

OVERVIEW

SNAPPER GROUPEL ADVISORY PANEL

Town and Country Inn
Charleston, SC
April 13-14, 2011

1. Update on Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Meeting (Attachment 1)

The SSC will meet in Charleston on April 5-7, 2011. Agenda items for their meeting include: discussion of Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rule and review of several developing amendments (Comprehensive ACL, Amendment 24 (red grouper) and Regulatory Amendment 11 (re-evaluation of deep-water closure)). Council staff will provide an overview of the SSC's discussions and recommendations.

2. Comprehensive Annual Catch Limit (ACL) Amendment (Attachment 2)

The Comprehensive ACL Amendment contains actions to establish an Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC), Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) and Accountability Measures (AMs) for snapper grouper species that are not overfished or undergoing overfishing, dolphin, wahoo and golden crab. In addition, the amendment contains actions to remove species from the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Unit (FMU) and establish species groupings for snapper grouper species. Council Staff will provide an overview of changes to the developing amendment and revised timing. The AP should provide recommendations for each of the actions pertaining to the snapper grouper fishery.

3. Regulatory Amendment 11 (Attachment 3)

Regulatory Amendment 11 is being developed to address socio-economic impacts resulting from the 240-foot closure implemented through Amendment 17B to protect Warsaw grouper and speckled hind. Council staff will provide an overview of actions included in Regulatory Amendment 11 and timing for the amendment. The AP should provide input on each of the actions being proposed in this amendment.

4. Update on Developing Amendments - Amendments 18A (Attachment 4), 21 & 22)

Council staff will provide an update on actions and alternatives and timing for the amendments.

5. Amendment 24 - Red Grouper Rebuilding (Attachment 5)

Amendment 24 is being developed to put a rebuilding plan in place for red grouper. The red grouper stock is overfished and undergoing overfishing. When it is determined that a stock is undergoing overfishing, measures must be implemented to

end overfishing. In cases where stocks are overfished the Council must implement a rebuilding plan. Council staff will provide an overview of actions and alternatives and timing for the amendment. The AP should provide recommendations on each of the actions in this amendment.

6. Fishery Trends – Blueline Tilefish, Gray Triggerfish, Atlantic Spadefish, Almaco Jack (Attachment 6)

Council staff will review trends in landings for these four species and request that the AP provide input on possible causes for the observed trends. These species are included in the Comprehensive ACL Amendment.

7. Regional Management

The AP chair will lead the discussion on possible approaches to regional management, including separate management for the Florida Keys.