

**FINAL**  
**SUMMARY REPORT**  
**SNAPPER GROUPEL COMMITTEE**  
**SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**  
**December 6-7, 2022**

The Committee approved the minutes from the September 2022 meeting and the agenda for the December 2022 meeting.

**Status of Amendments under formal review**

NMFS SERO provided an update on progress of Snapper Grouper Amendment 50 (Red Porgy Catch Levels and Rebuilding) and Snapper Grouper Amendment 49 (Greater Amberjack). Amendment 50 was formally submitted to NMFS SERO on May 3, 2022. The proposed rule for Amendment 50 published on September 9, 2022, with a comment period through November 8, 2022. Development of the final rule for Amendment 50 is in progress. Amendment 49 is pending submission by the Council.

**Release Mortality Reduction & Red Snapper (SG Reg Amendment 35)**

Regulatory Amendment 35 considers revisions to South Atlantic red snapper catch levels following the most recent stock assessment (SEDAR 73) and gear changes intended to reduce dead discards throughout the snapper grouper fishery. The Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel (AP) Chair and Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Chair presented comments and recommendations from the AP's and SSC's October 2022 meetings. The Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) presented results of a hypothetical run of the SEDAR 73 model that assumed discards to be 50% of estimated levels throughout the time series and 100% compliance with descending device usage when necessary. Council staff presented a Decision Document describing actions and alternatives as currently developed. The Committee also discussed development of the white paper requested in September 2022 that would describe long-term management options to reduce dead discards in the snapper grouper fishery. The Committee made the following motions and gave the following guidance:

**MOTION 1: APPROVE THE EDITS TO THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENTS.**

**Purpose:** The *purpose* of this **framework** amendment is to revise the **overfishing limit**, acceptable biological catch and annual catch limits for red snapper in the South Atlantic based on the results of the latest stock assessment; and implement management measures to reduce dead **discards** for the South Atlantic snapper grouper fishery.

**Need:** The *need* for this framework amendment is to ensure red snapper catch limits are based on the best scientific information available and to **end address** overfishing of the South Atlantic red snapper stock **by reducing dead discards of snapper grouper species**, while minimizing negative social and economic effects to the extent practicable, consistent with the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and its National Standards.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 2: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED UNDER ACTION 1.**

**Action 1. Reduce the acceptable biological catch, total annual catch limit, and sector annual catch limits, and establish an annual optimum yield for South Atlantic red snapper**

**Alternative 2.** Reduce the red snapper acceptable biological catch and set it equal to the most recent recommendation from the Scientific and Statistical Committee. Revise the total annual catch limit and establish an annual optimum yield for red snapper and set them **equal to** the recommended acceptable biological catch. Red snapper may only be harvested or possessed in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone during the commercial and recreational fishing seasons. The 2027 total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield would remain in place until modified.

<b>Fishing Year</b>	<b>ABC (numbers of fish)</b>	<b>Annual OY=Total ACL (numbers of fish)</b>	<b>Commercial ACL (lbs ww)</b>	<b>Recreational ACL (numbers of fish)</b>
2023	28,000	28,000	77,016	19,119
2024	31,000	31,000	85,268	22,119
2025	33,000	33,000	90,769	24,119
2026	35,000	35,000	96,270	26,119
2027+	36,000	36,000	99,021	27,119

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 3: MOVE ALTERNATIVES 3 AND 4 UNDER ACTION 1 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.**

**Alternative 3.** Reduce the red snapper acceptable biological catch and set it equal to the most recent recommendation from the Scientific and Statistical Committee. Revise the total annual catch limit and establish an annual optimum yield for red snapper and set them equal to **95%** of the recommended acceptable biological catch. Red snapper may only be harvested or possessed in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone during the commercial and recreational fishing seasons. The 2027 total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield would remain in place until modified.

**Alternative 4.** Reduce the red snapper acceptable biological catch and set it equal to the most recent recommendation from the Scientific and Statistical Committee. Revise the total annual catch limit and establish an annual optimum yield for red snapper and set them equal to **90%** of the recommended acceptable biological catch. Red snapper may only be harvested or possessed in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone during the commercial and recreational fishing seasons. The 2027 total annual catch limit and annual optimum yield would remain in place until modified.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 4: MOVE ACTION 2 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.**

**Action 2. Prohibit the use of electrically or hydraulically-powered reels to fish recreationally for snapper grouper species**

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** There is no prohibition on the use of electrically or hydraulically powered reels by the recreational sector to fish for snapper grouper species in the South Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone-

**Alternative 2.** Prohibit the use of electrically or hydraulically-powered reels by the recreational sector to fish for snapper grouper species, in the South Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone.

**DRAFT Alternative 3.** Prohibit the use of electrically or hydraulically-powered reels by the recreational sector to fish for snapper grouper species in the South Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone off:

**Sub-Alternative 3a.** North Carolina

**Sub-Alternative 3b.** South Carolina

**Sub-Alternative 3c.** Georgia

**Sub-Alternative 3d.** North Florida (counties include Nassau, Duval, Saint Johns, Flagler, Volusia)

**Sub-Alternative 3e.** Central Florida (counties include Brevard, Indian River, St Lucie)

**Sub-Alternative 3f.** South Florida (counties include Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe)

**DRAFT Alternative 4.** Prohibit the use of electrically or hydraulically-powered reels by the recreational sector while fishing for snapper grouper species in the South Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone in an area associated with the following depths:

**Sub-Alternative 4a.** Less than 100 feet

**Sub-Alternative 4b.** 100 feet to 200 feet

**Sub-Alternative 4c.** 200 feet to 300 feet

**Sub-Alternative 4d.** Greater than 300 feet

**ADDITIONAL SUB-ALTERNATIVE DERIVED FROM AP RECOMMENDATION ON ACTION 3:**

**Sub-Alternative 4e.** Greater than 150 feet

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 5: MOVE DRAFT ALTERNATIVE 3 AND DRAFT ALTERNATIVE 4 UNDER ACTION 3 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.**

**Action 3. Prohibit the use of more than one hook per line for the snapper grouper recreational sector**

**DRAFT Alternative 3.** Prohibit the use of more than one hook per line for the recreational sector to fish for snapper grouper species in the South Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone off:

**Sub-Alternative 3a.** North Carolina

**Sub-Alternative 3b.** South Carolina

**Sub-Alternative 3c.** Georgia

**Sub-Alternative 3d.** North Florida (counties include Nassau, Duval, Saint Johns, Flagler, Volusia)

**Sub-Alternative 3e.** Central Florida (counties include Brevard, Indian River, St Lucie)

**Sub-Alternative 3f.** South Florida (counties include Martin, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe)

**DRAFT Alternative 4.** Prohibit the use of more than one hook per line for the recreational sector to fish for snapper grouper species in the South Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone in an **area associated with depth:**

**Sub-Alternative 4a.** Less than 100 feet

**Sub-Alternative 4b.** 100 feet to 200 feet

**Sub-Alternative 4c.** 200 feet to 300 feet

**Sub-Alternative 4d.** Greater than 300 feet

**ADDITIONAL SUB-ALTERNATIVE DERIVED FROM AP RECOMMENDATION:**

**Sub-Alternative 4e.** Greater than 150 feet

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**DIRECTION TO STAFF FOR ACTION 3 (MULTIPLE HOOKS):**

- Clarify that this action addresses multiple separate hooks.
- Revise language by tying it to the existing circle hook regulations for the snapper grouper fishery.
- By tying to the existing snapper grouper circle hook regulations, fishing for bait using sabiki rigs would not be affected.

**MOTION 6: APPROVE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 35 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS.**

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

- In-person public hearings are tentatively scheduled as follows:
  - January 17, 2023 – Pooler, GA
  - January 18, 2023 – Charleston, SC
  - January 19, 2023 – Morehead City, NC
  - January 24, 2023 – Jacksonville, FL
  - January 25, 2023 – Cocoa Beach, FL
  - January 26, 2023 – Key Largo, FL
- An additional webinar hearing is tentatively scheduled for January 31, 2023

**DIRECTION TO STAFF:**

- Add more discussion to Regulatory Amendment 35 about other ongoing red snapper management activities, including the South Atlantic snapper grouper management strategy evaluation (MSE), Estimation of US Atlantic Red Snapper Abundance, and other studies

being conducted in the region. Include this discussion in the draft amendment that the Council will review in March 2023.

### **Snapper Grouper Management Strategy Evaluation Update**

The Council is conducting a Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) to explore long-term management strategies for the South Atlantic snapper grouper fishery. Council staff, the Snapper Grouper AP Chair, and the SSC Chair provided updates and comments based on presentations by Blue Matter Science and subsequent discussions at the most recent AP and SSC meetings. The Committee made the following motion and gave the following guidance:

**MOTION 7: SCHEDULE THE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION CONTRACTORS TO PRESENT IN-PERSON AT THE MARCH 2023 COUNCIL MEETING.  
APPROVED BY COMMITTEE  
APPROVED BY COUNCIL**

#### **DIRECTION TO STAFF FOR MSE:**

- Work with Blue Matter Science to develop a guidance document to inform on process steps and participants.
- Move John Walter's MSE presentation at the Council Seminar Series to an MSE webpage for wider distribution.
- Reference completed MSEs to note successful methods and challenges that can be considered when developing the snapper grouper MSE.

### **Private Recreational Permitting and Reporting (SG Amendment 46)**

Amendment 46 considers the establishment of a private recreational permit for the South Atlantic snapper grouper fishery. The Snapper Grouper Recreational Permitting and Reporting Advisory Panel (Permitting AP) met November 21, 2022 via webinar and to provide feedback on the Council's previously identified items regarding private recreational permitting and reporting. Additionally, the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Councils recently convened a meeting of their joint workgroup to address Section 102: Fishery Management Measures of the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Management Act of 2018 (Modern Fish Act). This workgroup met on October 12, 2022 and developed a series of recommendations for the Councils to consider in future management decisions affecting the recreational sector. After receiving summary updates from the Permitting AP and Section 102 Workgroup meetings, Council staff reviewed an options paper for Amendment 46. The Council provided the following guidance on options to consider in the amendment for scoping:

#### **Option 1. Establish a private recreational snapper grouper permit to fish for, harvest, or possess Snapper Grouper species in the South Atlantic Region**

##### **Items to include in the amendment for scoping:**

- 1) Continue consideration of developing a federal private recreational permit. Include options for:
  - a. A vessel-based permit.
  - b. An angler-based permit.
    - i. All anglers would need a permit.

- ii. All anglers fishing from a private vessel would need a permit.
  - iii. At least one angler on a vessel would need a permit.
- 2) Species potentially covered by the permit:
- a. All species within the snapper grouper complex.
  - b. Assessed stocks within the snapper grouper complex.
  - c. Match the 13 species in Florida's State Reef Fish Angler designation.
    - i. Mutton snapper, yellowtail snapper, hogfish, red snapper, vermilion snapper, gag grouper, red grouper, black grouper, greater amberjack, lesser amberjack, banded rudderfish, almaco jack, and gray triggerfish.

**Other notes:**

- The permit would be a federal rather than state permit.
- Provide additional information at a future meeting on:
  - Renewal terms of a permit.
  - Charging a fee for a permit.
    - Potential to cover the administrative costs of permit.

**Option 2. Establish an education component to obtain a private recreational snapper grouper permit**

**Items to include in the amendment for scoping:**

- 1) Implement an education component immediately when establishing a permit.
- 2) Maintain the option to implement an education component in the future but not initially.
- 3) An education component would be:
  - a. Mandatory.
  - b. Voluntary.

**Option 3. Implement reporting for private recreational anglers or vessels**

- Do not further consider implementing reporting in this amendment.

**MOTION 8:** APPROVE AMENDMENT 46 AS MODIFIED (PRIVATE RECREATIONAL PERMITTING AND REPORTING) FOR SCOPING.  
APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**DIRECTION TO STAFF:**

- Conduct two scoping sessions via webinar ahead of the March 2023 meeting.
- Continue developing Amendment 46 (Private Recreational Permitting and Reporting) for review at the March 2023 meeting.

**Gag and Black Grouper (SG Amendment 53)**

Amendment 53 considers changes to catch levels and management measures for gag in response to the most recent stock assessment (SEDAR 71). The Committee reviewed a decision document. The Committee made the following motions and gave the following guidance:

**DIRECTION TO STAFF:**

- Modify the purpose and need to reflect that the recreational accountability measures are not being changed for black grouper.

**MOTION 9: MOVE SUB-ACTION 4B TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.**

**Action 4b. Modify the commercial spawning season closure for gag**

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** During January through April, no person may fish for, harvest, or possess in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone any shallow-water grouper (gag, black grouper, scamp, red grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, red hind, rock hind, graysby, or coney).

**Alternative 2.** During January through April, no person may fish for, harvest, or possess in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone any shallow-water grouper (gag, black grouper, scamp, red grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, red hind, rock hind, graysby, or coney). For gag only, revise the timing of these restrictions to January 1 through May 31 throughout the exclusive economic zone.

**Alternative 3.** During January through April, no person may fish for, harvest, or possess in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone any shallow-water grouper (gag, black grouper, scamp, red grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, red hind, rock hind, graysby, or coney). For gag only, revise the timing of these restrictions to December 1 through April 30 throughout the exclusive economic zone.

**Alternative 4.** During January through April, no person may fish for, harvest, or possess in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone any shallow-water grouper (gag, black grouper, scamp, red grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, red hind, rock hind, graysby, or coney). For gag only, revise the timing of these restrictions to December 1 through May 31 throughout the exclusive economic zone.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 10: SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2A AND SUB-ALTERNATIVE 3A AS PREFERRED FOR SUB-ACTION 5A.**

**Action 5a. Establish a recreational vessel limit for gag**

**Alternative 2.** Establish a private recreational vessel limit for gag of:

**Sub-Alternative 2a.** 2 fish per vessel per day

**Alternative 3.** Establish a for-hire recreational vessel limit for gag of:

**Sub-Alternative 3a.** 2 fish per vessel per trip

**Clarification:** All alternatives that establish a vessel limit are still restricted by the current bag limit of 1 fish per person per day.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 11: MOVE SUB-ACTION 5B TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.**

**Action 5b. Modify the recreational spawning season closure for gag**

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** During January through April, no person may fish for, harvest, or possess in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone any shallow-water grouper (gag, black grouper, scamp, red grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, red hind, rock hind, graysby, or coney).

**Alternative 2.** During January through April, no person may fish for, harvest, or possess in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone any shallow-water grouper (gag, black grouper, scamp, red grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, red hind, rock hind, graysby, or coney). For gag only, revise the timing of these restrictions to January 1 through May 31 throughout the exclusive economic zone.

**Alternative 3.** During January through April, no person may fish for, harvest, or possess in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone any shallow-water grouper (gag, black grouper, scamp, red grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, red hind, rock hind, graysby, or coney). For gag only, revise the timing of these restrictions to December 1 through April 30 throughout the exclusive economic zone.

**Alternative 4.** During January through April, no person may fish for, harvest, or possess in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone any shallow-water grouper (gag, black grouper, scamp, red grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, red hind, rock hind, graysby, or coney). For gag only, revise the timing of these restrictions to December 1 through May 31 throughout the exclusive economic zone.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 12:** SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR SUB-ACTION 5C.

**Action 5c. Prohibit the retention of gag by captain and crew**

**Alternative 2.** The gag bag limit for captain and crew on a for-hire vessel with a Federal for-hire snapper-grouper permit is zero.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 13:** SELECT THE SAME PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES FOR THE BLACK GROUPER SUB-ACTIONS (ACTION 7A-C) AS THE GAG SUB-ACTIONS (ACTIONS 5A-C).

**Action 7a. Establish a recreational vessel limit for black grouper**

**Alternative 2.** Establish a private recreational vessel limit for black grouper of:

**Sub-Alternative 2a.** 2 fish per vessel per day

**Alternative 3.** Establish a for-hire recreational vessel limit for black grouper of:

**Sub-Alternative 3a.** 2 fish per vessel per trip

**Clarification:** all alternatives that establish a vessel limit are still restricted by the current bag limit of 1 fish per person per day.

**Action 7b. Modify the recreational spawning season closure for black grouper**



**Alternative 1 (No Action).** During January through April, no person may fish for, harvest, or possess in or from the South Atlantic exclusive economic zone any shallow-water grouper (gag, black grouper, scamp, red grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, red hind, rock hind, graysby, or coney).

**Clarification:** This action, like Action 5b, will be moved to the considered but rejected appendix.

**Action 7c. Prohibit the retention of black grouper by captain and crew**

**Alternative 2.** The black grouper bag limit for captain and crew on a for-hire vessel with a Federal for-hire snapper-grouper permit is zero.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**DIRECTION TO STAFF:**

- Consider revisions to the recreational vessel limit alternatives for gag (Action 5) and black grouper (Action 7) to address captain and crew retention. Consider captain and crew retention issues during MSE discussions.

**MOTION 14:** DIRECT STAFF TO CONDUCT TWO WEBINAR PUBLIC HEARINGS IN JANUARY 2023 FOR AMENDMENT 53.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**Additional Item:** Consider interim rulemaking to implement updated catch levels in the 2023 season for gag.

**NOTE:** The Regional Administrator suggested the Council consider requesting that NMFS issue an interim rule to adjust catch levels for gag given that rulemaking for Amendment 53 will take several months.

The Council discussed potentially requesting an interim rule but did not do so at this meeting due to the short time available to consider it and because public hearings are scheduled ahead of the next Council meeting.

**Snowy Grouper (SG Amendment 51)**

Amendment 51 considers changes to catch levels and management measures for snowy grouper in response to the most recent stock assessment (SEDAR 36 update). The Committee reviewed a decision document. The Committee made the following motions and gave the following guidance:

**MOTION 15:** APPROVE THE MODIFICATIONS TO ACTION 4, ALTERNATIVE 2

**Action 4. Modify the snowy grouper recreational accountability measures**

**Alternative 2.** Remove the current recreational in-season accountability measures. For the snowy grouper recreational sector, National Marine Fisheries Service will annually announce the recreational fishing season start and end dates in the Federal Register and by other methods, as deemed appropriate. The fishing season will start on May 1 and end

on the date National Marine Fisheries Service projects the recreational annual catch limit will be met.

**NOTE:** The May 1 date used in this alternative is dependent on the current Preferred Alternative 2 of Action 3.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 16:** APPROVE AMENDMENT 51 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SNAPPER GROUPER FISHERY OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION FOR FORMAL SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT/CODIFIED TEXT AND GIVE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS AND RE-DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

### **Golden Tilefish and Blueline Tilefish (SG Amendment 52)**

Amendment 52 considers changes to catch levels and management measures for golden tilefish in response to the most recent stock assessment (SEDAR 66) and considers changes to accountability measures for golden tilefish and blueline tilefish. The Committee reviewed a decision document and provided the following guidance:

The Committee discussed Action 3 (Action 3. Modify the fishing season for the commercial golden tilefish hook-and-line and longline components) and clarified the purpose of the proposed change:

- Action 3 responds to an industry request to delay the onset of commercial harvest of golden tilefish with longline gear to avoid oversupplying the market in the first part of January and extend the harvest into the Lenten season when prices tend to be relatively high.
- Longline endorsement holders expressed preference for a January 15 opening to improve social benefits to families at the start of the year (e.g., have some time after the holidays to prepare to begin fishing and not have to rush to be ready by January 1).
- Between 2016 and 2021 the commercial golden tilefish longline component landed the full ACL by March. Therefore, delaying the onset of fishing by two weeks would not be expected to prevent the full ACL from being caught during the remainder of the year.
- With the increase in the ACL, analyses project that the longline fishery would extend into April.
- The Council discussed the problems that would arise with changing the fishing year versus just delaying the onset of the longline commercial season for golden tilefish:
  - The commercial longline and hook-and-line commercial fishing years begin on January 1. Therefore, modifying the fishing year for one commercial component and not the other (i.e., the hook-and-line component) would complicate tracking the overall commercial ACL.

- Issues could also arise as a result of different fishing years for compilation of information prior to a stock assessment.
- In the event that harvest would one day extend beyond the end of the calendar year, the Council could make adjustments to allow fishers the opportunity to harvest the entire ACL.

**MOTION 17: MOVE ACTION 6 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.**

**Action 6. Modify blueline tilefish recreational season.**

**Alternative 1 (No Action).** Do not modify the blueline tilefish recreational season. The current recreational season is May 1-August 31.

**Alternative 2.** Modify blueline tilefish recreational season to May 1 through July 30.

**Alternative 3.** Modify blueline tilefish recreational season to June 1 through August 31.

**Alternative 4.** Modify blueline tilefish recreational season to May 1 through June 30.

**Alternative 5.** Modify blueline tilefish recreational season to July 1 through August 31.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION 18:** APPROVE AMENDMENT 52 TO THE FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE SNAPPER GROUPER FISHERY OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC REGION FOR FORMAL SECRETARIAL REVIEW AND DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT AS NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE. GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY EDITORIAL CHANGES TO THE DOCUMENT/CODIFIED TEXT AND GIVE THE COUNCIL CHAIR AUTHORITY TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS AND RE-DEEM THE CODIFIED TEXT.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**AP recommendations for items not on the agenda**

The Snapper Grouper AP met in October 2022 and discussed additional topics pertaining to the snapper grouper fishery. The AP Chair presented the Snapper Grouper AP's recommendations to the Committee on items not covered on the Committee's agenda.

**Other Business**

- Add discussion of Amendment 36 Special Management Zones (SMZ) evaluation and extension to future planning and priorities.
  - Consider the timing and prioritization of this discussion relative to the expiration of the SMZs on July 31, 2027.

**Timing and Tasks:**

**MOTION 19:** DIRECT STAFF TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Continue to develop Regulatory Amendment 35 (Release Mortality Reduction and Red Snapper) and Amendment 53 (Gag and Black Grouper) for the Committee's consideration of approval for formal secretarial review at the March 2023 meeting.
- Conduct public hearings for Regulatory Amendment 35 (Release Mortality Reduction and Red Snapper) and Amendment 53 (Gag and Black Grouper) prior to the March 2023 Council meeting. Conduct public hearings for Amendment 53 via webinar. Conduct in-person and webinar public hearings for Regulatory Amendment 35.
- Prepare Amendment 51 (Snowy Grouper) and Amendment 52 (Golden Tilefish Blueline Tilefish) for submission for secretarial review.
- Conduct two scoping sessions for Amendment 46 via webinar ahead of the March 2023 meeting.
- Continue developing Amendment 46 (Private Recreational Permitting and Reporting) for review at the March 2023 meeting.
- Develop a guidance document for the management strategy evaluation (MSE).
- Request Blue Matter Science provide an overview presentation of the MSE at the March 2023 meeting.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL