Mackerel Committee Motions

The purpose of this amendment is to revise the management measures for Atlantic migratory group cobia to ensure consistent, stable and equitable fishing opportunities for all participants in the Atlantic cobia fishery.

The need for this amendment is to respond to changing fishery characteristics for Atlantic migratory group cobia, while increasing social and economic benefits of the CMP fishery through sustainable fishing opportunities and harvest of Atlantic migratory group cobia.

MOTION: Approve the P&N as written.

Approved by committee.

MOTION: Add Action 1-1 to public hearing document.

Approved by Committee.

MOTION : Add Action 1-2 to PH document. Approved.

MOTION:

Select Action 1-1, Option 2a as Preferred.

**Option 2a**. 1 fish per person per day

Approved.

~~MOTION: Action 1-1, select Option 3d as Preferred.~~

**~~Option 3d~~**~~. 4 fish per vessel per day~~

MOTION: Action 1-1, select Option 3c as Preferred.

**Option 3c**. 3 fish per vessel per day

Approved.

MOTION: Action 1-2, select Option 2c as Preferred.

**Option 2c**. 36 inches FL

Approved.

MOTION: Add alternative in Action 2 for Apr 1- Mar 31. Approved.

MOTION: Add Action 2 with **recreational** fishing year. Approved.

MOTION: Action 2, select Alternative 2 as the preferred.

**Alternative 2**.  Modify the fishing year for Atlantic cobia to be May 1 through April 30.

Approved.

Direction to staff:  
Explore adding an alternative that would designate a certain number of fishing days per state.

MOTION: Add ACTION 3 to the public hearing document.

Approved.

MOTION: Action 3, select Alt 2/ Sub-alt 2b as preferred. Approved.

**Alternative 2.** If recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the recreational ACL, then during the following fishing year, recreational landings will be monitored for a persistence in increased landings. If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of the following fishing season to ensure that recreational landings meet the recreational ACT but do not exceed the recreational ACL, based on the recreational landings in the previous year. The length of the recreational season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary. The ACT for 2016 and subsequent fishing years is 500,000 lbs, as established in CMP Amendment 20B.

**Sub-alternative 2b.**  The Regional Administrator will reduce the length of the following fishing year only if the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded.

MOTION: Add alternative to Action 3, that reflects the rec AM for king mackerel:

If rec ACL and total ACL are exceeded, the RA publishes a notice to reduce the vessel limit for the subsequent fishing year.

Approved.

MOTION: In Action 4, add an alternative that mirrors the HMS ability to spread overharvest over multiple years, with sub-alts to spread over 2 years, 3 years.

MOTION FAILS, lack of second.

Alternative: If the post-season AM is triggered, the reduction in [season length or ACL] can be divided over [x] fishing years.

Sub-alt a: 2 years

Sub alt b: 3 years

MOTION: Add Action 4 with Alternatives 1-4. Approved.

MOTION: APPROVE FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT 4 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS.

Approved,

MOTION: Add SA to Framework Amendment 5. Approved.

# DRAFT PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of this action is to eliminate atypical permit restrictions on commercial king and Spanish mackerel permit holders in the Gulf, South Atlantic and Mid-Atlantic regions.

The need for this proposed action is to remove an unnecessary permit restriction, and to reduce the potential for regulatory discards in the ~~Gulf migratory group king mackerel component of the~~ CMP fishery.

MOTION: Accept the draft P&N.

Approved.

MOTION: Add action 1 and alternatives. Approved.