prior to a motion being placed on the board? If so, I'll ask the motion maker to rescind his motion for a moment.

MR. ANSON: No; but depending upon this motion, I might want to come back to it.

DR. DANA: Okay, we've got a motion on the board; do I have a second?

MR. RINDONE: We need John to speak into the mike a little bit better.

DR. DANA: All right, we don't have a motion on the board but we're going to in a moment.

MR. SANCHEZ: Add to the scope of work in Amendment 28 that we proceed with separate FMPs in the management of king mackerel and Spanish mackerel. You could wordsmith that however you need to so it makes more sense.

DR. DANA: Okay, we have a motion on the board; do we have a second?

MR. PERRET: I'll second.

DR. DANA: Corky Perret seconds. Discussion? NOAA Counsel.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: John, did you want to include cobia in there, too, since that's part of the Coastal Migratory Pelagics FMP?

MR. SANCHEZ: Yes; add cobia, please.

DR. DANA: Can I ask the question of NOAA Counsel as to why cobia, because cobia in all the other discussions with the king mackerel hasn't been –

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: My recollection is the three species in the Coastal Migratory Pelagics FMP are king mackerel, Spanish mackerel and cobia. It is up to you; but if you don't include cobia, then I guess you'd have a joint – we'd have to work out that cobia is still jointly managed by both councils. I guess it is for efficiency purposes or for whatever purposes you're thinking about, but there is three species in the CMP FMP and cobia is one of them.

DR. DANA: Correct, but what we're dealing with in Amendment 28 is the splitting of the permits; and while this is FMP – this motion – cobia doesn't have a permit. It is managed by the Gulf states in our area, but the king mackerel does and Spanish has an open permit.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I agree; his motion then went to separate FMPs; so if you just deal with king and Spanish, where does that leave cobia? It is up to you; I'm just asking a question.

MR. SANCHEZ: I don't have any hard feelings on cobia other than if it detracts from the objective that I'm obviously trying to accomplish; but let's discuss it and if it needs to pull out, I'll be glad to make that.

DR. DANA: Further discussion on the motion? Kari.

DR. MacLAUHLIN: If you took cobia out of the motion, then what you're thinking the end product would be is Gulf King and Spanish Mackerel FMP, South Atlantic King and Spanish Mackerel FMP and then joint Cobia FMP. That is my understanding of what would be left, I guess, and I wanted to see if that's what you guys were thinking; or, it would be Gulf CMP, which would be all three species, and Atlantic CMP.

MR. WILLIAMS: John, how would king and Spanish mackerel in the Florida Keys; how do they fit into this? We're going to discuss at least later today about the Gulf Council possibly managing king and Spanish mackerel from the Dade/Monroe County Line. I know you're trying to simplify this; I'm not sure it is simplifiable, though. Where do you see this fitting?

MR. SANCHEZ: Again, there is a lot of moving parts in this, obviously, but given that we're looking at restructuring the boundary lines and simplifying it, at least right now there is a preferred alternative to equate percentages to that, then we'll look at the assessment and subsequent quota and what those percentages result in pounds per area.

There is going to be some happier people and some unhappier people. But right now in terms of divorcing, I think it is high time for this process to run more efficiently and smoothly down the road; and this will be an ongoing process. As our assessment yields lower quotas in subsequent years, we're going to be looking at recreational reallocation and all of these types of things.

It just seems a lot easier to address this with one area rather than both and have this thing take three times as long as it should. I think the fishermen in the Keys would prefer in this case being that most of their fishery is in the Gulf to go ahead and be in the Gulf. Dade/Monroe kind of catches that so I think we would be okay with separating these two fisheries.

MS. BADEMAN: To Roy's point, I think one thing the councils could look at is doing what we're considering for hogfish and what we've done for Nassau grouper where it is not the delegation but there is the process for one removes it from the FMP and the other one picks it up. In my mind I think that's how you would do it, kind of. Permits would be a whole other issue, but in terms of picking up that area in the Gulf.

MR. WALKER: I think a lot of the fishermen in the Western Gulf and Northern Gulf would probably had rather separate the fishery management plan. I think there are some fishery management plans they may be interested in that the South Atlantic may not be interested in.

MR. GREENE: Just out of curiosity, where is 28 in the scheme of things? Are we doing a scoping document here or what is the status of the document that we're working on here; just so I can make sure I'm clear. There has been a lot going on today; I just want to make sure I'm –

MR. GREGORY: It was taken to scoping so it is like the initial stage of an options paper, but it is not well fleshed out yet.

MR. GREENE: So if we came in with something like this, I guess it would have to go back to scoping because it is a new idea; is that correct?

MR. GREGORY: Not necessarily, because the council meetings themselves and the public testimony is part of the scoping process.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, to be a divorce counsellor again, it seems like we just went through this. I think that it will be much more complicated and convoluted to try and move the boundary anywhere other than the council boundary if you separate the FMPs. I think it would be much cleaner and easier to move the boundary with the Joint FMP. We already have it set up where we can do a lot of actions independently of each other through the framework. I think it would make more sense to try and expand the things we can do independently of each other, keep the FMP joint, put the boundary where you want it to be. That's just my two cents on it; so I'd probably vote against this.

MR. SANCHEZ: To that end, as long as we get to the same place and there are many roads to take us there, I really don't care which one. I'm just kind of viewing this as an option, I guess, to be explored. We continue with this document; and if we flush out that there are other mechanisms that are easier or we can accomplish with greater ease, framework stuff, this and that, and we can accomplish all of the objections that we may be considering through framework; then maybe we arrive at that place where we don't need the full divorce of something; just some counselling. I don't know, but the thing is to get this efficient and right now I don't think it is.

DR. DANA: Any further discussion the motion? **Okay, we've got a Gulf motion on board. It is to add to the scope of work in Amendment 28 to proceed with separate FMPs in the management of king mackerel, Spanish mackerel and cobia. Raise your hands if you're in favor of the motion; those opposed. Eleven to three, the motion passes.**

MR. HARTIG: All right, we've got a Gulf Council motion to separate the FMPs. Do we feel the same on the South Atlantic side? Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, I don't think I do. I don't know; you all have heard me.

MR. HARTIG: Just say no twice.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, I think I do. I've consulted with my two attorneys.

MR. HARTIG: So unless there is a motion to do this on our side – I don't see a motion. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: Mr. Chairman, I wasn't going to make a motion. I feel like the process we went through before in Amendment 20A when we discussed this was so exhausting; and not that there may not be value in doing this, I just think now is the wrong time at least on our side. We have so much going on.

When I step back and take a look at the big picture, I just can't see adding this extra burden right now. I would agree with Roy that maybe we can look at the framework and see if there is opportunities within there to accomplish some of the things that we might want to do. I'm not saying not ever; I'm just saying not right now. That is just my personal feeling.

MR. HARTIG: We don't have a motion so what happens? Ryan.

MR. RINDONE: This kind of brings us back to where we were just a minute ago where the Gulf want to do it and the South Atlantic doesn't. The only way it actually goes into practice is if the South Atlantic picks it up also. Without a motion directing staff to do anything different from the Gulf, basically Gulf staff would work on this but the South Atlantic staff would not. The South Atlantic staff wouldn't be providing much in the way of input to it; and we would still not be able to put it into practice without the South Atlantic's approval.

MR. HARTIG: So basically you could still do this; you could still go through the process. When you brought it back to us, if we approved it, you could do it in the Gulf. That's what I need to know; I need to have that straight in my mind. I see a lot of heads shaking that is exactly what we can do.

MR. RINDONE: No, that's not quite – we can't split the permits without consent from both councils. We can't split the FMP without consent from both councils. To do anything that has been included in the current scope of work requires consent from both councils. Otherwise, it is just one council generating paperwork.

MR. ANSON: I go back to what you had said, Ben, just a little bit ago in regards to how to proceed. We hear that there is some concerns among South Atlantic Council members for the some of the actions that could potentially come forward through 28. You've also heard that we certainly have a desire to try to proceed.

I did hear I thought from that maybe if some meat on the bone, as it were, were to come forward through a more fleshed-out document; that might be a point of discussion among your council and maybe there will be some points that we could move forward with within that initial document, maybe; so based on that, I think maybe we ought to go ahead and go forward.

Granted, yes, we always have things to do and there is lots of things on our plates at any point in time, but this has been a fairly long-standing issue. We certainly hear it on a regular basis; and so I feel like we should make every attempt that we can to try to move forward with achieving some

change. I think from that, Ryan – sorry to take over, Dana, but, Ryan, you’ve got enough information? We’ve passed a motion and you can go ahead and start still working on 28, correct?

MR. RINDONE: We can generate some options for you guys to look at. I’m curious as to what else I can really accomplish or what the IPT could accomplish besides just generating options.

MR. ANSON: I think that would be helpful. It would be something more for us to look at.

MR. HARTIG: I just think as an observation and going to your meetings and the observations on our side, both of our councils are consumed with reef fish. Mackerel is a very important part of the management of both of these councils; and sometimes mackerels get the short end of the stick as far as the management direction. I’m heartened to see that you’re going to go ahead; so we’ll have something to look at as well from your discussions; so stay tuned.

MR. SANCHEZ: I don’t think I could have orchestrated a better example of why we need to separate this than what just transpired. We’re paralyzed now and we can’t explore options. We may, as we explore enough options, arrive at a mutually agreeable, amicable divorce; but here we are, we’re stuck. I guess when we get into South Florida later, you’re going to see some more shining examples of joint management.

MR. PHILLIPS: Ben, in our effort to go forward on the South Atlantic side, do we want to just table this or what kind of –

MR. HARTIG: We don’t have to do anything because we’ve already voted not to move forward with 28; so that’s where we are. That’s our current position.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, just to the comment John just made, we’re going to get into the South Florida Plan; and a lot of the reason we have this problem in South Florida is because we don’t have a joint FMP. The one fishery down in South Florida that hasn’t really come up in all this is spiny lobster; and that’s because it is a joint FMP.

DR. DANA: Any further discussion? Okay, the Gulf Council does have – we have directed staff to continue work on CMP Amendment 28; and also this motion, the South Atlantic is choosing not to move forward at this time. I think, Mr. Chairman, this concludes my report.

MR. HARTIG: Well, that brings us to basically the end of discussions; am I correct, Kari and Ryan? We are through with the joint mackerel part of our committee discussions, so we will move into the Joint Florida Issues, if I’m not mistaken.

MS. McCRAWLEY: All right, we’re ready to get started with the Joint South Florida. What we’re looking at is a document called Tab 4D, Gulf Committee Report on Joint Florida Documentation with the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. If you’re on the South Atlantic side, that document was e-mailed to you yesterday evening by Mike Collins.

Johnny Greene and myself are going to be walking you through this document. I am going to take kind of this document in chunks based on what the different councils did earlier this week. It looks

like the first item that we have here is relative to the purpose and need. It appears that we have adopted two different purpose and need statements. Gregg, do you want to tell us a little bit about that?

MR. WAUGH: The Gulf Council Committee approved starting out the purpose and need to read, “The purpose of this amendment is to provide consistent fisheries management measures to reef fish species unique to the South Florida Region.”

The South Atlantic Committee approved the modified purpose and need suggested by the IPT; and it starts out “The purpose for this amendment is to simplify fisheries management issues unique to reef fish species in the South Atlantic Region, which are currently managed by different regulatory agencies in the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic and state of Florida waters.” Are you just dealing with the purpose first?

MS. McCAWLEY: Sure, we’ll do it that way.

MR. WAUGH: Okay, so those are the two just slight wording differences.

MS. McCAWLEY: Johnny, I’m going to turn it over to you to talk about the purpose statement for the Gulf and I guess make that motion for the Gulf.

MR. GREENE: If there are any Gulf Council members that wish to weigh in on this, I guess now is the time. Ms. Bademan.

MS. BADEMAN: Well, I think ours is a little bit different. This went back to Corky’s point about consistency rather than simplicity. I don’t know if we need a motion to adopt what we’ve already adopted. It wasn’t through a motion, it looks like, anyway. It just we discussed the purpose and need and modified it that way. If you need a motion to edit the purpose to say, “The purpose of this amendment is to provide consistent fisheries management measures to reef fish species unique to the South Florida Region,” I can do that. Is that what we need?

MR. GREENE: I’m not sure; is that what we’re after here?

MS. McCAWLEY: Isn’t that what we need is a motion from the Gulf to adopt that?

MR. WAUGH: Yes; and I will use the front end of their wording and the rest of it Kari has said was the same as ours; so I’ll paste that in.

MS. BADEMAN: So I’ll make a motion for the Gulf to adopt the purpose and needs language on the board that I just read.

MR. GREENE: He is getting the motion up on the board, but I think everybody knows what we’re doing. Gulf Council members, is there any opposition to this motion? Seeing no opposition; the motion carries.

MS. McCAWLEY: All right, on the South Atlantic, we're getting this on the board and you can see the modified purpose statement on the Gulf. You had Martha and Johnny explain a little bit about why they changed it. What they really changed is they changed "simplicity" to "provide consistent fisheries management measures." What we had adopted was different language suggested by the IPT. Is there a motion to consider the same language? Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: Madam Chair, I move that we adopt the modified purpose statement as edited by the Gulf Council.

MR. HARTIG: Second.

MS. McCAWLEY: Seconded by Ben. Anymore discussion on that purpose statement? Any opposition to that statement? Seeing none; that stands approved. Now we are on to the need statement, and I'll turn it over to Gregg to talk a little bit about and show us exactly where it is on the document where that new need statement is that the Gulf chose.

MR. WAUGH: That is the wording highlighted; "The need for this amendment is to increase the public's awareness and compliance with differing regulations based on separate regulatory agencies across adjacent bodies of water. That is Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic and Florida state waters." Then the second sentence is the same. The South Atlantic says the need for this amendment is to decrease the public's burden of compliance; so we had decrease the public's burden versus increase the public's awareness.

MR. HAYMANS: So now having sat and compared the two, we're not increasing the public's awareness and compliance with differing regulations. They are already quite aware of the differing regulations. We're trying to make sure that they can – well, we're trying to decrease their burden, so I really agree with the Gulf's first half there.

MS. McCAWLEY: The Gulf's first half is the one that says "increase the public's awareness". The South Atlantic says "to decrease the public's burden".

MR. HAYMANS: I stand corrected.

MR. PERRET: I'm old and I can't hear so I didn't hear what he said, but this was some suggested language I made. I think this is more of a positive statement than starting out with a negative statement, and that's the only reason I suggested doing it this way.

MS. McCAWLEY: Corky, what Doug was saying was, yes, he agrees it is a positive statement, but he feels like we're not increasing the public's awareness with this amendment. They're already aware of the problem.

MR. PERRET: Well, I'm sure they are, but anything we can do to improve their awareness and our awareness I think is going in the right direction.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Can't you increase the public's awareness and decrease their burden of compliance? To me it seems like you could push those things together, because you have good

reasons why each council has stated their particular need. It seems that you could put them together.

MR. PERRET: I don't know what the original one says; that's why I can't compare it. The main thing is the compliance thing.

MS. McCAWLEY: The original one is on the board. It is towards the bottom of the page. It is actually split between the two pages right now; and it is the one that is not bolded in the document. That is the original one.

MR. PERRET: Compliance is the main thing. The awareness I don't think is necessary. If you've got a problem with it, I don't have a problem seeing it changed.

MR. HAYMANS: Madam Chair, I make a motion that we accept the South Atlantic need's statement.

MS. McCAWLEY: Which is on the board right now. Do we have a second; seconded by Michelle. Under discussion. In case you're confused with the document, it is now on the board what that need statement is. I'll give you a moment to read it. Okay, anymore discussion on this motion? **Any objection to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.** I am going to kick it over to Johnny to see if you'd like to do something similar on the Gulf.

MR. GREENE: Okay, Gulf Council, we've heard their discussion and all. Does anybody wish to make a motion?

MR. PERRET: Well, I don't know if I should have spoke before you voted, but you're decreasing the public's burden of compliance. My language was to increase compliance. Decreasing the burden of compliance seems more negative to me; but if that's the way you want to go, so be it, but I just preferred the other language. It is not a deal-breaker although we keep acquiescing to the South Atlantic Council for the most part.

MR. GREENE: Any further comments about the need that the South Atlantic has provided?

MS. BADEMAN: **I would move that we – I would copy this need's statement but I would replace the words “decrease the public's burden f” with “facilitate” so that the need for this amendment is to facilitate compliance with differing regulations, ya de ya de ya de ya.** It is a little bit happier word. I know Corky is looking for happy, but I think it still gets to what we're trying to do here.

MR. GREENE: **We have a motion that is on the board; approve the need as modified.** You can see the change that has been stricken, the strike-through. Is there a second for this motion? Seconded by Mr. Roy Williams. Anymore discussion? **Any opposition to the motion on the board? Seeing no opposition; the motion carries.**

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, back to us. We've got multiple hands in the air. I'm going to go to Doug first.

MR. HAYMANS: So the need to facilitate compliance with different regulations, we're not trying to facilitate different regulations. We're trying to get to one set of regulations. The differing regulations' part; we're trying to reduce the burden of differing regulations by coming to a single set of regulations. That just doesn't make sense to me.

MR. HARTIG: Well, I'll tell you the IPT will look at this purpose and need in detail; and as we usually see when we craft a purpose and need, it is coming back to us and then we'll approve the IPT wording for the purpose and need. I don't think we need to get into a wordsmithing contest here today. Basically, if with the improvement that Martha has added it makes it somewhat better for them, I don't have a problem with that. Like I say, if it doesn't meet – if the need doesn't jive with the purpose, then we'll get that back and that will happen.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, based on that, I guess we're ready to move on unless there is –

MR. HARTIG: I was just going to say the Gulf still needs to act on –

MS. McCAWLEY: They did.

MR. HARTIG: They did; okay.

MS. McCAWLEY: Unless I hear something else or see someone's hand in the air, we're about to move forward with different need's statements for each council with guidance.

MS. BADEMAN: Yes; with the understanding that the IPT and staff are going to look at this and get us to an even happier place.

MS. McCAWLEY: I don't know if you want to capture that, Gregg, but with guidance to staff that the IPT is going to look at this wording. While Gregg is getting that on the board, we're going to move into the first action, Action 1, which is the partial delegation of commercial and/or recreational management of yellowtail snapper to the state of Florida in federal waters adjacent to the state of Florida.

There are a number of different actions on this particular item. I am going to take them out of order, the way they are in the document, just because I think that some of them are a little cleaner and easier than others. The first thing on this particular action – well, I guess, Gregg, did you want to talk about this action at all? Okay, on this particular action it appears that both councils have stricken the minor modifications to existing allowable gear. I'm going to kick that over to Johnny because there is a motion from the Gulf Reef Fish Committee to remove Options 2D and 3D.

MR. GREENE: Okay, Gulf Council, is there any discussion about what we're doing here? I believe we're in the right place. Is everybody familiar with where we are? I know we skipped around a little bit and I just want to make sure everybody is familiar with it. Any questions?

MR. PERRET: Federal waters adjacent to the state of Florida, EEZ off the state of Florida, and the boundary lines would be whatever that line is between Alabama and Florida and Florida and Georgia; is that what we're talking about?

MS. McCAWLEY: No; we are talking – we're on Page 2 of this document. We're in the middle of the page. We are talking about the minor modifications to existing allowable gear that both of the committees removed from the document. I think what Johnny is trying to say is he is going to talk about how the Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends the motion to remove those two options.

MR. PERRET: But my reference is to the whole action.

MS. McCAWLEY: I was going to come back to that. I thought this would be a little bit easier to do. These other couple kind of clean up things first.

MR. GREENE: Okay, forgive me, I was stuck there as well. Gulf Council, I guess we're going to need a motion here, is that correct, to move forward with the gear restrictions.

MS. McCAWLEY: Well, I think you already have a motion. I think that you just need to move it on behalf of the committee.

MR. GREENE: Okay, the Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends and I so move that Options 2D and 3D be moved to the considered but rejected. Is there any opposition? Seeing no opposition; the motion carries.

MS. McCAWLEY: We had a similar motion on the South Atlantic side. The motion on the South Atlantic side was to remove Options 2D and 3D from Action 1; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Any discussion on this? Any objection to this? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. All right, let's back up to where Corky just was. Corky, would you like to ask your question again?

MR. PERRET: We're talking about the EEZ off Florida. I'm just wondering about what specifically are the boundary lines? I assume the boundary lines is whatever that line is between Alabama and Florida and then Florida and Georgia. Everyone understands that we're talking about the entire EEZ from the Georgia Line to the Alabama Line; I assume that's what we're talking about.

MS. McCAWLEY: I assume that also and I actually see that there was a motion from the Gulf Reef Fish Committee that stated something very similar to that; and so, Johnny, if you'd like to move that on behalf of the committee, then the South Atlantic can discuss it because they did not discuss it that way and did not make a motion on it that way yesterday.

MR. GREENE: The Gulf Committee recommends and I so move to make Alternative 2A, 2B and 2C in Action 1 the preferred alternatives.

MS. McCAWLEY: The part where Corky is at is just below where we just were. It is about how the Gulf Reef Fish recommended that the actions apply to the waters adjacent to the state of Florida, which Corky was reiterating was the state and federal waters. That's the EEZ off of the state of Florida with the boundary lines being Georgia and Alabama. I think that's what Corky was talking about, so that's the motion I was referring to.

MR. GREENE: Okay, you can strike that previous motion or withdraw it, whatever the procedural aspect of that is. **The Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends and I so move that these actions, Action 1, apply to the waters adjacent to the state of Florida.** Mr. Diaz.

MR. DIAZ: I'm not positive this is the right place to bring this up, but I do remember during testimony yesterday that one of the gentlemen from Texas said that they had caught yellowtail snapper adjacent to the Texas coast. When I read through the briefing materials getting ready for the meeting, I never considered yellowtail snapper being caught off the coast of Texas. I'm just wondering how that plays into what we're trying to do; and I might ask the folks from Texas if they can give any – Martha might have an answer. I'm just trying to sort this out about what that means.

MS. BADEMAN: I'm glad you brought that up because I was thinking about what people said last night, too. I don't think doing this affects what is going on off of Texas in any way. I think the council, if they still wanted to continue to have bag limits and, size limits, which I assume they would off of the other states in the Gulf of Mexico or in the South Council; that the council could continue to do that.

All this does is for waters off of Florida there would just be one agency that is setting whatever specific regulations are outlined in here; the state of Florida be delegated bag limits, size limits, ya de ya de ya de ya, the provisions here. I think it just affects Florida. It would be status quo in the rest of the Gulf and the South Atlantic.

MS. LEVY: If the action just applies to the EEZ off Florida, we're talking about them managing those things that are then talked about in the alternatives that we haven't talked about yet, what management measures Florida is going to be allowed to set. There is one ACL for yellowtail snapper; so when that is caught, fishing is prohibited and closed for that species throughout the Gulf; so just keep that in mind.

This action under the current selected preferred alternative would delegate management of certain measures for yellowtail snapper to the state of Florida, but there is still going to be one overall ACL. If they decide to manage it where it is caught up really quick, then it closes in the Gulf. That is just something that would happen in the future, I guess/

MR. GREGORY: Yes; in the options paper, Tables 3 and 4 show what we have as recorded landings of recreational and commercial by state; and in other places we have it by county within Florida. Even if people are catching yellowtail is insignificant; there is zero percent recorded recreational or commercial landings in Texas.

That doesn't mean yellowtail is not there and they're not being caught. I believe they are being caught, but it is not to any extent to show up on the record landings of any of the Gulf states for yellowtail. South Carolina catches 0.1 percent of the total yellowtail harvest recreationally. Florida is 99.9 percent. Those tables are in the options paper.

MR. GREENE: Any further discussion? Okay, we had a motion and we've had discussion. **Is there any opposition to this motion? Seeing no opposition, the motion carries.**

MS. McCAWLEY: South Atlantic, this was not something that did when we discussed this in the Executive Committee. South Atlantic folks, would you consider adopting a similar motion about where the actions in Action apply to. Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: Part of the reason we didn't do that is the wording of the action says that it applies to federal waters adjacent to the state of Florida. That is the wording of the action and that's why we didn't go the additional step of reiterating that. I don't believe we need it. I think it's clear that it applies in federal waters adjacent to the state of Florida.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, I'm looking to NOAA GC. Are you good to go with this?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I tend to agree. I mean the actions says in waters adjacent to the state of Florida, so I think that would be federal waters off of Florida only.

DR. SIMMONS: I think the reason that staff asked this question is we're not consistent in the titles of all the actions throughout the document; and so for consistency and the council had only seen this one time, we were just asking the question if we delegate – because you can delegate to the state of Florida that they manage these species throughout the range and not just off the state of Florida. So that everyone was clear, that's why this came up and staff was asking that question.

MS. McCAWLEY: There were some other motions underneath this action by both councils. I know I'm skipping around underneath this particular action, but let's go to the motion where the preferreds were chosen. Just so everyone is clear what we're talking about here, the Gulf Reef Fish Committee chose preferreds for 2A, 2B and 2C in Action 1; whereas, the South Atlantic chose Alternatives 2A, 2B, 2C as well as 3A, 3B, 3C as preferreds. Do we want to have discussion about why the differences; do we want to talk about this more or do we want to go straight to the motions? All right, I don't see any hands going in the air so I'm going to pass it over to Johnny to make that motion on behalf of the committee.

MR. GREENE: The Gulf Committee recommends and I so move to make Alternatives 2A, 2B and 2C in Action 1 the preferred alternatives. Any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing no opposition; the motion carries.

MS. McCAWLEY: All right, on the South Atlantic, the committee chose Alternative 2, Options 2A through 2C for Action 1 as preferred; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Any discussion? Ben.

MR. HARTIG: I was more inclined to go with what the Gulf did and I made my plea and lost.

MS. McCAWLEY: Well, right now we're doing exactly that. That is the motion that we're talking about right now is only –

MR. HARTIG: Is only the Gulf's?

MS. McCAWLEY: It is only 2A, 2B and 2C. We made two separate motions on the South Atlantic. Okay, anymore discussion on this motion? **Is there any opposition to this motion?**

Seeing none; that motion stands approved. On the South Atlantic the committee also chose Alternative 3, Options 3A through 3C for Action 1 as preferred; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Any discussion of that? Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, I know the commercial fishermen I've talked to and heard from have all said they don't want this; so I'd probably vote against it.

MS. BADEMAN: Roy, I kind of want to hear what the South Atlantic discussed with this motion. I think I did hear some misconceptions maybe about this in public comment. I think some of the concerns that I heard were that Florida doesn't have the money to do the assessments on these species or for yellowtail snapper. We actually do this assessment and we pay for it ourselves.

I think I also heard that there were some concerns about some protection under Magnuson being lost. There would still be annual catch limits and management by the council here. It would just be that the state would be I guess delegated size limits, seasons or trip limits depending on what the options are. I kind of want to hear the South Atlantic discussion.

DR. DUVAL: I agree with Martha that I think there were some misconceptions on the part of some commercial fishermen. Some of the public comment that we received yesterday, Jessica was able to clarify and it seemed like the overwhelming concern was that permits would not be lost. We explained that the state of Florida wants to maintain the existing federal permits, intends to maintain the existing federal permits.

Because complete delegation is not being proposed, as Martha stated, that setting of ACLs and accountability measures and allocations would remain with the council as would the federal permits. Those would all remain in place and that is the desire of the state of Florida to do so. The South Atlantic felt, with the exception of perhaps one person, that the South Atlantic felt that this would be the most efficient means to do what the original intent of this whole process was, which was to simplify the regulatory burden and reduce that and have consistent regulations throughout that area.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, I guess what concerns me about it is we're not delegating the accountability measures. If we end up with quota closure because they caught their quota, we will close federal waters. Florida may then keep state waters open; we don't know. Then because we've had a closure, if we want to do something with trip limits, seasons, or any of that, well, we've delegated that to Florida.

I guess that is the bothersome part of this is we're delegating the easy stuff but the closures and all we're still – we have to deal with and we have no assurance that we'll have any consistency in how that happens. Now, if hasn't happened yet and I hope it never does happen, but we have an awful lot of problems in other fisheries with that, and I don't see much resolution to that here, so it is hard for me to see what we're really gaining by doing this.

MS. BADEMAN: Well, Roy, wouldn't 30B still apply in this situation. There is federal permits; you have to follow the more restrictive. When there is a federal closure, then you're closed if you have a federal permit. We have that matching rule in our state rules, by the way. We require

federal permits for commercial harvest, and you have to follow federal closures. That is outlined in our regulations so far.

DR. CRABTREE: May be, but I still suspect there would be a problem. We have the same thing in the recreational side where we'd potentially end up shortening the season the following year; and, yes, 30B applies to the charterboats, but the recreationals might keep going. It seems like the delegation has gotten to where it is so limited here; that it is not clear what it really is getting me. We have pretty consistent size limits and there aren't any closed seasons. It just seems like there is not all that much gain from it.

MS. McCRAWLEY: One thing I can say is that we have taken this concept of possible delegation and what exactly that would mean to our commission; and our commission said that they understood what exactly they would have to do and that if there was a closure, if the ACL was met, that they would need to close state waters and you guys would close federal waters.

We explained to them what exactly that meant and made sure that they understood all those points. We did this sometime within the last year when we started working on this; so I think that they're aware of that situation. Even though I see that the Gulf here removed the option to have the state of Florida submit a plan, we talked about this a lot yesterday on the South Atlantic side about how folks would like to see the state of Florida bring a plan back about how exactly they would manage this particular species.

I think one of the discussions that we had yesterday specific to yellowtail on the commercial side was the issue with the ACL and how we had that closure a couple years ago because it was met on the South Atlantic side.

Then it turned out that maybe some of those landings were misreported over on the Gulf and then it opened back up. The part that we were discussing was the issue of the landings being misreported and that you've some guys fishing off of this portion of the ACL on the Atlantic side and then another portion on the Gulf.

So in the next action where you're basically doing this carve out of the ACL; that would fix that problem because it would be one overall ACL that Florida would be operating off of instead of – right, instead of this multiple thing on each coast that was split after the reauthorization. I think that's one of the things we were trying to fix yesterday when we talked about this and chose this as one of the preferreds. Chester.

MR. BREWER: Roy brought up the, quote, problem with inconsistencies between some of the states and the federal, and it seems to me that the road that we're walking down here would help to decrease the probability or the possibility of inconsistencies because now you're got the state of Florida tied in with regard to the size limits, seasons, trip limits et cetera.

If a fishery has gotten into trouble and needs to be closed, the state of Florida is going to do that now because they're responsible. Right now the state of Florida is not responsible really very much at all for what goes on in federal waters. This would make the state responsible; so I see this as reducing the possibility of inconsistencies.

MR. HARTIG: I think my objections were like to Roy's and I haven't heard any commercial support. In fact, I've heard a lot of fear and maybe the fear is misplaced. Certainly Michelle and Jessica both talked about reasons why the commercial fishery probably wouldn't be impacted to the extent that they think they might be.

It is hard to explain away the history of some of the measures that they've had to deal with at the state. They specifically mentioned the net ban and things of that nature. Overall the state does a great job managing the fisheries. Personally I probably wouldn't have a problem with it; but if every commercial fisherman I talk to comes up and tells me that this isn't way to go, I can't support. That is just where I'm coming from.

MR. PERRET: Being a state director in two states, I think the states do a pretty good job, also, but there are some things the states do that I'm beginning to question now. I don't think we had any support from any commercial fishermen that testified before us yesterday in our public session. Unfortunately, we don't have any public testimony today. I'm sure they'd say the same thing, but I would have thought they probably would have said the same stuff to you guys yesterday that we heard yesterday. They're not supportive of this.

MR. PHILLIPS: And a lot of what I heard was I don't think it is the way it is actually going to be done. The state is going to come back before the council, they're going to show us the plan. Is going to be cooperative in a lot of ways for management.

I think in the long run it is going to be – or short run it is going to be smoother and better for the commercial fishermen; and if for some reason it doesn't work out, then we just take it back. That is an option. The reason we started this road was because of all the issues they were having. If we don't change anything, I think they're still going to have the issues.

MR. WALKER: I didn't hear any support from anyone in the commercial industry. I've heard testimony and spoke with them after the meeting and even spoke with some charter fishermen last night. No one is in support of the state taking the control.

MS. BECKWITH: Again, I'm sort of siding with the lack of support I heard was in my mind due to the misunderstanding of what it really meant to delegate portions of this to the state. I would like to see a plan come from the state for our review as part of this agreement. We talk about sunset clauses and review time periods for plenty of other stuff, and we can certainly add a two- or three-year review at both council levels to see if this is working or if we need to adjust it. I'm not opposed to this.

MR. SANCHEZ: Yellowtail might not be the best example to show some of the concerns with the commercial industry and their desire leaning towards Magnuson and the protection afforded towards it. Here we have a fishery where the size limits are the same. If you do merge the ACLs, you'll probably never see another closure again.

I don't know; I think as we proceed into other fisheries perhaps where there are ITQs, permitting issues and all this type of stuff, you might see the concerns from the commercial side a little more obvious than in yellowtail, per se. Generally speaking you could probably say there would be

support to delegate the recreational portion of the fishing opportunities, simplifying the difference in regulations and then leaving the commercial with the federal system as an overall statement, I guess.

MS. McCAWLEY: I want to reiterate again – and I’ll look to Monica in case I say something wrong here; but if I understand it correctly, when management is delegated to a state, the Magnuson-Stevens Act remains in place and that state has to abide by the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Act.

They also have to abide by the provisions of the fishery management plan that has already been set by the council. The state would have operate within that box is my understanding within Magnuson and within the already-established fishery management plan in place set by the councils; is that right?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Yes, and maybe it would be helpful if I read this. It says in the Magnuson Act at Section 306(3)(B), “The fishery management plan for the fishery in which the fishing vessel is operating delegates management of the fishery to a state and the state’s laws and regulations are consistent with the fishery management plan.” The part I didn’t read is when you delegate to a state, the state gets to manage all vessels and not just their own vessels in their own state waters and then in the federal waters.

“If at any time the secretary determines that a state law or regulation applicable to a fishing vessel under the state plan is not consistent with the fishery management plan, the secretary promptly notifies the state and the appropriate council of that determination and provide an opportunity for the state to correct any inconsistencies identified in the notification.”

So, yes, you have to remain consistent with the Magnuson Act, I would say, all other applicable federal laws as well as the FMP. Just to clear up one other thing; when you talk about bringing a plan back from the state to the council, once the council delegates, you delegate. You can remove that delegation if the council chooses to, but I think it is probably the Fisheries Service that looks to make sure that the state’s plans and regulations and whatever they put in place are consistent. The council doesn’t vote on the state plan. Once the council delegates, they delegate to the state.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, one more point I want to bring up and then I’m going to go to Ben. Some other things we talked about on the South Atlantic Council side was I talked about how after the reauthorization yellowtail and mutton were two species that both the councils, after the last reauthorization, were talking about giving to the state of Florida.

The state of Florida wrote a letter and said we don’t want these species because if we take over these species and it is not a delegation, then we cannot require the federal permits. After talking to the fishermen, we knew that what would mean is that the fishermen operating off of Florida, basically it would be an open access fishery, no federal permit would be required because the state could not require that permit, and thus you would need a saltwater products license and a restricted species endorsement and anybody could get into the fishery.

At that time, after consulting with our commissioners, we said, no, we don't want these species. So now what we're talking about is a better option, more of an option where the state feels like they could accept these species because with this delegation; then those federal permits would remain in place and the people that are already in that fishery are protected because state law already requires those federal permits be in place. We feel like this is a better option than what was being talked about after the reauthorization when we said we did not want to take these species because the fisheries would be more wide open. I just wanted to bring that up. Ben, I believe you had your hand up.

MR. HARTIG: I'm going to use an absurd example here so forgive me. If Florida implemented a 20-inch size limit for yellowtail; is that consistent under Magnuson?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Magnuson allows size limits to be set by the council, and the council then would delegate. Theoretically, if they delegated Florida being able to set the size limits, then it would be consistent with the Magnuson Act, theoretically, but you have to see if it was also consistent with the objectives of the FMP, right; consistent with such fishery management plan. If you had something in the fishery management plan that said we will never implement a 20-inch size limit for yellowtail snapper, then it wouldn't be consistent with the FMP.

MR. HARTIG: But that would have to be in the fishery management plan before that happened. I'm just trying to point out things that the commercial fishermen are afraid of. Say it was a ten-day season or say it was a hundred pound trip limit to the state; I'm not saying the state is going to do that, but this is a fear that the commercial fishermen have of politics within the state, which are different than the politics of the council. That is their fear.

The politics in the state is different and under Magnuson they have much more public participation in the process of when these things are changed. At least from when I've talked to them was why they're afraid that something like this may happen down the line. I'm not saying it will and I've used some examples, but that is kind of what they're afraid of.

MS. McCRAWLEY: Well, I take a little bit of offense that you think the state of Florida process is not very public; but I'm going to pass it over to Roy Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS: I guess I was going along the same line as Ben; and this was a question for Monica. If the state were to say implement a season and a trip limit that consistently prevented the commercial fishery from approaching their annual catch limit; would that be a violation of Magnuson? I mean if the council had set a million pound ACL and Florida adopted a season and a trip limit that year after year kept them down at 400,000 pounds; would that be a violation of Magnuson?

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: Well, I would think you would be on stronger grounds that it probably would be, right. National Standard 1 says that your conservation measures should be tied to achieving OY on a continual basis. If you're not achieving your OY, then that's a problem. One thing I said yesterday is the devil is in the details with some of these things; and I was wondering how would we – if the councils, for example, delegated size limits, seasons, bag limits to the state

of Florida; who is going to do the NEPA analysis to make sure there is a reasonable range of alternatives and all the other kinds of things that have to be considered?

Maybe what you want to do is say what we're delegating to the state of Florida is their ability to put size limits on yellowtail snapper within this range and you specify the range of size limit and then you analyze that for NEPA purposes. Then when the state chose size limits within that range, for example, the NEPA would be done and the state wouldn't have to do that. There may be other laws that apply and I know there are. I'm choosing NEPA to use as an example so maybe you would delegate within a range. Just an idea to think about.

MS. BADEMAN: I wanted to back up for just a minute and touch on the public process that Ben brought up. I think one of the advantages of this delegation either for recreational or commercial is that instead of these decisions being made at meetings in Galveston and Wilmington and very, very long car rides away from where the fishery is occurring; one advantage to this process is that if the state needed to make a change, public hearings would be held in the locality where the fish are caught and where the fishermen are. It would be easier for fishermen to access the process, in my mind, speak person to person with the people that are making those management decisions.

DR. DUVAL: I guess one of the reasons why we talked about the state coming forward voluntarily to provide us a plan for what they decided they would do is for exactly these types of "what if" sort of reasons. Although I understand clearly that it is not required under Magnuson and that the Fisheries Service has that authority to determine if Magnuson is not being adhered to, this gives the councils some measure of assurance that the state is acting in good faith. Even though we have no authority to require that, I think it is all part of that public process.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, I think we probably do need to put some bounds on the things here if for no other reason than to try and do the NEPA analysis because I don't think, Jessica, you guys are going to want to have to produce NEPA documents. I think we need to slow down on this. We need to think about what is a reasonable range within which Florida may operate on this, do the NEPA analysis.

We're not going to get all the benefits we're after with this if we have delegation of the commercial fishery off the South Atlantic jurisdiction but not off the Gulf. We're going to have that disparity and that issue there. Right now I don't think there is enough comfort with the commercial fishermen about how this is going to work.

I think a couple of things ought to happen before we choose a preferred here; one of which is to put some bounds on where they can operate. That may give some comfort to the commercial fishermen; and then, two, maybe some outreach from Florida with some of these commercial guys and then maybe we can come back to this.

It really doesn't seem like to me we get what we're trying to get out of this if there is only going to be delegation off the South Atlantic and not off the Gulf, because then we're going to end up with these inconsistencies and issues again. I guess I'd want to slow down on this a little bit and see if there is not a way to get everybody more on the same page. I had originally thought delegation was a good idea with yellowtail, but delegate probably more than this. Delegate quota

closures and the rest of this stuff to Florida, but you've got to get the fishermen on board with the idea and it doesn't seem like we're there quite yet.

MS. McCAWLEY: Those were good points, Roy. Martha.

MS. BADEMAN: Just one thing that Roy said; I think if we're in a situation where one council is willing to delegate one piece but not the other council, that defeats the purpose. In my mind it has got to be both or none because then we still have the same problem if we're delegating on one side but not the other.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, those were good points. We have a motion that's on the board. It is a South Atlantic motion. My suggestion is that we dispense with this motion and then maybe we want to go back and do some of the things that Roy is talking about or maybe we just give direction to staff to come back with some ranges like Roy was talking about. Let me read the motion that is on the board for the South Atlantic. It is choose Alternative 3 and Options 3A through 3C for Action 1 as preferred. Any more discussion on this? Charlie.

MR. PHILLIPS: Okay, just for my clarification, if we vote this up and we want to change it, how do we go about it if we vote it down and decide to look at it in a different in a point of view, what will be – show me the path.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, there is a couple of different ways and Mel has clearly got some ideas over here. One thing we could do is pass it and then make some recommendations about putting bounds on some of the things that you've chosen as a preferred. You could vote the motion down and then go back in and modify some of these alternatives; say 3A, 3B and 3C with bounds on them, and then move that as a preferred or ask for more staff analysis. To me those are a couple of different paths. Charlie.

MR. PHILLIPS: And since we obviously don't want to do South Atlantic commercial and not the Gulf side, could we put that in there somewhere, too, that this only takes place if the Gulf is going to do it or how do we run that rabbit?

MR. BREWER: I'm concerned about our staff time. There has been a lot of it already wrapped up in this. I don't think that you're going to ever convince the commercial guys in the Gulf or some of the charter for-hire people in the Gulf to go along with management under the state of Florida. They don't trust it. They would prefer to be managed by the Gulf.

I don't know that any amount of outreach is going to change that; and so I'm concerned about us now going further and starting to set parameters of what the state of Florida would be allowed to do, having the staff time devoted to doing all of that, and you're still not going to solve, I don't think, the root problem.

MR. SANCHEZ: The genesis of this started from a good place. Everybody was concerned right down here in lower South Florida. With our South Florida type species, we have some differing regulations on the Gulf and the Atlantic; and we wanted some uniformity. It was more so for the recreational fishing public – and as I've said before – so they wouldn't have to go out and have

the Philadelphia lawyer on board to be able to determine I'm on this side of U.S. 1, what applies and what doesn't.

This came from a good place, a noble initiative to try to simplify things; and now once again, through nobody's fault, it has gotten very complicated. Of course, there are some perception issues. With some outreach and education, maybe we can get past. Maybe we can't, I don't know, but I think this – if we remember that this was a South Florida thing, not a Gulf-wide thing and this and that, although we need the blessing of the councils, we focus on the species of interest to South Florida, maybe we can do some good.

I for one remember the meetings we had in Key Largo where the public went and they actually listened that we were trying to do something to address some of these inequities and the confusion and they were happy. That was the happiest group I ever saw in my life leaving one of these meetings. They were like, wow, you guys are really trying to help and do something good. I can't forget all of that good will that was put into this either; so I'm hoping we don't throw the baby out with the bathwater just because we're getting bogged down with all the moving parts and the details.

MS. McCAWLEY: Those were good points. We're still under discussion but I'd really like to cut this off so that we could take a vote on this motion. **All those in favor of this motion raise your hand. Okay, I count six. All those opposed raise your hand. Six in favor; five opposed; that motion passes.**

DR. CRABTREE: One thing to think about though, ultimately delegation requires a three-quarter vote of the council. If we're pretty split on this, we're not going to be able to get there on it. Just bear in mind we're going to need to resolve some of these differences or we're not going to be able to make it work.

MS. McCAWLEY: Before we go on to these other actions or other alternatives or actually other motions under Action 1, do we need to have more discussion before we move on to the other actions made by the councils under the other motions? Martha.

MS. BADEMAN: Well, just a question; it is unclear to me how we go about adding some of these bounds and stuff that Roy was talking about. I think what Roy is talking about for Gulf folks is adding in kind of like what we have in Amendment 39 where states could set a bag limit between zero and four whatever. How do we handle that?

MS. McCAWLEY: I don't know if that's a question for me. I certainly don't know if I know the answer to that; and on the Gulf side you guys have dealt with that more than we have on the South Atlantic.

MS. BADEMAN: Okay, maybe we think on it.

MS. McCAWLEY: Maybe we think on it since I know council staff, nobody from NOAA, no one is helping figure out the answer to that question. Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: If you want some alternatives to bound that, one way is to give direction to staff and the IPT to bring back a reasonable range of alternatives for size limits, seasons and trip limits, if that is what you want.

MR. HARTIG: I would make that in the form of a motion if that is what you would like to have.

MS. McCAWLEY: We have a motion on the South Atlantic; let's let Gregg get it up on the board.

MR. HARTIG: While he is writing that, if I may, I think there is also an outreach component that the commercial fishermen need to have exactly explained to them what impacts may or may not impact them under this partial delegation.

MS. McCAWLEY: The motion was made by Ben – it is still going up on the board – it is seconded by Mel. That motion is to direct staff/IPT to develop a reasonable range of alternatives for size, seasons, and trip limits for yellowtail snapper.

MR. HARTIG: It was specific to commercial basically.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, Ben's motion was specific to commercial.

MR. HARTIG: But if you need it for all, I'll broaden it.

MS. McCAWLEY: You might want to do it for both.

MR. HARTIG: Okay, we'll do it for both, then, for both recreational and commercial fisheries.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, I see lots of hands going up in the air. I saw Mel, I saw Martha, I saw Roy.

MR. BELL: The reason I was kind for this and the reason I voted it down was I was thinking we heard what we heard last night in terms of the testimony and the folks that there was obviously some resistance from the commercial aspect. It seemed like if we could retool it a little bit with some boundaries in it, it shows that we were listening, we heard and basically come back and see if we can make it acceptable in some way by establishing some appropriate boundaries.

Then listening to Chester, I was thinking, well, maybe this will it work or it won't, but that is a way to demonstrate that we've heard exactly what folks are telling us, but is there a way we can kind of keep moving forward with this by perhaps establishing some boundaries. That is my thinking.

DR. CRABTREE: I'm okay with trying to find a way to make this work; but if what Chester said is the case, then to me that means we shouldn't do this because the public doesn't support it and it is just going to create angst and problems. I'm hoping that there is a way to pull people together on it. Maybe if we can pull the fishermen together on it, then the Gulf would reconsider and we could make this happen.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, let me read that motion one more time now that staff has made the modifications. The motion that has been seconded is direct staff/IPT to develop a reasonable range of alternatives for recreational and commercial size limits, bag limits, seasons, and trip limits for yellowtail snapper. Anymore discussion on that? Doug.

MR. HAYMANS: Should it include something to the effect that these are limits for the state of Florida. I mean just as it reads there, it is as if the council is developing those for the plan, and I don't know if it needs a little extra –

MS. McCAWLEY: So that's going up on the board; Zack.

MR. BOWEN: That was exactly my question.

MS. McCAWLEY: **Okay, we've modified the motion one more time. Let me read it again: direct staff/IPT to develop a reasonable range of alternatives for recreational and commercial size limits, bag limits, seasons, and trip limits for yellowtail snapper for Action 1 to bound the range of actions the state of Florida may consider.** Anymore discussion?

MR. PHILLIPS: I know it is not part of the motion, but Ben talked about outreach and Chester talked about can we get enough support for this in the long run. As we go through – and I'm guessing there is going to be some outreach of some kind soon – as we go through this, we need to really decide pretty quickly before we spend a lot of time, money and effort that neither council really have. We don't want to go through The Bahamas fillet issues again.

I'm sure the Gulf has got some amendments that were kind of like that, too. We want to make sure if we do this that we're all going to get on board and work together and figure out what our path is. I'm listening to Chester and I'm listening to Ben, I'm listening to the fishermen, and let's find out soon if we're going to do this or it is going to just turn into worse than what they've got already.

MS. McCAWLEY: Those are good points. One thing I might mention you might remember from visioning that we discussed the fact that separate from this that the state of Florida is going out and collecting public comments during the month of July. We have a week's worth of public workshops down here in the Keys and South Florida, so this is something that we can bring up at those meetings and try to get some initial feedback at those meetings.

I believe the South Florida week is the first week in July, so that's relatively soon. Okay, anymore discussion? All right, let's take a vote. **All those in favor of this motion that is on the board – I'm not going to read it again – please raise your hand. I count ten in favor. All those opposed? Okay, two opposed; the motion carries.** I believe that we have one more motion that was under Action 1. Martha.

MS. BADEMAN: I just wanted to offer a similar motion for the Gulf. I would like to make the same motion that the South Atlantic Council approved. I make a motion to **direct staff/IPT to develop a reasonable range of alternatives for recreational and commercial size limits, bag**

limits, seasons, and trip limits for yellowtail snapper for Action 1 to bound the range of actions the state of Florida may consider.

MR. GREENE: Second by Mr. Sanchez. Any discussion? Ms. Bosarge.

MS. BOSARGE: I'm confused now. Okay, on the Gulf side we didn't vote to put in any kind of commercial delegation to Florida, and we've already got the IPT that is going to be coming up with this. What exactly are we voting to do?

MS. McCAWLEY: First of all, you didn't choose it as a preferred. It doesn't mean it is not in the amendment anymore; so it is still in the amendment. As I understand the motion that Martha just made is developing a range of alternatives to go with those options that are in the amendment. Your council just didn't choose that particular one as a preferred, but that doesn't mean it is not in the amendment.

MS. BOSARGE: And so if we vote this down, there won't be anything done by the IPT?

MS. BADEMAN: Leann, what this does is it expands on the alternatives that are already there and just basically explains how the state of Florida could apply them like we could have a bag limit between zero and ten or whatever. That's all that this does and it does it for recreational and commercial because that's what is in the document.

MS. BOSARGE: Okay, so I guess I'm asking if the South Atlantic voted and said, yes, we want this to happen, we want these parameters to come forth in the document, the same document that we're both looking at; and if we vote this down, what happens?

MR. GREENE: Well, I assume it would be like Amendment 28 we talked about earlier where you have one council working on one part of it instead of both, I would assume. Am I correct?

MS. McCAWLEY: I think so. I'm going to go to Monica; and then if that's not enough, then to Mara.

MS. SMIT-BRUNELLO: I defer to Mara.

MS. LEVY: I would say yes, so South Atlantic Council staff and NMFS staff that works with them would be doing this. I guess Gulf Council staff and NMFS wouldn't be doing it; but I don't know that we want to do that; because if we're going to develop it for the document, it is just about what the alternatives say, then I don't think you want your staff to be left out of that discussion is what I would recommend.

MR. WILLIAMS: I want to be certain. The South Atlantic Council passed Alternative 3 on a six to five vote. We never voted on it yet, right? The committee never did anything with it. At some point we need to consider –

MS. McCAWLEY: You can if you want to, but I think that we were going on the fact that you already considered it yesterday and chose not to choose it as a preferred, so we could –

MR. WILLIAMS: Well, the committee did, yes.

MS. McCAWLEY: Right, so we could go back to that now that we're in full council of both councils and talk about that; but before we could get to that, Martha put forward this motion that matches the one on the board.

MR. GREENE: Anybody have any other discussion? Gulf Council, are you clear on what we're doing? **All those in favor please raise your hand; all those opposed please raise your hand. The motion carries eleven to zero.**

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, Roy Williams, I'm going to come back to you about the question that you asked now that we've dispensed with that motion. What you were bringing up was whether or not the Gulf wanted to consider choosing the options from Alternative 3 as a preferred, so I'm going to turn that back over to you guys.

MR. WILLIAMS: Well, I'll just say I was momentarily lost, so I was just trying to figure out where we were.

MR. GREENE: Anymore discussion by the Gulf Council? Ms. Bademan.

MS. BADEMAN: Well, we'll see where this goes just for the purpose of consistency. **I will move for the Gulf in Action 1 to also make Alternative 3, Options 3A, 3B, and 3C as preferreds.** Clearly, we've already had a lot of discussion about this.

MR. GREENE: There is a motion on the floor. Mr. Williams seconds. Mr. Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS: I'm not necessarily for this, but I think the South Atlantic Council has approved it. If there is one place that I really think it could be made to work, it is yellowtail snapper. For that reason, I'd like to let it go forward for a while. I hate just making staff do stuff and then us not have a good sense that we're going to approve it. As Dr. Crabtree pointed out earlier, this is going to go take a 75 percent vote or a three-quarters vote to delegate it, and it barely passed the South Atlantic Council. I don't know what it is going to do here, but I'm willing to go forward with it in particular on yellowtail snapper for now.

MR. GREENE: Any further discussion? Dr. Crabtree.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, this will go forward. We normally don't pick preferreds this early in the process and we're asking staff to develop a range and all the rest of it. I would just prefer to hold off on preferreds and do some of the rest of this groundwork and then return to the issue.

MR. WILLIAMS: What did the South Atlantic vote on with the six to five vote then? Maybe I don't understand what they did.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, they chose a preferred, but that doesn't mean we have to.

MS. BOSARGE: I was completely open to this amendment when it started because it seemed like a South Florida thing. We had some recreational fishermen down there and they had all these rules and it was a convoluted mess. Now all of a sudden you've got to think about it from somebody that is pretty much on the Alabama Line.

I live in Mississippi, but I can throw a rock to Alabama and Alabama neighbors Florida. Now what we did is take people that are fishing right next door to you that are 14 hours away from South Florida and we drew a line up there. Now, granted, they're not catching a lot of these fish, but I see in black grouper, which we're going to get to, we've got a 5 percent recreational landing in Alabama.

We went from having one line with conflicting regulations on either side to now having two lines. We're going to have a line that essentially comes off Florida and goes out between Florida and Alabama; and depending on which side of that line you are in federal waters, there may be some different rules.

Then you're going to have a line that comes off of Florida/Georgia right there and extends out, so now we've got two lines that could possibly I guess have different rules. Now, granted, I see there is 90-something percent of these landings that are in Florida; but I see some in Alabama. I'm hearing some in Texas. I just wonder are we shooting ourselves in the foot and making something more complicated by having two lines now and they're way, way, away from South Florida where this was supposed to be kind of focused. I'm just a little nervous about it.

MR. GREGORY: Roy, I think we're going down this path – at the IPT meeting Shep Grimes suggested that maybe when we got together as a joint council we vote up or down delegation; and his idea very simplistic and I guess naïve was if you don't get three-quarters vote, you drop it and that cleans up the document.

We've got mutton snapper bag limits over here; but if we delegate mutton, we don't do that. And so if we made a decision on delegation one way or the other, it would be a cleaner document. But, clearly, even though it is not getting a three-quarter vote, I don't see that anybody wants to drop the idea. It is not simplifying anything, but that's why we're I guess trying to pick preferreds now. That was the idea at least I got from the IPT meeting.

DR. CRABTREE: Yes; I get that, but I don't get the sense we're going to drop this so it really doesn't clean the document up, anyway.

MR. GREENE: Any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion on the board please raise your hand; all those opposed like sign. It is a tie vote so the motion fails.

MS. McCAWLEY: I thought that there were eight in favor. From where we could see on this side, it looked like eight in favor and seven against.

MR. GREGORY: Can we revote?

MR. GREENE: Okay, we've been requested for a revote on this. **All those in favor of the motion on the board please raise your hand, eight in favor. All those opposed please raise your hand. The motion is tied so the motion fails.**

MS. McCAWLEY: I promise we're going to take a break after we get through this Action 1. There was one more motion that the Gulf Reef Fish Committee made. There was a part of the document that had some discussion about whether or not the state of Florida should submit a plan. We've had some discussion about that already on the South Atlantic side. We talked about how the South Atlantic I believe would like to see some plan from the state of Florida even though it is not required. I see that Reef Fish Committee removed the language that said that plan was required. Johnny, would like to move that motion on behalf of the committee?

MR. GREENE: Just to be clear, Jessica, are you talking about the bottom of Page 2?

MS. McCAWLEY: I am.

MR. GREENE: I just wanted to make sure. **All right, the Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends and I so move to remove the discussion of the state of Florida submitting management plans for the document that pertain to delegation. Any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing no opposition, the motion carries.**

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, let's see if we can get through yellowtail and then we'll take a break. We are moving on to Action 2. Gregg, can you tell us a little bit about Action 2.

MR. WAUGH: Action 2 retains authority to establish and consolidate ABCs and ACLs for yellowtail snapper with councils. The Gulf Council approved a motion to clarify that this action pertains to the entire Gulf and South Atlantic jurisdictions. That was certainly our intent because we didn't limit it to the state of Florida.

The South Atlantic Council added a new Alternative 4 to manage yellowtail snapper as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional acceptable biological catch and annual catch limit. Allocate the ACL according to one of the following formulas. Then we have same formulas that were used for another action. We selected that as the preferred.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, let's talk about why the councils might have done something differently here. I can tell you that on the South Atlantic side we felt like there was some confusion; so what we were trying to do with new Alternative 4 was do something that somewhat combined Alternative 2 and 3, but we felt that Alternative 3 actually did something a little bit different than maybe the way it was worded. That's why we came up with a new Alternative 4.

The options that were 3A, 3B and 3C are really just pretty much copies and pasted on under this new Alternative 4. What this would be doing is it is basically stating that yellowtail would be managed as a single unit with this overall combined ABC and ACL and then here would be options that you would be using for the allocation formula. I'm not sure if this is in conflict with the motion that the Gulf made to clarify that the action pertains to the entire Gulf and South Atlantic jurisdiction. Go ahead, Carrie.

DR. SIMMONS: I think when we were going through this at committee, we had some confusion, too, about what the South Atlantic Committee meant by these actions and alternatives. I think when we were working on this; to achieve what I believe you guys have suggested as a new alternative would be selecting both Alternative 2 and 3 and then selecting one of those sub-options underneath how you would establish sector ACLs. What you're essentially doing is instead of making those separate alternatives, you're suggesting combining them into one alternative and maintaining Alternative 2 in the document?

MS. McCAWLEY: Yes; because we took Alternative 3 to mean something a little bit different.

DR. DUVAL: Carrie, when we read Alternative 3, we interpreted that to mean that you would take each council's ABC and ACL as it has been established and sort of allocate it to the Gulf and South Atlantic and then apply one of those allocation formulas to it. In other words, the Gulf would take its ABC/ACL and apply one of these allocation formulas and the South Atlantic would do the same.

We understand that the Gulf does not have sector allocations; and so when we had our discussion, we felt like – and we did talk about, well, maybe you select Alternative 2 and Alternative 3, so we did talk about that but felt that maybe it was cleaner to simply combine the two to make it absolutely clear that what was going on is you would take the entire stock ABC combined so the Gulf and South Atlantic ABCs added together and then you would apply an allocation formula to that added together multijurisdictional ABC and ACL. That's why we did that. I think there was a little bit of confusion and misinterpretation on the part of both councils.

MR. GREGORY: Yes; that was the original intent to do the same thing that you're just describing. The reason Alternative 2 and 3 are separate stepwise is because it is one thing to adopt a multijurisdictional ACL – for instance, that would solve the yellowtail problem of one jurisdiction closing and the other one not. Sector allocations is a sensitive topic for the Gulf Council; so we had that as a separate alternative in case they wanted to do one but not the other. That is why it was originally written that way.

DR. DUVAL: Doug, we definitely appreciate the sensitivity of that and that's why we felt that if it was a combined ABC across both jurisdictions, it would make it easier to establish those allocations rather than the Gulf having to go through quite frankly a protracted discussion about how to allocate their part of the existing ABC. That is why we went down that road. We just thought it might be an easier discussion for you if it is applied across the combined ABC as opposed to individually.

MR. GREGORY: No; what I'm saying is that was the original intent, to apply it across both ABCs and ACLs jointly and not separately.

DR. SIMMONS: Madam Chair, I think you might need a break, but I think as of right now the councils are taking the SSC's agreed-upon ABC for yellowtail snapper and are apportioning it between the two councils' jurisdictions based on historical landings, correct? Okay.

MR. WILLIAMS: If both councils were to approve your new Alternative 4, could we eliminate Alternatives 2 and 3; could we just dump those? No?

MS. McCAWLEY: What we're going to do first I guess is I'm going to take it back to Johnny so he can put forward the Gulf Reef Fish Committee motion that clarifies where this action pertains to; at the top of Page 3.

MR. GREENE: The Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends and I so move in Action 2 to clarify that this action pertains to the entire Gulf and South Atlantic jurisdictions. Any discussion? Is there any opposition to this motion? Seeing none; the motion carries.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, on the South Atlantic side, Gregg has already read the motion or read the long alternative here. **The South Atlantic suggested adding the following new Alternative 4 and on behalf of the committee I so move.**

NEW ALTERNATIVE 4: Manage yellowtail snapper as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional acceptable biological catch and annual catch limit. Allocate the ACL according to one of the following formula: Option 4a, use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50 percent of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50 percent on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013; Option 4b, base sector allocations on average landings from 2009-2013; Option 4c, base sector allocations on average landings from 2004-2013 Any discussion? Roy Williams.

MR. WILLIAMS: I'm not ready to give up. In order to simplify this a little bit; could your Alternative 4 become the new Alternative 3 and then just dump the old 3? I'm looking for ways to simplify this for everybody.

MR. WAUGH: Our understanding of Alternative 3, the way it is worded is it uses the existing jurisdictional split. Alternative 2, all you do is you have one total ACL with no recreational or commercial split and no jurisdictional split. Then our new Alternative 4 would have one ABC – one ACL and then apply the recreational and commercial allocations to that. They are three distinct alternatives.

MS. McCAWLEY: Anymore discussion? This is a South Atlantic motion. **Is there any opposition to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. There was another motion from the South Atlantic to select Alternative 4, Option 4A as the preferred for Action 2; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Discussion on that motion? Any opposition to that motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.** Let's take a ten- minute break.

Let's come on back to the table. All right, I hate to tell you this, but we've had a request during the break to go back to the yellowtail action, Action 2, establish and consolidate ABCs and ACLs for yellowtail snapper. I'm going to tell you what this person wants done and then I'm going to turn it over to them.

What they're suggesting is we've added this new Alternative 4. There has been a suggestion to just go ahead and remove Alternative 3 from the document. I'm going to pass the baton over there to Roy Williams and let him talk about this and make a motion for the Gulf.

MR. WILLIAMS: Depending on who you talk to, Alternative 3 and Alternative 4 analytically end up being the same or they end up being slightly different. I'm not sure which one is correct and probably we won't know until after this meeting. Everybody seems to agree if they're not the same they're close. **In order to simplify everything, I would like to move that under Action 2 we remove the original Alternative 3.**

MR. GREENE: Okay, we have a motion for the Gulf Council. We have a second by Martha Bademan. Mr. Williams has already provided some rationale. Is there any further discussion?

MS. BOSARGE: Can somebody explain to me what this subtlety is that we're essentially removing?

MR. WILLIAMS: As I understand it, the assessment gave a single ABC. The councils then split that and then in the case of the South Atlantic they broke into an ACL for the recreational and commercial. The Gulf I think just kept their portion of the ABC. What Alternative 4 does I believe is it takes that original ABC from the assessment and then what does it do next? It just splits the same number up in a different manner; but they seemed to some to almost the same number or the same number. I'm not sure which. Did I confuse it?

MS. BOSARGE: Yes.

MR. WILLIAMS: Okay, I'm going to ask maybe Carrie's help or Gregg's.

MR. WAUGH: This is the original Alternative 3 wording. You have the one ABC and we set ACL equal to that; and then you split it by jurisdiction; a portion to the South Atlantic, a portion to the Gulf. Then we split our part recreational and commercial. What the new alternative would do is take that total ABC and ACL and just split it recreational and commercial and not divide it by South Atlantic and Gulf.

MS. McCAWLEY: And part of that is because as you probably know, the South Atlantic has recreational and commercial allocations for almost every species and the Gulf doesn't. What this is doing is it is basically taking that – and what is Alternative 4 right now is taking that and then it is basically saying, okay, the councils, together, are going to determine what that allocation is going to be, and it has some formulas down here for how they're going to come up with what that allocation is of this overall ACL since you guys on the Gulf don't have a recreational/commercial split and the South Atlantic does.

MR. WILLIAMS: And the problem we were trying to solve was that we don't want – did we have a closure or almost had a closure of yellowtail snapper on the commercial South Atlantic side while there wasn't one in the Gulf. It was extremely confusing, so we're trying to get the fisheries within Monroe County under their TAC or recreational TAC and an ABC – ACL and a commercial ACL.

MS. McCAWLEY: Yes, Roy is correct, there was a closure and part of it was because of this confusion. The closure was on the Atlantic even though it appeared that some of the landings were misreported to the wrong side of the coast. It was partly because of the split, the way the ACL was split up; so that would solve this early closure problem and misreported landings because there would just be one overall ACL; and it would have a recreational and commercial allocation put on it.

MR. HARTIG: Roy, I made the point yesterday that on our side there is a large recreational and a large commercial component. On the Gulf it is primarily a commercial component. When I wanted to see the allocation split done, I wanted to see each one separately instead of melding them all into one group where in the South Atlantic you might ground out some of the commercial participation in the Gulf.

That's really where part of 4 came from, anyway, I believe. That is at least was what my impetus was yesterday for trying to get to a different way to look at it because I believe if you take the specific ACLs for each sector and average them, you'll get a different average than you would if you just did the whole umbrella under one average.

MS. LEVY: Just a question; based on the explanation of what these two different alternatives would do, am I correct that if you remove Alternative 3, then there is no mechanism to have no allocation, no commercial/recreational allocation on the Gulf side, right? The explanation was Alternative 3 would allow you to have the one overall ACL, whatever, then subdivide it between the two councils and then allow the South Atlantic to further subdivide it; whereas, Alternative 4 just gives it to the councils and then you decide the commercial and recreational allocations. Alternative 4 requires a commercial and recreational allocation across the board. Alternative 3 would not. I'm just trying to make sure whether my understanding of that is correct because that is a subtle difference between them.

MS. McCAWLEY: That's a good way to state it. I'm not sure if it is a hundred percent correct. I'm going to punt it back over to Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: Alternative 3 actually requires a recreational/commercial allocation for both areas, also. What Alternative 3 does is it splits it into South Atlantic and Gulf portions and then you allocate each of those portions recreational and commercial. The one alternative that does not require a split is Alternative 2 where you wouldn't have a split on either side. It would just be a total ACL.

MS. LEVY: Okay, so then I misunderstood the explanation before. They both would then have the different allocations, 3 and 4? Okay.

MS. BADEMAN: Just so I'm understanding the way that Gregg is interpreting Alternative 3 as it is; so, Gregg, under Alternative 3 there would still be a jurisdictional split occurring?

MR. WAUGH: That's correct and that's why when we were talking about it, we inserted this wording with the existing jurisdictional split.

MS. BADEMAN: Okay, in my mind that's what we're trying to fix here and get rid of that jurisdictional split so we don't have the problem of one side of the Keys being open and the other side closed for no reason.

MS. McCAWLEY: Yes; and we felt like 4 did that. Leann.

MS. BOSARGE: So hypothetically if commercial in the end does not end up getting delegated to the state of Florida for management, if it does end up just being recreational, right now on the Atlantic side you have a commercial/recreational allocation. If we combine everything for the Gulf and South Atlantic, then that will have to be revisited.

That allocation will go away and we're going to start using a lot more current years to try and figure out what the allocation should be; because obviously that allocation was set in the past and we didn't have current years' landings then. But if we keep the two things split and then drill down – and we still may have to drill down to a commercial/recreational allocation on the Gulf side – do you see where I'm going with this – you wouldn't revisit the allocation on the South Atlantic side with more current years if you keep the two things separate before you start applying things if commercial doesn't get delegated.

MS. BADEMAN: Well, you could do an Action 2 delegation or not, either way, because remember the ACLs and the ABCs stay with the council under delegation.

MS. BOSARGE: Right, but if you combine everything into one big ABC, then you can't just say, okay, South Atlantic allocation applies to the Gulf; and if it is one big thing, then you're going to look at landings across the Gulf and South Atlantic, recreational versus commercial, and you're going to come up with a new recreational/commercial allocation for the whole thing, and then that commercial allocation would stay with the Gulf Council and that recreational allocation would get pushed down to the state. It is hypothetical.

Obviously, I'm from the commercial side and I have no idea what the numbers look like, but I would imagine that recreational landings have trended upward as we've had more and more recreational fishermen and tourism has grown in Florida over the more current years. I'm just thinking about how this is going to affect these commercial guys that have asked us not to be in this and thinking if they're not in, then they're going to stay the same.

MS. BADEMAN: With the allocation on the Atlantic side I think was set in 2011 or '12; it wasn't all that long ago. If that gives you a little bit of comfort, it was when I think the big ACL/ACT amendment for – it was based on the last reauthorization when the two councils put all those limits in place.

MR. GREGORY: If you do it either way, you'll get approximately the same number, maybe plus or minus 1 percent. The important thing I think is that the current allocation the South Atlantic has for yellowtail gives you – the current way they have it in their FMP is 53 percent commercial/47 percent recreational; but either Alternative 3 or 4, you're going to end up with 75 percent commercial. To me that is the bigger change than worrying about whether you calculate

it separately and average them or put them together and do the allocation. Alternative 3 and 4 are very similar – well, similar results.

MR. GREENE: Well, nobody likes allocation stuff, but is that going to be consistent with allocation policies by each council?

MS. McCAWLEY: The way that it is splitting it up, there is an option in there that is consistent with the way that the South Atlantic does it; what we have called the Bowtie Approach. We had long discussions during the South Florida Committee that the Bowtie Approach actually resulted in double-weighting of a particular year or series of years.

Option A under what is now 3 and 4 is taking the South Atlantic's Bowtie Approach, modifying it so you don't have that double-weighting and so that is one of the options. I would say that is consistent with what the South Atlantic is doing now.

MR. GREENE: I guess I'm going to have ask staff or our executive director is that going to be consistent with what the Gulf Council's allocation policy is?

MR. GREGORY: Well, we haven't developed a formula for allocating these animals. When we did the multijurisdictional split, we had used the Bowtie Formula that the South Atlantic has been using, but that is different than what we have in this document. The Bowtie Split double counts a certain number of years; so you take a long period of years and then you take within that long period a subset of the recent years and you weight them 50/50; and you're double counting those recent years.

What the formula in this document does is take let's say a shorter long period of time and then the next adjacent years and averages them, so you're not double counting the years. It will affect the result a little bit, but we don't have a policy on which way of doing an allocation with that regard. Carrie could answer that, but I don't think we've done that with the Bowtie effect in the Gulf.

MR. GREENE: Dr. Simmons, would like to weigh in?

DR. SIMMONS: Just real quickly; I think that is correct and what Mr. Gregory is referring to is our jurisdictional portion – the years that we're using currently for the jurisdictional apportionment of the ABC for yellowtail snapper between the Gulf and South Atlantic Council; the years that we're using. Those years are from 1993 to 2008, 50 percent of the catch history plus 50 percent of the catch history from 2006 to 2008; and that resulted in 75 percent of ABC going to the South Atlantic and 25 percent of the ABC going to the Gulf specifically for yellowtail snapper.

MR. GREENE: I admit it is a whole lot of confusion and I'm just trying to make sure I understand; and I certainly am not trying to slow everybody down, but I just make sure we understand. Okay, I think we've had a bunch of discussion unfortunately by me. Is there anyone else who would like to weigh in on this? Mr. Williams, is the motion on the board correct? **Okay, is there any opposition to the motion on the board? Seeing no opposition; the motion carries.**

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, would the South Atlantic like to consider a similar motion? Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: Madam Chair, I also move that under Action 2 we remove original Alternative 3.

MS. McCAWLEY: Seconded by Charlie. Anymore discussion needed on this? Any objection to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. Now we are on to Action 3. Bonnie, did you have your hand up?

DR. PONWITH: Yes, I did, and I appreciate getting past the allocation because I'd pass on that. We're struggling because there are lots of moving parts in this. There are different alternatives that take us down different paths on this.

The one thing that I wanted to do is make sure that in the back of our minds, as we contemplate the choices available for this species and the next, is to keep in mind how the fishery is prosecuted and its influence on the way the data come into you with respect to whether it simplifies or makes the stock assessment more complicated.

I know that part of this is to create regulations that are more consistent across the region, but I think that's a second-tier thing that needs to be taken into consideration, what the implications are for the stock assessment and keep that in mind as these decisions are made.

MR. WAUGH: Carrie just noted that the Gulf Council actually had not approved a motion adding this new Alternative 4 to the document.

MS. BADEMAN: I'll make that motion for the Gulf to add new Alternative 4 as proposed by the South Atlantic Council.

MR. GREENE: We have a motion by Ms. Bademan; seconded by Mr. Williams. We've had fair bit of discussion on this. Is there any further council discussion? Is there any opposition to the motion on the board? Seeing no opposition; the motion carries.

MS. McCAWLEY: Now I believe we are on to the next action, which is for mutton snapper. Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: Before you leave yellowtail, I do think that you will need to modify the accountability measures because they are not the same in the Gulf and in the South Atlantic, I don't think.

MS. McCAWLEY: There's an action for that in this document?

DR. CRABTREE: There is?

MS. McCAWLEY: Yes. All right, on to mutton snapper. These next couple of actions for mutton are very similar to the actions that were taken for yellowtail. Once again, Action 3 is the partial delegation of commercial and/or recreational management of mutton snapper to the state of Florida in federal waters adjacent to the state of Florida. I'm going to pass it back to Johnny so he can dispense with the first Gulf Reef Fish Committee motion.

MR. GREENE: For those of you following along, we're on Page 4, the Gulf Reef Fish Committee Report. **The Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends and I so move in Action 3 to move Alternatives 2D and 3D to considered but rejected. Is there any discussion? Is there any opposition? Seeing no opposition; the motion carries.**

MS. McCAWLEY: **On the South Atlantic, we had a motion to delete Options 2D and 3D from Action 3; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Any discussion on that motion? Any opposition to that motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.**

The South Atlantic also chose some preferreds on this particular option. We're still on Page 4 of the document, if you're following along. **The South Atlantic said to select Alternative 2 and 3 and all of Options 2-A through 2C and 3A through 3C under Action 3 as preferred; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Discussion of this motion? Any opposition to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.**

I don't know if we have want to have a motion here similar to the motion that we made for yellowtail that would have staff analyzing the range of size limits, bag limits, seasons, et cetera. I'm not sure if someone would like to make that motion. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: I move that we direct staff and the IPT to develop a reasonable range of alternatives for recreational and commercial size limits, bag limits, seasons, and trip limits for mutton snapper for Action 3 to bound the range of actions the state of Florida may consider.

MS. McCAWLEY: **Seconded by Ben. Any discussion of this motion that once again is similar to what we just did for yellowtail? Any opposition to this motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.** The Gulf Reef Fish Committee also made an additional motion at the bottom of Page 4. Johnny.

MR. GREENE: The Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends and I so move that Action 3 be applied to the waters adjacent to the state of Florida. Is there any discussion about this motion? Any opposition to this motion? Seeing none; the motion carries.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, do we want to spend more time on the delegation of mutton snapper? I don't see any hands up so I'm going to move to the next motion. Action 4 is similar to the second action that we talked about for yellowtail snapper. I'm going to turn it over to Johnny. There is an action from the Gulf Reef Fish Committee at the top of Page 5 under Action 4, if you'd like to move that motion.

MR. GREENE: The Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends and I so move to have Action 4 apply to the entire Gulf and South Atlantic jurisdictions. Any discussion about this motion?

MS. BOSARGE: Is this the same motion we made a minute ago for yellowtail snapper, because I was unclear about it at the end; so let me ask this means that the state of Florida essentially manages all federal waters in the Gulf and South Atlantic for yellowtail and mutton?

MS. McCAWLEY: Carrie, I'm going to see if you can explain this since it was your committee that made this motion.

DR. SIMMONS: The purpose I think of us making this motion is just to make sure that all the landings; that we were consistent. If you look at the discussion of this action, all the landings we were using were from throughout the Gulf and South Atlantic's jurisdiction to apply the ACLs – to apply the ABC and the ACLs for this action. I think there are some landings off of South Carolina or something like that; so those were being used in the sector portion. It is not just landings off the state of Florida. That's why we were asking for that clarification.

MR. WAUGH: I believe the wording of the Action 4 in the document we're working from is incorrect. This is the wording from the original document; and the wording in the committee report that we have has partial delegation of commercial and recreational mutton snapper. I think it was just a cut-and-paste mistake.

MS. McCAWLEY: Yes; from the original document, Action 4 was establish and consolidate ABCs and ACLs for mutton snapper. I believe that's why you guys on the Gulf Reef Fish Committee talked about this action. What you see in the summary document has the wrong title. It is the correct motion, wrong title.

MR. GREENE: All right, any opposition to this motion? Seeing no opposition; the motion carries.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, the other thing that the South Atlantic did is they added that new Alternative 4 that we had talked about for yellowtail. We added a new alternative here for mutton.
On behalf of the committee I so move that we add new Alternative 4 for Action 4:

Alternative 4: Manage mutton snapper as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional acceptable biological catch (ABC) and annual catch limit. Option 4a: Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50 percent of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50 percent on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013. Option 4b: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 2009-2013. Option 4c: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 2004-2013. Any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.

The committee also selected Alternative 4, Option 4A as the preferred for Action 4; and on behalf of the committee I so move. Any discussion? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. Roy Williams, I don't know if you want to make a similar motion to remove Alternative 3 here.

MR. WILLIAMS: Yes; I would offer a motion to remove Alternative 3 under Action 4.

MR. GREENE: Okay, we have a motion similar to what we did last time. It is on the board; it was seconded by Ms. Bademan. Is there any discussion about this? Seeing no discussion; the motion carries.

MS. McCRAWLEY: Would somebody on the South Atlantic like to make a similar motion.

DR. DUVAL: Madam Chair, I move that we remove Alternative 3 under Action 4.

MS. McCRAWLEY: Seconded by Mel. Any discussion? Any opposition? That motion stands approved. Would someone on the Gulf like to also add Alternative 4 to the document?

MS. BADEMAN: I move that the Gulf add the new Alternative 4 as proposed by the South Atlantic Council to Action 4.

MR. GREENE: Seconded by Mr. Williams. Is there any discussion? Seeing no discussion; the motion carries.

DR. SIMMONS: Just for staff's clarification, under the new alternative we just added and under the old one we removed, we do have some wording questions based on the motion that was passed by the Gulf Council. If you look at Option 4B, it says "base sector allocations for waters off of Florida on average landings from 2009 to 2013".

I think at one point the South Florida Committee was considering like an incidental catch percentage or something like that; so could staff have editorial license that all landings should be used for the Gulf and South Atlantic's jurisdiction and not just the landings off of Florida. Is that the intent?

MS. McCRAWLEY: Yes, and I think Gregg will take some notes on that. While they're getting that on the board, is there anything else on ABC/ACL on mutton that we need to talk about more? Okay, under Action 5, this was the action to modify mutton snapper recreational limits in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic.

I see that there were no Reef Fish Committee motions made regarding Action 5. It says that the South Atlantic Council deferred motions on Action 5 and 6 until the Joint Council Session. That was not exactly what I had in my notes. I had that the South Atlantic Council chose not to take up these particular options because they had chosen delegation on a previous option.

Since they chose delegation, then they just basically skipped Action 5, which would modify mutton snapper recreational limits; and Action 6, modify mutton snapper commercial trip limits. They had skipped those options; however, I see that there are some Gulf Reef Fish Committee motions under Action 6.

MR. GREENE: The Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends and I so move in Action 6 have Alternative 4 be moved to considered but rejected. Any discussion? Any opposition to the motion? The motion carries.

MR. WAUGH: If we're going forward with delegation; do we want to keep these actions in the document or move them to the considered by rejected?

MS. McCAWLEY: The Gulf hasn't chosen – at this point I believe only the South Atlantic Council has chosen delegation as the preferred and the Gulf hasn't chosen; so I think at this point we have to leave both of those actions in there. Martha.

MS. BADEMAN: I would be willing at least to offer a motion to delegate mutton snapper recreationally. I don't know if that's a conversation that we want to have about potentially removing some actions. I don't know what people's comfort is on that. I'm talking particularly to the Gulf side. Since we haven't really had this conversation, it seems like the South Atlantic has, if anybody has any input other than me.

MR. GREENE: This is something we hadn't talked about. Council, what is your pleasure?

MS. BADEMAN: Well, let me just start us off; how about that? **I'll make a motion – if we back up to Action 3, that's the delegation for mutton snapper – to make Alternative 2, Options 2A, 2B and 2C preferreds for the Gulf.**

MR. GREENE: Okay, we have a motion by Ms. Bademan; it was seconded by Mr. Williams. Is there any discussion? Dr. Crabtree.

DR. CRABTREE: And I'd presume that we would go through, as we did with yellowtail, and ask staff to look at a range of – did we already do that?

MS. McCAWLEY: We already did that.

MS. BADEMAN: I feel like we've had this conversation already on yellowtail.

MR. GREENE: We're having a little confusion over here about exactly where we are; just one second.

MS. BOSARGE: Martha, are we still on Action 6 or did you go back to a different action?

MS. BADEMAN: I backed up to Action 3.

MS. BOSARGE: That's what I thought; okay.

MS. BADEMAN: Which is mutton snapper delegation; this is just recreational.

MR. GREENE: There seems to be some confusion. Can you put what Alternative 2 is so that the council can see it real quick? Okay, Council, he has it highlighted in blue. I'll give you a minute to read over it. Is there any further discussion about the intent of what we're doing here? **Seeing no further discussion; is there any opposition to this motion? Seeing none; the motion carries.**

MS. McCAWLEY: Martha, did you have your hand up again?

MS. BADEMAN: Yes; so then I would fast-forward to Action 6 and then I feel like we need to have – I guess both councils need to have the discussion of whether – not Action 6, sorry, Action 5. That's the mutton snapper recreational bag limit and if we want to keep this and keep talking about it or not.

MS. McCAWLEY: It hasn't gone out to the public yet. I don't know if we want to completely move it to considered but rejected yet. I'm a little concerned about moving it over there at this point. I'll just state that. I don't know if anybody else has opinions, but I think it would be my recommendation to keep it in there. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: I agree with Jessica. I think just because this hasn't gone out to public comment, we should keep it in there and let the public provide their opinions on proposed actions. I did notice that the IPT had recommended possibly considering elimination of Options 2C and 3C just given the fact that there is only a one-fish difference between those and Options 2B and 3B, but I guess we can discuss that after.

MS. McCAWLEY: I'm fine if you want to make that motion right now.

DR. DUVAL: Okay, for the South Atlantic I move that we eliminate Options 2C and 3C from Alternatives 2 and 3 under Action 5.

MS. McCAWLEY: Second by Chris. Under discussion. Okay, the motion is on the board, eliminate Options 2C and 3C from Alternatives 2 and 3 in Action 5. **Any opposition to that motion? Seeing none; that motion stands approved.** I'm going to kick it over to the Gulf.

MR. GREENE: Okay, the Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends and I so move to apply Action 6 to the entire Gulf and South Atlantic jurisdictions.

MS. McCAWLEY: It is okay that you offered that motion, but technically what we were doing was we were back on Action 5. I wanted to see if the Gulf wanted to also eliminate 2C and 3C as recommended by the IPT from Action 5.

MS. BADEMAN: Yes; I will make a motion for in Action 5 to remove Options 2C and 3C from the document.

MR. GREENE: We have a motion the board; it has been seconded by Mr. Williams. Is there any discussion? Seeing no discussion; the motion carries.

MS. McCAWLEY: I think, Johnny, the motion that you were offering is in order now.

MR. GREENE: **Okay, the Gulf Reef Fish Committee recommends and I so move to apply Action 6 to the entire Gulf and South Atlantic jurisdictions.** Is there any discussion about this? I was asked to give a moment to let everybody get to that portion. I'll ask again can you please put up on the board exactly what it is that we are voting on so that we can see where it is.

MS. BOSARGE: Okay, I'm not opposed to this, but I need somebody to help me out. We had the South Florida Issues and we're trying to fix those and so we're thinking about delegation, possibly recreational, possibly commercial, and now we have a motion on the board that is going to change this for the entire Gulf of Mexico and the entire South Atlantic, all federal waters, everything.

I know it is just a trip limit, but we went from considering something in a little small area to now changing something for an entire Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic. I guess I just need a minute to process who this may affect. Granted, it is mainly in South Florida, so why are we changing things for the entire Gulf of Mexico?

MR. WILLIAMS: It makes it easier to enforce. They do catch mutton snapper. Jason Delacruz has told me they're bringing them in off of Crystal River now. I imagine they see one at Panama City once in a while. I don't know if they ever show in your area or not. It simply means that somebody who might be fishing off the Middle Grounds can run back to Alabama. If he happens to catch more than a trip limit load in the federal zone in the Middle Grounds, he can't run back to Alabama or Mississippi and land them. That is what it prevents.

MR. PERRET: Roy, it may make things easier for enforcement, but every state has different bag and size limits in the Gulf on spotted seatrout, red drum, many things. I'm like Leann; we're talking about a South Florida issue and now we're up to North Carolina through to Brownsville, Texas.

MR. WILLIAMS: Well, if I may, it is a commercial trip limit and those guys do move around a good bit. They don't just make day trips out of the port. They may be gone for two weeks while they're out fishing, so they make long trips. Somebody might come from Alabama, might come from Mississippi, might come from Louisiana fish in the Middle Grounds, fish clear down closer to Madeira Beach, and they might catch more than a trip limit of mutton snapper. We're just trying to get consistent regulations, Corky.

MR. PERRET: Well, I probably would feel a lot better if this was not in a South-Florida-only issue. If it were in some generic amendment to take care of things throughout the two regions, it would make a lot more sense.

MS. BOSARGE: So if they do catch these things and go land them somewhere else right now in Alabama or wherever, what are their limitations? What are we changing this to from what it is right now?

MR. WILLIAMS: I don't think there is a trip limit on mutton snapper right now.

DR. DANA: In the Gulf of Mexico for commercial there is not. In the South Atlantic it is only during the spawning season. There is a ten-fish bag limit or ten per vessel I think bag limit in May and June.

MS. BOSARGE: So we're creating one where there was none; we're creating a limit where there was no limit?

MS. McCAWLEY: There was a limit on the South Atlantic but not on the Gulf; and the South Atlantic limit was only during the spawn. Martha.

MS. BADEMAN: Yes; these trip limits for mutton snapper and bag limits on the recreational side, this is something that people have been asking for a very long time. That's the only reason why these are in here. This is something we hear about all the time. Yes; recreational and commercial folks have been asking for bag limits and trip limits. That's why these are here and they're in this document.

MS. BOSARGE: Okay, I'm sorry, let me clarify. I was looking at it from the commercial side and asking what are their limits now and what are we about to make it throughout? In other words, if they land these things in Alabama right now, which is right next to Florida, do they have limits and we're about to put restrictions on it? What are we doing commercially?

MS. BADEMAN: Commercially, there is no limit right now and we would have to pick something. I don't think anybody has a preferred right now. At least the Gulf doesn't. I don't know if the South Atlantic picked one on this action.

MS. McCAWLEY: As I mentioned earlier, the South Atlantic did not discuss this action because they chose delegation. They felt if delegation is chosen, then the state of Florida needs to come up with a range of alternatives for the trip limit, so they did not spend time on this action. Roy.

MR. WILLIAMS: Well, the only thing I was going to say was as I recall, the last stock assessment said mutton snapper is not overfished but it is getting real close; is that correct? Okay.

MR. HARTIG: Leann, you've got a really good question, and it came up during these conversations in the South Florida Workgroup about mutton snapper trip limits. I'm a person who catches mutton snappers on our coast. I was tasked to come up with some trip limits for mutton snappers. I really couldn't do it because of the differential who is catching them on each side.

On our side it is primarily a hook-and-line fishery and we have relatively small catches, but in the Gulf it is primarily a longline fishery that catches them so they have much larger catches. It is kind of hard to do this for mutton snapper in the commercial side of one trip limit across both areas because you have two gears with entirely different fishing power.

That really complicates trying to come up with a trip limit so I never did come up with one for us. We have a couple of options here, but I said I don't think we should have one basically on the commercial side. Now, the recreational side, I believe that.

MS. BOSARGE: And so how do you feel about taking this action and applying it to the entire of Gulf of Mexico and entire South Atlantic, whatever is decided right here, as opposed to just the EEZ off of Florida?

MR. HARTIG: I don't think that the problem exists much outside of Florida; because where those longline catches are caught are in South Florida is where those fish are being prosecuted. I think

outside of that we'll have some kind of – you can have some kind of regulations that deal with the fishery outside of the South Florida part of that catch. I don't have a problem with that.

MS. McCRAWLEY: Yes; there is actually a chart in the document that shows the percentage of landings in these other states, and there really aren't any other commercial landings in any other state except for North Carolina and South Carolina. John Sanchez.

MR. SANCHEZ: Alternative 1 kind of confuses me because it says no action for a statement, but then it kind of slides over to the South Atlantic and makes it ten fish per trip, et cetera, et cetera. Maybe if we had no action for the Gulf of Mexico here, then that would alleviate some of the concerns and leave it status quo for where we're at with our current regulations. I throw that out there.

DR. DUVAL: John, that no action is just describing what is in place in both the South Atlantic and the Gulf. It just states what our commercial trip limit is during May and June, which is the ten mutton per trip and that there is no bag or trip for the commercial sector in the Gulf or South Atlantic July through April. Actually what it should say is there no bag or trip limit for the commercial sector in the Gulf year round.

MR. SANCHEZ: Correct. July through April is where it kind of gets stuck in the weeks.

DR. DUVAL: Yes; I agree.

MR. PERRET: Ben has brought up a very good point, in my opinion, about the different type fishery on each side of the Keys. On the Atlantic side it is one type and on the Gulf Side it is another type. If we're talking about possibly two different bag limits, why do we need any at all?

MS. McCRAWLEY: I think the point that somebody brought up was that there is definitely concern during the spawning season. There are some particular locations where people can go right to an aggregation and they could, especially on the Gulf, take a lot of mutton snapper in those particular months, so that's where there are options in here for trip limits during a regular season and trip limits during the spawning season, et cetera.

It was based on what we heard from the public to put these in place, and so I think that what you would be suggesting is possibly no trip limit outside of the spawning seasons is what I think you're saying, Corky.

MR. PERRET: Good explanation; thank you.

MR. WAUGH: Mr. Williams asked about the stock status, and we just got a new stock assessment. It is still not overfished and overfishing; but due to the reduced productivity – our understanding of the productivity of that stock, the councils are going to have to take separate actions in other documents to adjust the ACL. In rough numbers I think it will be declining from about 1.1 million pounds down to about 750,000 pounds, I believe.

DR. CRABTREE: If your concern is about the problem with longline gear versus vertical line gear, the longline guys in the Gulf have longline endorsements. I think there were 62 of them; so you could easily establish a different trip limit or no trip limit on longlines for vessels with a longline endorsement and have a trip limits for the vertical line guys if you wanted to do it differently.

MR. WALKER: I speak in opposition to this. I think we should leave it status quo and the entire Gulf of Mexico doesn't need to fall under what the state of Florida picks for the bag limits and so forth. I am going to speak in opposition/

MS. BADEMAN: Yes; this would be what the council picks. This wouldn't apply if commercial is delegated to Florida, right, because Florida would be setting the – if they wanted to set a trip limit, they would be setting it. This is if the council decides to retain authority to set commercial trip limits for mutton snapper. If they wanted to, then they could choose something in this action. This doesn't apply if delegation is going on.

MR. PERRET: Possible different management measures during spawning; don't we have closures now with some of these protected areas, Riley's Hump and so on, which is a spawning aggregation? Are we hearing that is not enough; we need more?

MS. McCAWLEY: Yes.

MR. GREENE: Any further discussion by the Gulf Council? Okay, by a show of hands, all those in favor please raise your hand; all those opposed like sign. The motion passes.

DR. DUVAL: Madam Chair, I move that we eliminate Options 2B, 3D, 5D and 6B from Action 6; and those are basically all the ones that say some higher bag or trip limit.

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, that motion is going on the board. Once again, we're in Action 6, eliminate Options 2B, 3D, 5D and 6B. Second by Charlie. Discussion? Does everyone understand what we're doing? We're taking this commercial trip limit option and removing the ones that just say "or some other higher bag or trip limit or no bag or trip limit". Is there any opposition to this motion? Ben, do you want to discuss this?

MR. HARTIG: Yes; I mean realistically a ten fish per person per day commercial trip limit during the regular season is not going to work for us, period. You've had 2B – we need some higher bag or limit for the mutton snapper during the regular season.

MS. McCAWLEY: Let me make a suggestion here. Based on the discussion I heard, I'm wondering, Michelle, if you'd like to modify your motion to remove the elimination of Option 3D, which would allow us to continue with no bag or trip limit.

DR. DUVAL: I just want to clarify, Ben, were you referring to – it sounded like, Ben, you were referring to Alternative 2, which was to establish a commercial trip limit for mutton snapper during the regular season in the Gulf of Mexico and the South Atlantic; is that correct?

MR. HARTIG: And wasn't that part of your motion? I thought I saw 2B –

DR. DUVAL: It was and you are correct.

MS. McCAWLEY: So, Ben, if you want to add some higher bag limits or trip limits during the regular season, then let's get them in as part of this action instead of removing them. Michelle, do you want to withdraw your motion?

DR. DUVAL: Yes; Madam Chair, I would like to withdraw my motion.

DR. CRABTREE: I'm not seeing an analysis with the longline fishery of how many fish they bring in, but they're fishing pretty deep. I suspect any kind of trip limit on those guys – I mean there is not much point in forcing them to throw dead fish back over the side.

MS. McCAWLEY: Are we thinking that based on these discussions that we're wanting to give direction to staff to analyze or look at some options that would be hook and line and for longline; is that what you're thinking, Roy?

DR. CRABTREE: Will, I think if we're going to go with a trip limit, it doesn't make a lot of sense to me to apply it to the longline guys. I think you're just going to throw dead fish over the side.

MS. McCAWLEY: So I think the direction to staff would be to break out the longline and hook and line separately. Martha.

MS. BADEMAN: I think we kind of have that covered at least for the spawning season in Alternatives 5 and 6. Clearly, we could flesh those out and some more options, but at least we have a start there.

MS. McCAWLEY: Table 14 and 15 have the landings, Roy, by gear type. Ben, I think that you were suggesting that under Alternative 2 we need to add some more options here for "establish a commercial trip limit for mutton snapper during the regular season in the Gulf and the South Atlantic", and right now it only specifies ten. Would you like some analysis on some other bag limits during the regular season?

MR. HARTIG: Yes; and I'm trying to keep to a reasonable number. You know, 200 is on the lower side, 500 is on the high side that we do catch, so split the difference those two. Maybe that is a weird number.

MS. McCAWLEY: It sounds like you're making a motion to add options to Alternative 2, and you were looking for an option for 200 fish?

MR. HARTIG: Well, I'm talking in pounds. I know this is in fish. It makes it difficult because of size differentiation and different seasons is significant. It would be difficult to do that right off the top of my head right now to try and do it in numbers of fish. I could do it in pounds.

MR. WAUGH: Give us the pounds, Ben.

MS. McCAWLEY: 200 pounds and what else?

MR. HARTIG: 200 and then 500 at the highest and whatever is in the middle between 200 and 500. Maybe that's a weird number; maybe you round it to the nearest – what was the middle number?

MS. McCAWLEY: Okay, so the motion reads add options to Alternative 2; 200 pounds, 300 pounds, 400 pounds and 500 pounds. Seconded by Michelle. Any discussion of adding these sub-options to Alternative 2? Any objection? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. For the longline sector, maybe we need some direction to staff on Alternative 6 to give us some more options for trip limits for the longline sector. Gregg.

MR. WAUGH: In Alternative 6, this talks about a longline allowance in the South Atlantic. We limit longlines to the deep-water species, so perhaps we need to delete “South Atlantic” here.

MS. McCAWLEY: I agree. Ben.

MR. HARTIG: And don't you get into the same problem with longlines in specifying during the spawning season? That's right; you've got the handline sector during the spawning season.

DR. CRABTREE: And so those longline boats are going to be outside 20 fathoms, so they're pretty deep. I just don't see what we gain by considering a trip limit on them. It just seems to me it doesn't work in that fishery. I could be wrong, but I don't know that these guys are targeting mutton snapper. I haven't heard of them targeting mutton snapper. Even if you close it or do something like that, I just don't think it makes much sense.

MS. McCAWLEY: So it sound like what you're saying is that we could eliminate Alternative 6?

DR. CRABTREE: In my opinion we could.

MS. McCAWLEY: Is that a motion?

DR. CRABTREE: Okay, I move we eliminate Alternative 6.

MS. McCAWLEY: Second by Michelle. Any discussion? Any opposition? Martha.

MS. BADEMAN: Clearly, I'm not on the South Atlantic side on this, but if you're going to remove Alternative 6, wouldn't you want to consider doing the same for 2 and 3 since those would apply across the whole fishery, handline and longline? I'm just throwing that out there for food for thought.

MS. McCAWLEY: You're saying eliminate those options, Martha?

MS. BADEMAN: Yes; the way I'm reading those, those apply to the entire commercial fishery. That would be handline and longline. Roy is saying that there should not be a limit on the longline

portion of this fishery; then you would probably eliminate 2 and 3 since those would apply to the longline portion of this fishery.

MS. McCAWLEY: I think that 3 needs to stay in there, but maybe 3 just gets a caveat added that we intend for this to apply to the hook-and-line sector only, maybe.

MS. BADEMAN: Yes; that's Alternative 5, more or less.

MS. McCAWLEY: So, Roy, do you want to expand your elimination of alternatives to also eliminate Alternatives 2 and 3?

DR. CRABTREE: Yes; I think I'm okay with that.

MS. McCAWLEY: Michelle, as the seconder are you okay with that?

MR. WAUGH: Are we modifying that motion we just – a new motion?

MS. McCAWLEY: No, modify that motion to say –

MR. WAUGH: We approved it.

MS. McCAWLEY: No, I hadn't called for a vote yet. Okay, I've been told that the Gulf already removed Alternative 4, which means that there is not any remaining options for – well, 5 appears to be an option for the handline sector during spawning season. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: It seems like we could modify Alternative 2 to indicate – because Alternative 2 was a commercial trip limit for mutton during the regular season. We could modify that to indicate that it applied only to the vertical line sector, handline sector; and then you would have an alternative that deals with a trip limit for the handline sector during the regular season, an alternative that deals with a trip limit for the handline sector during the spawning season.

MR. CONKLIN: Do we need to add an option in here for the spear fishermen or is that going to be included under handline?

MS. McCAWLEY: That's a good point; I think that needs to be included. Chris.

MR. CONKLIN: Just the majority of the feedback I think we've been getting or at least that I've heard is the only real problem with the harvest is during the spawning season. I don't know if we need to address anything outside of that.

MS. McCAWLEY: I've been hearing stuff about harvest outside the spawn as well. I'm thinking that we need to modify Roy's motion and remove the 2 from that, so that we're not eliminating Alternative 2. I also think that after we get done with this, we need some direction to staff to add alternatives that have to do with spear fishing. Michelle, you seconded this motion; are you good with that change? **Okay, the motion is to eliminate Alternatives 3 and 6 in Action 6.** Is there any opposition? Ben.

MR. HARTIG: I think we need a little bit more conversation. If you look at Table 16 and the percentage of harvest and when all that harvest occurs – and particularly to Chris’ point, if you look in the regular season there is not a 1 percentage point between any of the months. It is less than 1 percent for all those other months; so there really isn’t any problem outside the spawning season as far as catches.

For the longline fishery and the hook-and-line fishery, most of the catch occurs during the spawning season. A high preponderance of the catch occurs during the spawning season; so if we give the longliners a free pass to fish for these fish during the spawning season and we’re reducing the ACL by over 300,000 pounds, there is going to be an upset.

We only get a small percentage of the ACL, anyway, for the commercial sector; the longline fishery is going to eat up most of the harvest for that fishery. Somehow in this – and this doesn’t need to get lost – we need to deal with what is going to happen when we reduce the productivity of this stock and come up with new ACLs. That is a significant problem that needs to be addressed somewhere down the line and sooner than later in the new assessment.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, a couple of things that I don’t know and we ought to find out is, one, whether any of these longliners ever target mutton snapper. I don’t see a longliner – I suspect they don’t really target them, and I can’t see them setting on a spawning aggregation site for mutton snapper. If our concern has been fishing on mutton snapper spawning aggregations, I doubt the longliners are doing that.

If they’re fishing deep and they’re not targeting, I’m not convinced we’re reducing mortality any if we don’t let them land the things. I think we may just be playing games with that. I don’t know the answers to that because I’ve never really talked to them much about mutton snapper, but we ought to try and find those out; and that may mean talking to some longliners and just trying to find out what they’re doing.

DR. SIMMONS: Just a suggestion; should we take this Action 5 and 6 potentially out of this document and put in the framework actions that the councils are going to be working on when we modify the mutton catch limits here after the assessment? Is that a possibility or is it more appropriate to put these actions there or at least Action 6, especially since we’re looking at delegation?

MS. McCAWLEY: I’m good with that. We already have a motion on the floor. We’ve had a suggestion to withdraw that motion on the board. I believe the maker of the motion was Roy.

MR. CRABTREE: I withdraw my motion.

DR. DUVAL: I agree.

MS. McCAWLEY: All right, we’ve got the maker and the seconder in agreement. We had a suggestion from council staff that at the very least Action 6 but possibly Action 5 be moved to a different document. Any discussion on that? If we’re going to do that, we’re going to need a motion to do it.

MS. BOSARGE: I'll certainly make the motion to move Action 6 to a different document. I don't have a problem with that at all. Well, Carrie was the one who suggested it.

DR. SIMMONS: Well, I would just ask the regional office wouldn't it be better, since we're changing our catch limits – I guess we can do that by framework and each council is going to be looking at doing that for mutton snapper. We need to go ahead and move on that. We may need other recreational and commercial changes to look at these potentially in those amendments; that each council would be looking at that if they need other management measures to not exceed those new annual catch limits. I don't know how quickly we need to do that.

MS. McCAWLEY: Leann, what I heard from you was Action 6. The motion I see on the board is 5 and 6. Are you willing to consider moving 5 and 6?

MS. BOSARGE: If that's what Carrie recommended; I'm good with that.

MR. CONKLIN: Wouldn't we just need three alternatives in this action; one, no action and then one a trip limit during the spawning season and then one not on the spawning season and just have it worded like commercial trip limit; and that would cover your longliners, your spear fishermen and your vertical liners?

DR. DUVAL: I think the point that Roy was trying to make and that Ben was weighing in on is that based on the different types, we just don't have – you may want to have further alternatives that are specific to those gear types at least within Action 6, which is the commercial trip limit. You'd probably have a no action; you might have something for spear fishing during the spawn and outside the spawn, handline during the spawn and outside the spawn, et cetera. That was the only thing.

MS. McCAWLEY: Johnny, I'm going to pass it over to you since we've got a Gulf motion.

MS. BADEMAN: I think I'm okay with moving these out of here. My only plea is that since this would be going to separate council amendments, a Gulf amendment and a South Atlantic amendment, that we keep the purpose of this document in mind, which is to have consistency across the two jurisdictions because the Keys is where it is at for mutton snapper. That is my plea going forward if we're splitting this out and doing it in separate Gulf and South Atlantic actions is that we try to be friends on this one and come up with the same thing. It is going to be more difficult and separate actions or amendments, probably.

MR. GREENE: Okay, we've got a motion on the board. We've had discussion. **We have on the board by Ms. Bosarge to move Actions 5 and 6 to the councils' amendments that will implement the new mutton snapper ABC/ACL. Seconded by Mr. Perret. Is there any discussion? Seeing no more discussion; the motion carries.** Mr. Sanchez.

MR. SANCHEZ: I just had a quick question to be sure. On Alternative 1, the no action with regards to the Gulf; did we clarify was that just to staff I guess a editorial license thing to make sure that no action for year-round to get us out of the July through April conundrum that we were in. Did that get corrected?

MS. McCAWLEY: I think we decided that was just a typo.

MR. SANCHEZ: Okay, so we're good with that; we have no action –

MS. McCAWLEY: Yes; staff says it was a typo and that we're good. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: I move that we to move Actions 5 and 6 to the councils' amendments that will implement the new mutton snapper ABC/ACL on behalf of the South Atlantic.

MS. McCAWLEY: Motion by Michelle; seconded by Ben. Any discussion? Any opposition? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. Folks, we're at about 5:24. We were slated to go to 5:30. We haven't even touched the hogfish amendment. I think that we possibly need to conclude work on this amendment for now.

I guess I'd like to have a short discussion about how we want to move forward with this. We clearly did not even get all way through the amendment; so what are some suggestions for moving forward. Some of the options are we could another joint meeting, because we know how much we love that. Another option is that we could let each council separately, through the Executive Committee on the South Atlantic and through the Reef Fish Committee on the Gulf. We could let the councils work on this amendment separately and then I guess ultimately go out for public comment and then maybe folks come back together as a joint body to talk about this.

I'm looking for some opinions on how we want to move forward. Do we want to move forward separately as two separate councils? I see some nodding of the heads. It seems like at some point maybe we have to come back together on this. I'm seeing nodding of the heads as to move forward separately through each council. Corky.

MR. PERRET: Well, it seems to me it is going to have to be looked at separately; and then unfortunately I guess come back together.

MR. GREENE: Well, when we do come back together, let's not do this in a setting that we've just tried to do in the last couple of days. I feel it is not very productive when we're both meeting at the same time and then we're going to have a meeting the next day and nobody has really had time to digest or read what you're done or hardly get a good concept of what we've done because sometimes we're trying to do things.

I think it is probably best to let the councils kind of move independently; then before we have a meeting, allow a quick conference call and kind of get everybody on the same page, work out the logistics of how we're going to handle things in the future. I think we've done a great job of trying to work this out, and I would encourage that as we move forward.

MR. PERRET: Well, for what it is worth, in the old days we had the committees work things out together and bring it before the councils. I don't know if that's an option you may want to consider to try and get whatever your appropriate committee is and our appropriate committee to meet. It would be, of course, a smaller number of people and maybe you can move a little more quickly that way.

MS. McCAWLEY: I think the discussions that we've had on the South Atlantic; I think all the council members would like to be there to hear the discussions. I think they feel like they may have been at a disadvantage not hearing the public comments that South Florida Committee has heard; not being part of those discussions. I think at least on the South Atlantic side we would not necessarily be willing to do that.

MR. GREGORY: The way I think Corky is referring is the way it used to work is the committees would work independently – the councils would work independently. Periodically the committees would join together to work out differences and then bring it back to the two councils. The question for us is to decide what committees, the South Florida Committee, which on that side was kind of ad hoc and not really formal, which bothered NOAA General Counsel a little bit, or a Reef Fish Committee.

We can move forward with that; and I think given the discussion from the other states, we probably should do it in reef fish, as the chairman suggested, because clearly other states have an interest in how this is structured and going forward. In the South Florida Committee, we've been limiting that membership to just Florida members.

I think we work on it in committee and then we could figure out when we get close have a joint committee meeting and try to work out any differences. One of the things that has been a problem for us is the need for us to take this document back to the South Atlantic Council for approval for grammatical changes. That has really slowed us down since we've only met twice a year.

If we go forward like we've been doing, have the IPT be able to make comments and changes of things without having to come back to the councils for actual wording approval. That really has slowed this down. We could have had a more integrated document if that wasn't the case. I think working on it separately from this point forward until we need to get back together is probably the most efficient way. The staff will clearly be coordinating through the IPT because both staffs are on the same IPT>

MS. McCAWLEY: I don't know if I really understood what the old way was; so does the old way that you're talking about occur during a regular council meeting or just occur a different week? Okay, I've got it. Unless you feel there is something else to add, I'm going to go to John Sanchez who has had his hand up.

MR. SANCHEZ: Just one caveat; there are folks like me that have an interest in this that I'm not on the Reef Fish Committee. If that excludes me, I've kind of been spinning my wheels then. This is a backyard issue, so heads-up.

MR. GREGORY: Maybe you can get appointed to reef fish in August or October.

MS. McCAWLEY: I would really just suggest that each council work on this document separately and each council decide how they're going to handle it. My suggestion would be to do it during a regular council meeting and take it through whatever committee they want or through the full council, whichever, and that's my suggestion for how to move forward from here. Michelle.

DR. DUVAL: Doug, it is not so much about the South Atlantic approving grammatical changes. It is that sometimes there are substantive changes to the actions and alternatives, and some of them have gotten changed quite a bit; and we just want to see it in “track changes”. You, yourself, said earlier today that you were having trouble following some things because you didn’t see the changes that we had made in “track changes”. It is really all about just being able to see the changes that are made.

MS. McCAWLEY: Gregg and Carrie, do you think that you have an idea of how to move forward with this?

MR. WAUGH: Yes; we treat it basically like we’ve done mackerel and spiny lobster over the years. Our agenda tomorrow is really full. I don’t know what Michelle’s plans are, but it would be difficult for us to deal with this tomorrow, so it will be at our September meeting.

MS. McCAWLEY: Right; I agree. I think we’ve had enough discussion on this; and I think I’m going to turn it back over to Michelle to take us through the Hogfish Amendment. Carrie.

DR. SIMMONS: Well, I think the Gulf Council may go ahead and dispense with the rest. We’ll talk to the Chair and the Reef Fish Committee Chair and decide if we want to dispense with the rest of these motions on this amendment, so staff at least to the Gulf Council has some direction. Let’s talk about that after this and decide what we want to do tomorrow if we have time.

DR. DUVAL: We have an action regarding hogfish and the fishery management unit – now that the stock assessment has been completed and we have three different stocks that have come through, I think Gregg is probably pulling up what is Tab 5E, Gulf Committee Report on Hogfish Decision Document.

There is a small piece of the Florida Keys/East Florida Stock that is in the Gulf Council’s jurisdiction. The harvest from there has ranged from 4 to 13 percent. There were a number of options within Action 1 of our Snapper Grouper Amendment 37 that would modify the fishery management unit for hogfish.

It is my understand and I guess I’ll be looking to Mr. Greene; that the Gulf recommended to actually remove hogfish from your fishery management unit and simply add that West Florida stock to the Gulf FMU. Johnny, I’m just going to turn things over to you to discuss this a little bit. Then I might ask Carrie and Doug just procedurally I want to make sure that we have the appropriate alternatives in Snapper Grouper Amendment 37 to accept this. Mr. Greene.

MR. GREENE: You are correct on the information that you had provided before. We have a motion here that I’ll read and then we’ll discuss it accordingly. **The Gulf Committee recommends and I so move to remove hogfish from the Gulf fishery management unit and add the west Florida shelf hogfish stock to the Gulf FMU. It is the Gulf Council’s intent to have the South Atlantic Council manage the East Florida/Florida Keys hogfish stock.** Is there any discussion about this? We talked about it pretty good in committee. I think everybody had a pretty good understanding of it. Is there any opposition to this motion? Seeing no opposition; the motion carries.

MR. WAUGH: One point of clarification. In some of the discussion here there is mention of using the Monroe/Collier County Line. The alternatives we have in our amendment is either to use Shark Point or the Monroe/Collier Line for the council boundary. I was just wondering if you had some guidance. Is it your intent to follow the stock assessment and use the Monroe/Collier Line as the boundary?

MR. GREENE: I believe the conversation was to use what was used in the stock assessment, to the best of my memory. Dr. Crabtree.

DR. CRABTREE: Well, I think that was the question is was there a clear boundary laid out in the stock assessment. It seems to me if there was, that's probably what we ought to use. Although I guess if there are strong reasons for something else, we could look at that.

MR. BREWER: If there was anything useful that came out of the joint South Florida meetings that we had, we had discussed a dividing line. We actually asked law enforcement if they had a spot that they thought would be logical from an enforcement standpoint. I think that is kind of important for us to consider because we're going to have to apparently put some restrictions on hogfish.

They suggested that the logical dividing point on the west coast would be Shark Point. Their rationale was that people that are coming down from like Everglades City or who were coming south to fish really don't go much beyond that point. Folks that are coming up from Islamorada or from Flamingo or whatnot really don't go much above that point. From a standpoint of I guess you would say the west coast fishermen and the Keys fishermen that was a very logical spot, and that is what they recommended. We had actually put that into some of the discussion documents.

MR. GREENE: Well, it is certainly not our intent to complicate things for enforcement; but being from Alabama I have no idea if you're talking about a line that is 500 miles apart, a mile apart or whatever; so if you'd like to provide us –

MR. BREWER: They're reasonably close. I don't know the exact mileage. It might be 15 or 20, something like that.

MR. GREENE: Well, if we've used it in the stock assessment, it is a hard thing to get away from because it may have some unintended consequences within the stock assessment by moving it. Like I said, I'm not sure of the geographical range, so perhaps that's something that as this goes forward we might ask the SSC to provide a little bit of guidance thereof, and maybe that would help work it out. That's really the only thing I can offer you unless someone else would like to speak up.

MR. GREGORY: The Monroe/Collier Line is about 35 to 40 miles north of the Shark Point Line. We're talking about 26 degrees latitude approximately from Monroe County/Collier and the Shark Point Line is 25 degrees 23 minutes.

DR. DUVAL: Doug, could repeat that distance again? I missed it the first time. I heard the coordinates but I just missed how far north the county line is.

MR. GREGORY: No, not north of the county line. The county line is about 35 to 40 miles north of the Shark Point Line.

DR. DUVAL: Okay, it sounds like perhaps – well, we have several alternatives within our document under modification of the fishery management unit for the Florida Keys/East Florida stock; one of which is the Monroe/Collier County Line; one of which is the Shark Point Line on the Florida southwest coast. Roy.

DR. CRABTREE: I think you might have some discretion here. There is not a lot of people up in that zone, anyway; so I think if we had a good record for it and if there were sound reasons for why we wanted to set the boundary somewhere other than Monroe County, I think it might be all right. It just depends if we can lay out the argument reasonably. My guess in terms of the catches we're not talking much difference one way or another.

DR. DUVAL: This was something that was agreed to. I mean, this was a suggestion that came forward from law enforcement just given the geography of the area and people from the south not going north of that point and people from the north not going south around that point. In the South Florida discussions, it was recommended by law enforcement that this was a logical place to draw a line.

MR. CONKLIN: To that, it wasn't just law enforcement. Our Snapper Grouper AP had numerous conversations on record about Shark Point being a good line. The fishermen are also agreeing with that as well.

DR. DUVAL: I feel like we would need a motion from the Gulf side to use Shark Point as the boundary, if that is the case. I just want to be clear because then we would select a similar alternative in Snapper Grouper 37. Right now on the screen Gregg has intent to use the Monroe/Collier County Boundary as the boundary for hogfish.

DR. DANA: Help me with the wording, but I'll make the motion to make Shark Point the boundary line, if I can get a second.

MR. GREENE: Okay, Dr. Dana has made a motion; Ms. Bademan has seconded the motion. Is there any discussion? Seeing no discussion, the motion carries. **The motion is to use Shark Point as the boundary line between the West Florida Shelf hogfish stock and the Keys southern Florida hogfish stock.** Mr. Fischer.

MR. FISCHER: Shouldn't you indicate an east/west line because I'm sure we could draw a lot of straight lines from Shark Point.

MR. GREENE: That is probably a good point. Dr. Dana, would you like to –

DR. DANA: Yes, I would amend my motion to, where appropriate, include the east/west line –

DR. DUVAL: I think Gregg is copying the actual verbiage that denotes the coordinates for that east/west boundary line.

MR. GREENE: Okay, for the record in the motion it is define Shark Point as specified at 25 degrees 23 minutes north latitude on west coast of Florida. Is the seconder okay with the addition? She is. Is there any opposition to this motion? Seeing none; the motion carries.

DR. DUVAL: Gregg, would you want the exact same motion from the South Atlantic? Okay, could I get someone on the South Atlantic side to make this motion? Chester. Is there a second; second by Jessica.

The motion reads use Shark Point as the boundary line between the West Florida shelf hogfish stock and the Keys/South Florida hogfish stock. Shark Point is specified at 25 degrees 23 minutes north latitude on the west coast of Florida. Is there more discussion on this motion? Any opposition? Seeing none; that motion stands approved. Thank you; that was the only item of business we had to dispense with for hogfish. Mr. Chairman, I turn things back over to you.

MR. HARTIG: All right, we're done for today. The Joint Meeting of the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils stands adjourned.

(Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 o'clock p.m. June 11, 2015.)

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SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
2015 COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP (continued)

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MARCEL REICHERT

ROB BEATON

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RICK DEVICTOR

JACK MCGOVAN

BONNIE POWWEN

MONICA SMIT-BRUNELLO

GEORGE SEO BERRY

CAPT. DAVID DIPRE

MIKE LARKIN

ADAM BAILEY

SUE GEARHART

JEFF RADONSKI

MARA LEVY

7 STEVE BRANSTETTER

CAPT. MARK GORDON

✓	Harlon Pearce ☒ LA Fish P.O. Box 486 Kenner, LA 70063-0486			504-467-3809 504-466-1503	Statement of Financial Interest
✓	Campo Matens ☒ 4554 Emory Avenue Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808	2012/2015	Rec/obligatory	225-769-9080	Statement of Financial Interest

Texas

✓	Douglass Boyd ☒ P.O. Box 759 Boerne, Texas 78006	2010/2016	Rec/obligatory	210-710-8152	Statement of Financial Interest
✓	Greg Stunz ☒ 6300 Ocean Drive, HRI 314 Corpus Christi, TX 78412	2014/2017	Other/at large	361-825-3254	Statement of Financial Interest

[Back to Top ↑](#)

State and Federal Voting Representatives

Florida

✓ Martha Bademan ☒
(designee for Nick Wiley)
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Farris Bryant Building
620 South Meridian Street
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850-487-4847

Alabama

✓ Kevin Anson, Chair (designee
for Chris Blankenship) ☒
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251-861-8741

Mississippi

✓ Dale Diaz ☒
(designee for Jamie Miller) ☒
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Louisiana

✓ Myron Fischer ☒
(designee for Randy Pausina)
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or
985-258-6006

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512-389-8177

NMFS

✓ Dr. Roy Crabtree,
Regional Administrator ☒
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727-824-5320



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[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Links](#) [Contact Us](#) [Employment](#) [Staff Login](#)

Fishing Regulations

Meetings

Management Plans

Committees & Panels

Stock Assessments

News

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- Briefing Books ✓
- NOAA Enforcement Actions ✓
- Press Releases ✓
- Newsletter ✓
- Submit/Read Public Comments ✓
- Acronyms ✓
- FTP Server ✓
- Calendar ✓
- National Standards ✓
- U.S. Regional Fishery Management Councils ✓
- Travel Guidelines & Reimbursement Forms ✓

Fishery Management Council Members

Chair: [✉ Kevin Anson - Alabama](#)

Vice-Chair: [✉ Roy Williams - Florida](#)





Front: Pam Dana, Myron Fischer, Greg Stunz, John Sanchez, Doug Boyd, Harlon Pearce, Camp Matens, Leann Bosarge, Martha Bademan, Roy Williams. Back: Corky Perret, Dave Donaldson, John Greene, David Walker, Jason Brand, Roy Crabtree, Dale Diaz, Kevin Anson, Robin Riechers

- [Rules of Conduct](#)
- [Voting Council Members](#)
- [State & Federal Voting Representatives](#)
- [Non-Voting Members](#)
- [Committee Roster](#)
- [SOPPs - Statement of Organization Practices & Procedures](#)

Voting Fishery Management Council Members


Representative	Appointed/ Term Ends	Sector	Phone/Fax	SOFI
Florida				
✉ Pamella Dana Sure Lure Charter Company P.O. Box 1575 Destin, FL 32540	2011/2017	Rec/at large	850-556-5798 850-650-3212	Statement of Financial Interest
✉ John Sanchez 17931 SW 288 Street Homestead, FL 33030	2012/2015	Comm/obligatory	786-255-1880	Statement of Financial Interest
✉ Roy Williams, Vice Chair 3485 Welwyn Way Tallahassee, FL 32309	2013/2016	Other/at large	850-445-0778	Statement of Financial Interest
Alabama				
✉ David Walker 401 Diane Drive Andalusia, AL 36420	2014/2017	Comm/at large	334-300-6625	Statement of Financial Interest
✉ John R. Greene, Jr. Intimidator Sportfishing, Inc. 25833 Tealwood Drive Daphne, AL 36526	2009/2015	Rec/obligatory	251-747-2872	Statement of Financial Interest
Mississippi				
✉ Leann Bosarge Bosarge Boats 5301 Ladner Avenue Pascagoula, MS 39581	2013/2016	Comm/obligatory	228-762-0888	Statement of Financial Interest
✉ Corky Perret 68 Ravine Lane Poplarville, MS 39470	2012/2015	Other/at large	601-795-0506	Statement of Financial Interest
Louisiana				
	2006/2015	Comm/at large		

Phil Steele (designee) 
 National Marine Fisheries
 Service
 263 13th Avenue South
 St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

[Back to Top](#) 

Non-Voting Members

Glenn Constant (designee for Cynthia Dohner) U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	225-578-4243
✓ Lt. Cmdr. Jason Brand (designee for RADM Kevin Cook) Eighth Coast Guard District	504-589-6298
✓ Dave Donaldson, Executive Director Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission	228-875-5912
Dierdre Werner-Kramer (designee for David Hogan) Foreign Affairs Officer	202-647-2335

[Back to Top](#) 

**Gulf of Mexico Fishery
Management Council**


- [Home](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Links](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Staff Login](#)

- [Fishing Regulations](#)
- [Meetings](#)
- [Management Plans](#)
- [Committees & Panels](#)
- [News](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Site Map](#)

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[Back to Top](#) 

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Debra Buscher
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Admin. Secretary /Travel Coordinator

Cindy Chaya
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[Home](#) [About Us](#) [Links](#) [Contact Us](#) [Employment](#) [Staff Login](#)

Fishing Regulations

Meetings

Management Plans

Committees & Panels

Stock Assessments

News

Resources

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Quick Links

- Briefing Books
- NOAA Enforcement Actions
- Press Releases
- Newsletter
- Submit/Read Public Comments
- Acronyms
- FTP Server
- Calendar
- National Standards
- U.S. Regional Fishery Management Councils
- Travel Guidelines & Reimbursement Forms

About Us : Council Staff

Council Staff Contact Information:

Staff Member	Email	Title	Ext
Doug Gregory ✓	✉	Executive Director	230
Carrie Simmons ✓	✉	Deputy Executive Director	231
Steven Atran ✓	✉	Senior Fishery Biologist	227
John Froeschke ✓	✉	Fishery Biologist-Statistician	235
Morgan Kilgour ✓	✉	Fishery Biologist	228
Bryan Schoonard	✉	GIS Analyst	223
Assane Diagne ✓	✉	Economist	233
Ava Lasseter ✓	✉	Anthropologist	239
Ryan Rindone ✓	✉	Fishery Biologist/SEDAR Liaison	241
Charlene Poncey ✓	✉	Public Information Officer	229
Emily Muehlstein ✓	✉	Fisheries Outreach Specialist	238
Cathy Readinger	✉	Administrative Officer	222
Bernadine Roy ✓	✉	Office Manager	242
Kathy Pereira	✉	Meeting Planner/Travel Coordinator	224
Beth Hager	✉	Financial Assistant/IT Coordinator	226
Phyllis Miranda	✉	Document Editor/Executive Assistant	225
Charlotte Schiaffo ✓	✉	Research & Human Resource Librarian	234
Karen Hoak ✓	✉	Administrative & Financial Assistant	221

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Phone: 813-348-1630
Toll Free: 888-833-1844
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- [Rules of Conduct for Council Members](#)
- [Rules of Conduct for Employees & Advisors](#)
- [Council Members & SOFI](#)
- [Committee Roster](#)

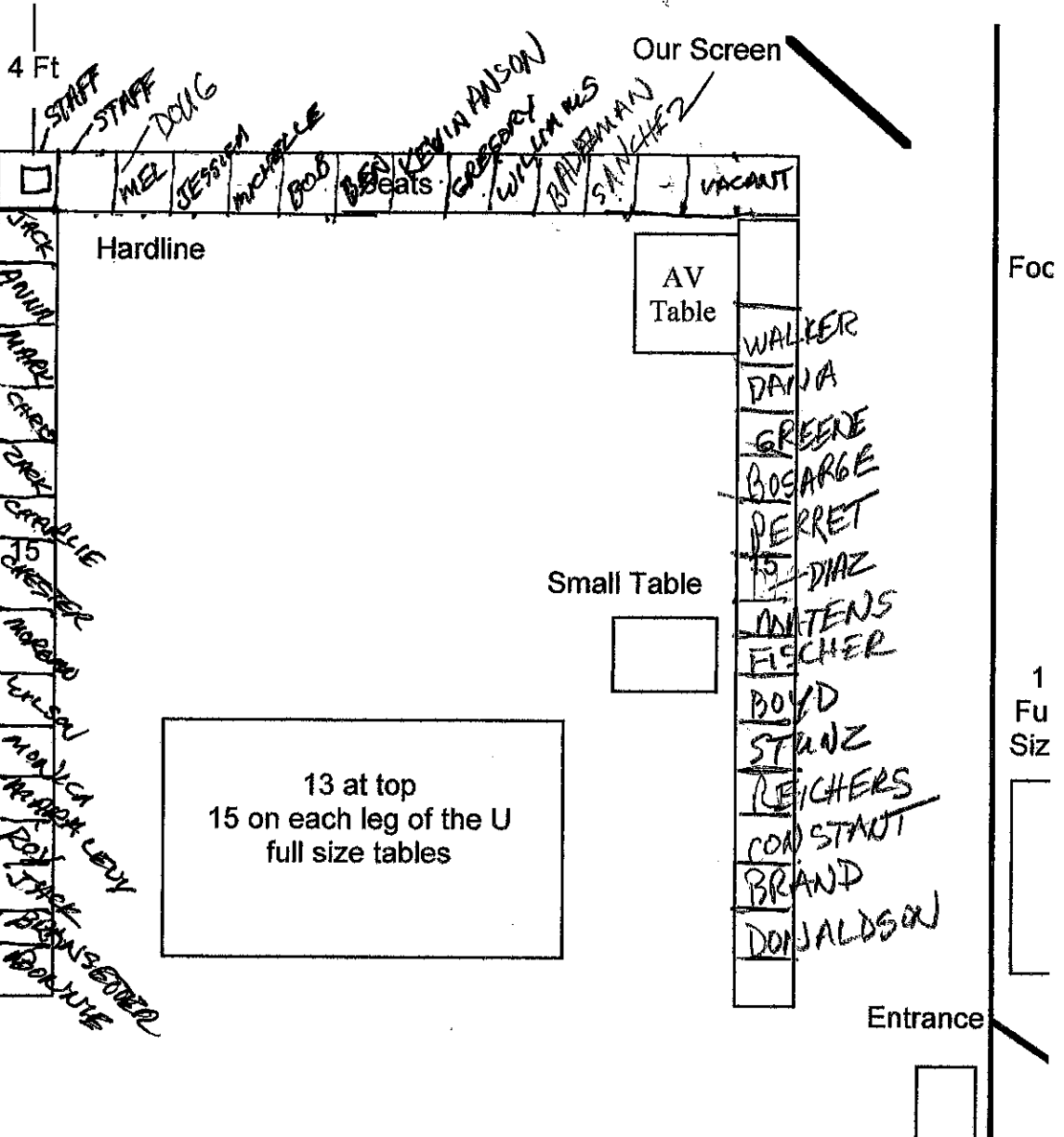
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council

- [Home](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Links](#)
- [Employment](#)
- [Staff Login](#)

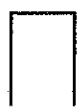
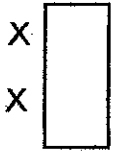
- [Fishing Regulations](#)
- [Meetings](#)
- [Management Plans](#)
- [Committees & Panels](#)
- [News](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Site Map](#)

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[Back to Top](#) ↑
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Admin Table
Narrow





**Joint South Atlantic Fishery Management Council &
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Session -
Key West, FL**

Date: Thursday, June 12, 2015

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In order to have a record of your attendance at each meeting and your name included in the minutes, we ask that you sign this sheet for the meeting shown above.

Name:	Mailing Address/E-mail: <i>(Check box if information is on file)</i>	How do you participate in South Atlantic fisheries? <i>(Check all that apply)</i>	
Rusky Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/ For-hire <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other <i>Consult</i> <small>Describe</small>
Kw Fee	<input type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/ For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <small>Describe</small>
FRANK HELICKS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File GSAFF	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/ For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <small>Describe</small>
JUDY SAMISON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File GASAFF	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/ For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <small>Describe</small>
Bill Kelley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/ For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <small>Describe</small>
Leda Dunn	<input type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/ For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <small>Describe</small>

**South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
4055 Faber Place Drive, Suit 201
Charleston, SC 29405**



**Joint South Atlantic Fishery Management Council &
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Session -
Key West, FL**

Date: Thursday, June 12, 2015

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Name:	Mailing Address/E-mail: <i>(Check box if information is on file)</i>	How do you participate in South Atlantic fisheries? <i>(Check all that apply)</i>	
Shome Cantrell	<input type="checkbox"/> On File 4424 Ave L Galveston, TX 77550	Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe
Ellen Bolen	<input type="checkbox"/> On File 1300 19 th St, NW 8 th FL Washington, DC 20002	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe
Ted Von Ker	<input type="checkbox"/> On File 6919 PARNEST, STE 100 HOUSTON, TX 77024	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other CCA Describe
Ken Hadlad	<input type="checkbox"/> On File PO Box 35 Lloyd FL 32337	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other ASA Describe
Mark Kinsey	<input type="checkbox"/> On File 501 Rosenberg Rd Galveston, Texas 77586	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe
Michael Drexler	<input type="checkbox"/> On File Ocean Conservancy 6000 1st Ave N St. Petersburg FL 33701	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe

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4055 Faber Place Drive, Suit 201
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Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Session -
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		Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
J.P. BROOKER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe _____
Todd Phillips	<input type="checkbox"/> On File 106 E 6th Austin TX 78701 <i>Phillips @ ocean conservancy org</i>	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe _____
LAUREN ELIOPoulos	<input type="checkbox"/> On File l Eliopoulos@oceanconservancy.org	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe _____
Tom Wheatley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File <i>Marltony Address</i> twheatley@pawtrusts.org	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe _____
Starron McBreen	<input type="checkbox"/> On File smcbreen@pawtrusts.org	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe _____
Lora Clarke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe _____

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Name:	Mailing Address/E-mail: <i>(Check box if information is on file)</i>	How do you participate in South Atlantic fisheries? <i>(Check all that apply)</i>	
Dan Averill	<input type="checkbox"/> On File dan.averill@msc.org	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
Katie Semor	<input type="checkbox"/> On File ksemon@wlf.la.gov 2021 Lakeshore Dr New Orleans LA 70122	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
Beth Dieveney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File - likely but not certain beth.dieveney@noaa.gov 33 East Quay Rd Key West FL 33040	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
Joe Klostermann	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
RICHARD GOMEZ	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
MATT HILL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>

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		Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
Joe Jewell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
		Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
Jason DeLaCruz	<input type="checkbox"/> On File 12124 LILLIAN AVE LARGO FL 33778 SALTY398@AOL.COM	Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
		Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chad Hanson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
		Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Daniel Wiland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
		Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dave Van Voorhees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
		Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
Chris Horton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
		Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>

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**Joint South Atlantic Fishery Management Council &
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Session -
Key West, FL**

Date: Thursday, June 12, 2015

PLEASE SIGN IN -

In order to have a record of your attendance at each meeting and your name included in the minutes, we ask that you sign this sheet for the meeting shown above.

Name:	Mailing Address/E-mail: <i>(Check box if information is on file)</i>	How do you participate in South Atlantic fisheries? <i>(Check all that apply)</i>	
Trip Alkeman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
Dick BRAME	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
Pete Barile	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
Holly Binns	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
Robert Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>
Jeff Barger	<input type="checkbox"/> On File <i>j.barger@oceanconservancy.org</i>	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____ <i>Describe</i>

**South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
4055 Faber Place Drive, Suit 201
Charleston, SC 29405**



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Brett Fitzgerald	<input type="checkbox"/> On File brette@snookfoundation.org	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe
MIKE Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> On File MIKE@SnookFoundation.org	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe
	<input type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe
	<input type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe
	<input type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe
	<input type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	NGO <input type="checkbox"/>
		Recreational <input type="checkbox"/>	Govt. <input type="checkbox"/>
		Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/>	Other Describe

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SCOTT HICKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/> On File INFO@CIRCLEH.ORG	Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Govt. <input type="checkbox"/> Charter/For-hire <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Describe
VAN HUBBARD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Govt. <input type="checkbox"/> Charter/For-hire <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>MCDA</u> Describe
Steve Tomeny	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Govt. <input type="checkbox"/> Charter/For-hire <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Describe
CHARLIE GARCIA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Govt. <input type="checkbox"/> Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Describe
MATTHEW McPHERSON	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File SOUTHEAST FISHERIES SCIENCE CENTER SOCIAL SCIENCES RESEARCH GROUP	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Govt. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ Describe
Marin Hawk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> On File	Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> NGO <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Govt. <input type="checkbox"/> Charter/For-hire <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>MSC</u> Describe

**South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
4055 Faber Place Drive, Suit 201
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Registration Report

GoToWebinar

Generated

Jun 17, 2015 9:45 AM EDT

General Information

Webinar Name
SAFMC Council Meeting - Day 4 of 5 (Thursday)
Scheduled Start Date
Jun 11, 2015
Scheduled Start Time
8:30 AM EDT
Scheduled Duration (minutes)

Webinar ID
154-121-667
Registered
68
Opened Invitation
36
Clicked Registration Link
144

Registrants

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Matthew
George
Vincent
Kari
Lora
s
Scott
Cynthia
Cathy
roger
Tony
Anthony
Cynthia
l
K
Karen
karen
David
Ken
rich
stephen
Joey
Rusty

Gore
Lemonis
Horton
Addis
Hager
Transcription Service
Teehan
Larkin
Graham
Sedberry
Bonura
MacLauchlin
Clarke
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Baker
Meyer
Readinger
pugliese
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