

OVERVIEW

Mackerel Committee Meeting

March 5, 2015

King and Prince Hotel
201 Arnold Road
St. Simons, GA

The Mackerel Committee will receive reports from SERO on (A) the status of commercial and recreational catches versus the respective ACLs/quotas for Atlantic group king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, and cobia. SERO will also provide (B) status updates on amendments submitted for formal review. Council staff will next provide (C) a report on the January 2015 Gulf Council meeting.

Council staff will report on (D) scoping meetings and comments received during January/February 2015, including written comments and input received on the record during the webinar and at the meeting in Cocoa Beach, FL. Next, the Committee will review the (E) decision document for Amendment 26. The Committee will provide guidance to staff on actions and alternatives to include, and a timeline for the amendment.

Following, NOAA General Counsel (GC) will provide information on (F) options for separating the CMP fishery management plan. The Committee will discuss options and direct staff on next steps. Lastly, the Committee will address issues under Other Business if necessary.

A. Status of Landings for Coastal Migratory Pelagic Species (Attachments 1 and 2)

The Committee will receive status updates on landings (commercial and recreational) for Atlantic Group king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, and cobia.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Discuss and take action as necessary.

B. Status of Amendments Approved for Secretarial Review

- CMP Amendment 20B (boundaries and transit provisions)
- S. Atlantic CMP Framework Action 2013 (transfer-at-sea for Spanish mackerel; Florida east coast subzone trip limits for king mackerel)
- CMP Framework Amendment 1 (Spanish Mackerel ACLs)
- CMP Framework Amendment 2 (Atlantic Spanish mackerel trip limits) – submitted for Secretarial review on November 5, 2014.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Discuss and take action as necessary.

C. Gulf Council Meeting Report (Attachment 3)

Council staff will provide a report on mackerel actions and decisions from the Gulf Council meeting in January 2015.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Discuss and take action as necessary.

D. CMP Scoping Report for January/February 2015 (Attachment 4)

Council staff will provide a summary of comments received during scoping for Amendment 26 in January/February 2015. Comments included items scoped for Amendment 26 in addition to other comments for mackerel management.

E. CMP Amendment 26 Decision Document (Attachment 5)

Amendment 26 can include several actions for king mackerel, including updated annual catch limits (ACLs), stock boundary, allocations, bag limit sales, and Florida East Coast management measures. Council staff will review the potential actions and alternatives for Amendment 26 using the Amendment 26 decision document.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Provide direction to staff on content and timing for Amendment 26.

F. Options for Separate CMP Fishery Management Plans (Attachment 6)

In December 2014, the Council requested information on options and components of separating the joint CMP Fishery Management Plan (FMPs). NOAA General Counsel will provide a briefing on considerations for separate FMPs. Council staff will review a decision document and the Committee will discuss next steps for separate FMPs or other actions for Amendment 28.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Discuss and take action as necessary; provide direction to staff on content and timing for Amendment 28.