

Overview

Snapper Grouper Committee

Charleston Marriott Hotel
170 Lockwood Blvd.
Charleston, SC

The Council will: (A) receive reports from SERO and the SEFSC on the status of commercial and recreational catches versus the respective quotas for snapper grouper species under quota management; (B) receive an update on *Oculina* research activities; (C) receive a status report from SERO on Regulatory Amendment 11; (D) discuss changes to the Comprehensive ACL Amendment and approve the amendment and the codified text for formal review; (E) receive a summary of comments on Amendment 24 (Red Grouper) review the decision document and approve all actions in the amendment; (F) receive an overview of actions and alternatives in Amendment 18A (Black Sea Bass), make modifications as needed and approve for public hearings; (G) receive an overview of actions and alternatives in Amendment 18B (Golden Tilefish), make modifications as needed, and approve for public hearings; (H) receive an overview of actions and alternatives in Amendment 20A, make modifications as needed, and approve for public hearings; and (I) address issues under Other Business as needed.

A. Status of landings for quota-managed snapper grouper species (Attachments 1a & 1b)

The Council will receive an update on the status of landings (commercial and recreational) for quota-managed snapper grouper species.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Discuss and take action as necessary.

B. Update on Oculina research activities

This item will be covered under the Ecosystem Committee.

C. Regulatory Amendment 11

The Committee will receive a status report from SERO staff.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Discuss and take action as necessary.

D. Comprehensive ACL Amendment (Attachments 2a-2c)

Allocations for snapper grouper species in the Comprehensive ACL amendment were revised after the August 2011 meeting because allocation percentages had been calculated using total landings instead of average landings, as Boyles' Law specifies. Clarification on the language of the alternatives to include the word "average" was requested during the June Council meeting. The change was approved, however, the calculations were not revised. Changing the allocation percentages affects subsequent actions in the amendment such as ACLs and ACTs. Other issues were also addressed since the August 2011 meeting including using the commercial data for greater amberjack from the latest SEDAR assessment instead of the data included in the ACL database, and applying sector allocations percentages to the post-stratified datasets for black grouper, mutton snapper and yellowtail snapper. Council staff will go over the changes made since the August meeting (*Attachment 2c*). The Committee should also review the codified text for the amendment (*Attachment 2b*).

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Review changes to the amendment and approve for formal review. Deem the codified text as necessary and appropriate.

Comprehensive ACL Amendment:

- Option 1. No action.
- Option 2. Change any preferred alternatives as needed (Council will need to specify text)
- Option 3. Approve the Comprehensive ACL amendment, as modified, for formal review and implementation. Give the Chairman and staff editorial license to make edits to the document.
- Option 4. Others??

Proposed Rule for the Comprehensive ACL Amendment:

- Option 1. No action.
- Option 2. Change any language as necessary (Council will need to specify text)
- Option 3. Deem the codified text in the proposed rule as necessary and appropriate and give the Chairman and staff editorial license to make edits as necessary.
- Option 4. Others??

E. Amendment 24 (Red Grouper; Attachments 3a – 3d)

Public hearings for Amendment 24 were held on August 22 & 23, 2011. Hearings had been scheduled in Florida but were postponed until November due to the threat of Hurricane Irene. Council staff will give a summary of the comments received to date on the amendment and an overview of the actions and alternatives. Allocation percentages were also revised for this amendment since total, instead of average, landings were used for the calculations. Council staff will go over the changes that would need to be made to the document.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Provide guidance to staff and approve all actions as appropriate.

Amendment 24:

- Option 1. No action.
- Option 2. Change any preferred alternatives as needed (Council will need to specify text).
- Option 3. Approve all actions in the amendment, as modified.
- Option 4. Others??

F. Amendment 18A – Black Sea Bass (Attachments 4a & 4b)

Council staff will provide an overview of actions and alternatives in the amendment. The Committee should review current preferreds and select preferred alternatives for new actions. The Committee should also discuss adding, removing, or amending alternatives. Staff will go over the status of analyses for the amendment.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Take action as necessary and approve for public hearings. Public hearings are scheduled for November 14-17, 2011 and December 6, 2011.

Amendment 18A:

- Option 1. No action.
- Option 2. Change any preferred alternatives as needed (Council will need to specify text).
- Option 3. Select preferred alternatives for new actions or for actions where a preferred alternative has not yet been specified.
- Option 4. Consider adding or removing alternatives.
- Option 5. Approve amendment, as modified, for public hearings.
- Option 6. Others??

G. Amendment 18B – Golden Tilefish (Attachments 5a & 5b)

Council staff will provide an overview of actions and alternatives in the amendment. The Committee should review current preferreds and select preferred alternatives where there are none. The Committee should discuss adding, removing, or amending alternatives. Staff will go over the status of analyses for the amendment.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Take action as necessary and approve for public hearings. Public hearings are scheduled for November 14-17, 2011 and December 6, 2011.

Amendment 18B:

- Option 1. No action.
- Option 2. Change any preferred alternatives as needed (Council will need to specify text).

Option 3. Select preferred alternatives for new actions or for actions where a preferred alternative has not yet been specified.

Option 4. Consider adding or removing alternatives.

Option 5. Approve amendment, as modified, for public hearings.

Option 6. Others??

H. Amendment 20A – Wreckfish (Attachments 6a & 6b)

Council staff will provide an overview of actions and alternatives in the amendment. The Committee should review current preferreds and select preferred alternatives where there are none. The Committee should discuss adding, removing, or amending alternatives. Staff will go over the status of analyses for the amendment.

REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION: Take action as necessary and approve for public hearings. Public hearings are scheduled for November 14-17, 2011 and December 6, 2011.

Amendment 20A:

Option 1. No action.

Option 2. Change any preferred alternatives as needed (Council will need to specify text).

Option 3. Select preferred alternatives for new actions or for actions where a preferred alternative has not yet been specified.

Option 4. Consider adding or removing alternatives.

Option 5. Approve amendment, as modified, for public hearings.

Option 6. Others??