

**Final Summary Report
Mackerel Committee
March 6, 2014
Hilton Savannah DeSoto
Savannah, GA**

Members

Ben Hartig, Chair
Robert Beal
Anna Beckwith
Mel Bell
Zack Bowen
Jack Cox
Roy Crabtree

David Cupka, Vice-Chair
Michelle Duval
Doug Haymans
Jessica McCawley
Charlie Phillips
Pres Pate, MAFMC Liaison

The agenda was adopted, and the minutes of the December 2013 meeting were approved. NMFS staff reported on the status of commercial catch and recreational catch, in addition to updates on submitted Amendment 20A and South Atlantic CMP Framework Action 2013.

Amendment 20B (Zones and Boundaries, Framework Procedure, Cobia ACL)

In December 2013, the South Atlantic Council made a change in a preferred alternative under Action 2 (fishing year for Gulf king mackerel zones/subzones) and took final action on Amendment 20B. The Gulf Council reviewed the change but maintained their current preferred alternative for the fishing year in the Gulf Western Zone. The South Atlantic Mackerel Committee reviewed Amendment 20B and approved the following motions:

Action 2: Fishing season for Gulf group king mackerel

MOTION: ADD OPTIONS A-C UNDER ALTERNATIVES 2 AND 3.

Approved by Committee. APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

Alternative 2: Change the fishing year for Gulf group king mackerel season to September 1 – August 31.

Gulf Preferred Option a: For the Western Zone

Option b: For the Eastern Zone Northern Subzone

Option c: For the Eastern Zone Southern Subzone

Alternative 3: Change the fishing year for Gulf group king mackerel season to October 1 – September 30.

Option a: For the Western Zone

Gulf Preferred Option b: For the Eastern Zone Northern Subzone

Option c: For the Eastern Zone Southern Subzone

Note: The South Atlantic Council had previously received documents in error that only had two options under Alternatives 2 and 3.

MOTION: CHOOSE UNDER ALTERNATIVE 3 OPTION B AS SOUTH ATLANTIC PREFERRED FOR EASTERN ZONE NORTHERN SUBZONE.

Approved by Committee. APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

Alternative 3: Change the fishing year for Gulf group king mackerel season to October 1 – September 30.

Option a: For the Western Zone

Preferred Option b: For the Eastern Zone Northern Subzone

Option c: For the Eastern Zone Southern Subzone

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2A AS A PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Motion failed.

Alternative 2: Change the fishing year for Gulf group king mackerel season to September 1 – August 31.

Gulf Preferred Option a: For the Western Zone

MOTION: REMOVE THE CHANGE IN FISHING SEASON FOR THE WESTERN ZONE FROM THIS AMENDMENT. [OPTION A UNDER ALTS 2 AND 3]

Approved by Committee. APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

Alternative 2: Change the fishing year for Gulf group king mackerel season to September 1 – August 31.

~~**Gulf Preferred Option a:** For the Western Zone~~

Option b: For the Eastern Zone Northern Subzone

Option c: For the Eastern Zone Southern Subzone

Alternative 3: Change the fishing year for Gulf group king mackerel season to October 1 – September 30.

~~**Option a:** For the Western Zone~~

Gulf Preferred Option b: For the Eastern Zone Northern Subzone

Option c: For the Eastern Zone Southern Subzone

Action 4: Establish Regional Commercial Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) for Atlantic Migratory Group King Mackerel and Spanish Mackerel

MOTION: ACCEPT IPT RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE CHANGE FOR ACTIONS 4.1 AND 4.2.

Approved by Committee. APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

IPT recommends changing “ACL” to “quota” throughout Actions 4.1 and 4.2.

Approval for submission for Secretarial review

MOTION: APPROVE COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGICS AMENDMENT 20B FOR SECRETARIAL REVIEW, AND DEEM THE REVISED 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 Committee. APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

Framework Amendment 1 (Spanish Mackerel ACLs)

The Committee approved the following motions:

Action 1: Modify the Annual Catch Limit (ACL) for Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel

MOTION: REVISE FIRST SENTENCE IN ALTERNATIVE 2 TO INCLUDE 2016.

Approved by Committee. APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

South Atlantic Preferred/ Gulf Preferred Alternative 2. Revise the ACL (including sector ACLs), OY, and ACT for Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel for ~~2014 and 2015~~2014-2016.

Action 2: Modify the Annual Catch Limit (ACL) for Gulf migratory group Spanish mackerel

MOTION: MAKE ALTERNATIVE 2 IN ACTION 2 AS THE PREFERRED.

Approved by Committee. APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

Gulf Preferred Alternative 2. Revise ACL for Gulf migratory group Spanish mackerel for 2014 through 2016 as shown below, and set ACL = ABC.

Table 2.2. ABCs and ACLs for 2014-2016 from the SEDAR 28 Gulf Spanish mackerel stock assessment and the Gulf Council/SSC-approved projections for Gulf migratory group Spanish mackerel. ‘mp’ = million pounds.

Year	ABC	Total ACL
2014	12.7 mp	12.7 mp
2015	11.8 mp	11.8 mp
2016	11.3 mp	11.3 mp

Approval for submission for Secretarial review

MOTION: APPROVE COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGICS FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT 1 FOR SECRETARIAL REVIEW, AND DEEM THE REVISED 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 Committee. APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

Amendment 24 (Allocations)

The Committee reviewed scoping comments for Amendment 24, which would examine the recreational and commercial allocations for Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel and Gulf migratory group king mackerel. The Committee provided direction to staff for an options paper for the June 2014 meeting.

Amendment 26 (Separate Permits)

The Committee also reviewed scoping comments for Amendment 26, which would consider ways to separate the commercial permits for Spanish mackerel and king mackerel into Atlantic and Gulf permits. The Committee directed staff to prepare a white paper on methods for the September 2014 meeting.

Framework Amendment 2 (Atlantic Spanish mackerel trip limits in Florida)

In March 2013 the South Atlantic Council added an action to South Atlantic Framework Action 2013 to consider changes in the commercial trip limit system for Atlantic Spanish mackerel in Florida, but decided to move the action to a later amendment in June 2013. The Committee approved the following motion to add the action in a new framework amendment:

**MOTION: BRING BACK THE PREVIOUS TRIP LIMIT ACTIONS FROM ORIGINAL FRAMEWORK IN A SEPARATE FRAMEWORK ACTION FOR CONSIDERATION.
Approved by Committee. APPROVED BY COUNCIL.**

Task and Timing Motion Suggested Language:

MOTION: ADOPT THE TIMING AND TASK ITEMS AS PRESENTED:

1. PREPARE JOINT CMP AMENDMENT 20B FOR SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOLLOWING GULF COUNCIL APPROVAL FOR SUBMISSION AT THEIR APRIL 2014 MEETING.
2. PREPARE FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT 1 FOR SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOLLOWING GULF COUNCIL APPROVAL FOR SUBMISSION AT THEIR APRIL 2014 MEETING.
3. DEVELOP AN OPTIONS PAPER FOR JOINT CMP AMENDMENT 24 FOR THE JUNE 2014 MEETING.
4. DEVELOP A WHITE PAPER ON METHODS FOR JOINT CMP AMENDMENT 26 FOR THE SEPTEMBER 2014 MEETING.
5. PREPARE DRAFT FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT 2 FOR THE JUNE 2014 MEETING.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL.