

**SUMMARY REPORT  
FROM THE MACKEREL COMMITTEE MEETING  
Charleston, SC  
September 15, 2009**

The Mackerel Committee met on September 15, 2009 in Charleston, SC. The committee received presentations by:

1. Gregg Waugh, SAFMC Staff, reviewed the status of the Gulf Council scoping for Amendment 18. Scoping meetings will be held September 21-24, 2009.
2. Mike Denson, SC DNR, gave a presentation on Cobia in South Carolina.
3. Bob Mahood, SAFMC Staff, reviewed a request from Mr. William Hickman to approve a type of gear being used in North Carolina as allowable gear.

The Committee approved the following motion:

**MOTION #1: THE COMMITTEE NOT RECOMEND APPROVING THE GEAR REQUEST BY MR. HICKMAN  
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE**

**Direction to Staff/Team**

1. Write a letter to Mr. Hickman telling him that his request was not approved because of concerns about potential interaction with marine mammals and the lack of evidence that this gear is being widely used.
2. Direct staff to continue working on the decision document; the committee approves adding the Mackerel AP motions into the decision document.
3. Direct staff to present the results from the Gulf scoping meetings and the decision document at the December Mackerel Committee meeting.
4. Direct staff to work with NMFS Law Enforcement and develop alternatives to address the situation where mackerel nets are being cut to avoid exceeding the trip limit but resulting in vessels having more than two nets onboard.
5. Request Monica Smit-Brunello research the legal issues surrounding the State of South Carolina's attempt to regulate dolphin prior to federal regulations and report back to the Committee in December.