

FINAL
SUMMARY REPORT
MACKEREL COBIA COMMITTEE
SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Webinar
June 10, 2020

The Committee approved minutes from the March 2020 meeting and the agenda.

Status of Amendments Under Formal Review

SERO staff updated the Committee on recent actions related to coastal migratory pelagics. CMP Framework Amendment 8, which addresses commercial king mackerel trip limits in the Southern Zone during season two, was submitted to NMFS on February 19, 2020. A proposed rule published on May 19, 2020 with comments due June 18, 2020.

SEDAR 38 Update – King Mackerel Stock Assessment

An update to SEDAR 38 was completed in April 2020 and included assessments for Gulf and Atlantic king mackerel. In April 2020, the SSC reviewed the results of the updated SEDAR 38 and provided recommendations for new ABCs for Atlantic king mackerel. Dr. Matthew Lauretta presented the SEFSC report and SSC Chair, Dr. Genny Nesslage presented the SSC recommendations to the Committee.

The following motion was approved:

MOTION#1: DIRECT STAFF TO BRING BACK AN OPTIONS PAPER TO THE SEPTEMBER MEETING INCLUDING CONSIDERATION OF SECTOR ALLOCATIONS AND CATCH LEVEL ADJUSTMENTS BASED ON SSC RECOMMENDATIONS AND THE RECENT STOCK ASSESSMENT UPDATE.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

DIRECTION TO STAFF:

-INCLUDE INFORMATION IN THE OPTIONS PAPER THAT SHOWS WHAT ALLOCATIONS WOULD BE UNDER THE CURRENT FORMULA.

COVID-19 Impacts and Potential Response

Earlier this year, Council staff requested that advisory panel members complete an online form designed to collect information regarding impacts of the pandemic on stakeholders and their communities. During the Snapper Grouper Committee meeting, Council staff presented a summary of the feedback received to date and Snapper Grouper Committee members discussed management measures that could be implemented temporarily to alleviate some of the socioeconomic impacts caused by the pandemic. Mackerel Cobia Committee members continued the discussion of potential changes during their meeting, including possible changes to recreational bag limits for the mackerel species.

Other Business

Note: Council staff drafts the timing and task motion based on Committee action. If points require clarification, they will be added to the draft motion. The Committee should review this wording carefully to be sure it accurately reflects their intent prior to making the motion.

Timing and Task(s)

MOTION: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Prepare an options paper considering sector allocations and catch level adjustments based on SSC recommendations and the updated SEDAR 38 assessment for review at the September 2020 Council meeting.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL