# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

## Stuart, Florida

# June 10 – 14, 2019

# SUMMARY OF <u>APPROVED</u> COUNCIL MOTIONS

**Note:** These summary motions show the wording of the actions/alternatives as modified by the motions. For details of what was changed, see the Final Committee Reports available from the Council's website in the folder named Committee Reports:

http://safmc.net/briefing-books/briefing-book-2019-june-council-meeting/

#### **SNAPPER GROUPER**

#### Amendment 38 (Blueline Tilefish)

**MOTION #1:** BEGIN DEVELOPMENT OF ABBREVIATED FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT 3 TO ESTABLISH A NEW SOUTH ATLANTIC BLUELINE TILEFISH ACL.

#### **Update on System Management Plans**

**MOTION #2:** APPROVE THE SPAWNING SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ZONES STORY MAP FOR REVIEW AND COMMENTS BY THE INFORMATION AND EDUCATION, LAW ENFORCEMENT, AND SNAPPER GROUPER ADVISORY PANELS.

# **Regulatory Amendment 33 (Red Snapper Seasons Modifications)**

**MOTION#3:** REMOVE OPTIONS 4 & 6 AND ALL SUB-OPTIONS (UNDER ALL OPTIONS) FOR ACTION 2

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: REMOVE OPTIONS 4, 6 & 7 FROM ACTION 2

2. Modify the start date for the recreational red snapper season

**Option 4**. Modify the recreational red snapper season to start in August.

Sub-option 4a. First week

Sub-option 4b. Second week

Sub-option 4c. Third week

Sub-option 4d. Fourth week

**Option 6.** Modify the recreational red snapper season to start in October.

Sub-option 6a. First week

Sub-option 6b. Second week

Sub-option 6c. Third week

**Sub-option 6d.** Fourth week

**Option 7**. Modify the recreational red snapper season to start in May. Recreational harvest would not be allowed during July and August.

Sub-option 7a. First week

Sub-option 7b. Second week

Sub-option 7c. Third week

**Sub-option 7d.** Fourth week

The Committee directed staff add sub-alternatives under Action 3 to define "weekend"

#### MOTION #4: REMOVE OPTIONS 4, 5, AND 6 FROM ACTION 4

4. Modify the start date for the red snapper commercial season

**Option 4**. Modify the commercial red snapper season start date to the second Monday in August, unless otherwise specified.

**Option 5**. Modify the commercial red snapper season start date to the second Monday in September, unless otherwise specified.

**Option 6**. Modify the commercial red snapper season start date to the second Monday in October, unless otherwise specified.

**MOTION #5:** ADD AN ALTERNATIVE TO ACTION 2 (RECREATIONAL SEASON) TO ALLOW HARVEST STARTING IN MAY FOR A PORTION OF THE PROJECTED DAYS AND RESUME HARVEST IN THE FALL IF ENOUGH ACL REMAINS.

The Committee directed staff to modify options to specify first day of the month.

**MOTION #6:** APPROVE THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENTS AS MODIFIED The purpose and need of this framework amendment are to modify the structure of the South Atlantic red snapper commercial and recreational fishing seasons to increase the socio-economic benefits to fishermen and fishing communities while minimizing discard mortality and providing protection for spawning red snapper.

**MOTION #7:** APPROVE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 33 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS TO BE CONDUCTED VIA WEBINARS AND BRING THE DOCUMENTBACK TO THE COMMITTEE IN SEPTEMBER. \*\*\*GUIDANCE TO CONDUCT LISTENING STATIONS IN AUGUST\*\*\*

#### **Regulatory Amendment 29 (Best Fishing Practices & Powerheads)**

**MOTION #8:** REMOVE "WITHIN SIX MONTHS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF SNAPPER GROUPER REGULATORY AMENDMENT 29" FROM ALTERNATIVES 2 AND 3 IN ACTION 1

Action 1. Specify requirements for the use of descending devices\* and/or venting devices\*\* when fishing for or possessing species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit. **Preferred Alternative 2.** Within six months of implementation of Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 29, require a descending device\* be on board a vessel fishing for or possessing species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit.

Preferred Sub-alternative 2a. private recreational vessels.

Preferred Sub-alternative 2b. for-hire vessels.

**Preferred Sub-alternative 2c**. commercially permitted South Atlantic snapper grouper vessels.

Alternative 3. Within six months of implementation of Snapper Grouper Regulatory

Amendment 29, require a *venting device*<sup>\*\*</sup> be on board a vessel fishing for or possessing species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit.

Sub-alternative 3a. private recreational vessels.

Sub-alternative 3b. for-hire vessels.

Sub-alternative 3c. commercially permitted South Atlantic snapper grouper vessels.

**MOTION #9:** MODIFY THE DEFINITION OF DESCENDING DEVICE AS FOLLOWS: \* For the purpose of this requirement, "descending device" means an instrument, **SUFFICIENTLY WEIGHTED**, that will release fish at a depth sufficient for the fish to be able to recover from the effects of barotrauma, A MINIMUM OF 33 feet (twice the atmospheric pressure at the surface) or greater AND ideally released at the same depth that it was caught. The device can be, but is not limited to, a weighted hook, lip clamp, or box that will hold the fish while it is lowered to depth. The device should be capable of releasing the fish automatically, releasing the fish by actions of the operator of the device, or by allowing the fish to escape on its own. Since minimizing surface time is critical to increasing survival, descending devices shall be rigged and ready for use while fishing is occurring.

**MOTION #10**: ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING EDITS TO ACTION 2, ALTERNATIVES 1 (NO ACTION), ALTERNATIVE 2, ALTERNATIVE 3, AND ALTERNATIVE 4: Action 2. Modify the requirement for the use of non-stainless-steel circle hooks when fishing for and/or possessing snapper grouper species with hook-and-line gear.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Use of Non-stainless-steel circle hooks is are required to be used when fishing for and/or possessing species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit with hook-and-line gear and natural baits north of 28 degrees north latitude.

**Preferred Alternative 2**. Require the use of *non-offset*, non-stainless-steel circle hooks when fishing for and/or possessing species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit with hook-and-line gear and natural baits in the exclusive economic zone:

**Preferred Sub-alternative 2a**. north of 28 degrees north latitude (approximately 25 miles south of Cape Canaveral, Florida).

**Sub-alternative 2b**. throughout the extent of the South Atlantic Council's jurisdiction (North Carolina/Virginia border through Key West, Florida), except that other nonstainless steel hook types may be used when fishing for yellowtail snapper with natural baits.

Alternative 3. Require *non-offset*, non-stainless-steel circle hooks be *on board* a vessel possessing species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit when fishing with hook-and-line gear and natural baits in the exclusive economic zone:

**Sub-alternative 3a**. north of 28 degrees north latitude (approximately 25 miles south of Cape Canaveral, Florida).

**Sub-alternative 3b**. throughout the extent of the South Atlantic Council's jurisdiction (North Carolina/Virginia border through Key West, Florida) except that other nonstainless-steel hook types may be used when fishing for yellowtail snapper with natural baits.

**Preferred Alternative 4**. Require the use of non-stainless-steel hooks when fishing for and/or possessing species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit with hook-and-line gear and natural baits in the exclusive economic zone.

**MOTION #11**: DE-SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2A AND SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2B AS PREFERRED

**Preferred Alternative 2**. Require the use of *non-offset*, non-stainless-steel circle hooks when fishing for and/or possessing species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit with hook-and-line gear and natural baits in the exclusive economic zone:

**Sub-alternative 2b**. throughout the extent of the South Atlantic Council's jurisdiction (North Carolina/Virginia border through Key West, Florida), except that other nonstainless steel hook types may be used when fishing for yellowtail snapper with natural baits.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

#### **MOTION FAILS**

(PREFERRED REVERTS BACK TO SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2A)

**Preferred Alternative 2**. Require the use of *non-offset*, non-stainless-steel circle hooks when fishing for and/or possessing species in the snapper grouper fishery management unit with hook-and-line gear and natural baits in the exclusive economic zone:

**Preferred Sub-alternative 2a**. north of 28 degrees north latitude (approximately 25 miles south of Cape Canaveral, Florida).

#### **Regulatory Amendment 30 (Red Grouper Management Measures)**

**MOTION #12:** APPROVE THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS TO THE PURPOSE AND NEED.

#### **Purpose for Action**

The *purpose* of this **framework** amendment is to modify the rebuilding schedule for red grouper based on the results of the most recent stock assessment and extend protection for red grouper during the spawning season.

#### Need for Action

The *need* of this framework amendment is to rebuild the red grouper stock; and achieve optimum yield while minimizing, to the extent practicable, adverse social and economic effects.

#### MOTION #13: APPROVE THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS IN ACTION 1.

Action 1. Revise the Rebuilding Schedule for Red Grouper

Alternative 2. Revise the rebuilding schedule to equal the shortest possible time period to rebuild in the absence of fishing mortality ( $T_{min}$ ). This would equal 5 years with the rebuilding time period ending in 2023 2024. 2019 2020 would be Year 1.

**MOTION #14**: APPROVE SNAPPER GROUPER REGULATORY AMENDMENT 30 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.

## **Other Business**

Recreational deep-water species regional allocations \*\*\*\*GUIDANCE TO RETAIN ITEM ON LIST FOR THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER IN THE FUTURE\*\*\*\*

*Lionfish and traps issue* \*\*\*GUIDANCE TO WORK WITH STATE PARTNERS AND PREPARE THE WHITE PAPER FOR COUNCIL TO CONSIDER\*\*\*

**MOTION #15:** PREPARE A WHITE PAPER TO CONSIDER REMOVING ALMACO JACK FROM THE JACKS COMPLEX.

# MOTION #16:

DIRECT STAFF TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

- INITIATE DEVELOPMENT OF ABBREVIATED FRAMEWORK 3 TO ADDRESS CATCH LEVELS OF BLUELINE TILEFISH IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC
- CONDUCT PUBLIC HEARINGS ON REGULATORY AMENDMENT 33 (RED SNAPPER SEASONS) VIA WEBINAR AND LISTENING STATIONS AND CONTINUE TO DEVELOP THE AMENDMENT FOR THE COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION IN SEPTEMBER 2019
- FINALIZE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 30 (RED GROUPER) AND SUBMIT TO THE NMFS
- PREPARE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 29 (BEST FISHING PRACTICES) FOR THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER FOR FINAL APPROVAL AT THE SEPTEMBER 2019 MEETING
- FINALIZE THE WRECKFISH ITQ REVIEW FOR THE COUNCIL TO CONSIDER FOR FINAL APPROVAL IN SEPTEMBER 2019.
- INCLUDE REVIEW OF THE SMP STORY MAP IN THE NEXT MEETINGS OF THE SNAPPER GROUPER, I&E, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT ADVISORY PANELS
- ASSIST SERO WITH WHITE PAPER ON LIONFISH AND TRAPS ISSUE TO BRING TO SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION
- PREPARE INFORMATION DOCUMENT (WHITE PAPER) ON REMOVING ALMACO JACK FROM THE JACKS COMPLEX AND BRING FOR COUNCIL CONSIDERATION AT THE DECEMBER 2019 MEETING.

# MACKEREL COBIA

# Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Report

DIRECTION TO STAFF TO ADD DISCUSSION OF PORT MEETINGS TO THE NEXT MACKEREL COMMITTEE AGENDA. INCLUDING POSSIBLE COLLABORATION WITH THE GULF COUNCIL.

# Consideration of Atlantic king mackerel trip limit emergency action

**MOTION #1**: REQUEST EMERGENCY ACTION FOR ATLANTIC KING MACKEREL TO RAISE THE CURRENT 50-FISH TRIP LIMIT TO A 75-FISH TRIP LIMIT SOUTH OF THE FLAGLER/VOLUSIA COUNTY LINE FOR SEASON 2 (OCTOBER 1 THROUGH THE END OF FEBRUARY) FOR THE 2019-2020 SEASON

# **CMP Framework Amendment 8 (king mackerel commercial trip limits during season two) MOTION #2**: APPROVE THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT

The *purpose* is to modify the commercial trip limit for Atlantic king mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone during Season 2 (October 1 to the end of February).

The *need* is to provide a commercial trip limit sufficient to support fishing activity and revenue opportunity while constraining harvest to the annual catch limit and providing for year-round access.

# **MOTION #3**: APPROVE THE INCLUSION OF ACTION 1/ALTERNATIVES 1 THROUGH 4 IN CMP FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT 8:

# Action. Modify the commercial trip limit for Atlantic king mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone:

Alternative 1 (No Action): The commercial trip limits for Atlantic king mackerel are: North of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N): 3,500 pounds year-round.

South of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N) to the Miami-Dade/Monroe line (25°20'24"N):

- March 1 March 31 (Season 1): 50-fish\*
- April 1 September 30 (Season 1): 75-fish, unless NMFS determines that 75% or more of the Season 1 quota has been landed, then, 50-fish\*
- October 1 January 31 (Season 2): 50-fish
- February 1 end of February (Season 2): 50-fish, unless NMFS determines that less than 70% of the Season 2 quota has been landed, then, 75-fish.

Alternative 2: Adjust the commercial trip limits for Atlantic king mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone for Season 2:

North of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N): 3,500 pounds year-round. South of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N) to the Miami-Dade/Monroe line (25°20'24"N):

- March 1 March 31 (Season 1): 50-fish\*
- April 1 September 30 (Season 1): 75-fish, unless NMFS determines that 75% or more of the Season 1 quota has been landed, then, 50-fish\*
- October 1 January 31: 75-fish
- February 1 end of February: 75-fish, unless NMFS determines that less than 70% of the Season 2 quota has been landed, then, 100-fish.

Alternative 3: Adjust the commercial trip limits for Atlantic king mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone for Season 2:

North of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N): 3,500 pounds year-round.

South of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N) to the Miami-Dade/Monroe line (25°20'24"N):

- March 1 March 31 (Season 1): 50-fish\*
- April 1 September 30 (Season 1): 75-fish, unless NMFS determines that 75% or more of the Season 1 quota has been landed, then, 50-fish\*
- October 1 January 31: 100-fish

• <u>February 1 – end of February: 100-fish, unless NMFS determines that less than 70%</u> of the Season 2 quota has been landed, then, 150-fish.

Alternative 4: Adjust the commercial trip limits for Atlantic king mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone for Season 2:

North of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N): 3,500 pounds year-round.

South of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N) to the Miami-Dade/Monroe line (25°20'24"N):

- March 1 March 31 (Season 1): 50-fish\*
- April 1 September 30 (Season 1): 75-fish, unless NMFS determines that 75% or more of the Season 1 quota has been landed, then, 50-fish\*
- October 1 January 31: 150-fish
- <u>February 1 end of February: 150-fish, unless NMFS determines that less than 70%</u> of the Season 2 quota has been landed, then, 175-fish.

# History of Spanish mackerel management

**MOTION #4**: DIRECT STAFF TO PREPARE A WHITE PAPER ON THE NECESSITY OF CONTROLLING EFFORT IN THE COMMERICAL SPANISH MACKEREL FISHERY, ESPECIALLY THE GILLNET FISHERY. APPROVED BY COMMITTEE (7-0-2) APPROVED BY COUNCIL

**MOTION #5**: MOVE TO MAKE THE CONTROL DATE (FOR THE SPANISH MACKEREL COMMERCIAL PERMIT) FROM THE DATE OF MARCH 2019 MACKEREL COBIA COMMITTEE MEETING (MARCH 7, 2019).

# **MOTION #6:** ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

- 1. Prepare for a discussion of port meetings to gain a comprehensive look at the commercial and recreational king and Spanish mackerel fisheries.
- 2. Work with SERO staff on an emergency rule to the raise the commercial king mackerel trip limit south of the Flagler/Volusia County line from 50-fish to 75-fish for season two of the 2019/2020 season.
- 3. Continue work on CMP Framework Amendment 8 and prepare a draft for the September 2019 meeting.
- 4. Prepare a white paper with a thorough analysis of effort in the commercial Spanish mackerel fishery and a discussion of possible avenues to control effort, including: a limited access commercial permit, a limited access gillnet endorsement in the southern zone, and collaboration with state agencies.

# SPINY LOBSTER

**Spiny lobster commercial trip limit for vessels with snapper grouper and spiny lobster permits MOTION #1**: RECOMMEND THE COUNCIL START WORK ON A REGULATORY AMENDMENT TO CREATE A COMMERCIAL TRIP LIMIT FOR VESSELS HOLDING A SNAPPER GROUPER UNLIMITED AND SPINY LOBSTER TAILING PERMIT OFF OF NC, SC, AND GA.

#### **MOTION # 2.** ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Begin work on an amendment that will address spiny lobster trip limits for commercial vessels holding a snapper grouper unlimited permit and a spiny lobster tailing permit.

# SSC SELECTION

## SSC Reapplications

**MOTION #1.** REAPPOINT ALL 6 SSC MEMBERS WHO HAVE REAPPLIED FOR THE SSC (Robert Ahrens, Luiz Barbieri, Jeff Buckel, Churchill Grimes, Genevieve Nesslage, and George Sedberry).

## New SSC Applications

MOTION #2. APPOINT WILSON LANEY TO THE SSC.

**MOTION #3.** ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

- 1. Draft and send letters to all the SSC members that were reappointed to the SSC for another 3-year term.
- 2. Draft and send a letter to Dr. Wilson Laney announcing his appointment to the SSC for a 3-year term.
- 3. Draft and send letters to all the other applicants who applied for positions on the SSC but were not appointed, thanking them for their applications.

# <u>SEDAR</u>

## **SEDAR** Appointments

**MOTION #1**. MOVE TO APPOINT THOSE LISTED IN TABLE 1 TO THE SEDAR 68 ASSESSMENT OF SCAMP.

# SAFMC Research Plan

MOTION #2. MOVE TO APPROVE THE SAFMC RESEARCH PLAN FOR 2020-2025.

**MOTION #3.** MOVE TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

- CONDUCT SEDAR COMMITTEE REVIEW VIA EMAIL OF THE BLACK SEA BASS AND RED GROUPER ASSESSMENTS SCOPES OF WORK PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO SEFSC.
- FORWARD THE RESEARCH PLAN TO SERO AND SEFSC.
- PROVIDE THE COMMITTEE THE SSC'S FINAL MRIP WORKSHOP TORS.

Name	Affiliation	DW	AW	RW		
Assessment Development Team (participate in all stages)						
Marcel Reichert	SSC	Р	Р	0		
Alexi Sharov	SSC	Р	Р	0		
Rob Ahrens	SSC	Р	Р	0		
Technical Representatives						
Wally Bubley/Tracey Smart	MARMAP	Р				
Dave Wyanski	MARMAP	Р				
Michelle Willis	MARMAP	D				
Jeff Buckel (or designee)	SSC/NCSU	D				
Ted Switzer/Kevin Thompson	FL FWCC	Р				
Steve Brown	FL FWCC	Р				
Alan Bianchi	NC DMF	Р				
Chris Wilson	NC DMF	D				
Amy Dukes	SC DNR	Р				
Kayla Rudnay	SC DNR	D				
Julie Califf	GA DNR	D				
Dawn Franco	GA DNR	D				
CitSci Scamp	SAFMC	Р				
Advisory & Constituent Representatives						
Jimmy Hull	FL/AP Comm	Р	0	0		
Deidera Jeffcoat	GA/AP FH	Р	0	0		
Randy McKinley	NC/AP Comm	Р	0	0		
Council & Staff Observers (not SEDAR funded)						
Tim Griner	SAFMC	0	0	0		
Chris Conklin (Alternate)	SAFMC	0	0	0		
Mike Errigo SAFMC	Staff	0	0	0		

 Table 1. SEDAR 68 Scamp Research Track Appointments (as referenced in Motion 1)

P=Participant at Workshop

D=Data Provider not attending workshop

O=Observer

### **ADVISORY PANEL SELECTION**

**Open Seats - System Management Plan (SMP) Workgroup and Habitat AP MOTION 1:** MODIFY THE SECTOR SPECIFIC SEATS ON THE HABITAT AP TO NO LONGER REQUIRE THE SEATS BE SECTOR SPECIFIC.

**MOTION 2:** MODIFY THE STRUCTURE OF THE HABITAT AP TO CREATE AN AGENCY SEAT FOR THE CURRENT AT-LARGE GEOLOGIST/RESEARCH SEAT.

## Review of the Structure of the Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel and Cobia Subpanel

The Committee reviewed the responsibilities of the Cobia Sub-panel. Since the creation of the subpanel in 2016, management of Atlantic cobia (GA northward to NY) has been designated to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. The Council acknowledged the valuable contributions of the members of the Cobia Subpanel and directed staff to ensure their appreciation is reflected in follow up communications.

**MOTION 3**: DISSOLVE THE COBIA SUB-PANEL ON THE MACKEREL COBIA ADVISORY PANEL.

## **MOTION 4:** ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

1) Staff will send thank you letters to members of the Cobia Sub-panel on the Mackerel Cobia AP to advise them of the Council's decision and acknowledge their contributions.

2) Staff will advertise open seats on the Council's advisory panels as appropriate for consideration by the AP Selection Committee at the December 2019 Meeting.

#### **DOLPHIN WAHOO**

**Amendment 10 (Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures)** DIRECTION TO STAFF:

- In Action 1 and 2, provide sub-alternatives that allow for a buffer between the ABC and the ACL.
- In Action 10, add language that would allow options to encompass buoy gear and all trap or pot gear. Also add language to implement incidental trip limits that would apply for dolphin when these gears are onboard. Look at a range of 250 to 1,000 lbs gutted weight by 250 lbs increments.
- Request further information from the Office of Protected Resources on timing of the new biological opinions for Dolphin Wahoo and Highly Migratory Species.

# **MOTION #1:** APPROVE ACTION 1 AND THE PROPOSED MODIFIED RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION IN AMENDMENT 10.

Action 1. Revise total annual catch limits (ACLs) for dolphin

Alternative 1 (No Action). The total annual catch limit for dolphin is set equal to the acceptable biological catch. The current total annual catch limit for dolphin is 15,344,846 pounds whole weight.

Alternative 2. The total annual catch limit for dolphin is set equal to the acceptable biological catch. Revise the total annual catch limit for dolphin to reflect the updated acceptable biological catch level.

# **MOTION #2:** APPROVE ACTION 2 AND THE PROPOSED MODIFIED RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION IN AMENDMENT 10.

Action 2. Revise total annual catch limits (ACLs) for wahoo

Alternative 1 (No Action). The total annual catch limit for wahoo is set equal to the acceptable biological catch. The current total annual catch limit for wahoo is 1,794,960 pounds whole weight.

Alternative 2. The total annual catch limit for wahoo is set equal to the acceptable biological catch. Revise the total annual catch limit for wahoo to reflect the updated acceptable biological catch level.

#### MOTION #3: ADD ALTERNATIVE 5 TO ACTION 9.

Action 9. Revise the accountability measures for dolphin

Alternative 5. The commercial AM will include a shortening of the commercial season that may be triggered if the commercial ACL is exceeded, but only after commercial landings have been monitored for persistence in increased landings. The length of the commercial season will not be reduced if the RA determines the best available science shows that it is not necessary. If a reduction is necessary, the commercial season may be reduced and the ACL in the following fishing year will be reduced by the amount of the commercial overage only if the species is overfished and the total ACL is exceeded.

# **MOTION #4:** MOVE ACTIONS 4 AND 5 FROM THE RECREATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES MODIFICATIONS AMENDMENT TO DOLPHIN WAHOO AMENDMENT 10.

Action 4. Revise post season, recreational accountability measures

Alternative 1 (No Action). Retain the current post season accountability measures for the recreational sector for dolphin and wahoo.

Alternative 2. Do not specify post season accountability measures.

Alternative 3. Only specify post season accountability measures if:

**Sub-alternative 3a.** The recreational annual catch limits are constant and the 3-year geometric mean of landings exceed the recreational sector annual catch limit. If in any year the recreational sector annual catch limit is changed, the moving multi-year geometric mean of landings will start over.

**Sub-alternative 3b.** The recreational annual catch limits are constant and the summed total of the most recent past three years of recreational landings exceeds the sum of the past three years recreational sector annual catch limits.

**Sub-alternative 3c.** The recreational annual catch limits are constant and recreational landings exceed the recreational sector annual catch limit in two of the previous three fishing years or exceeds the total acceptable biological catch in any one year.

**Sub-alternative 3d.** The total (commercial and recreational combined) annual catch limit is exceeded.

**Sub-alternative 3e.** The stock is overfished based on the most recent Status of U.S. Fisheries Report to Congress.

Alternative 4. If the post-season accountability measure is triggered, reduce the recreational sector annual catch limit by the amount of the overage in the following fishing season.

Alternative 5. If the post-season accountability measure is triggered, reduce the length of the following recreational fishing season by the amount necessary to reduce the probability that the annual catch limit will be exceeded in the following year.

#### Action 5. Announce starting and ending dates before a season starts

Alternative 1 (No Action). The fishing year for dolphin and wahoo are the same as the calendar year. There are no in-season closures for the recreational sector for dolphin and wahoo. Alternative 2. The 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 at the beginning of the fishing year and end on the date the National Marine Fisheries Service projects the recreational annual catch limit will be met."

#### MOTION #5: REMOVE ACTION 13 FROM AMENDMENT 10.

*Action 13. Allow bag limit sales of dolphin for dually permitted for-hire and commercial permit holders* 

Alternative 1 (No Action). Bag limit sales of dolphin landed from a vessel that is issued a federal for-hire dolphin wahoo permit is prohibited if operating on a trip under a for-hire mode. If the vessel is also issued a federal commercial dolphin wahoo permit and necessary state commercial permits, dolphin landed from the vessel may be sold if not operating on a trip under a for-hire or private recreational mode.

Alternative 2. Allow bag limit sales of dolphin landed from a vessel that is issued a federal forhire dolphin wahoo permit, commercial dolphin wahoo permit, and necessary state commercial permits, regardless of whether on a commercial or for hire trip.

#### MOTION #6: ADD ALTERNATIVE 3 TO ACTION 14.

Action 14. Modify the recreational vessel limit for dolphin

Alternative 3. In the EEZ north of Florida, the recreational daily bag limit is 10 dolphin per person, not to exceed 60 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less, except on board a headboat where the limit is 10 dolphin per paying passenger. In Florida only, maintain the recreational daily bag limit of 10 fish per person, not to exceed the vessel limit, whichever is less. Modify the recreational vessel limit to:

**Sub-alternative 3a.** 40 dolphin per vessel, except on board a headboat where the limit is 10 dolphin per paying passenger.

**Sub-alternative 3b.** 42 dolphin per vessel, except on board a headboat where the limit is 10 dolphin per paying passenger.

**Sub-alternative 3c.** 48 dolphin per vessel, except on board a headboat where the limit is 10 dolphin per paying passenger.

**Sub-alternative 3d.** 54 dolphin per vessel, except on board a headboat where the limit is 10 dolphin per paying passenger.

#### MOTION #7: ACCEPT THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS TO ACTION 14.

Action 14. Modify the recreational vessel limit for dolphin

Alternative 2. Maintain the recreational daily bag limit of 10 fish per person, not to exceed the vessel limit, whichever is less. The recreational daily bag limit is 10 dolphin per person, not to exceed: Modify the recreational vessel limit to:

**Sub-alternative 2a.** 40 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less, except on board a headboat where the limit is 10 dolphin per paying passenger.

**Sub-alternative 2b.** 42 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less, except on board a headboat where the limit is 10 dolphin per paying passenger.

**Sub-alternative 2c.** 48 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less, except on board a headboat where the limit is 10 dolphin per paying passenger.

**Sub-alternative 2d.** 54 dolphin per vessel, whichever is less, except on board a headboat where the limit is 10 dolphin per paying passenger.

# **MOTION #8:** ALLOW FILLETING OF DOLPHIN NORTH OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR CHARTER/FOR-HIRE ONLY. INTENT BEING SKIN ON THE ENTIRE FILLET AND TWO FILLETS EQUALING ONE FISH. NO FRAMES NEED TO BE RETAINED.

# **Bullet mackerel and frigate mackerel as ecosystem component species in the Dolphin** DIRECTION TO STAFF:

• Provide an options paper that includes further information on the options presented in the scoping document.

**MOTION #9:** DIRECT STAFF TO INITIATE AN AMENDMENT THAT WOULD DESIGNATE BULLET AND FRIGATE MACKEREL AS ECOSYSTEM COMPONENET SPECIES WITHIN THE DOLPHIN WAHOO FMP TO ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR ROLE AS FORAGE FOR DOLHPIN AND WAHOO.

DIRECTION TO STAFF TO INCLUDE OPTIONS FOR APPROPRIATE REGULATORY ACTIONS.

## MOTION #10 (TIMING AND TASKS): DIRECT STAFF TO:

- 1. CONTINUE WORK ON AMENDMENT 10 FOR REVIEW AT THE SEPTEMBER 2019 MEETING.
- 2. CONTINUE WORK ON REVISING THE DOLPHIN WAHOO FMP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR REVIEW AT THE SEPTEMBER 2019 MEETING.
- 3. PROVIDE AN OPTIONS PAPER ON ADDING BULLET AND FRIGATE MACKEREL AS ECOSYSTEM COMPONENT SPECIES TO THE DOLPHIN WAHOO FMP FOR REVIEW AT THE SEPTEMER 2019 MEETING.

# **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

#### **Allocation Trigger Policy**

The Committee reviewed the Allocation Trigger Policy. The Committee reiterated its desire to apply both indicator-based and time-based criteria as triggers for re-examining allocations. And modified them. The Committee reviewed a spreadsheet with information regarding the first year a time-based allocation trigger would be reviewed. They reiterated their desire to have time-based criteria triggered every seven years should no other indicator-based criterion triggers a review. When a review is triggered, for any reason, the year of the next review will be set 7 years after the most recent review.

For indicator based triggers the committee updated the wording of the triggers.

# **INDICATOR BASED TRIGGERS:**

- Either sector exceeds its ACL or closes prior to the end of its fishing year 3 out of 5 consecutive years
- Either sector under harvests its ACL or OY by at least 50% 3 out of 5 consecutive years
- After a stock assessment is approved by the SSC and presented to the Council
- After the Council reviews a species Fishery Performance Report

Year	Assessed Spp	Other Spp.	Total
2019	1	2	3
2020	1	0	1
2021	8	0	8
2022	2	3	5
2023	6	0	6
2024	1	10	11
2025	0	6	6
2026	1	6	7
2027	0	5	5

**Table 1.** Number of assessed species and other species that would have their allocations reviewed by year.

Note: The red #1 for 2024 refers to red snapper.

The Council directed staff to prepare an allocation trigger status report to be presented during the Executive Finance Committee for the December Council meeting each year beginning in 2020. The Council staff indicated that it is their intent to keep the Excel spreadsheet updated each time a review is considered whether it is decided to further pursue allocations or not.

**MOTION #1(TIMING AND TASK):** Prepare a letter to be signed by the Council Chair with the Council's Allocation Review Trigger Policy.

# <u>SOPPs</u>

#### **MOTION #1:** APPROVE #9 (DRESS CODE FOR STAFF) TO THE HANDBOOK.

While representing the Council staff are expected, at all times, to present a professional, business like image. Attire and grooming must be neat, clean and appropriate for the work being performed in the setting which the work is performed. Shorts, flip flops, and T-shirts are not considered appropriate for official Council business during formally recognized meeting sessions. The Executive Director shall resolve issues related to dress by instructing any staff not in compliance to correct any issues before the next scheduled meeting session.

# **MOTION #2:** APPROVE ITEM C (DRESS CODE F0R COUNCIL MEMBERS) TO THE HANDBOOK.

While representing the Council members are expected, at all times, to present a professional, business like image. Attire and grooming must be neat, clean and appropriate for the work being performed in the setting which the work is performed. Shorts, flip flops, and T-shirts are not considered appropriate for official Council business during formally recognized meeting sessions. The Council Chair or Vice Chair shall resolve issues related to dress by instructing any member not in compliance to correct any issues before the next scheduled meeting session.

#### MOTION #3: APPROVE THE FOLLOWING WORDING TO ITEM E. TRANSPORTATION.

If you have special circumstances about your travel, please contact the Administrative Officer in the Council office for further guidance.

Travelers may claim an exemption due to medical needs, carpooling or other extenuating circumstances to receive POV reimbursement. Exemptions are to be explained on the travel order and are subject to review and approval.

INTENT IS TO APPLY TO ALL AUTHORIZED TRAVELERS

#### MOTION #4. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

- 1. Work with NOAA GC to clarify the remaining identified issues in the Handbook.
- 2. Revise the Handbook and bring the document back for review/action at the December 2019 Council meeting:
  - a. Add wording from the November 2019 CCC meeting as appropriate
  - b. Add additional clarification on travel (e.g., applies to authorized travelers with a Council travel order)

# EXECUTIVE FINANCE MOTION #1. APPROVE THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019 OPERATIONAL BUDGET.

#### CCC Working Paper

Staff were directed to add the following to the SAFMC's Regional Perspective and to propose this modification at the next CCC meeting for adoption into the Consensus Statement for Topic 13. Exempted Fishing Permit:

**MOTION #2: ADOPT Option 1b.** It is the SAFMC's intent that in addition to providing EFP requests to the Councils, NMFS WOULD provide EFP requests to all affected state agencies and if they object, or if the EFP request is particularly controversial, OR IF A SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL BENEFIT WOULD BE DERIVED BY THE APPLICANT, the affected Councils' Scientific and Statistical Committee will review the EFP request and provide recommendations to the Council. The Council will consider the SSC comments during their discussions to develop recommendations for NMFS.

# **MOTION #3.** ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

- 1. Directed staff to prepare short discussion papers on the following topics; provide to the Council for review/input and send to Dave Whaley by the end of June:
  - a. Shifting stocks and changing ocean conditions
  - b. Forage fish
  - c. Timelines for amendments
  - d. Habitat
- 2. Request NMFS provide specific examples of how the Councils can make use of the flexibility for managing recreational fisheries.
- 3. Request NMFS prepare a table showing the reports required by the Modern Fisheries Act, what will be included, deadlines, guidelines, responsible agency/group, etc.
- 4. Directed staff to prepare draft comments on the Senate Draft Wording for MSA Reauthorization, circulate them to the Council for review/input, and provide to Dave Whaley by the end of June.

- 5. Directed staff to Revise the CCC Working Paper as needed and provide the revised document to Dave Witherell, Chair of the CCC Legislative Work Group.
- 6. Directed staff to work on the following items for the September 2019 Council meeting:
  - Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 29 Best Practices and Powerheads
  - Snapper Grouper Abbreviated Framework 3 Blueline Tilefish ACL
  - CMP Framework 8 King Mackerel Trip Limits in Season 2
  - Dolphin Wahoo 10 Dolphin Wahoo actions and Goals & Objectives
  - Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 33 Red Snapper Season Modifications
  - Bullet and Frigate Mackerel as Ecosystem Species in the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery
  - Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 34 NC/SC SMZs
  - Spanish Mackerel White Paper
  - Wreckfish ITQ Review
  - Coral 10/Shrimp 11/Golden Crab 10 Transit Provisions/Oculina Extensions/Golden Crab Allowable Fishing Zones

NOTE: DURING OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS, THE COUNCIL APPROVED SOME ITEMS FOR PRESENTATION AT UPCOMING MEETINGS.

#### COUNCIL SESSION

**MOTION #1:** RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE NC AQUARIUM EFP. Direction to staff to recommend purchasing live rock instead of harvesting.

**MOTION #2:** IN REFERENCE TO AM 13 SEND A COMMENT LETTER TO HMS THAT SUPPORTS IMMEDIATE DISCONTINUATION OF THE PURSE SEINE FISHERY WITH REDISTRIBUTION OF THAT QUOTA AS APPROPRIATE. ALSO, EXPRESS CONTINUED SUPPORT TO EXTEND THE JANUARY SUB-QUOTA TO THE END OF APRIL.

MOTION #3: SUPPORT THE BIGEYE AND YELLOFIN TUNA MANAGEMENT LETTER.

**MOTION #4:** COUNCIL SEND A LETTER TO THE FWC INDICATING THAT IT DOES NOT INTEND TO REGULATE BLACKFIN TUNA