

Snapper Grouper Final Committee Report December 4-5, 2012 Wilmington, NC

The Snapper Grouper Committee met in Wilmington on December 4 and 5, 2012.

SERO and SEFSC Reports

The Committee received reports from the Southeast Regional Office (SERO) and the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) on the status of commercial and recreational landings for snapper grouper species, respectively. The Committee was informed of possible commercial closures in 2012 of blue runner, snowy grouper, and wahoo as well as possible re-openings for red snapper and gray triggerfish before the year's end. The presentation of recreational landings included summary tables showing annual landings as well as tables showing current landings by sector and figures depicting both landings and effort. Committee members indicated they would like to see a column in the annual summary tables showing the percentage of the ACL that was caught for a given year. The SEFSC proposed to present the summary tables once per year, when the data for the year are finalized. However, the Committee indicated their preference to receive more detailed information on recreational landings as the SEFSC has been providing at each committee meeting. The presentation on recreational landings did not include headboat landings for most species, however. The SEFSC indicated that once the requirement for weekly reporting for the for-hire sector is implemented, headboat landings would be included in the quarterly report.

Status of Amendments Under Review

SERO staff provided an update on the status of amendments under review:

- The emergency rule to adjust the commercial ACL for yellowtail snapper was implemented
- Action 4 in Amendment 18A (Black sea bass pot endorsement transferability) – was approved by the Secretary on November 21. The Final Rule will publish on December 7, 2012.
- Amendment 18B (golden tilefish) – the comment period for the amendment ends on December 26. The proposed rule is under review in headquarters.
- Amendment 20A (wreckfish) – The final rule implementing Amendment 20A published on September 26, 2012.
- Regulatory Amendment 12 - The final rule for Regulatory Amendment 12 published on October 9, 2012.
- Generic Dealer Amendment - The Amendment was submitted for Secretarial review on October 30, and the proposed rule package is under review in the region.

SSC and AP Reports

Dr. Luiz Barbieri, Chairman of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), gave a presentation summarizing discussions that took place during the October 23-25 SSC meeting in Charleston, SC. Below are summaries of relevant discussions and recommendations:

- **Black sea bass** – the SSC revised their P* (probability of overfishing) recommendation based on application of their control rule. The new recommendation

was for a P* level of 37.5%, or a Prebuild (probability of rebuilding) of 62.5%. The Committee made the following motion:

MOTION: REQUEST THAT THE UPDATE TO THE BSB ASSESSMENT
CONTAIN A PROJECTION AT THE REVISED BSB P_{REBUILD} OF 62.5%.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

- **Vermilion snapper update** – The SSC reviewed the update to the vermilion snapper stock assessment and concluded the update was well done and suitable for management. The update indicated that the vermilion snapper stock is neither overfished nor undergoing overfishing. The SSC applied the ABC Control Rule and revised the P* recommendation to 40%. The SSC recommended that the next assessment be conducted in 2015. Dr. Barbieri indicated that the update accounted for some of the uncertainty by using an actual MSY estimate instead of a proxy. SERO expressed concern that using actual estimates instead of proxies in stock assessments may introduce a lot of fluctuation in the status of the stock thus complicating management and negatively impacting public perception. Therefore, continuity in stock assessments would be beneficial. Dr. Barbieri acknowledged that less stability could indeed be a result, however, the SSC is most interested in providing the truest representation of the dynamics of the stock. The SSC will, to the extent possible, consider continuity in stock assessments.
- **Red porgy update** – The SSC reviewed the update to the red porgy stock assessment and concluded the update was well done and suitable for management. The update indicated that red porgy was no longer undergoing overfishing but the stock was still overfished. None of the projection scenarios, including F=0, allowed for rebuilding within the time allowed. There was concern that the steepness estimate was low, reflecting decreased productivity of the stock. Further, instability in headboat landings before 1980 created difficulties for the model fit. Because these issues could not be explored further with the information provided in the update, the SSC recommended a benchmark assessment (one is already scheduled for 2014). The SSC recommended setting an ABC for red porgy based on the yield at 75%F_{MSY}. The Committee made the following motions:

MOTION: ACCEPT THE SSC'S RECOMMENDATION FOR RED PORGY ABC
SET AT THE YIELD AT 75%F_{MSY} BASED ON TABLE 24 OF THE RED PORGY
ASSESSMENT REPORT USING LANDINGS IN THOUSANDS OF POUNDS
FOR 2013-2018
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

- **Wreckfish analyses** – Dr. Barbieri briefed the Committee on two third-party analyses that were presented to the SSC. The analyses were exploratory in nature and the SSC did not have enough documentation to evaluate them. The SSC considered adopting a SEDAR-like process to properly vet the data and the methodology that was

employed. The Committee stated that a process to address third-party assessments was necessary and could perhaps be discussed by the Executive/Finance Committee. Dr. Barbieri stated that the SSC would also discuss the issue further but no changes to the wreckfish ABC were being recommended at this time.

Mr. Jim Atack, vice-chair of the Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel, provided the AP's input as needed throughout the Committee's discussions.

Consideration of emergency rule request to adjust the vermilion snapper ACL

Council staff gave an overview of how the ABC for vermilion snapper could be adjusted based on the results of the stock assessment update and suggested that the Committee consider a request for emergency action by NMFS to modify the ACL. SERO indicated that emergency action could be considered, but at least two and a half months would be needed for implementation. Further, if the Council desired to make other modifications to vermilion snapper regulations, those changes could not be accomplished via emergency action. Therefore, the Committee opted to request that Council and SERO staff begin development of a new regulatory amendment (Regulatory Amendment 18) and move the appropriate actions currently under Regulatory Amendment 14 into that amendment. The Committee made the following motions:

MOTION: DIRECT STAFF TO BEGIN WORK ON A REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO ADJUST THE VERMILION SNAPPER ACL, ADJUST OTHER MANAGEMENT MEASURES CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN REGULATORY AMENDMENT 14 FOR VERMILION SNAPPER, AND ADJUST THE RED PORGY ACL AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES AS APPROPRIATE
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: ACCEPT ABC VALUES FOR VERMILION SNAPPER RECOMMENDED BY THE SSC BASED ON THE CONTROL RULE
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: MOVE ACTION 8 FROM REGULATORY AMENDMENT 14 TO REGULATORY AMENDMENT 18, REMOVE ALTERNATIVES 2, 4 AND 5, AND INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL ALTERNATIVE AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SNAPPER GROUPE AP
Action 8. Modify the commercial trip limit for vermilion snapper.
Alternative 1 (No Action). The current commercial trip limit is 1,500 pounds gutted weight (gw).
~~Alternative 2. Remove the current commercial trip limit of 1,500 pounds gw for vermilion snapper.~~
Alternative 3. Reduce the commercial trip limit for vermilion snapper to 1,000 pounds gw.
~~Alternative 4. Reduce the commercial trip limit for vermilion snapper to 500 pounds gw.~~
~~Alternative 5. Reduce the commercial trip limit for vermilion snapper to 400 pounds~~

New Alternative. Reduce the commercial trip limit for vermilion snapper to 1,000 pounds gw. When 75% of the ACL has been met or projected to be met, reduce the trip limit to 500 pounds gw.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: MOVE FORWARD WITH ALTERNATIVES 1, 2, AND 3 UNDER ACTION 8.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION FAILS

MOTION: MOVE ACTION 9 FROM REGULATORY AMENDMENT 14 TO REGULATORY AMENDMENT 18 AND MAKE ALTERNATIVE 1 (NO ACTION) THE PREFERRED.

MOTION WITHDRAWN

MOTION: REMOVE ALTERNATIVES 2 AND 3 FROM ACTION 9 IN REGULATORY AMENDMENT 14:

Action 9. Modify the recreational bag limit for vermilion snapper.

Alternative 1 (No Action). The current recreational bag limit is 5 per person per day.

~~Alternative 2. Reduce the recreational bag limit for vermilion snapper to 3 per person per day.~~

~~Alternative 3. Reduce the recreational bag limit for vermilion snapper to 4 per person per day.~~

Alternative 4. Increase the recreational bag limit for vermilion snapper to 6 per person per day.

Alternative 5. Increase the recreational bag limit for vermilion snapper to 8 per person per day.

Alternative 6. Increase the recreational bag limit for vermilion snapper to 10 per person per day.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: MOVE ACTION 10 FROM REGULATORY AMENDMENT 14 TO REGULATORY AMENDMENT 18

Action 10. Modify the opening of the second commercial fishing season for vermilion snapper.

Alternative 1 (No Action). The commercial fishing year for vermilion snapper is split into two seasons of equal duration, each with its own ACL. The first season begins on January 1 and ends on June 30 (6 months). The second season begins on July 1 and ends on December 31 (6 months).

Alternative 2. Modify the commercial fishing year for vermilion snapper.

Sub-alternative 2a. The first season begins on January 1 and ends on May 31 (5 months). The second season begins on June 1 and ends on December 31 (7 months).

Sub-alternative 2b. The first season begins on January 1 and ends on April 30 (4 months). The second season begins on May 1 and ends on December 31 (8 months).

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: MOVE ACTION 11 FROM REGULATORY AMENDMENT 14 TO REGULATORY AMENDMENT 18 AND INCLUDE AN ADDITIONAL ALTERNATIVE, ALTERNATIVE 3, TO REMOVE THE RECREATIONAL SEASON CLOSURE

Action 11. Modify the recreational closed season for vermilion snapper.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Recreational harvest of vermilion snapper is prohibited annually from November 1 to March 31 (5 months).

Alternative 2. Modify the recreational closed season for vermilion snapper

Sub-alternative 2a. Recreational harvest of vermilion snapper is prohibited annually from November 1 to January 31 (3 months).

Sub-alternative 2b. Recreational harvest of vermilion snapper is prohibited annually from December 1 to February 28 (3 months).

Sub-alternative 2c. Recreational harvest of vermilion snapper is prohibited annually from October 1 to April 30 (7 months).

New Alternative 3. Remove the recreational season closure for vermilion snapper

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: REMOVE ALTERNATIVE 2 FROM ACTION 11 IN REGULATORY AMENDMENT 18:

Alternative 2. Modify the recreational closed season for vermilion snapper

Sub-alternative 2a. Recreational harvest of vermilion snapper is prohibited annually from November 1 to January 31 (3 months).

Sub-alternative 2b. Recreational harvest of vermilion snapper is prohibited annually from December 1 to February 28 (3 months).

Sub-alternative 2c. Recreational harvest of vermilion snapper is prohibited annually from October 1 to April 30 (7 months).

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: REMOVE ACTIONS 12 AND 13 FROM REGULATORY AMENDMENT 14 PERTAINING TO RED PORGY

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Regulatory Amendment 13

Council staff presented an overview of Regulatory Amendment 13 (adjustment of ACLs, AMs and ACTs to incorporate MRIP-estimated recreational landings), Interdisciplinary Plan Team (IPT) recommendations, and SSC recommendations. Jim Atack presented recommendations from the AP. The Committee made the following motions:

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS THE PREFERRED AND ACCEPT THE
“PURPOSE AND NEED” AS WRITTEN.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: APPROVE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 13 FOR FORMAL REVIEW AND
DEEM CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: GIVE STAFF AND CHAIRMAN EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE EDITS AS
NECESSARY TO REGULATORY AMENDMENT 13 AND THE CODIFIED TEXT.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Regulatory Amendment 15

Council staff presented an overview of the amendment and any recommendations from the IPT and SSC. Jim Attack addressed input and recommendations from the AP. The Committee made the following motions:

MOTION: ACCEPT THE PURPOSE AND NEED IN REGULATORY AMENDMENT 15

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED UNDER ACTION 1 IN
REGULATORY AMENDMENT 15

Action 1. Revise Annual Catch Limit (ACL) and Optimum Yield (OY) for Yellowtail Snapper
Alternative 2. For yellowtail snapper, set ACL = OY = ABC based on results from new
stock assessment (FWRI 2012).

Commercial ACL = 1,596,510

Recreational ACL = 1,440,990

Recreational ACT = 1,253,661

(all values pounds whole weight and landings only)

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 1 (NO ACTION) AS PREFERRED FOR ACTION 2 IN
REG AMENDMENT 15

Action 2. Yellowtail Snapper: Commercial and Recreational Fishing Year and Commercial
Spawning Season Closure

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 UNDER ACTION 3 IN REGULATORY AMENDMENT 15

Action 3. Gag and Shallow Water Groupers: Commercial Annual Catch Limit and Accountability Measures

Alternative 3. Change the (1) AM as listed under the Alternative 1 (No Action) to the following:

If gag commercial landings, as estimated by the SRD, reach or are projected to reach the ACL, the AA will file a notification with the Office of the Federal Register to close the commercial fishery for gag for the remainder of the fishing year. Retain (2) and (3) of the commercial AMs as stated under the Alternative 1 (No Action). Reduce the unadjusted gag commercial ACL from 353,940 pounds gutted weight to 326,722 pounds gutted weight to account for projected gag discard mortality from commercial trips that target co-occurring species (i.e., red grouper and scamp) following a projected gag closure.

NOTE: The current gag ACL was adjusted for post-quota bycatch mortality in accordance with analyses in Amendment 16 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (Amendment 16). The unadjusted commercial gag ACL is 353,940 pounds gutted weight.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: APPROVE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 15 FOR SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: APPROVE THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: GIVE STAFF AND THE COUNCIL CHAIRMAN EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT AS NECESSARY PRIOR TO SUBMISSION.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Amendment 28

Council staff gave an overview of the amendment. In particular, the Committee discussed the outcome of the various sub-alternatives under Alternative 2, which would specify how to calculate the ACL for red snapper. The Committee received a presentation from Council staff that illustrated the results of the three proposed equations under different scenarios. Council staff stated any recommendations from the IPT and SSC and Jim Atack presented input and recommendations from the AP.

The Committee made the following motions:

MOTION: APPROVE THE PURPOSE AND NEED FOR AMENDMENT 28
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT SUBALTERNATIVE 2C AS PREFERRED TO CALCULATE THE RED
SNAPPER ACL.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT SUBALTERNATIVE 3A FOR SPECIFYING THE COMMERCIAL
FISHING SEASON FOR RED SNAPPER
Sub-alternative 3a. The commercial season will begin at 12:01 A.M. on the second Monday in
July.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT SUBALTERNATIVE 4A AS PREFERRED FOR THE RECREATIONAL
RED SNAPPER SEASON
Sub-alternative 4a. The recreational season will begin at 12:01 A.M. on the second Friday in
July.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: INDICATE IN THE LANGUAGE OF ALTERNATIVE 4 THAT
RECREATIONAL FISHING WEEKENDS WOULD BE CONSECUTIVE
Alternative 4. Establish recreational fishing seasons. SERO will complete an analysis
each year estimating the length of the recreational red snapper fishing season. NMFS
will announce the recreational ACL and the opening of the fishing season through the
Federal Register and other methods deemed appropriate. The recreational season will
consist of weekends only (Friday, Saturday, Sunday). The end of the recreational red
snapper season will be pre-determined and announced before the start of the recreational
season. The recreational fishing season will not open if the projected season length is
three days or less.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 5 AS A PREFERRED
Alternative 5. Eliminate the red snapper commercial and recreational 20-inch TL
minimum size limit.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT SUBALTERNATIVE 6D AS PREFERRED FOR A COMMERCIAL TRIP
LIMIT FOR RED SNAPPER
SUBSTITUTE MOTION: SELECT SUBALTERNATIVE 6C AS PREFERRED.

Sub-alternative 6c. Establish a red snapper commercial trip limit of 75 lbs gutted weight per trip.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE; SUBSTITUTE BECOMES MAIN MOTION
MAIN MOTION APPROVED
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 7 AS A PREFERRED

Alternative 7. Establish a red snapper recreational bag limit of one fish per person per day.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: INCLUDE LANGUAGE IN ALTERNATIVES 3 AND 4 TO GIVE THE RA AUTHORITY TO DELAY OPENING OF FISHING SEASONS IN THE EVENT OF A TROPICAL STORM OR HURRICANE AFFECTING THE SOUTH ATLANTIC.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: APPROVE AMENDMENT 28 FOR SUBMISSION TO THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT FOR AMENDMENT 28 AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: GIVE STAFF AND THE COUNCIL CHAIR EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE CHANGES TO THE AMENDMENT DOCUMENT AS APPROPRIATE PRIOR TO SUBMISSION.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Amendment 27

Council staff gave an overview of the amendment and recommendations from the IPT and the SSC. Jim Atack addressed input and recommendations from the AP. The Committee made the following motions:

MOTION: MOVE ACTIONS 1-5 IN AMENDMENT 27 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Actions 1-5 would address the transfer of management of yellowtail and mutton snapper from the Gulf Council to the South Atlantic Council. However, the Gulf Council expressed the desire

to assemble a steering committee that would be tasked with developing recommendations for joint management of yellowtail and mutton snapper.

THE COUNCIL SHOULD CONSIDER MAKING THE MOTION BELOW:

MOTION: DIRECT STAFF TO EDIT THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT IN AMENDMENT 27 TO REFLECT REMOVAL OF ACTIONS 1-5

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 6 AS PREFERRED

Action 6. Extend the South Atlantic Council's area of jurisdiction for management of Nassau grouper to include the Gulf of Mexico

Alternative 2. The South Atlantic Council would extend its jurisdictional authority for management of Nassau grouper to include federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico. Harvest of Nassau grouper in the Gulf of Mexico EEZ would continue to be prohibited.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 7 AS PREFERRED

Alternative 2. Modify Section I of the Snapper Grouper FMP Framework Procedure for Specification of Annual Catch Limits, Annual Catch Targets, Overfishing Limits, Acceptable Biological Catch, and annual adjustments. The modification would add the following language: Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC), Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) and Annual Catch Targets (ACTs) Adjustment Procedure

1. Stock assessments will continue to be conducted for snapper grouper species in the management area through the SEDAR process.
2. Following the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)'s review of the stock assessment and a public hearing, the Council will determine if changes are needed in the OFL, ABC, ACLs, and ACTs and so advise the Regional Director (RD).
3. Following a review for consistency with the FMP and applicable law, the RD may reject or may implement changes by notice in the Federal Register to be effective for the next fishing season.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: REMOVE ALTERNATIVE 5 UNDER ACTION 8 AND MOVE TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

Action 8. Modify placement of blue runner in a fishery management unit and/or modify management measures for blue runner

Alternative 5. Remove blue runner from the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Unit in order for the state of Florida to assume management responsibilities for the species.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: MODIFY THE LANGUAGE OF ALTERNATIVE 2 TO REMOVE THE PHRASE “AND PLACE IN THE CMP MANAGEMENT UNIT.”

Alternative 2. Remove blue runner from the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Unit ~~and place in the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Fishery Management Unit.~~

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 (AS AMENDED) AS THE PREFERRED

MOTION FAILS

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 AS THE PREFERRED

SUBSTITUTE MOTION WITHDRAWN

MOTION: MODIFY ALTERNATIVE 3 AS FOLLOWS:

Alternative 3. Retain blue runner in the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan but allow commercial harvest **AND SALE** of blue runner with a gillnet for vessels that have been issued a Spanish mackerel Permit **OR A SNAPPER GROUPE PERMIT**. Require a blue runner endorsement for Spanish mackerel-permitted vessels for the commercial harvest and sale of blue runner. **SPECIFY THAT GILLNETS ARE AN ALLOWABLE GEAR FOR BLUE RUNNER ONLY IN THE SNAPPER GROUPE FISHERY.**

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: MOVE THE PLACEMENT OF “ONLY” IN ALTERNATIVE 3 AND PLACE IN FRONT OF “BLUE RUNNER”

“SPECIFY THAT GILLNETS ARE AN ALLOWABLE GEAR FOR ONLY BLUE RUNNER IN THE SNAPPER GROUPE FISHERY.”

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: APPROVE AMENDMENT 27 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS IN JANUARY 2013.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Regulatory Amendment 17 (MPAs for speckled hind and warsaw grouper)

The Committee received a presentation from SERO staff on the impacts of reorienting existing MPAs on protection of speckled hind and warsaw grouper. The Committee made the following motion:

MOTION: RECONVENE THE EXPERT MPA WORKING GROUP BETWEEN NOW AND MARCH 2013 MEETING AND ASK NICK FARMER TO MAKE HIS PRESENTATION ON RECONFIGURATION OF MPAS AND ADDITIONAL MPAS, AND BASED ON THE OUTCOME OF THE WORKING GROUP, HAVE A PRESENTATION OF RECONFIGURATIONS AND ADDITIONAL SITES AT THE MARCH 2013 MEETING

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Other Business

The Committee addressed several items under Other Business and made the following motions:

MOTION: ADD AN ACTION TO AMENDMENT 27 TO ALLOW DUALY-PERMITTED VESSELS TO HAVE 4 CREW MEMBERS ON BOARD, SIMILAR TO THE ACTION IN GULF REEF FISH AM 34.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: DIRECT COUNCIL STAFF TO WORK WITH SERO STAFF TO FINALIZE THE REGULATIONS SPREADSHEET AND BRING OPTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE IN JUNE 2013 THAT CONSIDER CHANGES TO AMs.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: DIRECT STAFF TO INVESTIGATE DATA TO DETERMINE RECREATIONAL CATCHES OF BLUE RUNNER

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Council vice-chair Ben Hartig expressed interest in reviewing the composition of two of the complexes within the snapper grouper fishery. Mr. Hartig made the motion below and indicated that a draft options paper would be provided to Council staff for review and subsequent discussion at a Council meeting. Similarly, Mr. Hartig stated the need to evaluate the possibility of redistributing the sector ACLs in-season under specific circumstances. Mr. Hartig will provide a draft document to Council staff.

MOTION: REVIEW THE JACKS COMPLEX AND THE DEEPWATER GROUPE COMPLEX WITH THE INTENT TO BRING AN OPTIONS PAPER TO MODIFY THOSE COMPLEXES TO THE COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2013

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

MOTION: DEVELOP OPTIONS PAPER TO REVIEW UNHARVESTED ACLs AND ALLOW FOR MOVING ACLs BETWEEN SECTOR ALLOCATIONS

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Timing and Tasks

MOTION: ADOPT THE TIMING AND TASKS BELOW:

1. REQUEST THAT THE UPDATE TO THE BSB ASSESSMENT CONTAIN A PROJECTION AT THE REVISED BSB P_{REBUILD} OF 62.5%.
 2. BEGIN DEVELOPMENT OF REGULATORY AMENDMENT 18 TO ADJUST THE ACLs FOR VERMILION SNAPPER AND RED PORGY AND CHANGES IN MANAGEMENT ACTIONS FOR VERMILION SNAPPER PREVIOUSLY CONTAINED IN REGULATORY AMENDMENT 14.
 3. THE COUNCIL WILL APPROVE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 18 FOR FORMAL REVIEW AT THE MARCH 2013 MEETING.
 4. SUBMIT REGULATORY AMENDMENT 13 TO NMFS FOR FORMAL REVIEW.
 5. SUBMIT REGULATORY AMENDMENT 15 TO NMFS FOR FORMAL REVIEW.
 6. SUBMIT AMENDMENT 28 TO NMFS FOR FORMAL REVIEW.
 7. MAKE CHANGES TO AMENDMENT 27 (INCLUDING ADDING AN ACTION TO ALLOW DUALY-PERMITTED VESSELS TO HAVE 4 CREW MEMBERS ON BOARD) AND PREPARE THE DOCUMENT FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS IN JANUARY 2013.
 8. CONVENE THE MPA EXPERT WORKGROUP BEFORE THE MARCH COUNCIL MEETING AND REQUEST THAT SERO STAFF GIVE PRESENTATION ON SH AND WG MPAs.
 9. HAVE A PRESENTATION OF RECONFIGURATIONS OF EXISTING MPAs AND ADDITIONAL SITES AT THE MARCH 2013 MEETING.
 10. PREPARE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 14 OPTIONS PAPER FOR THE MARCH COUNCIL MEETING.
 11. WORK WITH SERO STAFF TO FINALIZE THE REGULATIONS SPREADSHEET AND BRING OPTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE IN JUNE 2013 THAT CONSIDER CHANGES TO AMs.
 12. INVESTIGATE DATA TO DETERMINE RECREATIONAL CATCHES OF BLUE RUNNER.
 13. BEN HARTIG TO PREPARE DRAFT OPTIONS PAPERS ON MODIFICATIONS TO THE JACKS AND DW COMPLEX AND ACL ALLOCATIONS TO BRING TO THE COMMITTEE IN MARCH 2013.
- APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Full Council Motions

MOTION: ADD AN ACTION TO AM 27 TO RE-EVALUATE THE PROHIBITION OF BAG LIMIT RETENTION FOR CAPTAIN AND CREW ON FOR-HIRE TRIPS FOR THE GROUPEER AGGREGATE AND VERMILION SNAPPER
APPROVED BY COUNCIL