

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
SUMMARY MOTIONS
December 7-10, 2020

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.

Snapper Grouper Committee

MOTION 1: APPROVE SNAPPER GROUPE AMENDMENT 48 FOR SCOPING DURING THE MARCH 2021 COUNCIL MEETING.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 2 AS PREFERRED.

Action 2. Revise the Red Porgy total annual catch limit and optimum yield

Alternative 2. Revise the annual catch limit and optimum yield for Red Porgy to equal the updated acceptable biological catch based on the results of the latest stock assessment (SEDAR 60 2020). The 2026 annual catch limit would remain in place until modified.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: DIRECT STAFF TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Include action to evaluate species for need of conservation and management under the Snapper Grouper FMP in a future unassessed species amendment. Work with SEFSC on possible approach for setting a single ACL with an (assessed) indicator species for data-poor species.
- Prepare the Wreckfish ITQ Modernization Amendment (Amendment 48) for scoping during the March 2021 Council meeting.
- Start an amendment in cooperation with the Gulf Council to set a new ACL for Yellowtail Snapper.
- Refer to guidance under YTS to create workgroup.
- Conduct scoping hearings for the Red Porgy Amendment (Amendment 50) in winter 2021 and bring back comments to the Committee at the March 2021 meeting
- Schedule online public seminar: Red Snapper diet composition using DNA barcoding of fish prey (MARMAP)
- Prepare Greater Amberjack Amendment (Amendment 49) draft scoping document for the Committee to consider during the March 2021 meeting.
- Continue AM 44 for Yellowtail Snapper

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Mackerel Cobia Committee

MOTION 1: APPROVE COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGICS FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT 10 FOR SCOPING

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

DIRECTION TO STAFF:

- Provide landings from the Mid-Atlantic region. Include alternatives to consider 5%, 10%, 15%, and 20% buffer between ABC and ACL.
- Review sector allocations in light of the revised MRIP numbers. Include alternatives that would maintain the current poundage for the commercial sector. Feedback from the IPT on other alternative options.
- Consider an increase in bag limit for Florida (3pp), consider modifying the size limit (including removal), consider cut fish regulations for the rec sector including state and le concerns.

MOTION 2: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Continue work on CMP Framework Amendment 10 and prepare a draft for discussion and scoping at the March 2021 meeting.
2. Continue working with Gulf Council staff to develop CMP Amendment 32 for additional review at the March 2021 meeting.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Dolphin Wahoo Committee

MOTION 1: APPROVE THE IPT'S SUGGESTED 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 and the operator card requirement in the dolphin and wahoo fisheries, as well as recreational vessel limits and 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 2: APPROVE THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS IN ACTION 3.

Action 3. Revise sector allocations and sector annual catch limits for dolphin

Note: The revised total annual catch limit in Alternatives 1 (No Action) through 4 reflects Preferred Alternative 2 in Action 1 in Amendment 10 to the Fishery Management Plan for Dolphin and Wahoo of the Atlantic. The revised total annual catch limit includes recreational landings from Monroe County, Florida, and incorporates recreational data as per the Marine Recreational Information Program using the Fishery Effort Survey method, as well as updates to commercial and for-hire landings.

Alternative 3. Allocate 93.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for dolphin to the recreational sector. Allocate 7.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for dolphin to the commercial sector. This is based on the Council's intent to explore alternatives for sector allocations that would not result in a decrease in the current pounds of dolphin available to either sector.

Alternative 4. Allocate 92.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for dolphin to the recreational sector. Allocate 8.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for dolphin to the commercial sector. This is based on the Council's intent to explore alternatives for sector allocations that would not result in a decrease in the current pounds of dolphin available to either sector.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE IN ACTION 3.

Action 3. Revise sector allocations and sector annual catch limits for dolphin

Alternative 3. Allocate 93.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for dolphin to the recreational sector. Allocate 7.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for dolphin to the commercial sector. This is based on the Council's intent to explore alternatives for sector allocations that would not result in a decrease in the current pounds of dolphin available to either sector.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 4: APPROVED THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS IN ACTION 4.

Action 4. Revise sector allocations and sector annual catch limits for wahoo

Note: The revised total annual catch limit in Alternatives 1 (No Action) through 4 reflects Preferred Alternative 2 in Action 2 in Amendment 10 to the Fishery Management Plan for Dolphin and Wahoo of the Atlantic. The revised total annual catch limit includes recreational landings from Monroe County, Florida, and incorporates recreational data as

per the Marine Recreational Information Program using the Fishery Effort Survey method, as well as updates to commercial and for-hire landings.

Alternative 4. Allocate 97.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for wahoo to the recreational sector. Allocate 3.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for wahoo to the commercial sector. This is based on the Council's intent to explore alternatives for sector allocations that would not result in a decrease in the current pounds of wahoo available to either sector.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 5: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 4 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE IN ACTION 4.

Action 4. Revise sector allocations and sector annual catch limits for wahoo

Alternative 4. Allocate 97.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for wahoo to the recreational sector. Allocate 3.00% of the revised total annual catch limit for wahoo to the commercial sector. This is based on the Council's intent to explore alternatives for sector allocations that would not result in a decrease in the current pounds of wahoo available to either sector.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 6: CHOOSE ALTERNATIVE 5 AS PREFERRED IN ACTION 5.

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

Alternative 5. Implement post season accountability measures in the following fishing year if the total (commercial and recreational combined) annual catch limit is exceeded.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 7: ADD ALTERNATIVES 5, 6, AND 7 TO ACTION 6.

Action 6. Revise the post-season recreational accountability measures for dolphin
Alternative 5. In the following fishing year monitor landings and if landings are projected to meet the sector ACL, reduce the bag limit and/or the vessel limit (Sub-alternatives 5a and/or 5b) first and if needed reduce the length of the recreational fishing season by the amount necessary 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.

Sub-alternative 5a. Reduce the bag limit by the amount necessary but not below X fish per person per day (Council to fill in the number).

Sub-alternative 5b. Reduce the vessel limit by the amount necessary but not below X fish per vessel per day (Council to fill in the number).

Alternative 6. In order to prevent the annual catch limit from being exceeded in the following fishing year, reduce the bag limit first, and, if necessary, shorten the length of the recreational fishing season. The bag limit will not be reduced below X fish per person per day (Council to fill in the number). However, the 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.

Alternative 7. In order to prevent the annual catch limit from being exceeded in the following fishing year, reduce the vessel limit first, and, if necessary, shorten the length of the recreational fishing season. The vessel limit will not be reduced below X fish per vessel per day (Council to fill in the number). However, the vessel 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.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 8: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 5 AS PREFERRED 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 landings are projected to meet the sector ACL, reduce the bag limit and/or the vessel limit (Sub-alternatives 5a and/or 5b) first and if needed reduce the length of the recreational fishing season by the amount necessary 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.

Sub-alternative 5a. Reduce the bag limit by the amount necessary but not below X fish per person per day (Council to fill in the number).

Sub-alternative 5b. Reduce the vessel limit by the amount necessary but not below X fish per vessel per day (Council to fill in the number).

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 9: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 6 AND 7 IN ACTION 6 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED SECTION.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 10: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED IN ACTION 7.

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 geometric mean of landings exceed the recreational sector annual catch limit. If in any year the recreational sector annual catch limit is changed, the moving multi-year geometric mean of landings will start over.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 11: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED IN ACTION 8.

Action 8. Revise the post-season recreational accountability measures for wahoo

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 best available science, that it is not necessary.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 12: ACCEPT THE IPT'S EDITS TO ACTION 9.

Action 9. Allow properly permitted commercial fishing vessels with trap, pot, or buoy gear on board that are not authorized for use in the dolphin wahoo fishery to possess commercial quantities of dolphin and wahoo

Alternative 1 (No Action). The following are the only authorized commercial gear types in the fisheries for dolphin and wahoo in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone: automatic reel, bandit gear, handline, pelagic longline, rod and reel, and spearfishing gear (including powerheads). A person aboard a vessel in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone that has on board gear types (including trap, pot, or buoy gear) other than authorized gear types may not possess a dolphin or wahoo. The current commercial trip limit for wahoo is 500 pounds. The current trip limit for dolphin is 4,000 pounds once 75 percent of the commercial sector annual catch limit is reached. Prior to reaching 75 percent of the commercial sector annual catch limit, there is no commercial trip limit for dolphin.

Alternative 2. A vessel in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone that possesses both an Atlantic Dolphin/Wahoo Commercial Permit and valid federal commercial permits required to fish trap, pot, or buoy gear or is in compliance with permit requirements specified for the spiny lobster fishery in 50 C.F.R. §622.400 is authorized to retain dolphin caught by rod and reel while in possession of such gears. A vessel in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone that has on board other gear types that are not authorized in

the fishery for dolphin may not possess a dolphin. Dolphin retained by such a vessel shall not exceed:

Sub-alternative 2a. 250 pounds gutted weight

Sub-alternative 2b. 500 pounds gutted weight

Sub-alternative 2c. 750 pounds gutted weight

Sub-alternative 2d. 1,000 pounds gutted weight

Alternative 3. A vessel in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone that possesses both an Atlantic Dolphin/Wahoo Commercial Permit and valid federal commercial permits required to fish trap, pot, or buoy gear or is in compliance with permit requirements specified for the spiny lobster fishery in 50 C.F.R. §622.400 is authorized to retain wahoo caught by rod and reel while in possession of such gear types. A vessel in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone that has on board other gear types that are not authorized in the fisheries for wahoo may not possess a wahoo. The wahoo commercial trip limit will be 500 pounds.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 13: SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2B AND ALTERNATIVE 3 AS PREFERRED IN ACTION 9.

Action 9. Allow properly permitted commercial fishing vessels with trap, pot, or buoy gear on board that are not authorized for use in the dolphin wahoo fishery to possess commercial quantities of dolphin and wahoo

Alternative 2. A vessel in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone that possesses both an Atlantic Dolphin/Wahoo Commercial Permit and valid federal commercial permits required to fish trap, pot, or buoy gear or is in compliance with permit requirements specified for the spiny lobster fishery in 50 C.F.R. §622.400 is authorized to retain dolphin caught by rod and reel while in possession of such gears. A vessel in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone that has on board other gear types that are not authorized in the fishery for dolphin may not possess a dolphin. Dolphin retained by such a vessel shall not exceed:

Sub-alternative 2b. 500 pounds gutted weight

Alternative 3. A vessel in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone that possesses both an Atlantic Dolphin/Wahoo Commercial Permit and valid federal commercial permits required to fish trap, pot, or buoy gear or is in compliance with permit requirements specified for the spiny lobster fishery in 50 C.F.R. §622.400 is authorized to retain wahoo caught by rod and reel while in possession of such gear types. A vessel in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone that has on board other gear types that are not authorized in the fisheries for wahoo may not possess a wahoo. The wahoo commercial trip limit will be 500 pounds.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 14: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AND ALTERNATIVE 3 AS PREFERRED IN ACTION 10.

Action 10. Remove the requirement of vessel operators or crew to hold an Operator Card in the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery

Alternative 2. Neither a vessel operator nor any crewmember is required to have an Operator Card for an Atlantic Charter/Headboat for Dolphin/Wahoo Permit to be valid.

Alternative 3. Neither a vessel operator nor any crewmember is required to have an Operator Card for an Atlantic Dolphin/Wahoo Commercial Permit to be valid.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 15: ADD A SUB-ALTERNATIVE UNDER ALTERNATIVE 3 IN ACTION 11 OF 30 FISH PER VESSEL.

Action 11. Reduce the recreational vessel limit for dolphin

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

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 16: ADD A SUB-ALTERNATIVE UNDER ALTERNATIVE 2 IN ACTION 11 OF 30 FISH PER VESSEL.

Action 11. Reduce the recreational vessel limit for dolphin

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

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 17: ADD AN ALTERNATIVE THAT IS THE SAME AS ALTERNATIVE 3 IN ACTION 11, BUT INCLUDES GEORGIA, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND FLORIDA.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 18: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 1 IN ACTION 12 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Action 12. Allow filleting of dolphin at sea on board charter or headboat vessels in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone north of the Virginia/North Carolina border.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Dolphin possessed in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone must be maintained with head and fins intact, with specific exceptions for fish lawfully

harvested in the Bahamas. Such fish harvested from the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone may be eviscerated, gilled, and scaled, but must otherwise be maintained in a whole condition.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 19: APPROVE ALL ACTIONS IN DOLPHIN WAHOO AMENDMENT 10, AS MODIFIED, FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS TO TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE MARCH 2021 MEETING.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 20: APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

- Conduct public hearings for amendment 10 before the march 2021 meeting.
- Continue work on amendment 10 for review at the march 2021 meeting.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Habitat Protection and Ecosystem Based Management Committee

MOTION 1: MOVE THAT WE CHOOSE OPTION 2A AS PREFERRED.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPROVE CORAL AMENDMENT 10 FOR SCOPING AT THE MARCH 2021 COUNCIL MEETING.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: COUNCIL ESTABLISH A HABITAT AND ECOSYSTEM BLUEPRINT DEVELOPMENT TEAM

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 4: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

- Prepare Coral Amendment 10 for scoping during the March 2021 Council meeting with the intent to approve in June 2021.
- Work with SSC Chair to establish membership of the SSC Ecosystem Model Workgroup.
- Coordinate with SSC Chair, the SA EwE Model Team and the SSC Ecosystem Model Workgroup to complete Ecosim review and schedule webinars/workshop and timing necessary to complete 1-2 priority applications of model by October 2021.
- Facilitate SA EwE Model Team initial parameterization of SA Ecospace component of SA EwE with future review and guidance provided by the SSC Ecosystem Model Workgroup.

- Staff provide guidance and priorities on mapping/characterization of South Atlantic deepwater coral ecosystems.
- Staff facilitate scheduling (based on Council input) for online public seminar on NOAA Deep Sea Coral Research and Office of Exploration and Research Mapping and Geomorphic Characterization of Deep Sea Coral Ecosystems in the South Atlantic Region. – AFTER MARCH 2021

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 5: MOVE OVERSIGHT OF EWE MODEL DEVELOPMENT TO THE SSC AND SUPPORT A WORKSHOP TO EXPLORE APPLYING IT TO THE QUESTIONS OF INTEREST

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Executive Committee

MOTION 1: APPROVE THE FINAL 2020 OPERATIONAL BUDGET AS PRESENTED.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPROVE THE DRAFT 2021 OPERATIONAL BUDGET AS PRESENTED AND MODIFIED.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Citizen Science Committee

MOTION 1: ADOPT THE REVISED CITIZEN SCIENCE PROGRAM VISION, MISSION, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES, AND INDICATORS WITH MODIFICATIONS AS NEEDED.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Advisory Panel Committee

MOTION 1: REAPPOINT CHRIS BURROWS, BOB FREVERT, RICHARD HARRIS, GLEN HOPKINS, JON REYNOLDS, AND TIM SCALISE TO THE DOLPHIN WAHOO ADVISORY PANEL.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPOINT ROM WHITAKER III, JAMES “CHIP” BERRY AND RICHARD DELIZZA TO THE DOLPHIN WAHOO AP.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: APPOINT THE INDIVIDUALS LISTED IN TABLE 1 TO THE OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATION ADVISORY PANEL.

Table 1. Recommended Appointments to the Outreach and Communications Advisory Panel.

New Structure: 21 Seats
State Seats
4 Sea Grant Seats (+ 3 Seats)
NC Sea Grant: Scott Baker
SC Sea Grant: Graham Gaines
GA Sea Grant: Bryan Fluech
FL Sea Grant: Shelly Krueger
4 State Agency Seats
NCDMF: Patricia Smith
SCDNR: Erin Weeks
GADNR: Tyler Jones
MyFWC: Melissa Crouch
Fishermen Seats
For-Hire Seat : Mark Phelp
Commercial Seat : Cinthia Sandoval
Private Recreational Seat: George Patane
At-Large Fishermen’s Seat: Robert Todd
Other Seats
Media Seat Steve: Doughtery
Peer & Agency Seats
Gulf Council: Emily Muehlstein
Caribbean Council: Diana Martino
Mid-Atlantic Council: Mary Clark Sabo
ASMFC: Tina Berger
Agency Seats
SERO: Sean Meehan
At-Large Seat: Katie Latanich
At-Large Seat: Bebe Dalton Harrison
United States Coast Guard: Lt. James Bruce

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Full Council II

MOTION 1: DIRECT STAFF TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Prepare ABC Control Rule Amendment options language for the Council to consider during the March 2021 meeting.
- Coordinate the ORCS Working Group to develop recommendations for consideration in the ABC Control Rule Amendment.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL