

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Full Council and Committee Reports
SUMMARY MOTIONS
June 14-18, 2021

This is a summary of the motions approved by the Council. Motions addressing actions and alternatives for FMP amendments are followed by text showing the result of the approved motion. Complete details on motions and other committee recommendations are provided in the Committee Reports available on the SAFMC website.

Law Enforcement Committee

MOTION 1: SELECT USCG LT. JAMES BRUCE TO RECEIVE THE 2020 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARD.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Full Council Session I

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Advisory Panel

MOTION 1: APPOINT SAM YOUNG (FL) TO THE HABITAT ADVISORY PANEL.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: REAPPOINT THOMAS JONES (GA) TO THE HABITAT ADVISORY PANEL FOR A ONE YEAR TERM.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: APPOINT DAVID WHITAKER (SC) TO THE HABITAT ADVISORY PANEL.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 4: APPOINT KEVIN SPANIK (AT-LARGE/RESEARCH) TO THE HABITAT ADVISORY PANEL
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 5: REAPPOINT DR. STEVE ROSS (AT-LARGE/RESEARCH) TO THE HABITAT ADVISORY PANEL.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Law Enforcement Advisory Panel

MOTION 1: REAPPOINT KEVIN ROBERSON (RECREATIONAL) TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY PANEL.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPOINT ALANA HARRISON (COMMERCIAL) TO THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY PANEL.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel

MOTION 1: REAPPOINT IRA LAKS, KEITH BOWEN, AND STEVE ENGLISH TO THE MACKEREL COBIA ADVISORY PANEL.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPOINT CHARLES GRIFFIN TO THE MACKEREL COBIA ADVISORY PANEL.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: APPOINT ANTHONY BENEVENTO TO THE MACKEREL COBIA ADVISORY PANEL.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel

MOTION 1: REAPPOINT ROBERT LORENZ AND JAMES PASKIEWICZ TO THE SNAPPER GROUPE ADVISORY PANEL
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)

MOTION 1: REAPPOINT DR. YAN LI TO THE NORTH CAROLINA SEAT ON THE SSC.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPOINT DR. JENNIFER SWEENEY-TOOKES TO THE SOCIAL SCIENTIST SEAT ON THE SSC.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: REAPPOINT DR. CHRIS DUMAS TO THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC SEAT ON THE SSC.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 4: REAPPOINT DR. FRED SERCHUK AND DR. ALEXEI SHAROV TO THE SSC.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Open Session

MOTION 1: APPROVE THE SOUTH ATLANTIC RESEARCH AND MONITORING PRIORITIZATION PLAN FOR 2021-2025 AS MODIFIED.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Dolphin Wahoo Committee

Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10

MOTION 1: DESELECT ALTERNATIVE 4 AND SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 AS PREFERRED IN ACTION 4.

Action 4. Revise sector allocations and sector annual catch limits for wahoo

Preferred Alternative 3. Allocate 97.55% of the revised total annual catch limit for wahoo to the recreational sector. Allocate 2.45% of the revised total annual catch limit for wahoo to the commercial sector. This is based on approximately maintaining the current commercial annual catch limit and allocating the remaining revised total annual catch limit to the recreational sector.

Alternative 4. Allocate 97.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for wahoo to the recreational sector. Allocate 3.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for wahoo to the commercial sector. This is based on the Council's intent to explore alternatives for sector allocations that would not result in a decrease in the current pounds of wahoo available to either sector.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: DESELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2D AND SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2E AS PREFERRED IN ACTION 11.

Action 11. Reduce the recreational vessel limit for dolphin

Note: Alternative 1 (No Action), Alternative 2 and Alternative 3 (including their respective sub-alternatives) do not apply to headboats. The current limit of 10 dolphin per paying passenger onboard a headboat will not change under this action and its alternatives.

Preferred Alternative 2. The recreational daily bag limit is 10 dolphin per person, not to exceed:

Sub-alternative 2d. 48 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Preferred Sub-alternative 2e. 54 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: DESELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AND SELECT ALTERNATIVE 1 AS PREFERRED IN ACTION 12.

Action 12. Reduce the recreational bag limit and establish a recreational vessel limit for wahoo

Preferred Alternative 1 (No Action). The recreational daily bag limit is 2 wahoo per person. There is no recreational vessel limit for wahoo.

Alternative 2. The recreational daily bag limit is 1 wahoo per person.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 4: MOVE ACTION 12 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED SECTION.

Action 12. Reduce the recreational bag limit and establish a recreational vessel limit for wahoo.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 5: APPROVE THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS TO THE PURPOSE STATEMENT IN AMENDMENT 10.

The *purpose* of Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10 is to revise the catch levels [acceptable biological catch (ABC) and annual catch limits (ACL)], sector allocations, accountability measures, and management measures for dolphin and wahoo. Management measures address authorized gear, and the operator card requirement in the dolphin and wahoo fisheries, as well as ~~and~~ the recreational vessel limits in the dolphin fishery.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 6: APPROVE AMENDMENT 10 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE DOLPHIN AND WAHOO FISHERY OF THE ATLANTIC FOR FORMAL SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT/CODIFIED TEXT AND GIVE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS AND RE-DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL (1 objection, 1 absent)

Timing and Tasks

MOTION 7: APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

- 1) PREPARE AMENDMENT 10 FOR SUBMISSION.
- 2) PREPARE INFORMATION ON AN AMENDMENT THAT WOULD ADDRESS THE IDENTIFIED RETENTION AND SIZE LIMIT TOPICS FOR REVIEW AT THE SEPTEMBER 2021 MEETING.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Mackerel Cobia Committee

Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 34

MOTION 1: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 AS PREFERRED UNDER ACTION 1 IN CMP AMENDMENT 34.

Action 1. Revise the stock total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to reflect the updated acceptable biological catch level.

Alternative 3. The total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel is equal to 95% of the updated acceptable biological catch level.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: ADD AN ALTERNATIVE TO ACTION 2 THAT WOULD ALLOCATE 62.9% TO THE RECREATIONAL SECTOR AND 37.1% TO THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR.

Action 2. Revise sector allocations and sector annual catch limits for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: SELECT THE NEW ALTERNATIVE (ALLOCATE 62.9% TO THE RECREATIONAL SECTOR AND 37.1% TO THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR) AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 4: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED UNDER ACTION 4 IN CMP AMENDMENT 34.

Action 4. Increase the recreational bag and possession limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel in the exclusive economic zone off Florida.

Alternative 2. Increase the daily bag limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to three fish per person in the exclusive economic zone off Florida.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 5: ADD AN ALTERNATIVE FOR ONLY REDUCING RECREATIONAL HARVEST TO 22-IN FL AND SELECT AS PREFERRED.

Action 5. Reduce the minimum size limit for recreational and commercial harvest of Atlantic migratory group king mackerel.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 32

MOTION 6: IN ACTION 2, MOVE ALTERNATIVE 4 TO CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED.

Action 2 – Modify the Gulf Group Cobia Stock Apportionment Between the Gulf Zone and the Florida East Coast (FLEC) Zone and Update the Zones’ ACLs Based on the ACL Selected in Action 1.

Alternative 4: Modify the Gulf Group Cobia stock ACL apportionment at 62% to the Gulf Zone and 38% to the FLEC Zone, based on the MRIP-FES average landings for Gulf Group Cobia for the years 2001 – 2015, and use this apportionment to update the Zone ACLs based on the Gulf Group Cobia ACL(s) in Action 1.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 7: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED UNDER ACTION 4

Action 4 – Update and/or Establish Annual Catch Targets (ACT) for the Gulf Group Cobia Zones Based on the Apportionment Selected in Action 2 and FLEC Zone Sector Allocation in Action 3.

Alternative 2: Use the Gulf Council’s ACL/ACT Control Rule to calculate ACTs for the Gulf Zone and the recreational sector in the FLEC Zone.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 8: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 7 AS PREFERRED

Action 7 – Modify the Framework Procedure.

Alternative 2: Modify the Framework Procedure to update the responsibilities of each Council for setting regulations for the Gulf Group Cobia. The responsibilities of each Council would be modified as follows:

1. Recommendations with respect to the Atlantic migratory groups of king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, ~~and cobia~~ will be the responsibility of the South Atlantic Council, and those for the Gulf migratory groups of king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, and cobia will be the responsibility of the Gulf Council, with the following exceptions:
 - a. The South Atlantic Council will have the responsibility to:
 - set vessel trip limits;
 - closed seasons or areas;
 - gear restrictions;
 - per person bag and possession limits;
 - size limits;
 - in-season and post-season accountability measures;
 - specification of ACTs or sector ACTs for the east coast of Florida including the Atlantic side of the Florida Keys for Gulf migratory group Cobia (i.e., Florida East Coast Zone).

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 9: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 UNDER ACTION 3 AS PREFERRED

Action 3 – Modify the FLEC Zone Cobia Allocation Between the Commercial and Recreational Sectors and Update each Sector’s ACLs Based on the ACLs and Apportionments Selected in Actions 1 and 2.

Alternative 3: Retain the FLEC Zone cobia ACL allocation of 8% to the commercial sector and 92% to the recreational sector and update the ACL(s) selected in Action 2 based on MRIP-FES landings.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL (1 ABSTENTION)

Timing and Tasks

MOTION 10: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Continue work on CMP Amendment 34 and prepare a draft for discussion and approval for public hearings at the September 2021 meeting.
2. Continue work with Gulf Council staff on CMP Amendment 32 and prepare a draft for discussion and approval for public hearings at the September 2021 meeting.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Snapper Grouper Committee

MOTION 1: INITIATE A PLAN AMENDMENT TO REBUILD AND END OVERFISHING OF GAG GROUPEL.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Snapper Grouper Amendment 50 (Red Porgy)

MOTION 2: APPROVE PURPOSE AND NEED AS MODIFIED

Purpose for Action

The purpose of this fishery management plan amendment is to establish a rebuilding plan, set an acceptable biological catch, sector allocations and annual catch limits for South Atlantic Red Porgy based on the results of the most recent stock assessment, and modify management and accountability measures.

Need for Action

The need for this fishery management plan amendment is to end overfishing of South Atlantic Red Porgy, rebuild the stock, and achieve optimum yield while minimizing, to the extent practicable, adverse social and economic effects.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 5 UNDER ACTION 1 AS PREFERRED

Action 1. Establish a Rebuilding Plan for Red Porgy

Alternative 5. Establish the rebuilding plan to equal the time estimated to rebuild the stock with a 50% probability of success while maintaining fishing mortality at 75% of the Maximum Fishing Mortality Threshold during the rebuilding period. For Red Porgy, 75%MFMT = 75%FMSY. This would equal 26 years with the stock reaching a 50% probability of rebuilding success in 2047. 2022 would be Year 1.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 4: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 5 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED

APPENDIX

Action 2. Revise the Red Porgy Total Annual Catch Limit and Annual Optimum Yield

Alternative 5. Revise the total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield for Red Porgy and set equal to zero. The 2022 annual catch limit and annual optimum yield would remain in place until modified.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 5: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 4 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED

APPENDIX

Action 3. Revise the Red Porgy sector allocations and sector annual catch limits

Alternative 4. Remove sector allocations and manage under the total annual catch limit.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 6: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 AS PREFERRED FOR ACTION 3

Action 3. Revise the Red Porgy sector allocations and sector annual catch limits

Alternative 3. Apply the current allocation formula: Annual catch limit = ((mean landings 2006-2008)*0.5) + ((mean landings 1986-2008)*0.5) to the revised total annual catch limit. This would result in a commercial allocation of 51.43% and a recreational

allocation of 48.57%. using revised recreational landings estimates from the Fishing Effort Survey.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 7: SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVES 2A AND 3A AS PREFERRED (15 FISH PER TRIP IN EACH SEASON)

Action 4. Action 4. Modify Red Porgy commercial trip limits

Alternative 2. Reduce the commercial trip limit for Red Porgy from January 1 – April 30 to:

2a. 15 fish per trip

Alternative 3. Reduce the commercial trip limit for Red Porgy from May 1 – December 31 to:

3a. 15 fish per trip

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 8: MOVE ALTERNATIVES 3 AND 4 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

Action 5. Modify Red Porgy recreational management measures

Sub-Action 5a. Bag and vessel limits

Alternative 3. Establish a recreational vessel limit for private recreational and charter vessels for Red Porgy as:

Alternative 4. Establish a vessel limit for headboats for Red Porgy as:

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 9: SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2A AS PREFERRED

Action 5. Modify Red Porgy recreational management measures

Sub-Action 5a. Bag and vessel limits

Alternative 2. Reduce the recreational bag limit for Red Porgy to:

2a. 1 fish per person per day, or 1 fish per person per trip, whichever is more restrictive.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 10: SELECT ALTERNATIVES 3 AND 4 UNDER ACTION 5B AS PREFERRED

Action 5. Modify Red Porgy recreational management measures

Sub-Action 5b. Recreational fishing season

Alternative 3. Establish a recreational fishing season for Red Porgy; harvest would be allowed during May through June.

Alternative 4. Establish a recreational fishing season for Red Porgy; harvest would be allowed during July through August.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 11: ADD NEW ALTERNATIVE ESTABLISHING A RECREATIONAL FISHING SEASON FOR RED PORGY FROM JUNE THROUGH AUGUST

Action 5. Modify Red Porgy recreational management measures

Sub-Action 5b. Recreational fishing season

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 12: ADD THE ALTERNATIVE BELOW TO ACTION 6

Action 6: Modify Red Porgy recreational accountability measures

If the total (commercial and recreational combined) annual catch limit is exceeded, reduce the length of the following year's recreational fishing season by the amount necessary to prevent the annual catch limit from being exceeded in the following year. However, the length of the recreational season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best available science, that it is not necessary.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL (1 OPPOSED)

MOTION 13: APPROVE AMENDMENT 50 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS. DIRECT STAFF TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS DURING THE SEPTEMBER 2021 MEETING.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Timing and Tasks

MOTION 14: INITIATE A PLAN AMENDMENT FOR TILEFISH TO INCORPORATE NEW ABC RECOMMENDATION AND CONSIDER REVISIONS TO ALLOCATIONS.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 15: DIRECT STAFF TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Draft Options Papers for the Gag Grouper and Tilefish amendments for the December 2021 Council Meeting.
- Work with NOAA General Counsel and SERO to develop options for rebuilding timelines for Gag Grouper for discussion in September 2021.
- Request an assessment projection estimating the rebuilding timeline for Gag Grouper with no harvest allowed (landed F=0) but accounting for discard mortality.
- Conduct public hearings for Amendment 50 DURING the September 2021 meeting.
- Add language regarding SMZs being designated as Essential Fish Habitat-Habitat Areas of Particular Concern to Amendment 50.
- Conduct preliminary catch level analysis for Yellowtail Snapper, including potential closures due to changes in catch levels, for consideration at the September 2021 meeting.
- Schedule an SSC meeting in Summer 2021 for the SSC to revisit results of the SEDAR 73 (Red Snapper) stock assessment and recommendations for the OFL and ABC.
- Draft an Options Paper to adjust catch levels and for Red Snapper (based on the SSC's OFL and ABC recommendations from their Summer 2021 Meeting) and revise sector allocations. Prepare this for review at the September 2021 meeting.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Committee

MOTION 1: ADOPT THESE AS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE HABITAT BLUEPRINT AND PROGRAM.

Goals and Objectives

Goal 1. Comply with the habitat mandates of the MSA and its amendments.

- Describe and identify essential fish habitat (EFH) for the fishery as required in Council FMPs.
- Provide information for use in FMP development to minimize, to the extent practicable, adverse effects on such habitat caused by fishing.
- Identify other actions to encourage the conservation and enhancement of such habitat.
- Provide information to support the Council's role in mandatory EFH reviews.
- Provide information to support Council comments on activities by Federal or State agencies that may impact the habitat of the resources managed by the Council.

Goal 2. Provide information to support Council communication on habitat issues.

- Provide habitat research needs for consideration in Council Research Monitoring
- Provide habitat research needs and Council habitat priorities to inform regional planning and research efforts.
- Provide information to support Council responses to habitat related requests for information.
- Provide information to support Council outreach activities on habitat issues.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Coral Amendment 10

MOTION 2: APPROVE THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENTS IN CORAL AMENDMENT 10

Purpose for Action

The purpose of Coral Amendment 10 is to determine whether to establish a shrimp fishery access area along the eastern edge of the northern extension of the Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern where the permit holders of a valid limited access Commercial Vessel Permit for Rock Shrimp (South Atlantic EEZ) would be able to fish for and possess rock shrimp.

Need for Action

The need for Coral Amendment 10 is to increase economic and social benefits to rock shrimp fishermen by increasing access to historic rock shrimp fishing grounds, while maintaining protection of the Oculina deep water coral ecosystems.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: APPROVE ACTION IN CORAL AMENDMENT 10

Action 1. Establish a shrimp fishery access area along the eastern edge of the northern extension of the Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Timing and Tasks

MOTION 4: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

- Provide minutes of public meetings when rock shrimp was discussed in 2014.
- Provide information to Council members on where to find research on sediment plumes.
- Prepare Coral Amendment 10 for consideration for approval at the September 2021 meeting.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL