SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGMENT COUNCIL

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE



SSC Meeting Overview

April 5-7

Crowne Plaza Hotel 4831 Tanger Outlet Boulevard North Charleston, SC 29418

> VERSION Briefing Book Draft: March 21, 2011

PURPOSE

This meeting is convened to:

- review the SEDAR 23 stock assessment of Goliath grouper
- review the stock assessment update of spiny lobster
- consider ABC control rule alternatives
- assign unassessed SAFMC stock to control rule tiers
- review the Comprehensive ACL Amendment, Snapper Grouper Amendment 24 and Regulatory Amendment 11, Spiny Lobster FMP Amendment 10, Coastal Migratory Pelagic Amendment 18, and CEBA II.

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Documents:

- Attachment 1. GMFMC ABC Control Rule
- Attachment 2a. Final Mackerel Results of Committee & Council Motions
- Attachment 2b. Mackerel Amendment 18/EA
- Attachment 2c. Cobia Presentation (SC DNR)
- Attachment 3. Draft Comprehensive ACL Amendment
- Attachment 4. ACL Amendment Actions and Alternatives
- Attachment 5. Dolphin/Wahoo Actions and Alternatives
- Attachment 6. Draft S-G Amendment 24
- Attachment 7. SEFSC red grouper projection
- Attachment 8. MSST Alternatives
- Attachment 9. SEDAR 23 Assessment Report of Goliath Grouper.
- Attachment 10. Spiny Lobster Assessment Update Report
- Attachment 11a. Spiny Lobster Amendment 10 Summary
- Attachment 11b. Spiny Lobster Amendment 10/EIS
- Attachment 12. ABC Control Rule
- Attachment 13. Landings trends for unassessed stocks (Spreadsheet)
- Attachment 14. SG FMP Regulatory Amendment 11
- Attachment 15. Preliminary RA11 analyses presentation
- Attachment 16. Draft CEBA 2.
- Attachment 17 Regional Operating Agreement March 2011

1. Introduction

1.1. Documents

Agenda Minutes, August 2010

1.2. Action

Introductions Review and Approve Agenda Approve August 2010 Minutes

2. Review GMFMC SSC ABC Control Rule

2.1. Documents

Attachment 1. GMFMC ABC Control Rule

2.2. Overview

The SAFMC has requested that the SSC review the ABC Control rule developed by the GMFMC SSC and consider its applicability for South Atlantic Stocks. The Council has two FMPs (Mackerel & Spiny Lobster) that are joint with the Gulf Council and so the issue of using the Gulf ABC Control Rule first surfaces in these two FMP. The Councils need to use the same ABC Control Rule for Mackerel and Spiny Lobster. Then the Council is considering using them for a number of the unassessed stocks in SAFMC FMPs until we get stock assessments.

The Gulf rule is provided for consideration and John Carmichael will provide an overview. Luiz Barbieri also serves on the Gulf SSC and may be able to provide further details.

The Council has selected as preferred the ABC based on the Gulf Control rule for stocks in the joint Coastal Migratory Pelagics FMP. Application to CMP stocks can be discussed in detail during item 3. Application to other stocks can be discussed during item 4. A general discussion of the rule is desired for this item.

2.3.<u>Action</u>

- Review and comment on the GMFMC ABC Control Rule.
- Compare and contrast the Gulf and SAFMC SSC approaches, with particular attention to the treatment of unassessed stocks.
- Consider and discuss how the Gulf and SAFMC rules address risk and uncertainties.

3. Mackerel Amendment 18

3.1. Documents

Attachment 2a. Final Mackerel Results of Committee & Council Motions Attachment 2b. Mackerel Amendment 18 Attachment 2c. Cobia Presentation (SC DNR)

3.2. Overview

Amendment Actions:

- Establish Cobia migratory groups
- Establish OFL, ABC, ACL, and AMs for Atlantic migratory groups of king & Spanish Mackerel and Cobia
- Establish management measures necessary to ensure ACLs not exceeded

Staff Contact: Gregg Waugh

Schedule:

NOI	
Scoping Complete	
Council review options & make recommendations	
APs review	
SSC first review	Dec 2009
SSC provide ABC recommendations	April 2010
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	December 2010
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	March 2011
SSC Final review	April 2011
Public Hearings	April 2011
Final Review & Submission	June 2011
Regulations implemented	by December 31, 2011

3.3. Action

- Review all actions and alternatives and provide input to be incorporated into the "Council Conclusions" section for each action. Provide a summary statement of SSC recommendations for each action.
- Final review of fishing level recommendations and alternatives.

4. Comprehensive ACL Amendment

4.1. Documents

Attachment 3. Draft Comprehensive ACL Amendment Attachment 4. ACL Amendment Actions and Alternatives Attachment 5. Dolphin/Wahoo Actions and Alternatives

4.2. Overview

This amendment will apply to a number of Council FMPs and will address ACL and AMs for all stocks not addressed through Snapper-Grouper Amendments 17A, 17B, Golden Crab Amendment 5, Mackerel Amendment 18 and CE-BA 2.

This amendment will include the ABC control rules for assessed and unassessed stocks developed by the SSC. The Committee is asked to review the various alternatives proposed for ABC and OFL control rules in this document. ABC values have been updated to reflect the recommendations from the March SSC conference call, and additional alternatives added based on Council discussion. The supplemental document summarizing the actions and alternatives will be useful to the committee in reviewing the particulars of the ABC and OFL actions.

The SSC recommended that OFL is unknown for the unassessed stocks. At the March meeting the Council was informed that OFLs should be provided for all stocks. Council discussed various ways of deriving an OFL, such as using the approach of the Gulf Council ABC control rule (which you are asked to review at this meeting) which provides an OFL and ABC based on mean landings and a standard deviation. They also considered deriving OFL from ABC in the same manner that ABC was suggested to be derived from OFL, using the formula OFL=ABC/0.75.

The Council is considering several alternatives for triggering AMs when ACLS are reached, particularly in the recreational sector monitored by MRIP where concerns over triggering action due to data uncertainty is most prevalent. The Council has considered a 3 year moving average to reduce the influence of measurement uncertainty, but there is concern that such an approach will be biased when very high spikes occur that influence the mean over several subsequent years. Another alternative was raised at the March meeting that would consider confidence bounds around the MRIP estimates and a 5 year modified mean (5 years, dropping the high and low values) to trigger AMs. The AMs to which such considerations would apply are those which require the RA to consider bag and season changes, outside of normal council action procedures, when an overage has occurred in the recreational sector.

The Committee is provided the Draft Amendment document that was reviewed by the Council at the March Meeting. Two additional documents are provided to help the SSC in discussions of specific alternatives, one addressing dolphin and wahoo actions and one addressing actions for other species in the amendment.

Staff Contact:

- 1. Snapper Grouper: Myra Brouwer
- 2. Golden Crab: Gregg Waugh
- 3. Dolphin/Wahoo: Gregg Waugh

SAFMC SSC

4.3. Comprehensive ACL Schedule

NOI	
Scoping Complete	Feb 2009
Council review options & make recommendations	March 2009 – June 2010
APs review	July 2009, Nov 2010
SSC first review	Dec 2009
SSC provide ABC recommendations	April 2010
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	December 2010
Public Hearings	Jan/Feb 2011
SSC Final review	April 2011
Council Approval	June 2011
Final Review & Submission	June 2011
Regulations implemented	By December 31, 2011

4.4. Presentations

Overview: Myra Brouwer Recreational ACL evaluation and AM Triggers: John Carmichael

4.5. ACTIONS

- Review all actions and alternatives and provide input to be incorporated into the "Council Conclusions" section for each action. Provide a summary statement of SSC recommendations for each action.
- Final review of fishing level recommendations and alternatives. Ensure OFL and ABC values are consistent with ABC Control Rule and ABC recommendations for snapper grouper species, dolphin and wahoo.

5. Snapper Grouper Amendment 24

5.1. Documents

Attachment 6. Draft S-G Amendment 24 Attachment 7. SEFSC red grouper projection Attachment 8. MSST Alternatives

5.2. Overview

Staff Contact: Myra Brouwer

SEDAR 19, using data through 2008, determined that the red grouper stock in the South Atlantic is undergoing overfishing and is overfished. The Council and NOAA Fisheries must implement a rebuilding plan by June 2012. Amendment 24 contains actions to implement a rebuilding plan. The amendment contains the following rebuilding strategy alternatives where fishing mortality is held constant throughout the rebuilding timeframe:

- (1) 75%Fmsy
- (2) 65%Fmsy
- (3) The F rate required to have a 70% probability of rebuilding in ten years
- (4) The F rate required to have a 70% probability of rebuilding in eight years
- (5) The F rate required to have a 70% probability of rebuilding in seven years

NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center issued projection analysis for rebuilding strategy number 5 on February 11, 2011. As such, the SSC has not had an opportunity to review and provide comment on this projection.

MSST

The Council is considering modifying the current MSST definition for red grouper that was established in the Snapper Grouper FMP Amendment 11. The current definition requires MSST to be at least one half of SSB_MSY, but allows for it to be greater than this value if M is suitably low. Natural mortality M is relatively low (0.14) for red grouper. Alternative 1 (no action) would result in MSST equal to 4,914,053 lbs whole weight if M=0.14. This MSST estimate is close to SSB_MSY (5,714,323 whole weight) defined by the Council's current MSST definition. Therefore, if this definition is maintained, then MSST would be very close to SSB_MSY, which is the stock biomass expected to exist under equilibrium conditions when fishing at F_MSY.

Because M is small, the current definition of MSST would trigger a rebuilding plan if biomass fell slightly below SSB_MSY. However, natural variation in recruitment could cause stock biomass to frequently alternate between an overfished and rebuilt condition, even if the fishing mortality rate applied to the stock was within the limits specified by the MFMT. Therefore, Alternative 1 could result in potential administrative complications associated with setting MSST close to SSB_MSY.

At the December meeting, the Council requested the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) to provide an estimate of the minimum stock size at which rebuilding to the MSY level would be expected to occur within 10 years when fishing mortality is at the minimum fishing mortality threshold (MFMT) level. The National Standard Guidelines outline this as one possible method to estimate MSST. NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center issued a discussion paper on this MSST alternative and other methods on February 28, 2011. As such, the SSC has not had an opportunity to review and provide comment on the analysis.

5.3. Snapper Grouper 24 Schedule

Scoping Complete	Jan 2011
Council reviews options & makes recommendations	
AP's review	Nov 2010
SSC first review	April 2011
	1

SSC provide ABC recommendations	April 2010
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	June 2011
Public Hearings	August 2011
Final Review & Submission	September 2011?
SSC Final review	Nov 2011?
Regulations implemented	by June 9, 2012

5.4. Presentations

None.

5.5. ACTIONS

- (1) Reaffirm the current SSC OFL and ABC recommendations:
 - (a) OFL=yield at Fmsy (669,000 lbs ww)

(b) ABC=projected yield stream with 70% rebuilding success (665,000 lbs ww)

- (c) Maximum risk of overfishing (P*)
- (d) Minimum probability of rebuilding success

(2) Review the rebuilding strategies alternatives and provide comments as necessary. The Council has not chosen a preferred alternative.

(3) Review the projection analysis that sets F rate at the rate required to have a 70% probability of rebuilding in eight years and provide comments as necessary.

(4) Review MSST alternatives and SEFSC discussion paper and provide comments as necessary.

6. MSST Alternatives

The SSC was asked to consider alternative approaches for deriving MSST. Planned presentations and documents on this item are not available at this time, so the issue will be addressed in general terms at a later meeting. Specific application of alternative MSSTs is being considered by the Council in Snapper-Grouper Amendment 24, and will be discussed with that item.

7. Goliath Grouper Assessment

7.1. Documents:

Attachment 9. SEDAR 23 Assessment Report of Goliath Grouper.

7.2. Overview

Staff Contact: Julie Neer

A benchmark stock assessment for Goliath grouper was conducted through SEDAR 23 at the request of the State of Florida. The assessment team was led by analysts from the Florida Marine Research Institute and followed a condensed SEDAR benchmark process in order to complete the assessment in time for the Florida Wildlife Commission meeting in December 2010.

The assessment panel choose to use a catch-free model, as goliath grouper have been under a moratorium since 1990 and the historic catch streams are highly uncertain. The catch-free model employed was the same model framework used when goliath grouper was last assessed under SEDAR 6. One important caveat to the catch-free model is that it cannot produce absolute estimates of population parameters such as fishing mortality or abundance or stock status, but rather relative measures scaled to an assumed equilibrium biomass. The review panel raised a variety of issues with recommended implementation of the model and after much discussion, determined it could not recommend any population benchmark estimates or stock status.

7.3. Presentations

Assessment Overview: Joe O'Hop, FL FWC Review Panel Overview and Recommendations: Luiz Barbieri (RW chair)

7.4. ACTIONS

- Review the Goliath Grouper assessment and evaluate its adequacy for supporting fishing level recommendations and management actions.
- Comment on the degree to which the assessment incorporates and addresses uncertainties
- Apply the SAFMC ABC control rule to the Goliath Grouper assessment and recommend a P* value.
- Provide fishing level recommendations for Goliath Grouper.
- Provide recommendations for the timing, methods, and data needs of future Goliath grouper assessments

8. Spiny Lobster Assessment and Amendment 10

8.1. Documents

Attachment 10. Spiny Lobster Assessment Update Report Attachment 11a. Spiny Lobster Amendment 10 Summary Attachment 11b. Spiny Lobster Amendment 10/DEIS

8.2. Overview

Staff Contact, Amendment 10: Gregg Waugh Staff Contact, Assessment Update: Julie Neer

The SEDAR 8 (2005) Spiny Lobster benchmark stock assessment was updated in 2010 to include information through 2008. Both ICA and DeLury

OVERVIEW

models were updated. The Review Panel raised concerns with the performance of the models, and ultimately rejected both and determined that status of spiny lobsters is unknown. A primary concern is that the US population is one portion of a much larger stock extending through the Caribbean, and it is largely believed that recruitment to the US is primarily determined by spawning in other areas. This issue was raised in the benchmark assessment also. Past management has largely focused on maximizing yield from the US portion of the population.

The Gulf SSC discussed spiny lobster in detail at an earlier meeting and developed reference point guidance reflecting the unique characteristics of this population. Luiz Barbieri will brief the group on these discussions and recommendations. Mike Tingali of FL FWC will provide a presentation on spiny lobster stock information and life history.

8.3. Spiny Lobster Amendment 10 Schedule

NOI	
Scoping Complete	
Council review options & make recommendations.	March 2009-March 2010
AP review	June 2010 & April 2011
SSC first review	April 2011
SSC provide ABC recommendations	April 2011
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	December 2010 & March 2011
Public Hearings	April 2011
SSC Final review	April 2011
Final Review & Submission	June 2011
Regulations implemented	by December 31, 2011

8.4. Presentations

Assessment Overview: Luiz Barbieri Spiny Lobster Stock and Life History: Mike Tingali, FL FWC Gulf SSC Actions Overview: Luiz Barbieri Amendment 10 Overview: Gregg Waugh

8.5. ACTIONS

- Review the Spiny Lobster assessment and evaluate its adequacy for supporting fishing level recommendations and management actions.
- Apply the SAFMC ABC control rule to the Spiny Lobster assessment and recommend a P* value.
- Comment on the degree to which the assessment incorporates and addresses uncertainties
- Provide fishing level recommendations for Spiny Lobster.
- Provide recommendations for the timing, methods, and data needs of future Spiny Lobster assessments
- Review all actions and alternatives and provide input to be incorporated into the "Council Conclusions" section for each action. Provide a summary statement of SSC recommendations for each action.

9. ABC Control Rule Tier Assignments

9.1. Documents

Attachment 12. ABC Control Rule Attachment 13. Landings trends for unassessed stocks (Spreadsheet)

9.2. Overview

Staff Contact: John Carmichael & Mike Errigo

The SSC addressed ABC recommendations for unassessed stocks by adding tiers to the control rule that correspond to the level of information and harvest. It was recognized that developing ABCs from this approach would require multiple steps. The first step, planned for this meeting, is to allocate stocks to tiers. Various analyses will then be requested based on the tier assignments. Finally, the SSC will review the analytical results and consider revised ABC recommendations in November 2011.

Landings trends are provided for the stocks that are expected to remain in the FMUs once the ACL amendment is approved. The SSC is directed toward the Tiers included in the ABC control rule and the stock level tiers of the Methot table, addressed at the August 2010 SSC meeting. Documentation on the methods referenced in the ABC control rule tiers is provided in the references folder. Also provided are PSA evaluations of Gulf and South Atlantic stocks that have been referenced in earlier ABC discussions, and the 1998 (Restrepo et al) Technical Guidance.

Based on current preferred alternatives in the Comprehensive ACL amendment, 18 unassessed stocks remain in council FMUs. Landings trends are presented only for these species. Most of these are snapper-grouper stocks that are relatively minor in terms of their landings contribution to the overall snapper grouper fishery.

Cobia, in the Coastal-Migratory Pelagic FMP, is the sole stock from outside the Snapper-Grouper FMP. The SAFMC manages cobia through the Atlantic coast. Therefore, the landings presented reflect all states from Florida to Maine. This differs from the others in the Snapper Grouper FMU for which landings are limited to the South Atlantic area. As with other stocks in the joint SAFMC - GMFMC Coastal Migratory Pelagic FMP, the Council has selected a preferred ABC alternative for Cobia based on the GMFMC ABC control rule.

The landings trends in the attached spreadsheet are provided by sector and standardized to the mean to avoid possible disclosure of any confidential information. This preserves the trends but hides the specific landings information. Reference lines for various alternative ABC levels are provided on the panel showing total landings by species. These include the current SAFMC SSC recommendation (median of 1999-2008) and the Gulf SSC control rule alternatives of the average plus 1 or 2 standard deviations. (NOTE: At this writing we do not have the Gulf SSC control report, and therefore do not know what criteria are considered to determine if a ABC or OFL should be based on the mean or some addition of the standard deviation.)

SAFMC SSC ABC Control Rule Tiers (Summarized)

Level 1 tier – Assessed Stocks.

ABC based on PDF of yield and P* derived from dimensions.

Level 2 tier - Apply Depletion based stock reduction analysis (DB-SRA) analysis (Dick and MacCall 2010; see references folder)

Requires full history of landings and other life history info. (Note: "Other Life History Info" is not specified in the rule)

Provides a pdf of OFL. Could apply P* or other risk/p level to derive ABC

Level 3 tier - Apply depletion-corrected average catch (DCAC) (MacCall 2009; see references folder).

Requires less data than 2nd tier (Note: Required data not specified in ABC rule) Provides provisional ABC directly – OFL unknown

Level 4 tier- Catch only.

Requires judgment and careful consideration of all available sources, which may vary greatly between stocks falling in this tier.

NOTE: Could consider the Methot table to quantify catch level in this tier.

Historical Catch	Expert Judgment	Possible Action
Nil, not targeted	Inconceivable that catch could be affecting stock	Not in fishery; Ecosystem Component; SDC not required
Small	Catch is enough to warrant including stock in the fishery and tracking, but not enough to be of concern	Set ABC and ACL above historical catch; Set ACT at historical catch level. Allow increase in ACT if accompanied by cooperative research and close monitoring.
Moderate	Possible that any increase in catch could be overfishing	ABC/ACL = f(catch, vulnerability) So caps current fishery
Moderately high	Overfishing or overfished may already be occurring, but no assessment to quantify	Set provisional OFL = f(catch, vulnerability); Set ABC/ACL below OFL to begin stock rebuilding

"Methot" Catch Evaluation Table.

9.3. Presentations

Landings Summary: Mike Errigo

9.4. ACTIONS

- Assign unassessed stocks to control rule tiers
- Request analyses for unassessed stocks based on tier assignments

10.Snapper Grouper FMP Regulatory Amendment 11

10.1. Documents

Attachment 14. SG FMP Regulatory Amendment 11 Attachment 15. Preliminary RA11 analyses presentation

10.2. Overview

Staff Contact: Gregg Waugh

10.3. Reg Amendment 11 Schedule

NOI	
Scoping Complete	
Council review options & make recommendations	
AP review	April 2011
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	
Public Hearings	
SSC Final review	April 2011
Final Review & Submission	-
Regulations implemented	

10.4. Presentations

Overview: Gregg Waugh

10.5. <u>ACTIONS</u>

• Comment on the amendment and alternatives

11.Comprehensive Ecosystem Based Amendment 2

11.1. Documents

Attachment 16. Draft CEBA 2.

11.2. Overview

Staff Contact: Anna Martin

This amendment includes regulatory actions that specify management of the octocoral fishery, modify management of South Carolina's Special Management Zones, modify sea turtle release gear requirements for the snapper grouper fishery, and non-regulatory actions that designate new Essential Fish Habitat and EFH-Habitat Areas of Particular Concern for various Council FMPs. CE-BA 2 is an EA and under statutory deadline for specifying an ACL for the octocoral fishery.

Actions:

- Remove octocorals from the FMU under the South Atlantic Coral FMP
- Extend the FMU for octocorals into the Gulf Council's area of jurisdiction
- Modify the ACL for octocorals in the South Atlantic
- Modify management of South Carolina SMZs
- Modify sea turtle release gear requirements for the snapper grouper fishery
- Amend the Snapper Grouper FMP to designate new EFH-HAPCs
- Amend the Coral FMP to designate new EFH-HAPCs
- Amend the FMP for Pelagic Sargassum Habitat to designate new EFH
- Amend the FMP for Pelagic *Sargassum* Habitat to designate EFH-HAPCs

Note: At their December meeting, the Council added an alternative to modify the FMU to indicate that octocorals are included in the EEZ off of NC, SC, and GA. Based upon this alternative, an additional alternative was added to set the ACL for octocorals in the South Atlantic at 0.

11.3. CEBA II Schedule

NOI Scoping Complete Council review options & make recommendations APs review	Jan/Feb 2009 March 2009 – Sept 2010
SSC first review	,
SSC provide ABC recommendations	April & Aug 2010
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	December 2010
Public Hearings	Jan/Feb 2011
SSC Final review	April 2011
Final Review & Submission	
Regulations implemented	by December 31, 2011

11.4. Presentations

Overview: Anna Martin

11.5. ACTIONS

- Comment on the new alternative (Action 3, Alternative 3) to set the ACL for octocorals in the South Atlantic at 0.
- Review all actions and alternatives and provide input to be incorporated into the "Council Conclusions" section for each action. Provide a summary statement of SSC recommendations for each action.

12. Report and Recommendations Review

The Committee is provided an opportunity to review its report and final recommendations.

13. Information and Updates

Attachment 17 Regional Operating Agreement March 2011

13.1. FMP REPORTS

Staff contact: Gregg Waugh

- 13.1.1. Coastal Migratory Pelagic
- 13.1.2. Snapper Grouper

SG Amendment 18A

Document: None; waiting on NOAA GC and NMFS guidance Summary: Extend FMP range, Data Collection, Black Sea Bass & Golden Tilefish endorsements Actions:

Schedule:

NOI	1/22/09
Scoping Complete	Jan 2009
Council review options & make recommendations	
APs review	
SSC first review	
SSC provide ABC recommendations	NA
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	
Public Hearings	Oct 2010
SSC Final review	
Final Review & Submission	
Regulations implemented	

SG Amendment 18B

Council was advised in December 2010 that Amendment 18B (extending the S-G FMU) is not needed.

SG Amendment 20

Wreckfish ITQ Document: Summary: Actions:

Schedule:

NOI	1/9/2009
Scoping Complete	Jan 2009
Council review options & make recommendations	Mar 2009 -
APs review	
SSC first review	
SSC provide ABC recommendations	NA
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	
Public Hearings	
SSC Final review	
Final Review & Submission	
Regulations implemented	

SG Amendment 21

Comprehensive Catch Shares, Trip limits, and effort reduction Document: Summary: Actions:

Schedule:

IOI
coping Complete
Council review options & make recommendations
APs review
SC first review April 2011
SC provide ABC recommendationsNA
Council review & approve for Public Hearing
ublic Hearings
SC Final review
inal Review & Submission
Regulations implemented

SG Amendment 22

Long-term management of red snapper

Document: Summary: Actions:

Schedule:

NOI	
Scoping Complete	
Council review options & make recommendations	
APs review	
SSC first review	
SSC provide ABC recommendations	NA
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	
Public Hearings	
SSC Final review	
Final Review & Submission	
Regulations implemented	

SG Regulatory Amendment 9

Trip limits for greater amberjack, vermilion snapper, black sea bass, and gag grouper

Document: Submitted for Final Secretarial Review.

Summary: In order to prevent the progressive shortening of fishing seasons for black sea bass, gag, and vermillion snapper, and to maximize the probability of achieving optimum yield for greater amberjack, Regulatory Amendment 9 proposes to establish harvest management measures for black sea bass, commercial trip limits for vermilion snapper and gag; and modify the current trip limit for greater amberjack.

Actions: Establish trip limits/split season quotas/spawning season closures and bag limit reduction for black sea bass, establish trip limit for vermilion snapper and gag, and modify the current trip limit for greater amberjack under the current Framework Procedure.

Schedule:

Schoulder	
Council review options & make recommendations	
APs review	Nov 2010 & March 2011
SSC review	Nov 2010
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	Dec 2010
Public Hearings	Jan/Feb 2011
SSC Final review	
Final Review & Submission	
Regulations implemented	by June 1, 2011

13.1.3. Golden Crab

Amendment 5

Schedule:

NOI	
Scoping Complete	
Council review options & make recommendations	Sept 2009-Dec 2010
APs review	Summer 2009
SSC first review	April 2011
SSC provide ABC recommendations	April 2010
Council review & approve for Public Hearing	March 2011
Public Hearings	May 2011
SSC Final review	April 2011
Final Review & Submission	Sept. 2011
Regulations implemented	-

13.2. Upcoming Meetings

SAFMC APs

- 1. Mackerel AP. April 6-7, Charleston SC
- 2. Dolphin Wahoo AP. April 7-8, Charleston SC
- 3. Snapper Grouper AP. April 13-15, Charleston SC
- 4. Spiny Lobster AP. April 20, Key West FL

<u>SEDAR</u>

SEDAR 25, SA sea bass and tilefish
Data Workshop, April 26-28, Charleston SC
Assessment Workshop, June 21-23, Beaufort NC
Review Workshop, September 20-22, Charleston SC
SEDAR 21, Sharks
Review Workshop, April 18-22, Annapolis MD
SEDAR Steering Committee, May 2, Charleston SC

<u>Others</u>

4th Annual National SSC Workshop, October 4-6, Williamsburg VA

SAFMC Public Hearings

Spiny Lobster Amendment 10/DEIS & Mackerel Amendment 18A/EA – April 11-20

SAFMC Meetings

- A. June 13-17, 2011 Florida Key West Marriott Beachside Hotel 3841 N. Roosevelt Blvd. Key West, FL 33040 Phone: 1-800-546-0885 or 305-296-8100/Fax: 305-293-0205
 B. September 12-16, 2011 – South Carolina The Charleston Marriott Hotel
 - 170 Lockwood Boulevard Charleston SC 29403 Phone: 1-800-968-3569 or 843-723-3000/Fax: 843-723-0276
- C. <u>December 5-9, 2011 North Carolina</u> Holiday Inn Brownstone Hotel 1707 Hillsborough Street Raleigh, NC 27605 Phone: 1-800-331-7919 or 919-828-0811/Fax: 919-834-0904
- D. March 5-9, 2012 Georgia
- E. June 11-15, 2012 Florida
- F. September 10-14, 2012 South Carolina
- G. December 3-7, 2012 North Carolina

14.Next SSC Meeting

- 1. November 8 10, 2011, Charleston SC
- 2. Considering a meeting August 23-25, 2011.

15.Other Business