



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Jessica McCawley, Chair | Mell Bell, Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

AGENDA Mackerel Cobia Committee

Westin Jekyll Island
110 Ocean Way
Jekyll Island, GA

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 – 9:30 A.M. – NOON (Times subject to change)

Approval of Agenda

Approval of December 2019 Committee minutes

1. Status of Commercial Catches vs. ACLs – Rick DeVactor, NMFS SERO (*Attachment 1*)
2. Status of Amendments under Formal Review – Rick DeVactor, NMFS SERO
 - a. CMP Framework Amendment 8 (King mackerel trip limits) – sent to NMFS
?/?/?/2020
3. CMP Framework Amendment 9 (Spanish mackerel northern zone commercial trip limits) (*Attachments 2a-2c*).
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. **Committee Action:** Review draft document, public comments, and consider approval for formal review – Steve Poland

Other Business – Steve Poland

Adjourn

Committee Members

Steve Poland, Chair

Spud Woodward, Vice Chair

Robert Beal

Anna Beckwith

Mel Bell

Chester Brewer

Chris Conklin

Roy Crabtree

Tim Griner

Jessica McCawley

Art Sapp

Mid-Atlantic Liaisons:

Tony DiLernia and Dewey Hemilright

Attachments

Attachment 1: NMFS SERO Commercial ACL Report for CMP species.

Attachment 2a: CMP Framework Amendment 9 Final Draft

Attachment 2b: CMP Framework Amendment 9 Decision Document

Attachment 2c: CMP Framework Amendment 9 Codified Text

Staff: Christina Wiegand

OVERVIEW

Mackerel and Cobia Committee

The Committee will approve of minutes from December 2019 meeting and the agenda for the March 2020 Committee meeting.

1. **Status of commercial catches vs. ACLs – (*Attachment 1*)**

Description: The Committee will receive an update on commercial landings for Atlantic king mackerel, Atlantic Spanish mackerel, and Florida east coast zone cobia.

Committee Action: None required.

2. **Status of amendments submitted for formal review**

Description: SERO staff will brief the Committee on the status of CMP Framework Amendment 8 (King mackerel trip limits) which was submitted for formal review on MONTH DATE, 2020.

Committee Action: None required.

3. **Framework Amendment 9 (Spanish mackerel northern zone commercial trip limits. (*Attachments 2a-2c*)**

Description: In September 2019, in order to address recent closure in the commercial Spanish mackerel fishery, the Council directed staff to begin work on an amendment that would modify Spanish mackerel trip limits and accountability measures. During their December 2019 meeting, the Council reviewed draft actions and alternatives. Robert Beal, Executive Director of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), clarified that the ASMFC Interstate Fisheries Management Plan for Spanish Mackerel does not require states to close their waters to commercial harvest of Spanish mackerel when a federal closure occurs. Based on the information provided by ASMFC, the Committee determined that it was no longer necessary to immediately address Spanish mackerel accountability measures, but that a trip limit reduction in the Northern Zone would help to extend the commercial Spanish mackerel season in federal waters. The Council approved the amendment for public hearings which were held via webinar on January 22nd and 23rd, 2020. Staff will present a summary of public hearing comments and a draft document for the Council to consider for formal review.

Committee Action: Review draft document, public comments, and consider approval for formal review.

Other Business