



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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David Cupka, Chairman
Ben Hartig, Vice Chairman

Robert K. Mahood, Executive Director
Gregg T. Waugh, Deputy Executive Director

AGENDA

Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel

November 7-8, 2012

Wednesday, November 7, 9:00 A.M. – Thursday, November 8, 3:00 P.M.

1. Approval of Agenda – Robert Johnson
2. Approval of April 2012 Snapper Grouper AP minutes – Robert Johnson
3. Update on October 23-25, 2012 SSC Meeting – Council staff
 - a. Results of vermilion snapper and red porgy update assessments
 - b. Probability of rebuilding for black sea bass
 - c. New wreckfish analyses
4. Update on Recently Completed and Developing Amendments – Myra Brouwer
 - a. Emergency Rule to Adjust Yellowtail Snapper ACL
 - b. Generic Dealer Amendment
 - c. Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 3 (Improvements to data reporting)
 - d. Regulatory Amendment 12 (Adjustment of golden tilefish ACL)
 - e. Regulatory Amendment 14 (Modification of management measures for black sea bass, mutton snapper, greater amberjack, gray triggerfish, vermilion snapper, hogfish, red porgy, and gag; ***Attachment 1***)
 - f. Regulatory Amendment 16 (Modification of management measures for the commercial golden tilefish fishery)
 - g. Regulatory Amendment 17 (Actions to reconfigure existing deepwater MPAs to protect speckled hind and warsaw grouper)
 - h. Amendment 22 (Recreational tag program for red snapper, snowy grouper, golden tilefish, and wreckfish)

5. Regulatory Amendment 15 (Management measures for yellowtail snapper and groupers; **Attachment 2**)

This amendment would adjust the yellowtail ABC, ACLs, and ACT based on the new stock assessment. The Emergency Rule would implement the adjustment for 180 days but an amendment is needed to make a longer-term change in the regulations. This amendment would also modify the yellowtail fishing year, establish a spawning season closure for yellowtail, and address the shallow-water grouper closure when the gag commercial ACL is met or projected to be met.

- Overview -- Myra Brouwer
- AP Discussion and Recommendations – Robert Johnson

6. Regulatory Amendment 13 (MRIP adjustments for unassessed snapper grouper species; **Attachments 3a & 3b**)

This amendment would make the ACLs comparable to the landings estimates based on MRIP methodology and review/update recreational and commercial data. An Environmental Assessment is needed to make this adjustment because the change in recreational landings estimates will shift the commercial/recreational allocation based on the Council's current allocation formula (Boyle's Law).

- Overview -- Brian Cheuvront
- AP Discussion and Recommendations – Robert Johnson

7. Amendment 28 (regulations to allow limited harvest of red snapper; **Attachment 4**)

This amendment would put in place measures to allow limited commercial and recreational harvest of red snapper in 2013 and beyond. The 2012 opening was accomplished through a Temporary Rule via Emergency Action. These measures will expire before summer 2013, when an opening for red snapper harvest would be most likely to take place. Therefore, the Council is developing Amendment 28 to establish a process to re-open the fishery.

- Overview -- Myra Brouwer
- AP Discussion and Recommendations – Robert Johnson

8. Amendment 27 (management measures for blue runner, yellowtail snapper, and mutton snapper; **Attachment 5**)

This amendment would include actions to assume management of yellowtail and mutton snapper and Nassau grouper throughout their range; actions to address permitting issues, recreational and commercial allocations, and regulations for yellowtail snapper and mutton snapper; and options to address the blue runner issue.

- Overview -- Myra Brouwer
- AP Discussion and Recommendations – Robert Johnson

9. AP input on long-term planning and vision for the snapper grouper fishery

- Overview -- Myra Brouwer
- AP Discussion and Recommendations – Robert Johnson

10. Other Business – Robert Johnson

- Possible ESA listing of Nassau grouper (*Attachments 6a & 6b*)
- Coral Amendment 7 – possible impacts to SG fishery?

11. Adjourn

Attachments

Attachment 1. Regulatory Amendment 14 List of Actions & Alternatives

Attachment 2. Regulatory Amendment 15 Summary Document

Attachment 3a. Regulatory Amendment 13 Summary Document

Attachment 3b. Reg 13 Presentation for October SSC Meeting

Attachment 4. Amendment 28 List of Actions & Alternatives

Attachment 5. Amendment 27 Summary Document

Attachment 6a. Federal Register Notice on 90-Day Finding

Attachment 6b. Petition to List Nassau Grouper 90-Day Finding Frequently Asked Questions

Advisory Panel Members:

Robert Johnson (Chairman)

Jim Attack (Vice-Chairman)

Zack Bowen

Don DeMaria

Bill Cole, Jr.

Phil Conklin

Greg DeBrango

Blaine Dickenson

Kenny Fex

Terrell Gould

Rob Harris

Mark Marhefka

Gretchen Martin

Scott Osborne

Rodney Smith

Richard Stiglitz

Sam Ray

Paul Reiss

Robert Thompson

Red Munden

Mark Brown

Jack Perret