

**SUMMARY REPORT  
FROM THE SAFMC MACKEREL COMMITTEE  
Key West, FL  
June 13, 2011**

The SAFMC Mackerel Committee met June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at Key West, FL. The Committee discussed the following items:

1. Status of Catches

Jack McGovern of SERO summarized commercial landings information and Bonnie Ponwith of SEFSC summarized recreational landings for CMP species managed through quotas.

2. Amendment 18

The Committee was advised that ACT values will be modified to reflect PSE values associated with MRFSS landings in pounds. The ACT values reported during the joint meeting with the Gulf of Mexico Council were mistakenly adjusted by the PSE associated with landings in numbers.

The Committee considered the cobia bag limit in light of the possibility that 2011 landings could exceed the ACL. However, there is considerable uncertainty in 2011 landings as no preliminary information is available at this time. After extensive discussion, the Committee retained the bag limit at 2 fish, and requested a thorough evaluation of bag limit alternatives for the September meeting. The analysis should consider application of the bag limit change during the spawning season and during the entire year.

The Committee discussed the potential consequences of 2011 landings exceeding the ACL. The Regional Administrator informed the Committee that the intent is to finalize the amendment by the end of 2011, and if this is successful, the ACL would apply to 2011 landings.

The Committee discussed and modified the preferred alternatives for Accountability Measure actions pertaining to payback of ACL overages. Overages will be required to be paid back only if a stock is overfished.

3. Amendment 19

The Committee reviewed the decision document for amendment 19. Items suggested for further consideration include retaining little tunny in the FMU, ensuring that prohibiting tournament sales is addressed, and considering cobia bag limit and minimum size modifications.

MOTIONS

MOTION 1: RECOMMEND CHANGE THE CURRENT PREFERRED SUB-ALTERNATIVE 5A TO PREFERRED SUB-ALTERNATIVE 5B IN ACTION 20, AND TO CHANGE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE 4A TO ALTERNATIVE 4B IN ACTION 20; approved.

*(For Cobia, overages deducted only if overfished, commercial and recreational)*

MOTION 2: RECOMMEND CHANGE THE CURRENT PREFERRED SUB-ALTERNATIVE 3A TO PREFERRED SUB-ALTERNATIVE 3B IN ACTION 17, AND TO CHANGE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE 4A TO ALTERNATIVE 4B IN ACTION 17; approved.

*(For Spanish mackerel, overages deducted only if overfished, commercial and recreational)*

MOTION 3: RECOMMEND CHANGE THE CURRENT PREFERRED SUB-ALTERNATIVE 3A TO PREFERRED SUB-ALTERNATIVE 3B IN ACTION 14, AND TO CHANGE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE 4A TO ALTERNATIVE 4B IN ACTION 14; approved.

*(For King Mackerel, new preferred will deduct overages only if overfished, for commercial and recreational)*

#### TIMING & TASK ITEMS

1. Provide a bag and size limit analysis for Cobia at the September meeting.
2. Inform the Gulf Council of the changes in the preferred alternatives and request approval at their next meeting.