

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
SUMMARY MOTIONS
March 1-5, 2021

This is a summary of the motions approved by the Council. Motions addressing actions and alternatives for FMP amendments are followed by text showing the result of the approved motion. Complete details on motions and other committee recommendations are provided in the Committee Reports available on the SAFMC website.

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem-Based Management Committee

Coral Amendment:

MOTION 1: APPROVE CORAL AMENDMENT 10 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS AS MODIFIED

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

1. Modify Coral Amendment 10 to address Committee recommendations: clarify that industry came forward before the previous amendment (Coral Amendment 8) was approved; describe and clarify SFAA designation; reword language for no action stating no SFAA exists in the OHAPC at this time and modify wording in the preferred alternative to clarify the allowable activity within the proposed SFAA. Schedule Coral Amendment 10 public hearings during the spring 2021.
2. Continue development of the Habitat Blueprint with the provided guidance.
3. Schedule and facilitate the Habitat and Ecosystem AP April meeting with agenda topics listed above.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Snapper Grouper Committee

MOTION 1: INSTRUCT STAFF TO INITIATE A FULL PLAN AMENDMENT FOR SNOWY GROUPE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 1 AS PREFERRED

Action 1. Revise the Greater Amberjack annual catch limit and annual optimum yield.

Alternative 2. Revise the total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield for Greater Amberjack and set equal to the updated acceptable biological catch based on the results of the latest stock assessment (SEDAR 59 2020). The 2026-27 total annual catch limit would remain in place until modified.

| Year | Total ACL (lbs ww) |
|------------|--------------------|
| 2022-23 | 4,380,000 |
| 2023-2024 | 3,233,000 |
| 2024-2025 | 2,818,000 |
| 2025-2026 | 2,699,000 |
| 2026-2027+ | 2,669,000 |

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: APPROVE AMENDMENT 49 FOR SCOPING

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 4: REQUEST THE SSC PROVIDE SHORT-TERM MANAGEMENT (3 to 5 YEARS) ADVICE FOR RED SNAPPER ASSUMING RECENT HIGH RECRUITMENT

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 5: REQUEST THAT STAFF DETERMINE WHETHER AN ABBREVIATED FRAMEWORK CAN BE USED TO ADJUST CATCH LEVELS OF RED SNAPPER AND, IF SO, PREPARE SUCH AN AMENDMENT FOR COUNCIL REVIEW IN JUNE 2021

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 6: DIRECT STAFF TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Request a presentation from the SEFSC on pilot longline surveys in the region to be provided to the Committee at the June meeting, if time allows.
- Prepare Amendment 49 (Greater Amberjack) for scoping and conduct scoping hearings before the June meeting.
- Schedule and facilitate a meeting of the Snapper Grouper AP with approved agenda topics in April.
- Schedule wreckfish shareholders meeting after the June 2021 meeting.
- Request that the SSC explore ABC recommendations based on recent high recruitment for Red Snapper.
- Prepare an abbreviated framework to adjust catch levels for Red Snapper for review and approval in June 2021, if appropriate.

- Initiate amendment to address snowy grouper and direct staff to ensure appropriate timeline for development.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Dolphin Wahoo Committee

MOTION 1: ACCEPT THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS TO THE REVISED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE DOLPHIN WAHOO FMP. DIRECT STAFF TO INCLUDE THE REVISED GOALS AND OBJECTIVES IN AMENDMENT 10 TO THE DOLPHIN WAHOO FMP.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPROVE THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS TO THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENTS IN AMENDMENT 10.

The *purpose* of Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10 is to revise the catch levels [acceptable biological catch (ABC) and annual catch limits (ACL)], sector allocations, accountability measures, and management measures for dolphin and wahoo. Management measures address authorized gear, the operator card requirement, and recreational bag/vessel limits in the dolphin and wahoo fisheries, as well as allowing fillets at sea onboard for-hire vessels in the dolphin fishery.

The need for Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10 is to base conservation and management measures on the best scientific information available and increase net benefits to the Nation, consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and its National Standards.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: REPLACE ALTERNATIVE 2 IN ACTION 5 WITH THE IPT PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE 2.

Action 5. Revise the trigger for the post-season recreational accountability measures for dolphin.

Alternative 2. Implement post season accountability measures in the following fishing year if the recreational annual catch limits are constant and the 3-year mean (*Sub-alternative 2a or 2b*) of landings exceeds the recreational sector annual catch limit. When the recreational sector annual catch limit is changed, use a single year of landings, beginning with the most recent available year of landings, then a two-year average of landings from that single year and the subsequent year, then a three-year average of landings from those

two years and the subsequent year, and thereafter a progressive running three-year average to trigger the recreational accountability measure.

Sub-alternative 2a. Use the arithmetic mean to calculate average landings.

Sub-alternative 2b. Use the geometric mean to calculate average landings.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 4: ACCEPT THE IPT PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE 5 TO REPLACE THE CURRENT ALTERNATIVE 5 IN ACTION 6.

Action 6. Revise the post-season recreational accountability measures for dolphin.

Alternative 5. In the following fishing year monitor landings, and if by September 1 of each year landings are projected to meet the sector ACL that fishing year, reduce the bag limit to prevent the annual catch limit from being exceeded (*Sub-alternatives 5a through 5e*). If reductions in the bag limit are projected to be insufficient to constrain harvest to the ACL, then also reduce the vessel limit to prevent the annual catch limit from being exceeded (*Sub-alternatives 5f through 5i*). If reductions in the bag limit and vessel limit are not implemented or are projected to be insufficient to constrain harvest to the ACL, then also reduce the length of the recreational fishing season to prevent the annual catch limit from being exceeded. However, the vessel limit, bag limit and/or recreational fishing season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best available science, that it is not necessary.

Bag Limit Sub-Alternatives:

Sub-alternative 5a. Reduce the bag limit by the amount necessary but not below 2 fish per person per day.

Sub-alternative 5b. Reduce the bag limit by the amount necessary but not below 3 fish per person per day.

Sub-alternative 5c. Reduce the bag limit by the amount necessary but not below 4 fish per day.

Sub-alternative 5c. Reduce the bag limit by the amount necessary but not below 4 fish per person per day.

Sub-alternative 5d. Reduce the bag limit by the amount necessary but not below 5 fish per vessel per day.

Sub-alternative 5e. Do not reduce the bag limit.

Vessel Limit Sub-Alternatives:

Sub-alternative 5f. Reduce the vessel limit by the amount necessary but not below 10 fish per vessel per day.

Sub-alternative 5g. Reduce the vessel limit by the amount necessary but not below 20 fish per vessel per day.

Sub-alternative 5h. Reduce the vessel limit by the amount necessary but not below 30 fish per vessel per day.

Sub-alternative 5i. Do not reduce the vessel limit.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 5: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 IN ACTION 6 AS PREFERRED.

Action 6. Revise the post-season recreational accountability measures for dolphin.

Alternative 2. Reduce the length of the following recreational fishing season by the amount necessary to prevent the annual catch limit from being exceeded in the following year. However, the length of the recreational season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 6: ACCEPT THE IPT'S WORDING FOR ALTERNATIVE 2 IN ACTION 7.

Action 7. Revise the trigger for the post-season recreational accountability measures for wahoo.

IPT PROPOSED Alternative 2. Implement post season accountability measures in the following fishing year if the recreational annual catch limits are constant and the 3-year mean (Sub-alternative 2a or 2b) of landings exceeds the recreational sector annual catch limit. When the recreational sector annual catch limit is changed, use a single year of landings, beginning with the most recent available year of landings, then a two-year average of landings from that single year and the subsequent year, then a three-year average of landings from those two years and the subsequent year, and thereafter a progressive running three-year average to trigger the recreational accountability measure.
Sub-alternative 2a. Use the arithmetic mean to calculate average landings.
Sub-alternative 2b. Use the geometric mean to calculate average landings.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 7: CHOOSE SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2B UNDER ACTION 7 AS PREFERRED.

Action 7. Revise the trigger for the post-season recreational accountability measures for wahoo.
Alternative 2. Implement post season accountability measures in the following fishing year if the recreational annual catch limits are constant and the 3-year mean (Sub-alternative 2a or 2b) of landings exceeds the recreational sector annual catch limit. When the recreational sector annual catch limit is changed, use a single year of landings, beginning with the most recent available year of landings, then a two-year average of landings from that single year and the subsequent year, then a three-year average of landings from those two years and the subsequent year, and thereafter a progressive running three-year average to trigger the recreational accountability measure.

Sub-alternative 2b. Use the geometric mean to calculate average landings.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 8: ACCEPT THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS IN ACTION 11.

Action 11. Reduce the recreational vessel limit for dolphin.

Alternative 1 (No Action). The recreational daily bag limit is 10 dolphin per person, not to exceed 60 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less:

Alternative 2. The recreational daily bag limit is 10 dolphin per person, not to exceed:

Sub-alternative 2a. 30 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 2b. 40 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 2c. 42 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less:

Sub-alternative 2d. 48 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 2e. 54 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Alternative 3. In Florida only, the recreational daily bag limit is 10 dolphin per person, not to exceed:

Sub-alternative 3a. 30 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 3b. 40 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 3c. 42 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 3d. 48 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 3e. 54 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Alternative 4. In South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida only, the recreational daily bag limit is 10 dolphin per person, not to exceed:

Sub-alternative 4a. 30 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 4b. 40 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 4c. 42 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 4d. 48 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

Sub-alternative 4e. 54 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 9: SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2D AS PREFERRED IN ACTION 11.

Action 11. Reduce the recreational vessel limit for dolphin

Alternative 2. The recreational daily bag limit is 10 dolphin per person, not to exceed:

Sub-alternative 2d. 48 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 10: ACCEPT ACTION 12 TO BE INCLUDED IN AMENDMENT 10.

Action 12. Reduce the recreational bag limit and establish a recreational vessel limit for wahoo
Alternative 1 (No Action). The recreational daily bag limit is 2 wahoo per person. There is no
Alternative 2. The recreational daily bag limit is 1 wahoo per person.

Alternative 3. The recreational vessel limit is:

- Sub-alternative 3a. 2 wahoo per vessel.
- Sub-alternative 3b. 3 wahoo per vessel.
- Sub-alternative 3c. 4 wahoo per vessel.
- Sub-alternative 3d. 5 wahoo per vessel.
- Sub-alternative 3e. 6 wahoo per vessel.
- Sub-alternative 3f. 7 wahoo per vessel.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 11: ACCEPT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED IN ACTION 12.

Action 12. Reduce the recreational bag limit and establish a recreational vessel limit for wahoo

Alternative 2. The recreational daily bag limit is 1 wahoo per person.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 12: REMOVE ACTION 13 IN AMENDMENT 10 AND PUT IT IN THE
CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED SECTION.**

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 13: APPROVE ALL ACTIONS IN DOLPHIN WAHOO AMENDMENT 10, AS
MODIFIED, FOR REVIEW AT THE JUNE 2021 MEETING.**

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

DIRECTION TO STAFF:

- 1) Develop a framework action, or other appropriate action, to consider making the minimum size requirements currently in place for FL, GA, and SC apply throughout the management zone for dolphin.
- 2) Develop a framework or other appropriate action to consider exempting the charter fleet from the dolphin and wahoo vessel limits.

MOTION 14: APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

- 1) Continue work on Amendment 10 and prepare the amendment for a vote of approval for secretarial review at the June 2021 meeting.

- 2) Prepare information on identified topics regarding the use of pelagic longline gear in the dolphin wahoo fishery, dolphin size limits, and exemptions to the dolphin and wahoo vessel limits onboard for-hire vessels. The council will review this information at the June 2021 meeting.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Mackerel Cobia Committee

MOTION 1: APPROVE THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

The *purpose* of this amendment is to revise the annual catch limits for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel; to revise recreational and commercial allocations for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel; and to revise or establish management measures for Atlantic migratory group king and Spanish mackerel.

The need for this amendment is to ensure annual catch limits are based on the best scientific information available and to ensure overfishing does not occur in the Atlantic migratory group king and Spanish mackerel fisheries, while increasing social and economic benefits through sustainable and profitable harvest of Atlantic migratory group king and Spanish mackerel.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPROVE ACTION 1 AND ALTERNATIVES 1 THROUGH 4 FOR INCLUSION IN CMP AMENDMENT 34.

Action 1. Revise the total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to reflect the updated acceptable biological catch level.

Alternative 1 (No Action). The total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel is set equal to the current acceptable biological catch level (12,700,000 pounds).

Alternative 2. The total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel is equal to the updated acceptable biological catch level.

Alternative 3. The total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel is equal to 95% of the updated acceptable biological catch level.

Alternative 4. The total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel is equal to 90% of the updated acceptable biological catch level.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: APPROVE ACTION 3 AND ALTERNATIVES 1 THROUGH 4 FOR INCLUSION IN CMP AMENDMENT 34.

Action 3. Revise recreational annual catch target for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Retain the current recreational annual catch target for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel [ACL[(1-PSE) or 0.5, whichever is greater] based on the previous acceptable biological catch (ACT = 7,400,000 pounds)

Alternative 2. Revise the recreational annual catch target to reflect updated acceptable biological catch level. The recreational annual catch target equals sector ACL[(1-PSE) or 0.5, whichever is greater].

Alternative 3. Revise the recreational annual catch target to reflect updated acceptable biological catch level. The recreational annual catch target equals 90% sector ACL.

Alternative 4. Revise the recreational annual catch target to reflect updated acceptable biological catch level. The recreational annual catch target equals 85% sector ACL.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 4: APPROVE ACTION 4 AND ALTERNATIVES 1 THROUGH 2 FOR INCLUSION IN CMP AMENDMENT 34.

Action 4. Increase the recreational bag and possession limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel in the exclusive economic zone off Florida.

Alternative 1 (No Action). The daily bag limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel in the exclusive economic zone off Florida is two fish per person. Two fish per person is the daily bag limit specified by Florida for its waters.

Alternative 2. Increase the daily bag limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to three fish per person. off Florida.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 5: APPROVE ACTION 5 AND ALTERNATIVES 1 THROUGH 4 FOR INCLUSION IN CMP AMENDMENT 34.

Action 5. Reduce the minimum size limit for recreational and commercial harvest of Atlantic migratory group king mackerel.

Alternative 1 (No Action). The minimum size limit for commercial and recreational harvest of Atlantic migratory group king mackerel is 24-inches fork length.

Alternative 2. Reduce the minimum size limit for commercial and recreational harvest of Atlantic king migratory group mackerel to 22-inches fork length.

Alternative 3. Reduce the minimum size limit for commercial and recreational harvest of Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to 20-inches fork length.

Alternative 4. Remove the minimum size limit for commercial and recreational harvest of Atlantic migratory group king mackerel.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 6: APPROVE ACTION 6 AND ALTERNATIVES 1 THROUGH 2 FOR INCLUSION IN CMP AMENDMENT 34.

Action 6. Modify the recreational requirement for Coastal Migratory Pelagic species in the Atlantic region to be landed with heads and fins in intact.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Cut-off (damaged) Atlantic migratory group king mackerel or Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel caught under the recreational bag limit may not be possessed.

Alternative 2. Cut-off (damaged) fish caught under the recreational bag limit, that comply with the minimum size limits, may be possessed, and offloaded ashore.

Sub-alternative 2a. Atlantic migratory group king mackerel

Sub-alternative 2b. Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 7: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2, UNDER ACTION 1, AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Action 1 – Modify the Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) Migratory Group Cobia (Gulf Cobia) Overfishing Limit (OFL), Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC), and Annual Catch Limit (ACL).

Gulf Council Preferred Alternative 2: Modify the Gulf cobia stock OFL, ABC, and ACL based on recommendation of the Gulf Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) as presented in July 2020, for an increasing yield stream for 2021 to 2023, and then maintain the 2023 levels for subsequent fishing years or until changed by a management action. The stock ACL is set equal to the stock ABC.

| | Gulf Cobia Stock | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| Year | OFL | ABC | ACL |
| 2021 | 3,030,000 | 2,340,000 | 2,340,000 |
| 2022 | 3,210,000 | 2,600,000 | 2,600,000 |
| 2023+ | 3,310,000 | 2,760,000 | 2,760,000 |

Note: Catch limits in pounds whole weight. The recreational portion of the OFL, ABC, and ACL are based on MRIP-FES data.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 8: CHOOSE ALTERNATIVE 3, UNDER ACTION 2, AS THE SOUTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL'S PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Action 2 – Modify the Gulf Cobia Apportionment Between the Gulf Zone and the Florida East Coast (FLEC) Zone and Update the Zones' ACLs Based on the ACL Selected in Action 1.

Alternative 3: Modify the Gulf cobia stock ACL apportionment to be 63% for the Gulf Zone and 37% for the FLEC Zone, based on the MRIP-FES average landings for Gulf cobia for the years 1998 – 2012, and use this apportionment to update the Zone ACLs based on the Gulf Cobia ACL(s) in Action 1.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 9: UNDER ACTION 4, CHOOSE ALTERNATIVE 2B AND ALTERNATIVE 3B-SUB-OPTION I AS PREFERRED.

Action 4 – Modify the Gulf Cobia Possession Limit and/or Establish a Trip Limit

Alternative 2: Reduce the recreational and commercial daily possession limit to 1 fish per person, regardless of the number or duration of trips.

Option 2b: in the FLEC Zone

Alternative 3: Create a recreational and commercial daily trip limit. Fishermen may not exceed the per person daily possession limit.

Option 3b: in the FLEC Zone

Sub-option i: The trip limit for cobia is two fish.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 10: APPROVE THE GULF COUNCIL PREFERRED FOR THE GULF ZONE UNDER ACTION 4

Action 4 – Modify the Gulf Cobia Possession Limit and/or Establish a Trip Limit

Gulf Council Preferred Alternative 2: Reduce the recreational and commercial daily possession limit to 1 fish per person, regardless of the number or duration of trips.

Gulf Council Preferred Option 2a: in the Gulf Zone

Gulf Council Preferred Alternative 3: Create a recreational and commercial daily trip limit. Fishermen may not exceed the per person daily possession limit.

Gulf Council Preferred Option 3a: in the Gulf Zone

Gulf Council Preferred Sub-option i: The trip limit for cobia is two fish.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 11: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2, UNDER ACTION 5, AS THE SOUTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL'S PREFERRED

Action 5 – Modify the Gulf Cobia Minimum Size Limit

Alternative 2: Retain the current recreational and commercial minimum size limit of 36 inches FL in the Gulf Zone and increase the recreational and commercial minimum size limit to 36 inches FL in the FLEC Zone.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 12: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Continue work on CMP Amendment 34 and prepare a draft for discussion and selection of preferred alternatives at the June 2021 meeting.
2. Work with Gulf Council staff to present information on CMP Amendment 32 to the Gulf Council and Gulf Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel.
3. Work with Gulf Council staff to continue development CMP Amendment 32 for additional review at the June 2021 meeting.
4. White Paper Action – work with ASMFC staff on ad hoc AP structure
5. Convene a meeting of the Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel to discuss topics listed above

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

SEDAR COMMITTEE

MOTION 1: APPROVE THE SEDAR 79 PARTICIPANT LIST TABLE AS MODIFIED

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPROVE THE SEDAR 79 TERMS OF REFERENCE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MOTION 1: APPROVE THE AP POLICY AS REVISED

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPROVE THE SAFMC SEMINAR SERIES

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

