

**COMMITTEE REPORT
FROM THE SNAPPER GROUPEE COMMITTEE
Key West, FL
June 14-15, 2011**

The SAFMC Snapper Grouper Committee met on June 14-15, 2011 at the Marriott Beachside Hotel in Key West, FL. The Committee discussed the following items:

Status of Commercial and Recreational Landings for Snapper Grouper Species

The SEFSC presented an overview of the current status of recreational landings while the SERO provided the status of commercial landings.

Snapper Grouper AP Report

Don DeMaria, chairman of the Snapper Grouper AP, gave an overview of the discussions that took place during the AP's April 2011 meeting in Charleston. The AP covered several items during their meeting and made several motions and recommendations pertaining to developing amendment, particularly the Comprehensive ACL Amendment, Regulatory Amendment 11 and Amendment 24.

SSC Report

Dr. Carolyn Belcher presented the Committee with an overview of deliberations that took place during the SSC's April 2011 meeting in Charleston. The salient item pertaining to snapper grouper was the development of a decision tree to recommend ABCs for the unassessed snapper grouper species included in the Comprehensive ACL, as well as dolphin and wahoo. The proposed approach is being incorporated into the SSC's proposed ABC Control rule for the time being. At their next meeting, the SSC will review the recently released approach for Only Reliable Catch Series (ORCS) species and consider incorporating it (or a portion thereof) into their ABC Control Rule. The SSC's report also included recommendations for mackerel, cobia and spiny lobster. In addition, the SSC reviewed the Goliath grouper assessment and recommended ABC = 0 for this species.

The Committee made the following motions:

MOTION: SEND A LETTER TO THE GULF COUNCIL AND THE NMFS REQUESTING THE FORMATION OF AN AD HOC JOINT COMMITTEE (SA AND GULF COUNCILS) TO CONSIDER THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR SOUTH FLORIDA FISHERIES. AD HOC COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO DISCUSS WITH THE STATE OF FLORIDA DELEGATION OF MANAGEMENT FOR SOME SPECIES TO THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: SEND A LETTER TO THE MID ATLANTIC COUNCIL AND THE NMFS REQUESTING THE FORMATION OF AN AD HOC JOINT COMMITTEE (SA AND MID ATLANTIC COUNCILS) TO CONSIDER THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES. AD HOC

COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO DISCUSS WITH THE STATE OF NC DELEGATION OF MANAGEMENT FOR SOME SPECIES TO THE STATE OF NC.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: RECOMMEND THE COUNCIL CONVENE A PANEL IN CONJUNCTION WITH GMFMC TO EXPLORE APPROACHES TO MOVE THE GOLIATH GROUPEL FISHERY BEYOND THE MORATORIUM AND COLLECT INFORMATION TO SUPPORT AN INFORMATIVE ASSESSMENT THAT WILL ALLOW DETERMINATION OF STOCK STATUS AND POSSIBLE RECOVERY.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: REQUEST THAT STAFF PROVIDE AN UPDATE TO THE COUNCIL EVERY 3 YEARS ON THE LANDINGS AND TRENDS OF STOCKS THAT HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM THE SG FMU

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

The Committee discussed the following developing amendments:

Regulatory Amendment 11 (240-foot closure)

Dr. Nick Farmer gave a presentation of analyses conducted on the distribution (latitudinal and by depth) of speckled hind and Warsaw grouper based on information obtained from several fishery-dependent and -independent sources. In addition, the presentation contained information on co-occurrence of these two species with each other and with other deepwater species.

The Committee made the following motions pertaining to Regulatory Amendment 11:

MOTION: ADD AN ALTERNATIVE TO REMOVE THE ENTIRE 40-FATHOM CLOSURE AS SUGGESTED BY THE IPT

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: SELECT NEW ALTERNATIVE (IN MOTION TO ADD ALTERNATIVE TO REMOVE THE 40 FATHOM CLOSURE) UNDER ACTION 1 AS PREFERRED

MAIN MOTION APPROVED

SUBSTITUTE MOTION APPROVED

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 1 (NO ACTION) UNDER ACTION 2 AS PREFERRED

Action 2: Transit Provisions

Alternative 1 (No Action). Do not allow transit through the 40-fathom closure with prohibited species onboard.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: MODIFY THE PURPOSE OF REG AMENDMENT 11 PER THE IPT'S SUGGESTION:

Modify regulations pertaining to the deepwater species in order to reduce the socio-economic effects expected from the regulations in Amendment 17B to the Snapper grouper FMP TO PROTECT TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE speckled hind and Warsaw grouper in the South Atlantic.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Comprehensive ACL Amendment

Council staff provided and overview of the changes to the amendment since the March 2011 meeting. All actions in the amendment were reviewed. Council staff also provided a presentation to illustrate the Accountability Measure triggers that are currently being considered in the amendment.

The Committee made the following motions pertaining to the Comprehensive ACL Amendment:

Action 1: Remove Species from Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Unit (FMU)

MOTION: REMOVE MUTTON SNAPPER FROM PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE 4 UNDER ACTION 1 (RETAIN MUTTON SNAPPER IN THE FMU)

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: RETAIN MISTY GROUPE, QUEEN SNAPPER AND YELLOWMOUTH GROUPE IN THE MANAGEMENT UNIT

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 3: Establish an Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rule for Snapper Grouper Species

MOTION: DESELECT ALTERNATIVE 5 AS PREFERRED AND ACCEPT THE WORDING FOR NEW ALTERNATIVE 7 AND SELECT AS PREFERRED

New Alternative 7. For assessed species: establish ABCs based on the South Atlantic SSC's ABC control rule described in Table 2-12. For unassessed species: When the ABC control rule portion for unassessed species is complete, establish ABCs based on the South Atlantic SSC's ABC control rule described in Table 2-12. Until the ABC Control Rule is complete, establish ABCs based upon the interim approach in Table 2-14 and OFL = unknown. Recommended ABC values are shown in Table 2-15.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: ACCEPT IPT'S SUGGESTED CHANGES TO ALTERNATIVES UNDER ACTION 4

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 6: Specify Accountability Measures (AMs)/Annual Catch Targets (ACTs) for the Commercial Sector for species in the Snapper Grouper FMU

MOTION: MODIFY ALTERNATIVE 4 UNDER ACTION 6 TO ADD AT THE END OF THE SENTENCE: "ONLY IF THE SPECIES IS OVERFISHED"

Alternative 4 (Preferred). For the species in the table above, if an ACL (i.e., individual or complex) is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the ACL in the following season by the amount of the overage.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 7: Specify Accountability Measures (AMs)/Annual Catch Targets (ACTs) for the Recreational Sector for species in the Snapper Grouper FMU

MOTION: DESELECT ALTERNATIVES 5B AND 5F AS PREFERRED AND SELECT ALTERNATIVE 5D AS PREFERRED

Alternative 5. Specify the post-season AM.

Subalternative 5a. Do not specify a post-season AM.

Subalternative 5b (Preferred). For post-season accountability measures, compare ACL with landings over a range of years. For 2011, use only 2011 landings. For 2012, use the mean landings of 2011 and 2012. For 2013 and beyond, use the most recent three-year running mean.¹

Subalternative 5c (NEW). Monitor following year. If the ACL is exceeded, the following year's landings would be monitored for persistence in increased landings. The Regional Administrator would take action as necessary.

Subalternative 5d (NEW) Monitor following year and shorten season as necessary. If the ACL is exceeded, the following year's landings would be monitored IN-SEASON for persistence in increased landings. The Regional Administrator will publish a notice to reduce the length of the fishing season as necessary.

Subalternative 5e (NEW) Monitor following year and reduce bag limit as necessary. If the ACL is exceeded, the following year's landings would be monitored for persistence in increased landings. The Regional Administrator will publish a notice to reduce the bag limit as necessary.

Subalternative 5f (Preferred). Shorten following season. If the ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of the following fishing year by the amount necessary to ensure landings do not exceed the ACL for the following fishing season.

Subalternative 5g. Payback. If the ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the ACL in the following season by the amount of the overage.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 10: Specify Accountability Measures (AM) for the Wreckfish Fishery

MOTION: REPLACE CURRENT PREFERRED WITH SUBALTERNATIVE 3D AND DESELECT THE OTHER PREFERRED

Subalternative 3d (NEW) Monitor following year and shorten season as necessary. If the ACL is exceeded, the following year's landings would be monitored for persistence in increased landings. The Regional Administrator will publish a notice to reduce the length of the fishing season as necessary.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 15: Establish Accountability Measures/Management Measures for the Commercial Sector for Black Grouper

MOTION: MODIFY ALTERNATIVE 4 UNDER ACTION 15 AND ADD AT THE END OF THE SENTENCE “ONLY IF OVERFISHED”

Alternative 4 (Preferred). If the commercial sector ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial sector ACL in the following season by the amount of the overage.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 16: Establish Accountability Measures/Management Measures for the Recreational Sector for Black Grouper

MOTION: REPLACE CURRENT PREFERRED UNDER ALTERNATIVE 5 WITH SUBALTERNATIVE 5D

Subalternative 5d (NEW). Monitor following year and shorten season as necessary. If the ACL is exceeded, the following year’s landings would be monitored for persistence in increased landings. The Regional Administrator will publish a notice to reduce the length of the fishing season as necessary.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 17: Establish Jurisdictional Allocations for Yellowtail Snapper

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 4 AS PREFERRED UNDER ACTION 17

Alternative 4: Establish a jurisdictional allocation based on the Florida Keys (Monroe County) jurisdictional boundary between the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils for yellowtail snapper acceptable biological catch (ABC) based on the following method: South Atlantic = 75% of ABC and Gulf = 25% of ABC (Established by using 50% of catch history from 1993-2008 + 50% of catch history from 2006-2008).

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 18: Establish an Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rule and ABC for Dolphin

MOTION: DESELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 18 AS PREFERRED, MOVE ALTERNATIVE 3 TO THE APPENDIX, AND SELECT ALTERNATIVE 5 AS PREFERRED.

New Alternative 5. When the ABC control rule portion for unassessed species is complete, establish ABC for dolphin based on the South Atlantic Council’s SSC’s ABC control rule described in Table 2-12. Until the ABC control rule is complete, establish ABC based upon the interim approach in Table 2-x1 and OFL = unknown. The recommended ABC value for dolphin is 14,596,216 lbs ww.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 19: Specify Allocations for Dolphin

MOTION: ADD AN ALTERNATIVE TO ADOPT THE DW AP RECOMMENDATION TO ALLOCATE 90% TO THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR AND 10% TO THE RECREATIONAL SECTOR
MOTION FAILS

Action 20: Establish Annual Catch Limits (ACL) and Optimum Yield (OY) for Dolphin
MOTION: CHANGE PREFERRED FROM ALTERNATIVE 3 TO ALTERNATIVE 2
Alternative 2. ACL = OY =ABC
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 22: Establish Accountability Measures for the Recreational Sector for Dolphin
MOTION: REPLACE PREFERRED IN ALTERNATIVE 5 WITH
SUBALTERNATIVE 5D
Subalternative 5d (NEW). Monitor following year and shorten season as necessary. If the ACL is exceeded, the following year's landings would be monitored for persistence in increased landings. The Regional Administrator will publish a notice to reduce the length of the fishing season as necessary.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 24: Establish an Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rule and ABC for Wahoo
MOTION: ESTABLISH NEW ALTERNATIVE 5 AS THE PREFERRED AND MOVE ALTERNATIVE 3 TO THE APPENDIX
New Alternative 5. When the ABC control rule portion for unassessed species is complete, establish ABC for wahoo based on the South Atlantic Council's SSC's ABC control rule described in Table 2-12. Until the ABC control rule is complete, establish ABC based upon the interim approach in Table 2-x1 and OFL = unknown. The recommended ABC value for wahoo is 1,491,785 lbs ww.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 28: Establish Accountability Measures for the Recreational Sector for Wahoo
MOTION: REPLACE CURRENT PREFERRED IN ALTERNATIVE 5 WITH
SUBALTERNATIVE 5D AS THE PREFERRED
Subalternative 5d (NEW). Monitor following year and shorten season as necessary. If the ACL is exceeded, the following year's landings would be monitored for persistence in increased landings. The Regional Administrator will publish a notice to reduce the length of the fishing season as necessary.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 31: Establish Accountability Measures for Golden Crab
MOTION: UNDER ACTION 31, ALTERNATIVE 3, ADD TO THE END OF THE SENTENCE "ONLY IF OVERFISHED"
Alternative 3 (Preferred). If the ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the ACL or ACT in the following season by the amount of the overage.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Mutton Snapper

Action 2. Interjurisdictional allocations for mutton snapper

MOTION: MODIFY ALTERNATIVE 2 TO CORRESPOND WITH THE GULF COUNCIL'S PREFERRED AND ESTABLISH ALTERNATIVE 2 AS THE PREFERRED (82% SA AND 18% GULF)
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: SELECT PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES UNDER ALL MUTTON SNAPPER ACTIONS THAT ARE CONSISTENT WITH SELECTIONS WITHIN THE COMPREHENSIVE ACL AMENDMENT
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

New Council Motion Desired:

Move to make actions pertaining to mutton snapper consistent with actions for other snapper-grouper stocks in the comprehensive ACL amendment.

Amendment 24 (red grouper rebuilding)

Dr. Larry Perruso of the SEFSC gave a presentation on the economic analyses of the proposed alternatives for both the commercial and recreational sector. His presentation included a ranking of all the alternatives in terms of economic impacts. Council staff then went over the actions and alternatives in the document and explained changes to the document since the March 2011 meeting.

The Committee made the following motions pertaining to Amendment 24:

Action: Minimum Stock Size Threshold

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 AS THE PREFERRED
Alternative 3 MSST equals 75% of SSBMSY
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action: Rebuilding Strategy

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS THE PREFERRED
Alternative 2. Define a rebuilding strategy for red grouper that sets ABC equal to the yield at FREBUILD. FREBUILD is a fishing mortality rate that would have a 70% probability of rebuilding success to SSBMSY in TMAX (ten years for red grouper). Under this strategy, the fishery would have at least a 50% chance of rebuilding to SSBMSY by 2017 and 70% chance of rebuilding to SSBMSY by 2020.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 AS THE PREFERRED
Alternative 3. Define a rebuilding strategy for red grouper that sets ABC equal to the yield at 75%FMSY. Under this strategy, the fishery would have at least a 50% chance of rebuilding to SSBMSY by 2016 and 81% chance of rebuilding to SSBMSY by 2020.
SUBSTITUTE MOTION FAILS
MAIN MOTION APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Annual Catch Limits and Optimum Yield

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 6 AS PREFERRED.

Alternative 2. ACL = OY = ABC. Specify commercial and recreational ACLs for red grouper for 2012, 2013, and 2014 and beyond as indicated in the table below (Table 2-15). The ACL for 2014 would remain in effect until modified. ACLs will not increase in a subsequent year if present year projected catch has exceeded the ACL.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: REPLACE THE STATEMENT “ACLs will not increase in a subsequent year if present year projected catch has exceeded the ACL” WITH: “If an overage occurs in an increasing ACL situation: the ACL will be the year two ACL minus the overage, not to be below the year one ACL.” IN THE ALTERNATIVES UNDER ACTION 6.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

NOTE: NEED TO CLARIFY THE INTENT OF THIS LANGUAGE

Action: Accountability Measures

MOTION: DESELECT CURRENT PREFERRED UNDER ALTERNATIVE 4 AND SELECT SUBALTERNATIVE 4B.

DESELECT CURRENT PREFERRED UNDER ALTERNATIVE 5 AND SELECT SUBALTERNATIVE 5G AS PREFERRED.

Alternative 4b. The Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to close the recreational sector when the ACL is projected to be met.

Alternative 5g. Payback. If the ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the ACL in the following season by the amount of the overage.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

The Committee did not choose preferred alternatives to remove the 3-species aggregate. They are Alternatives 5 and 6 of Action 6 in Amendment 24:

Alternative 5. Eliminate the commercial sector aggregate ACL of 662,403 lbs gw for black grouper, gag, and red grouper. Eliminate the in-season AM that specifies a prohibition on possession of all shallow water groupers once the commercial aggregate ACL is projected to be met.

Alternative 6. Eliminate the recreational sector aggregate ACL of 648,663 lbs gw for black grouper, gag, and red grouper. Eliminate the in-season AM that specifies a prohibition on possession of black grouper, gag, and red grouper once the ACL is projected to be met if any one of the three species is listed as overfished. Eliminate the post-season AM that specifies a reduction in a subsequent year's ACL by the amount of an overage if landings exceed the aggregate ACL. Eliminate the regulation that states that the recreational landings are evaluated relative to the ACL as follows: For 2010, only 2010 recreational landings will be compared to the ACL; in 2011, the average of 2010 and 2011 recreational landings will be compared to the ACL; and in 2012 and subsequent fishing years, the most recent 3-year running average recreational landings will be compared to the ACL.

MOTION: APPROVE AMENDMENT 24 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS.
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Amendment 18A (Black Sea Bass and Golden Tilefish)

The Committee made the following motions pertaining to Amendment 18A:

Action 1: Limit Participation in the Golden Tilefish Fishery

MOTION: ADD THE FOLLOWING ALTERNATIVE TO ACTION 1:

To receive a golden tilefish hook and line endorsement, the individual must have a harvest level of 1,000 pounds gutted weight (gw) (with hook and line gear) when the individual's best three of five years from 2005-2009 are aggregated.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: ADD THE FOLLOWING SUBALTERNATIVE TO ACTION 1:
 To receive a golden tilefish hook and line endorsement, the individual must have a harvest level of 500 pounds gw (with hook and line gear) when the individual's best three of five years from 2005-2009 are aggregated.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: ADD THE FOLLOWING TWO SUBALTERNATIVES TO ACTION 1:

1. To receive a golden tilefish longline endorsement, the individual must have a total of 5,000 pounds gw golden tilefish caught (with longline gear) between 2007 and 2009.

2. To receive a golden tilefish longline endorsement, the individual must have a total of 10,000 pounds gw golden tilefish caught (with longline gear) between 2007 and 2009.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 2: Establishment of an Appeals Process

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 2 AS THE PREFERRED
 Alternative 2: Establish an appeals process. (This process will be developed by NOAA Fisheries Service and will be consistent with other similar processes in the region.)

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

NOTE: INTENT TO BASE APPEALS PROCESS ON ACCURACY OF LANDINGS

Action 7: Establish trip limits for commercial fishermen who do not receive an endorsement in the commercial golden tilefish hook and line fishery

MOTION: ADD AN ALTERNATIVE TO ESTABLISH A TRIP LIMIT OF 100 GW
 FOR commercial fishermen who do not receive an endorsement in the commercial golden tilefish hook and line fishery. **MAKE THIS ALTERNATIVE THE PREFERRED**
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: ADD AN ACTION THAT ESTABLISHES TRIP LIMITS OF 300, 400 AND 500 LBS FOR FISHERMEN WHO RECEIVE HOOK-AND-LINE ENDORSEMENTS IN THE GOLDEN TILEFISH FISHERY

APPROVE BY COMMITTEE

Action 8: Limit Participation in the Black Sea Bass Pot Fishery through an Endorsement Program

MOTION: ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW ALTERNATIVE: Limit endorsement and tag distribution to black sea bass pot fishermen with valid commercial snapper grouper permits that fished pots with minimum black sea bass landings of (A) 1 pound, (B) 500 pounds, (C)1,000 pounds, (D) 2,000 pounds, (E) 5,000 pounds, and (F)10,000 pounds ww total landings between 12/8/98 to 12/31/09. Exclude fishermen who did not have landings in 2008 or 2009. MAKE SUBALTERNATIVE 5F THE PREFERRED.

Alternative 5 (98-09)	Average	Aggregate	1 year
Alt 5a (1 lb)	67	67	67
Alt 5b (500 lbs)	48	62	62
Alt 5c (1,000 lbs)	39	59	56

Alt 5d (2,000 lbs)	30	55	52
Alt 5e (5,000 lbs)	15	48	42
Alt 5f (10,000 lbs)	8	39	21

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: ADD THE FOLLOWING NEW ALTERNATIVE: Limit endorsement and tag distribution to black sea bass pot fishermen with valid commercial snapper grouper permits that fished pots with minimum black sea bass landings of (A) 1 pound, (B) 500 pounds, (C) 1,000 pounds, (D) 2,000 pounds, (E) 5,000 pounds, and (F) 10,000 pounds ww average landings between 12/8/98 to 12/31/09. Exclude fishermen who did not have landings in 2008 or 2009.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Motions below were crafted for the Council's consideration in response to the motions above:

Action 8: Limit Participation in the Black Sea Bass Pot Fishery through an Endorsement Program.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Do not further limit participation in the black sea bass pot fishery with the establishment of an endorsement program.

Alternative 2. Limit endorsement and tag distribution to black sea bass pot fishermen with valid commercial snapper grouper permits whose *average* black sea bass landings between 12/8/98 and 12/31/09 were at least:

- Sub-Alternative 2a** - 500 lbs whole weight
- Sub-Alternative 2b** - 1,000 lbs whole weight
- Sub-Alternative 2c** - 5,000 lbs whole weight
- Sub-Alternative 2d** - 10,000 lbs whole weight

Exclude fishermen who did not have landings in 2008 or 2009.

Alternative 3. Limit endorsement and tag distribution to black sea bass pot fishermen with valid commercial snapper grouper permits whose *total* black sea bass landings between 12/8/98 and 12/31/09 were at least:

- Sub-Alternative 3a** - 500 lbs whole weight
- Sub-Alternative 3b** - 1,000 lbs whole weight
- Sub-Alternative 3c** - 5,000 lbs whole weight
- Sub-Alternative 3d** - 10,000 lbs whole weight

Exclude fishermen who did not have landings in 2008 or 2009.

Table 1. Number of fishermen with snapper grouper permits who fished pots with minimum black sea bass landings of 500, 1,000, 5,000, and 10,000 pounds ww in during 12/8/98 to 12/31/09. Excludes fishermen who did not have landings in 2008 or 2009. Values are estimates.

Alternative (98-09)	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
500 lbs	48	62
1,000 lbs	39	59
5,000 lbs	15	48
10,000 lbs	8	39

****NOTE: Since the proposed alternatives above deviate slightly from the original motions, a new motion will be needed to approve them****

Action 9: Establishment of an Appeals Process

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS THE PREFERRED

Alternative 2: Establish an appeals process. (This process will be developed by NOAA Fisheries Service and consistent with other similar processes in the region.)

NOTE: INTENT IS TO BASE THE APPEALS PROCESS ON ACCURACY OF LANDINGS.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 10: Allow for Transferability of Black Sea Bass Endorsements

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2, OPTION 1, AS THE PREFERRED

Alternative 2. Black sea bass endorsements can be transferred between any two individuals or entities that hold valid commercial unlimited snapper grouper permits. The transfer is separable from the snapper grouper permit.

Preferred Option 1: Transferability allowed upon program implementation.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 11: Limit Effort in the Black Sea Bass Pot Fishery

MOTION: DESELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 AS THE PREFERRED AND SELECT ALTERNATIVE 4 AS THE NEW PREFERRED.

Preferred Alternative 3. Require that each black sea bass pot in the water or at sea on a vessel in the South Atlantic EEZ have an attached valid identification tag issued by NOAA Fisheries Service. Limit the black sea bass pot tags to 50 per vessel annually. NOAA Fisheries Service will issue new identification tags each fishing year that will replace the tags from the previous fishing year.

Alternative 4. Require that each black sea bass pot in the water or at sea on a vessel in the South Atlantic EEZ have an attached valid identification tag issued by NOAA Fisheries Service. Limit the black sea bass pot tags to 25 per vessel annually. NOAA Fisheries Service will issue new identification tags each fishing year that will replace the tags from the previous fishing year.

MOTION FAILS

MOTION: ADD AN ALTERNATIVE TO LIMIT THE BSB POT TAGS TO 35 PER VESSEL ANNUALLY
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Action 14. Improvements to For-Hire Data Reporting

MOTION: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS THE PREFERRED

Alternative 2. Require selected vessels with a Federal For-Hire Permit (charter and headboat) to report electronically; NOAA Fisheries Service is authorized to require weekly or daily reporting as required.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Additional Actions

MOTION: ADD AN ACTION TO AMENDMENT 18A TO EXAMINE A SUITE OF AM ALTERNATIVES FOR BLACK SEA BASS INCLUDING THE TOTAL OVERAGE METHOD

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: REMOVE ALL ACTIONS FROM 18A PERTAINING TO GOLDEN TILEFISH AND PLACE IN A NEW AMENDMENT (18C OR THE APPROPRIATE NUMERICAL DESIGNATION)

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: ADD AN ACTION TO 18A TO POSSIBLY CHANGE THE REBUILDING STRATEGY FOR BSB

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Amendment 20 (Wreckfish ITQ)

MOTION: SPLIT AMENDMENT 20 INTO TWO AMENDMENTS, ONE OF WHICH THE PURPOSE WILL BE TO MODIFY THE WRECKFISH ITQ PROGRAM, AND THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO UPDATE THE PROGRAM AND BRING IT INTO COMPLIANCE WITH MSA.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

MOTION: STRUCTURE AMENDMENT 20A TO CONTAIN THREE ACTIONS:

- WHICH SHARES ARE REVOKED
- EXCESSIVE SHARES
- REDISTRIBUTION OF REVOKED SHARES

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

Amendments 21 and 22

Council staff gave a brief overview of the status of Amendment 21 and changes since the March 2011 meeting. Staff requested guidance on amendment development and timing. The Committee's intent is to retain this amendment and use it as a compilation of management tools that can potentially be used in the future to manage South Atlantic

fisheries. The Committee agreed to revisit this amendment at the September 2011 meeting.

SERO staff provided a briefing on the status of Amendment 22, which contains long-term management measures for red snapper. The Committee reiterated their intent to retain this amendment but withhold further development at this time.