

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Full Council and Committee Reports
SUMMARY MOTIONS
September 13-17, 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.

Snapper Grouper Committee

Amendment 49 (Greater Amberjack)

MOTION 1: MOVE TO ADD A CONSTANT CATCH ALTERNATIVE TO ACTION 1.

Action 1. Revise the greater amberjack total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield

MOTION 2: MOVE TO ACCEPT THE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION 1 FOR ANALYSIS.

Action 1. Revise the greater amberjack total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield

MOTION 3: MOVE TO ACCEPT THE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION 2 FOR ANALYSIS.

Action 2. Revise sector allocations and sector annual catch limits for greater amberjack

MOTION 4: MOVE TO ACCEPT THE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION 3 FOR ANALYSIS.

Action 3. Remove recreational annual catch targets from the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan

MOTION 5: MOVE TO ADD AN ACTION TO AMENDMENT 49 TO CONSIDER CHANGING THE COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL SIZE LIMITS FOR GREATER AMBERJACK.

MOTION 6: MOVE TO ADD AN ACTION TO CONSIDER INCREASING THE COMMERCIAL SEASON TRIP LIMIT FOR SEASON 2.

MOTION 7: MOVE TO ADD AN ACTION TO CONSIDER CLOSING THE RECREATIONAL SECTOR IN APRIL.

Amendment 50 (Red Porgy)

MOTION 8: DESELECT ALTERNATIVE 4 UNDER SUB-ACTION 5B AS PREFERRED.

Action 5. Modify red porgy recreational management measures

Sub-Action 5b. Recreational Season

~~Preferred~~ Alternative 4. Establish a recreational fishing season for red porgy; harvest would be allowed during July through August.

MOTION 9: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER SUB-ACTION 5B TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.

Action 5. Modify red porgy recreational management measures

Sub-Action 5b. Recreational Season

Alternative 2. Establish a recreational fishing season for red porgy; harvest would be allowed during January through April.

MOTION 10: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 3 UNDER ACTION 6 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.

Action 6. Modify red porgy recreational accountability measures

Alternative 3. When the recreational 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. If the recreational annual catch limits are constant and the 3-year mean (Sub-alternative 3a or 3b) of landings exceeds the recreational annual catch limit, reduce the length of the following recreational fishing season by the amount necessary to prevent the recreational annual catch limit from being exceeded in the following fishing 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.

Sub-alternative 3a. Use the arithmetic mean to calculate average landings.

Sub-alternative 3b. Use the geometric mean to calculate average landings.

MOTION 11: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 4 UNDER ACTION 6 AS THE PREFERRED AS MODIFIED.

Action 6. Modify red porgy recreational accountability measures

Alternative 4. If recreational landings exceed the recreational annual catch limit and ~~the total (commercial and recreational combined) annual catch limit is exceeded,~~ reduce the length of the following year's recreational fishing season by the amount necessary to prevent the recreational 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 scientific information available, that it is not necessary.

MOTION 12: DIRECT STAFF TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Conduct additional analyses and draft a white paper on the 2 for 1 commercial permit policy for review at the December 2021 Council Meeting.
2. Add actions to Amendment 49 (Greater Amberjack) considering changes to size limits, the Season 2 commercial trip limit, and closure of the recreational fishery in April.
3. Add constant catch alternatives to the actions addressing annual catch limits in Amendment 49 (Greater Amberjack) and Amendment 44 (Yellowtail Snapper).
4. Conduct scoping meetings for Amendment 44 (Yellowtail Snapper) before the December 2021 Council Meeting.

5. Begin work on a framework amendment that explores and considers changes to management measures that would reduce discards in the South Atlantic snapper grouper fishery.
6. Begin work on a management strategy evaluation (MSE) of the South Atlantic snapper grouper fishery and a longer-term plan amendment that would adjust catch levels for red snapper and management measures for the snapper grouper fishery.
7. Change frequency of Amendment 48 (Wreckfish) review by the Council to every other meeting or every third meeting, depending on amendment progress and council workload.
8. Convene a meeting of the wreckfish shareholders this winter to discuss the commercial electronic logbook and Amendment 48 (Wreckfish) progress.
9. Request additional catch and rebuilding projections for gag grouper for review at the December 2021 council meeting.
10. Develop projections to compare commercial closure dates for vermilion snapper under different commercial trip limits.
11. Convene the Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel in October.
12. Red Snapper Research Track assessment to be considered at upcoming SEDAR Steering Committee meeting.

Dolphin Wahoo Committee

MOTION 1: ADD TWO REPRESENTATIVES TO THE DOLPHIN WAHOO ADVISORY PANEL TO REPRESENT THE NEW ENGLAND REGION.

MOTION 2: APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Prepare an options paper covering topics identified for the next amendment to the Dolphin Wahoo FMP for review at the December 2021 meeting.
2. Work with the New England Fishery Management Council to identify potential new representatives for the Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel.

Mackerel Cobia Committee

Amendment 34 (Atlantic King Mackerel)

MOTION 1: ADD AN ALTERNATIVE FOR A CONSTANT CATCH STREAM TO ACTION 1.

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

MOTION 2: APPROVE ALTERNATIVE 5 UNDER ACTION 1 FOR INCLUSION IN COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGICS AMENDMENT 34.

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

Alternative 5. The total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield of Atlantic migratory group king mackerel is equal to the updated acceptable biological catch level

of 21,800,000 pounds. This is a constant catch value for 2022/2023 and subsequent fishing years or until changed by a future management action.

MOTION 3: REMOVE ALTERNATIVE 4 AND ALTERNATIVE 6 FROM ACTION 2

Action 2. Revise sector allocations and sector annual catch limits for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel.

Alternative 4. Allocate 70.95% of the revised total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to the recreational sector. Allocate 29.05% of the revised total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to the commercial sector. The allocations are calculated based on MRIP-FES average landings for Atlantic king mackerel for the years 2004 – 2019.

Alternative 6. Allocate 72.92% of the revised total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to the recreational sector. Allocate 27.08% of the revised total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to the commercial sector. The allocations are calculated based on MRIP-FES landings which balanced historical catches (2000-2008) with more recent landings (2017-2019) using the following formula.

MOTION 4: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 1 (NO ACTION) AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR ACTION 2 AND REMOVE ALTERNATIVE 2

Action 2. Revise sector allocations and sector annual catch limits for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Retain the current allocations of 62.9% to the recreational sector and 37.1% to the commercial sector, apply those allocations to the revised total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel. The allocations are based on landings from 1979-1983.

Alternative 2. Allocate 62.9% of the revised total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to the recreational sector. Allocate 37.1% of the revised total annual catch limit for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel to the commercial sector.

MOTION 5: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED UNDER ACTION 3

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

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

MOTION 6: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 IN ACTION 6 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Action 6. Reduce the minimum size limit for commercial harvest of Atlantic migratory group king mackerel.

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

MOTION 7: APPROVE COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGICS AMENDMENT 34 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS.

Amendment 32 (Gulf Cobia)

MOTION 8: APPROVE COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGICS AMENDMENT 32 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS.

MOTION 9: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Continue work on CMP Amendment 34 and prepare a draft for discussion at the Gulf Council's October 2021 meeting and the South Atlantic Council's December 2021 meeting.
2. Work with FWC and Gulf Council staff to conduct in-person public hearings for CMP Amendment 32 prior to the December 2021 meeting.
3. Continue work with Gulf Council staff on CMP Amendment 32 and prepare a draft for discussion and consideration for formal approval at the December 2021 meeting.
4. Conduct public hearings for CMP Amendment 34.

Habitat and Ecosystem-Based Management Committee

Coral Amendment 10

MOTION 1: APPROVE THE REVISED PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENTS IN CORAL AMENDMENT 10

Purpose for Action

The purpose of Coral Amendment 10 is to consider establishing a shrimp fishery access area along the eastern edge of the northern extension of the Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern where the fishermen who have a valid limited access Commercial Vessel Permit for Rock Shrimp (South Atlantic exclusive economic zone) would be able to fish for and possess rock shrimp.

Need for Action

The need for Coral Amendment 10 is to help achieve optimum yield in the South Atlantic rock shrimp portion of the shrimp fishery and increase economic and social benefits to rock shrimp fishermen by increasing access to historic rock shrimp fishing grounds, while maintaining protection of the *Oculina* deep water coral ecosystems.

MOTION 2: APPROVE AMENDMENT 10 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR CORAL, CORAL REEFS, AND LIVE HARBOTTOM HABITAT OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC 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 REDEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT.

MOTION 3: APPROVE TO FOLLOWING LIST OF TOPICS FOR THE HABITAT AND ECOSYSEM-BASED ADVISORY PANEL MEETING:

- Briefing on Committee Action
- Status of Amendment Development (Coral 10)

- Status of NOAA Fisheries South Atlantic Climate Vulnerability Assessment
- Status of NOAA Fisheries South Atlantic Ecosystem Status Report
- NOAA Fisheries HCD EFH Consultation Update - Wind, Ports, Mitigation Banking
- Presentation NCCOS Wilmington-East Mapping
- Presentation by BOEM Offshore Wind Activities in South Atlantic Region
- Beach Dredge and Fill Policy Statement Update
- Development of a SAFMC Habitat Blueprint and AP Input
- East Coast Climate Scenario Planning Update

MOTION 4: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

1. Prepare Coral Amendment 10 for submission to the Secretary of Commerce.
2. Coordinate with Habitat Ecosystem Advisory Panel Chair in planning for November 2021 AP Meeting.