

**South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Full Council and Committee Reports
SUMMARY MOTIONS
March 6-10, 2023**

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.

Full Council Session I (Closed)

MOTION 1: MOVE TO APPROVE THE AP POLICY AS MODIFIED.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 2: APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATIVE HANDBOOK AS MODIFIED.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION 3: MOVE TO APPROVE TABLE 1 AND TABLE 2 AS TOPICAL WORKING GROUP MEMBER PARTICIPANTS, DATA PROVIDERS, AND OBSERVERS FOR SEDAR 89 AND 92.

Table 1. SEDAR 89 South Atlantic Tilefish Topical Working Group participants and observers.

Name	Affiliation	Function	Travel funds needed
Technical Appointees			
Mike Rinaldi	ACCSP	TWG	No
Kevin Spanik	SCDNR	TWG	No
Jeff Moore	NCDMF	TWG	No
Michael Thompson	NCDMF	TWG	No
Kevin Thompson	FLFWC	TWG	No
Eric Hiltz	SCDNR	D	No
Elizabeth Gooding	SCDNR	D	No
Amy Dukes	SCDNR	D	No
Chris Bradshaw	FLFWC	D	No
Bev Sauls	FLFWC	D	No
Bridget Cermek	FLFWC	D	No
COUNT		5	0
SSC			
Marcel Reichert	SCC	TWG	No
Wally Bubley	SCC	TWG	No
COUNT		2	0
Stakeholders			
Vincent Bonura	SGAP	TWG	No
Mike Freeman	LEAP/Industry Rep	TWG	No
COUNT		2	0

Council & Staff Observers			
Tim Griner & Laurilee Thompson	Council Rep	O	No
Chip Collier	Council Staff	O	No
COUNT		3	0

Table 2. SEDAR 92 Blueline Tilefish Topical working group members participants and observers.

Name	Affiliation	Function	Travel funds needed
Technical Appointees			
Wally Bubley	SCDNR	TWG	No
Kevin Spanik	SCDNR	TWG	No
Mike Rinaldi	ACCSP	TWG	No
Meredith Whitten	NCDMF	TWG	No
Bev Sauls	FLFWC	TWG	No
Michelle Willis	SCDNR	D	No
Chris Bradshaw	FLFWC	D	No
Bridget Cermack	FLFWC	D	No
COUNT		5	0
SSC			
Scott Crosson	SSC	TWG	No
George Sedberry	SSC	TWG	No
COUNT		2	0
Stakeholders			
Byron Shults	Industry Rep	TWG	No
Dewey Hemilright	Industry Rep	TWG	No
COUNT		2	0
Council & Staff Observers			
Trish Murphey	SAFMC Rep	O	No
Hannah Hart	MAFMC Staff	O	No
Judd Curtis	SAFMC Staff	O	No
COUNT		2	0

MOTION 4: MOVE TO APPOINT BYRON SHULTS TO THE SEDAR POOL AP EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2023 AND MOVE TO APPOINT ANNE MARKWITH TO THE NC DMF SEAT ON THE SSC EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2023 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024.

Full Council Session I (Session)

MOTION 5: APPROVE THE COMMERCIAL ELECTRONIC LOGBOOK AMENDMENT, AS MODIFIED, FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS.

SEDAR Committee

MOTION 6: APPROVE SEDAR 92 ATLANTIC BLUELINE TILEFISH OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT TERMS OF REFERENCE AS MODIFIED.

MOTION 7: APPROVE SEDAR 89 ATLANTIC TILEFISH OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT TERMS OF REFERENCE.

MOTION 8: APPROVE SCOPES OF WORK FOR RED PORGY, GAG, AND KING MACKEREL IN 2025, AS MODIFIED.

Snapper Grouper Committee

Release Mortality Reduction & Red Snapper Catch Levels (Regulatory Amendment 35)

MOTION 9: APPROVE THE REVISED LANGUAGE FOR PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE 2. *Action 1. Reduce the acceptable biological catch, total annual catch limit, and sector annual catch limits, and establish an annual optimum yield for South Atlantic red snapper*

Preferred Alternative 2. Reduce the red snapper acceptable biological catch and set it equal to the most recent recommendation from the Scientific and Statistical Committee. Reduce the total annual catch limit and establish an annual optimum yield for red snapper and set them **equal to** the recommended acceptable biological catch. Reduce the sector annual catch limits according to the revised total annual catch limit, current allocation method, and average weight estimates from the most recent stock assessment. Red snapper may only be harvested or possessed in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone during the commercial and recreational fishing seasons. The 2027 total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield would remain in place until modified.

Fishing Year	ABC (numbers of fish)	Annual OY=Total ACL (numbers of fish)	Commercial ACL (lbs ww)	Recreational ACL (numbers of fish)
2023	28,000	28,000	77,016	19,119
2024	31,000	31,000	85,268	21,167
2025	33,000	33,000	90,769	22,533
2026	35,000	35,000	96,270	23,899
2027+	36,000	36,000	99,021	24,581

MOTION 10: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED UNDER ACTION 2.

Action 2. Prohibit the use of more than one hook per line for the snapper grouper recreational sector

Alternative 2. The recreational sector is required to use one non-offset, non-stainless steel circle hook per line when fishing for South Atlantic snapper grouper species with hook-and-line gear and natural baits north of 28° N latitude, and no more than one hook per line may be used. The recreational sector is required to use one non-stainless steel hook per line when

fishing for South Atlantic snapper grouper species with hook-and-line gear and natural baits south of 28° N latitude, and no more than one hook per line may be used.

MOTION 11: DIRECT NOAA FISHERIES TO PRESENT DATA ON THE SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL DISTRIBUTION OF SG CATCH, BY SECTOR, IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION.

MOTION 12: APPROVE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 35 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SNAPPER GROUPE FISHERY OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION FOR FORMAL SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT/CODIFIED TEXT AND GIVE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS AND RE-DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT.
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Scamp and Yellowmouth Grouper Assessment

MOTION 13: INITIATE DEVELOPMENT OF AN AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO SEDAR 68 TO MODIFY MANAGEMENT OF SCAMP AND YELLOWMOUTH GROUPE.

Gag and Black Grouper (Amendment 53)

MOTION 14: APPROVE THE PURPOSE AND NEED, AS MODIFIED.

The *purpose* of this fishery management plan amendment is to establish a rebuilding plan, and revise the acceptable biological catch, annual catch limits and sector allocations for South Atlantic gag based on the results of the most recent stock assessment. This plan amendment would also make modifications to management measures for South Atlantic gag and black grouper and recreational accountability measures for South Atlantic gag.

The *need* for this fishery management plan amendment is to end overfishing of South Atlantic gag, rebuild the stock, and achieve optimum yield while minimizing, to the extent practicable, adverse social and economic effects.

MOTION 15: APPROVE ALL ACTIONS AS MODIFIED IN SNAPPER GROUPE AMENDMENT 53.

MOTION 16: APPROVE AMENDMENT 53 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SNAPPER GROUPE FISHERY OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION FOR FORMAL SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT/CODIFIED TEXT AND GIVE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS AND RE-DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT.

Wreckfish (Amendment 48)

MOTION 17: CHANGE THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE UNDER SUB-ACTION 7-2 TO ALTERNATIVE 4

Sub-Action 7-2. Collection of wreckfish individual transferable quota program cost recovery fees.

Alternative 4. Fees will be collected in the last quarter of the calendar year in which the fish is harvested.

MOTION 18: CHANGE THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE UNDER SUB-ACTION 7-3 TO ALTERNATIVE 2.

Sub-Action 7-3. Frequency of wreckfish individual transferable quota program cost recovery fee submission.

Alternative 2. Cost recovery fee will be submitted once per year.

MOTION 19: REMOVE ACTION 5 AND SEND TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.

Action 5. Require all commercial vessels with a South Atlantic Unlimited Snapper-Grouper Permit participating in the wreckfish portion of the snapper grouper fishery to be equipped with vessel monitoring systems.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Commercial vessels with a South Atlantic Unlimited Snapper-Grouper Permit are not required to be equipped with vessel monitoring systems when participating in the wreckfish portion of the snapper grouper fishery.

Alternative 2. Require all commercial vessels with a South Atlantic Unlimited Snapper-Grouper Permit participating in the wreckfish portion of the snapper grouper fishery to be equipped with vessel monitoring systems.

MOTION 20: DIRECT STAFF TO INCLUDE A HAIL-IN/HAIL-OUT PROVISION AND BRING THAT BACK TO THE JUNE 2023 COUNCIL MEETING.

Timing and Tasks

MOTION 21: DIRECT STAFF TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Develop a guidance document or road map for the development of the Management Strategy Evaluation.
- Finalize and submit Regulatory Amendment 35 (Release Mortality Reduction and Red Snapper) and Amendment 53 (Gag and Black Grouper) for formal secretarial review.
- Continue developing Amendment 46 (Private Recreational Permitting) for review at the June 2023 meeting.
 - Convene Recreational Permitting and Reporting Technical AP to review and provide recommendations on actions and alternatives in the amendment (either before the June or September 2023 Council meetings).
- Begin development of a plan amendment to adjust catch levels for scamp and yellowmouth grouper based on SEDAR 68.
- Continue developing Amendment 48 (Wreckfish) for final action at the September 2023 meeting but review actions pertaining to offloading site and times requirements at the June 2023 meeting.

- Per request from the Gulf Council, try and move Yellowtail Snapper Amendment as fast as possible before the data are too old again.
- Request the SSC initiate discussion (or form a workgroup) of how regime shifts might affect the snapper grouper fishery and discuss with the Council.
 - Have Council staff brief the Council on how regime shifts could affect fisheries management.
 - Investigate what is allowed and not allowed in the MSA.
- Schedule presentation from SERO on gag management in the Gulf and Sue Barbieri research on gag life history. – schedule for *after* Gulf’s SSC presentation in summer 2023.
- Request a presentation from the SEFSC on the handling of discards and landings in assessment projections be provided to the SSC.
 - Review how projections have been prepared in the past and address the recommendation that estimated discards will be tied to management action in future projections.
 - Address how this could impact the development of management actions, sector allocations, and ACLs in future amendments.
 - Include discussion of how to communicate better between Science Center, SSC, and Council to coordinate planned management actions with projection assumptions.

Mackerel Cobia Committee

MOTION 22: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Have the SSC provide catch level recommendations for Atlantic Spanish mackerel, discuss what approaches should be included in the South Atlantic ABC Control Rule, and weigh in on the prioritization of an Atlantic Spanish mackerel research track assessment.
2. Continue developing a plan for conducting port meetings along the Gulf and Atlantic coast, seeking input from the Gulf of Mexico, Mid-Atlantic and New England Fishery Management Councils and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.
3. Convene a meeting of the Mackerel Cobia AP this spring to discuss mackerel port meetings, Council research recommendations, and Space Center operation impacts.
4. Work with the SEFSC and state agencies to provide the Council information on tournament landings, the number of tournaments by state, and tournament participation. Additionally, provide information on the historic rationale for allowing donation of tournament caught fish.

Habitat Protection & Ecosystem-based Management Committee

MOTION 23: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

- Beach Policy to Habitat Ecosystem AP for additional review.
 - Obtain POC from FWC to engage FL Department of Environmental Protection on beach renourishment
 - Engage other appropriate state agency personnel to obtain input on beach renourishment

- Set up a joint Habitat Ecosystem AP and Coral AP webinar to discuss overlapping agenda items.
- Provide point of contact for ATB to Jessica for FWC team so they can engage further at state level.
- Request a presentation from the fisheries liaison officer updating the Council on Carolina Long Bay Offshore wind lease.