

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Charleston, SC

September 16 – 20, 2019

SUMMARY OF APPROVED COUNCIL MOTIONS

Revised 9/26/19

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:

<https://safmc.net/briefing-books/briefing-book-2019-september-council-meeting/>

SNAPPER GROUPEL

Regulatory Amendment 29 (Best Fishing Practices & Powerheads)

MOTION #1: REMOVE "DISCARDS AND" FROM THE NEED FOR ACTIONS.

The *purpose* is to modify gear requirements for the snapper grouper fishery to promote best fishing practices and to ensure consistent regulations for the dive component of the snapper grouper fishery.

The *need* is to reduce ~~discards and~~ discard mortality of snapper grouper species and to decrease the burden of compliance with differing regulations for the dive component of the snapper grouper fishery while minimizing, to the extent practicable, adverse social and economic effects.

MOTION #2: APPROVE THE FOLLOWING DEFINITION OF DESCENDING DEVICE FOR INCLUSION IN ACTION 1:

For the purpose of this requirement, "descending device" means an instrument to which is attached a minimum of a 16-oz weight and a length of line that will release the fish at the depth from which the fish was caught or a minimum of 50-feet. The descending device attaches to the fish's mouth or is a container that will hold the fish. The device **MUST** be capable of releasing the fish automatically, by the 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 readily available for use while engaged in fishing.

MOTION #3: APPROVE SNAPPER GROUPEL REGULATORY AMENDMENT 29 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

The Committee also discussed an outreach plan for best fishing practices and prioritized the following:

- A brochure on best fishing practices and the requirements contained in Regulatory Amendment 29.
- Working with influencers to promote best fishing practices.
- Beginning discussions on incentivizing fishermen to use best fishing practices.

The Committee also requested a document summarizing current and past outreach efforts in the South Atlantic and their results.

Abbreviated Framework 3 (Blueline Tilefish)

MOTION #4: MOVE TO REVISE THE ACL AND RECREATIONAL ACT FOR BLUELINE TILEFISH TO REFLECT THE ACTIONS IN THE DECISION DOCUMENT AND MAINTAIN AS AN ABBREVIATED FRAMEWORK AND RETURN TO THE DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING.

Wreckfish ITQ Review

MOTION #5: ACCEPT THE 2019 WRECKFISH ITQ REVIEW AS FINAL AND BEGIN A PLAN AMENDMENT FOR THE WRECKFISH FISHERY.

Regulatory Amendment 33 (Red Snapper Seasons Modifications)

MOTION #6: ACCEPT THE IPT’S EDITS TO ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 1 AND SELECT AS PREFERRED

Action 1. Remove the minimum number of days for the South Atlantic red snapper seasons

Alternative 1 (No Action). If the projected commercial or recreational fishing season is determined by the National Marine Fisheries Service to be three days or less then the commercial or recreational fishing season will not open for that fishing year.

Alternative 2. Remove the requirement specifying the red snapper commercial and recreational seasons in the South Atlantic would not open if projections indicate the commercial or recreational season would be three days or less fewer.

It was clarified during discussion of this action that under both current and proposed regulations, recreational and commercial harvest of red snapper operate independently of each other; that is, harvest for one sector can open without the other.

MOTION #7: MOVE ACTIONS 2 & 3 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

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

Action 3. Revise the days of the week recreational harvest of red snapper would be allowed during an open season

MOTION #8: MODIFY ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 4 FOR A MAY 1ST START DATE AND SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED

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

Alternative 1 (No Action). The commercial red snapper season begins on the second Monday in July, unless otherwise specified.

Alternative 2. Modify the commercial red snapper season ~~start date~~ to ~~start the second Monday in~~ on May 1, unless otherwise specified.

MOTION #9: ACCEPT THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS UNDER ACTION 4 AND MOVE ALTERNATIVE 4 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX

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

Alternative 1 (No Action). The commercial red snapper season begins on the second Monday in July, unless otherwise specified.

Alternative 2. Modify the commercial red snapper season start date to ~~start the second Monday in~~ May 1, unless otherwise specified.

Alternative 3. Modify the commercial red snapper season ~~start date~~ to ~~start~~ the second Monday in June, unless otherwise specified.

Alternative 4. ~~Modify the commercial red snapper season start date to start May 1. Commercial harvest would not be allowed during July and August.~~

MOTION #10: APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT:

The purpose and need of this framework amendment is to ~~modify the structure of~~ ~~remove the minimum number of days to allow commercial or recreational harvest of red snapper in the South Atlantic and modify the start date of the red snapper commercial and recreational fishing seasons~~ to increase the socio-economic benefits to fishermen and fishing communities while minimizing discard mortality.

Regulatory Amendment 34 (SMZs in NC and SC)

MOTION #11: APPROVE INCLUSION OF ACTION 1 IN REGULATORY AMENDMENT 34.

1. Establish Special Management Zones in the Exclusive Economic Zone off North Carolina

Option 1 (No Action). There are currently no special management zones in the exclusive economic zone off North Carolina at permitted artificial reef sites. Do not establish new special management zones in the exclusive economic zone off North Carolina at permitted artificial reef sites. The allowable gear for the snapper grouper fishery management plan for the commercial and recreational sectors are handline, rod and reel, spear, bandit gear, powerhead, pot, and longline (the last two are commercial sector only). Do not implement new restrictions on fishing gear used to harvest snapper grouper species on designated artificial reefs in federal waters off North Carolina.

Option 2. Establish 30 special management zones at state permitted artificial reef sites in the exclusive economic zone off North Carolina (**Table 1 and Figures 1-3**). Within the special management zones, harvest of snapper grouper species would be allowed with handline, rod and reel, and spear. All harvest by spear would be limited to the applicable recreational bag limit.

MOTION #12: APPROVE INCLUSION OF ACTION 2 IN REGULATORY AMENDMENT 34 AND SELECT OPTION 2 AS PREFERRED.

2. Establish Additional Special Management Zones in the Exclusive Economic Zone off South Carolina

Option 1 (No Action). There are currently 29 special management zones at permitted artificial reef sites in the exclusive economic zone off South Carolina. Do not establish additional special management zones in the exclusive economic zone off South Carolina at permitted artificial reef sites. Allowable gear within the special management zones includes handline, rod and reel, and spear (without powerheads), and all harvest of snapper grouper species is limited to the recreational bag limit. Do not implement new restrictions on fishing gear used to harvest snapper grouper species on designated artificial reefs in federal waters off South Carolina.

Option 2. Establish four additional Special Management Zones at permitted artificial reef sites in the exclusive economic zone off South Carolina (**Table 2 and Figures 4-5**). Within the special management zones, harvest of snapper grouper species would only be allowed with handline, rod and reel, and spear and harvest would be limited to the applicable recreational bag limit.

GUIDANCE THAT STATES WILL CONDUCT MONITORING AND ENFORCEMENT OF ARTIFICIAL REEFS SO NO NEED FOR COUNCIL TO DEVELOP SMP

MOTION #13: DIRECT STAFF TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

- SEND LETTERS TO THANK PARTICIPANTS WHO DELIVERED PRESENTATIONS DURING THE SSC/MRIP WORKSHOP.
- PROVIDE SUMMARY OF OUTREACH EFFORTS TO DATE ON DESCENDING DEVICES AT THE DECEMBER 2019 MEETING.
- PREPARE ABBREVIATED FRAMEWORK 3 (ACL ADJUSTMENT FOR BLUELINE TILEFISH) FOR REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION FOR FORMAL APPROVAL AT THE DECEMBER 2019 COUNCIL MEETING.
- INITIATE DEVELOPMENT OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE SNAPPER GROUPE FMP BASED ON MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE WRECKFISH ITQ REVIEW.
- CONDUCT SCOPING WEBINARS WITH LISTENING STATIONS FOR REGULATORY AMENDMENT 34 (3 IN NORTH CAROLINA AND ONE IN SOUTH CAROLINA) BEFORE THE DECEMBER 2019 COUNCIL MEETING.
- CONTINUE WORKING ON REGULATORY AMENDMENT 34
- PREPARE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 33 (MODIFICATIONS TO RED SNAPPER SEASONS) FOR CONSIDERATION FOR FORMAL REVIEW AT THE DECEMBER 2019 MEETING.
- SUBMIT REGULATORY AMENDMENT 29 FOR FORMAL REVIEW

MACKEREL COBIA

CMP Framework Amendment 8 (king mackerel commercial trip limits during season two)

MOTION #1: ACCEPT THE IPT'S RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT.

The *purpose* is to modify increase 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 #2: ACCEPT THE IPT'S RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE ACTION/ALTERNATIVES LANGUAGE, REMOVING REFERENCE TO SEASON 1

Alternative 1 (No Action): The commercial trip limits for Atlantic king mackerel in Season 2 south of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N) to the Miami-Dade/Monroe line (25°20'24"N) 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 Increase the commercial trip limits for Atlantic king mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone for Season 2 south of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N) to the Miami-Dade/Monroe line (25°20'24"N):

~~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 Increase the commercial trip limits for Atlantic king mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone for Season 2 south of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N) to the Miami-Dade/Monroe line (25°20'24"N):

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

Alternative 4: ~~Adjust~~ Increase the commercial trip limits for Atlantic king mackerel in the Atlantic Southern Zone for Season 2 south of the Flagler/Volusia line (29°25'N) to the Miami-Dade/Monroe line (25°20'24"N):

~~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~~
- ~~• February 1 – end of February: 150-fish, unless NMFS determines that less than 70% of the Season 2 quota has been landed, then, 175-fish.~~

MOTION #3: ADD AN ALTERNATIVE FOR A SEASON 2 TRIP LIMIT OF 100-FISH WITH NO STEP-UP AND SELECT AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

MOTION #4: APPROVE COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGICS FRAMEWORK

Spanish Mackerel White Paper

MOTION #5: REVISE SPANISH MACKEREL ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES SO WHEN THE NORTHERN ZONE COMMERCIAL SECTOR QUOTA IS MET A STEPDOWN TO 500-LBS WILL OCCUR.

THE SPANISH MACKEREL FISHERY WILL CLOSE WHEN THE TOTAL ACL (COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL COMBINED) IS MET OR PROJECTED TO BE MET.

MOTION #6: MOVE TO ANALYZE AND DEVELOP ALTERNATIVES FOR TRIP LIMITS FOR THE NORTHERN ZONE COMMERCIAL SECTOR OF 1,500, 2,000, 2,500 POUNDS.

MOTION #7: ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Continue work on CMP Framework Amendment 8 and prepare FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS AND a final draft for the approval at the December 2019 Council meeting.
2. Begin work on a framework amendment to address Spanish mackerel accountability measures and commercial trip limits in the Northern Zone FOR REVIEW IN DECEMBER 2019 AND FINAL ACTION DURING A WEBINAR BEFORE THE MARCH 2020 MEETING.
3. Prepare for the October 2019 Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Meeting

PROTECTED RESOURCES

MOTION # 1. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Work with SERO PRD to provide information relative to the Dolphin Wahoo BiOp, as necessary, and follow the progress of BiOp development.

DOLPHIN WAHOO

Amendment 10 (Revise Dolphin and Wahoo Management Measures)

DIRECTION TO STAFF:

In Action 10, remove the referral to stock status in Alternatives 2 and 3.

MOTION #1: ADD ALTERNATIVE 5 AND ACCEPT THE IPT RECOMMENDATIONS TO ACTION 9.

*Action 9. Revise the **commercial** accountability measures for dolphin*

Alternative 1 (No Action). The current commercial **AM accountability measure** includes an in-season closure to take place if the commercial **ACL annual catch limit** is met or projected to be met. If the commercial **ACL annual catch limit** is exceeded, it will be reduced by the amount of the commercial overage in the following fishing year only if the species is overfished and the total **ACL annual catch limit** is exceeded.

~~The current recreational AM includes a shortening of the recreational season that may be triggered if the recreational ACL is exceeded, but only after recreational landings have been monitored for persistence in increased landings. The length of the recreational 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 recreational season may be reduced and the ACL in the following fishing year will be reduced by the amount of the recreational overage only if the species is overfished and the total ACL is exceeded.~~

Alternative 2. The commercial **AM accountability measure** will include an in-season closure to take place if the commercial **ACL annual catch limit** and the available common pool **ACL annual catch limit** is met or projected to be met. If the commercial **ACL annual catch limit** and the available common pool **ACL annual catch limit** is exceeded, it will be reduced by the amount of the commercial overage in the following fishing year only if the species is overfished and the total **ACL annual catch limit** is exceeded.

~~The recreational AM will include a shortening of the recreational season that may be triggered if the recreational ACL and the available common pool ACL is exceeded, but only after recreational landings have been monitored for persistence in increased landings. The length of the recreational 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 recreational season may be reduced and the ACL in the following fishing year will be reduced by the amount of the recreational overage only if the species is overfished and the total ACL is exceeded.~~

Alternative 3. The commercial **AM accountability measure** will include an in-season closure to take place if the commercial **ACL annual catch limit** and the available uncaught sector **ACL annual catch limit** from the previous fishing year is met or projected to be met. If the commercial **ACL annual catch limit** and the available uncaught sector **ACL annual catch limit** from the previous fishing year is exceeded, it will be reduced by the amount of the commercial overage in the following fishing year only if the species is overfished and the total **ACL annual catch limit** is exceeded.

Alternative 4. ~~The recreational AM will include a shortening of the recreational season that may be triggered if the recreational ACL and the available uncaught sector ACL from the previous fishing year is exceeded, but only after recreational landings have been monitored for persistence in increased landings. The length of the recreational 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 recreational season may be reduced and the ACL in the following fishing year will~~

be reduced by the amount of the recreational overage only if the species is overfished and the total ACL is exceeded.

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.

Alternative 4. If commercial landings exceed the commercial annual catch limit, then during the following fishing year, commercial landings will be monitored for persistence in increased landings. If the commercial annual catch limit is exceeded for a second consecutive year, it will be reduced by the amount of the commercial overage in the following fishing year and the commercial season will be reduced by the amount necessary to ensure that commercial landings do not exceed the reduced annual catch limit only if the species is overfished and the total annual catch limit is exceeded. However, the commercial annual catch limit and length of the commercial season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best available science, that it is not necessary.

Alternative 5. If commercial landings exceed the commercial annual catch limit, then during the following fishing year, commercial landings will be monitored for persistence in increased landings. If the commercial annual catch limit is exceeded for a second consecutive year, the commercial season will be reduced by the amount necessary to ensure that commercial landings do not exceed the current year commercial sector annual catch limit. However, the length of the commercial season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best available science, that it is not necessary.

MOTION #2: MODIFY THE LANGUAGE FOR ALTERNATIVE 5 IN ACTION 9.

Alternative 5. If commercial landings exceed the commercial annual catch limit, then during the following fishing year, commercial landings will be monitored for persistence in increased landings. If the commercial annual catch limit is exceeded for a second consecutive year, the commercial season will be reduced by the amount necessary to ensure that commercial landings do not exceed the current year commercial sector annual catch limit. However, the length of the commercial season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best available science, that it is not necessary.

MOTION #3: APPROVE ACTION 10 FOR CONSIDERATION IN AMENDMENT 10. REMOVE ALTERNATIVE 4 AND 6.

Action 10. Revise the recreational accountability measures for dolphin

Alternative 1 (No action). The fishing year for dolphin is the same as the calendar year. If recreational landings exceed the recreational annual catch limit, then during the following fishing year, recreational landings will be monitored for persistence in increased landings. If the recreational annual catch limit is exceeded, it will be reduced by the amount of the recreational overage in the following fishing year and the recreational season will be reduced by the amount necessary to ensure that recreational landings do not exceed the reduced annual catch limit only if the species is overfished and the total annual catch limit is exceeded. However, the

recreational annual catch limit and length of the recreational season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best available science, that it is not necessary.

Alternative 2. If recreational landings exceed the recreational annual catch limit and the available common pool annual catch limit, then during the following fishing year recreational landings will be monitored for persistence in increased landings. If the recreational annual catch limit and the available common pool annual catch limit is exceeded, it will be reduced by the amount of the recreational overage in the following fishing year and the recreational season will be reduced by the amount necessary to ensure that recreational landings do not exceed the reduced annual catch limit only if the species is overfished and the total annual catch limit is exceeded. However, the recreational annual catch limit and length of the recreational season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best available science, that it is not necessary.

Alternative 3. If recreational landings exceed the recreational annual catch limit and the available uncaught sector annual catch limit from the previous fishing year, then during the following fishing year recreational landings will be monitored for persistence in increased landings. If the recreational annual catch limit and the available uncaught sector annual catch limit from the previous fishing year is exceeded, it will be reduced by the amount of the recreational overage in the following fishing year and the recreational season will be reduced by the amount necessary to ensure that recreational landings do not exceed the reduced annual catch limit only if the species is overfished and the total annual catch limit is exceeded. However, the recreational annual catch limit and length of the recreational season will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best available science, that it is not necessary.

Alternative 4. ~~Remove the post season accountability measures.~~

Alternative 5. Only implement post season accountability measures if:

Sub-alternative 5a. 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 5b. 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 5c. 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 5d. The total (commercial and recreational combined) annual catch limit is exceeded.

Sub-alternative 5e. The stock is overfished based on the most recent Status of U.S. Fisheries Report to Congress.

Alternative 6. ~~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 7. 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.

MOTION #4: APPROVE ACTION 11 FOR CONSIDERATION IN AMENDEMNT 10.
REMOVE ALTERNATIVE 2. ADD OVERFISHED STATUS TO ALTERNATIVE 4.

Action 11. Revise the recreational accountability measures for wahoo

Alternative 1 (No action). The fishing year for wahoo is the same as the calendar year. If recreational landings exceed the recreational annual catch limit, then during the following fishing year recreational landings will be monitored for persistence in increased landings. If the recreational annual catch limit is exceeded, it will be reduced by the amount of the recreational overage in the following fishing year only if the species is overfished and the total annual catch limit is exceeded. However, the recreational annual catch limit will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best available science, that it is not necessary.

Alternative 2. Remove the 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 **only if the species is overfished.**

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.

MOTION #5: MOVE ACTION 12 TO CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED.

~~*Action 12. Announce starting and ending dates before a recreational season starts for dolphin and wahoo*~~

~~**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 or wahoo.~~

~~**Alternative 2.** The National Marine Fisheries Service will annually announce the recreational fishing season start and end dates for dolphin 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.~~

~~**Alternative 3.** The National Marine Fisheries Service will annually announce the recreational fishing season start and end dates for wahoo 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 #6: APPROVE THE IPT'S SUGGESTED EDITS IN ACTION 13.

Action 13. Allow properly permitted commercial fishing vessels with gear onboard that are not authorized for use in the dolphin wahoo fishery to possess dolphin and wahoo

Alternative 1 (No Action). The following are the only authorized commercial gear types in the fisheries for dolphin and wahoo in the Atlantic EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone: Automatic reel, bandit gear, handline, pelagic longline, rod and reel, and spearfishing gear (including powerheads). A person aboard a vessel in the Atlantic EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone that has on board gear types other than authorized gear types may not possess a dolphin or wahoo.

Alternative 2. A vessel in the Atlantic EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone that possesses both an Atlantic Dolphin/Wahoo Commercial Permit and the necessary state and/or federal commercial permits for trap, pot, or buoy gear are authorized to retain dolphin and wahoo caught by rod and reel while in possession of such gears. Dolphin retained on trips when trap, pot, or buoy gear are onboard shall not exceed (*Sub-alternatives 2a through 2d*). The wahoo commercial trip limit will remain at 500 pounds. A person aboard a vessel in the Atlantic EEZ Exclusive Economic Zone that has on board other gear types that are not authorized in the fisheries for dolphin and wahoo may not possess a dolphin or wahoo.

Sub-alternative 2a. 250 pounds gutted weight

Sub-alternative 2b. 500 pounds gutted weight

Sub-alternative 2c. 750 pounds gutted weight

Sub-alternative 2d. 1,000 pounds gutted weight

MOTION #7: ADD ALTERNATIVES 3, 4, AND 5 TO ACTION 16.

Action 16. Modify gear, bait, and training requirements in the commercial longline fishery for dolphin and wahoo to align with Highly Migratory Species requirements

Alternative 3. Require that a valid Safe Handling, Release, and Identification Workshop certificate be supplied when renewing an Atlantic Dolphin/Wahoo Commercial Permit if the permitted vessel lands dolphin or wahoo with pelagic longline gear.

Alternative 4. Require the following for vessels with a commercial dolphin wahoo permit when using pelagic longlines that do not have an HMS permit that allows the use of pelagic longline gear (tri-pack):

Sub-alternative 4a. Must possess valid Safe Handling, Release, and Identification Workshop certificate onboard for both the owner and operator.

Sub-alternative 4b. Must use only corrodible (i.e., non-stainless steel) 12/0 or larger non-offset circle hooks.

Sub-alternative 4c. Must use only corrodible (i.e., non-stainless steel) 14/0 or larger non-offset circle hooks.

Sub-alternative 4d. Must use only corrodible (i.e., non-stainless steel) 16/0 or larger non-offset circle hooks.

Sub-alternative 4e. Must use whole finfish and/or squid as bait.

Alternative 5. Require a longline endorsement on the commercial dolphin wahoo permit to use longline gear to land dolphin or wahoo.

MOTION #8: ACCEPT THE IPT'S EDITS TO ALTERNATIVE 1 IN ACTION 16.

Alternative 1 (No Action). The owner or operator of a vessel for which a commercial permit for Atlantic dolphin and wahoo has been issued and that has on board a pelagic longline must

post inside the wheelhouse the sea turtle handling and release guidelines provided by NMFS the National Marine Fisheries Service. Such owner or operator must also comply with the sea turtle bycatch mitigation measures, including gear requirements and sea turtle handling requirements, as specified in 50 C.F.R. §635.21(c)(5)(i) and (ii). There are no protected species handling, release or identification training, circle hook, hook material, or gangion length requirements.

MOTION #9: APPROVE ACTION 17 AND THE PROPOSED RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION IN AMENDMENT 10.

Action 17. Allow filleting of dolphin at sea onboard charter or headboat vessels in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone north of the Virginia/North Carolina border.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Dolphin possessed in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone must be maintained with head and fins intact, with specific exceptions for fish lawfully harvested in the Bahamas. Such fish harvested from the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone may be eviscerated, gilled, and scaled, but must otherwise be maintained in a whole condition.

Alternative 2. Exempt dolphin from regulations requiring head and fins be intact onboard properly permitted charter and headboat vessels in the Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone north of the Virginia/North Carolina border where dolphin may be filleted under the following requirements:

Sub-alternative 2a. Skin must remain intact on the entire fillet of any dolphin carcass.

Sub-alternative 2b. Two fillets of dolphin, regardless of the length of each fillet, is the equivalent to one dolphin.

Amendment 12 (Bullet and Frigate Mackerel)

DIRECTION TO STAFF:

Provide additional information on the remaining actions beyond Action 1 in the amendment and jurisdictional information at the June 2020 meeting.

MOTION #10: APPROVE ACTION 1 AND THE PROPOSED RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION IN AMENDMENT 12.

Action 1. Designate bullet mackerel and frigate mackerel as ecosystem component species in the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan

Alternative 1 (No Action). There are no ecosystem component species in the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan.

Alternative 2. Add bullet mackerel and frigate mackerel to the Dolphin Wahoo Fishery Management Plan and designate the two mackerel species as ecosystem component species.

MOTION #11: REQUEST THAT NMFS PROVIDE INFORMATION ON FEASIBILITY OF THE ADDITIONAL BULLET AND FRIGATE ACTIONS IN AMENDMENT 12 (BEYOND DESIGNATION AS ECOSYSTEM COMPONENT SPECIES) AND PRESENT THIS TO THE COUNCIL AT THE MARCH 2020 COUNCIL MEETING. ALSO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON:

1. THE JURISDICTIONAL ISSUE – EXAMINE THE PRECEDENT OF EXTENDING CMP MANAGEMENT THROUGH THE MAFMC; IF INCLUDING AS AN ACTION IN AN AMENDMENT WILL NOT WORK, THEN HOW DOES THE SAFMC GAIN AUTHORITY FOR A SPECIES ALONG THE ENTIRE EAST COAST?

2. FROM AN ECOSYSTEM COMPONENT SPECIES PERSPECTIVE, WHAT ARE APPROPRIATE REGULATORY ACTIONS THAT COULD PREVENT DEVELOPMENT OF AN UNREGULATED FISHERY BEFORE THE COUNCIL CAN DEVELOP AN AMENDMENT TO DETERMINE WHETHER MANAGEMENT IS NEEDED? FOR EXAMPLE, COMMERCIAL TRIP LIMITS AND A TOTAL QUOTA.
3. ALLOWABLE GEARS FOR DOLPHIN INCLUDES AUTOMATIC REEL, BANDIT GEAR, HANDLINE, PELAGIC LONGLINE, ROD AND REEL, AND SPEAR (INCLUDING POWERHEADS). IF BULLET AND FRIGATE ARE ADDED TO THE DOLPHIN WAHOO FMP AS ECOSYSTEM COMPONENT SPECIES, WOULD THIS LIST OF ALLOWABLE GEARS APPLY? (NOTE: CURRENT COMMERCIAL FISHERY (NON-FMP) ALLOWABLE GEAR INCLUDES TRAWL, GILLNET, HOOK AND LINE, LONGLINE, HANDLINE, ROD AND REEL, BANDIT GEAR, CAST NET, LAMPARA NET, AND SPEAR.)

Other Business

DIRECTION TO STAFF:

Work with the Mid-Atlantic Council on funding for and identifying a new member for the Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel from the Mid-Atlantic Region.

MOTION #12: ADD ONE VOTING SEAT TO THE DOLPHIN WAHOO ADVISORY PANEL FOR A PANEL MEMBER FROM THE MID-ATLANTIC REGION.

MOTION #13 (TIMING AND TASKS):

DIRECT STAFF TO:

1. CONTINUE WORK ON AMENDMENT 10 FOR REVIEW AT THE DECEMBER 2019 MEETING.
2. CONTINUE WORK ON REVISING THE DOLPHIN WAHOO FMP GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR REVIEW AT THE DECEMBER 2019 MEETING.
3. CONTINUE WORK ON AMENDMENT 12 FOR REVIEW AT THE DECEMBER 2019 MEETING.

HABITAT PROTECTION & ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT

MOTION #1. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

1. Staff coordinate with Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel to help identify shelf and deepwater sentinel sites to monitor oceanographic change in the region.
2. Staff engage appropriate organizations and agencies (e.g., SECOORA etc.) to brief the Council in December or March on the potential impact of the Bahamian oil spill associated with Hurricane Dorian, on habitats and species under Council jurisdiction.
3. Staff facilitate Panel member review of state activities addressing climate change, and extreme weather events supporting development of an addendum to the existing Council Climate Policy statement highlighting complementary actions which enhance EFH conservation.

4. Staff facilitate Laurent Cherubin, HBOI/FAU COIERT presentation at the December Committee meeting on “Applying Innovative Technologies to Characterize Fish Habitat and Spawning Events - Understanding Soundscapes.”

JOINT HABITAT, SHRIMP, AND GOLDEN CRAB

MOTION #1: REMOVE GOLDEN CRAB OPTIONS FROM THIS OPTIONS PAPER; SEPARATE SHRIMP TRANSIT INTO ITS OWN DOCUMENT; ROCK SHRIMP AND NEW CHAPCS IN ANOTHER DOCUMENT; BRING BACK TO COMMITTEE IN JUNE 2020 FOR ROCK SHRIMP AND CHAPCS; SHRIMP TRANSIT GOES OUT FOR SCOPING IN FALL 2019.

MOTION #2. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS:

1. Conduct scoping for shrimp vessel transit provisions in fall 2019.
2. Revise options paper for rock shrimp boundary and Coral Habitat Areas of Particular Concern and bring back to the Committee in June 2020.
3. Contact golden crab fishermen who hold permits for the northern zone and discuss possibility of developing an exempted fishing permit.
4. Hold Shrimp and Coral advisory panel webinar meetings to discuss Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary modifications prior to the December 2019 Council meeting.

EXECUTIVE FINANCE

MOTION #1: CONSIDER A SPECIAL WEBINAR MEETING AFTER THE DECEMBER MEETING AND BEFORE THE MARCH MEETING TO DISCUSS THE SPANISH MACKEREL FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT.

MOTION#2: INCLUDE SG REG 34 FOR DISCUSSION IN THE SPECIAL WEBINAR MEETING AFTER THE DECEMBER MEETING BEFORE THE MARCH MEETING.

MOTION #3:

PRIORITIES APPROVED FOR DECEMBER 2019 MEETING:

SG AF3	Blueline Tilefish
SG RA33	Red Snapper Season Mods
CMP Framework 8	KM Trip Limits in Season 2
	Spanish Mackerel AMs
DW A10	Dolphin ACL sharing, OY, etc.
SG RA31	Recreational AMs
DW 12	Bullet & Frigate ecosystem
Shrimp 11	Shrimp Transit Provisions

PRIORITIES APPROVED FOR MARCH 2020:

DW A10	Dolphin ACL sharing, OY, etc.
SG RA31	Recreational AMs
DW 12	Bullet & Frigate ecosystem

Shrimp 11	Shrimp Transit Provisions Future Allocation Discussions Unassessed Species ABCs/Alloc Greater Amberjack Assess/Alloc
SG RA34	NC/SC SMZs

PRIORITIES APPROVED FOR JUNE 2020:

DW A10	Dolphin ACL sharing, OY, etc.
SG RA31	Recreational AMs
DW 12	Bullet & Frigate ecosystem Unassessed Species ABCs/Alloc Greater Amberjack Assess/Alloc Red Pogy Assess/Alloc Yellowtail Snapper Assess/Alloc King Mackerel Assess/Alloc
SG RA34	NC/SC SMZs
GC 10	Oculina Extension
SG A48	Wreckfish ITQ Modernization

Note: The motion as approved showed the wreckfish amendment as #47 but it should be #48 and was changed for the listings shown here.

PRIORITIES APPROVED FOR SEPTEMBER 2020:

DW A10	Dolphin ACL sharing, OY, etc.
SG RA31	Recreational AMs
DW 12	Bullet & Frigate ecosystem
GC 10	Oculina Extension
SG A48	Wreckfish ITQ Modernization Unassessed Species ABCs/Alloc Greater Amberjack Assess/Alloc Red Pogy Assess/Alloc Yellowtail Snapper Assess/Alloc King Mackerel Assess/Alloc

PRIORITIES APPROVED FOR DECEMBER 2020:

DW A10	Dolphin ACL sharing, OY, etc.
SG RA31	Recreational AMs
GC 10	Oculina Extension
SG A48	Wreckfish ITQ Modernization Unassessed Species ABCs/Alloc Greater Amberjack Assess/Alloc Red Pogy Assess/Alloc Yellowtail Snapper Assess/Alloc King Mackerel Assess/Alloc

MOTION#4: ADD 2 ADDITIONAL SEATS TO THE CMP ADVISORY PANEL

MOTION #5. ADOPT THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASK(S):

1. Send a letter to the Senate staff with the Council comments on their draft wording for MSA Reauthorization by the end of September.
2. Directed staff to work on the items identified in the motions above for the December 2019 Council meeting and for meetings in 2020.

PERSONNEL REPORT

The Council announced hiring John Carmichael as the next Executive Director effective December 13th at 5:01 p.m.

COUNCIL SESSION

MOTION #1: MOVE TO APPOINT JARED FLOWERS TO THE GA DNR SEAT ON THE SSC

MOTION #2: MOVE TO APPOINT DUSTIN ADDIS TO THE FL FWC SEAT ON THE SSC