

Decision Document

Coastal Migratory Pelagics Joint Amendment 26

(King mackerel ACLs and boundaries)

Mackerel Committee
December 2014



December 4, 2014

OUTLINE OF DECISION DOCUMENT:

- 1) Background
- 2) Preliminary Schedule for Amendment 26
- 3) Potential Actions for Amendment 26
- 4) Amendment 28?

Background

SEDAR 38 (SEDAR 2014) was completed in August 2014 and included assessments for Gulf and Atlantic king mackerel. In October 2014, the SSC reviewed the results of SEDAR 38 and provided recommendations for new ABCs for Atlantic king mackerel and provided the following recommendations:

P star= 0.325		ABC HIGH	ABC MED	ABC LOW	Deterministic equilibrium yield at FSPR30	Deterministic equilibrium yield at 75% FSPR30	Buffer between ABC and OFL		
Fishing year	OFL						HI	MED	LO
2015	22.0581	20.1065	19.6765	19.1127	12.702	11.582	9%	11%	13%
2016	19.75	17.4478	16.5454	15.3707	12.702	11.582	12%	16%	22%
2017	18.2914	15.8215	14.3298	12.9389	12.702	11.582	14%	22%	29%
2018	16.6987	14.1257	12.9331	11.9398	12.702	11.582	15%	23%	28%
2019	15.1871	12.6589	12.0557	11.5715	12.702	11.582	17%	21%	24%
2020	14.2985	11.54	11.2501	11.0247	12.702	11.582	19%	21%	23%

Additionally the Committee will review the approach used in SEDAR 38 to designate the Gulf and Atlantic stocks, and the mixing zone. The Assessment Report states:

...that the best approach is to establish the management mixing zone in the area south of the Florida Keys and Dry Tortugas, demarcated in the west by a line west from Key West to the Dry Tortugas at 24°35' N. lat, then south at 83° W from the Dry Tortugas (the Gulf of Mexico/South Atlantic Council boundary) to the shelf edge, and in the east from the Dade-Monroe county line to the shelf edge (see Figure 3.1 in Commercial Fishery Statistics section). King mackerel captured in this zone from November 1 to March 31 should be assigned 50:50 to Gulf and Atlantic stocks. (SEDAR 38 Atlantic King Mackerel Stock Assessment Report, pp. 16-17)

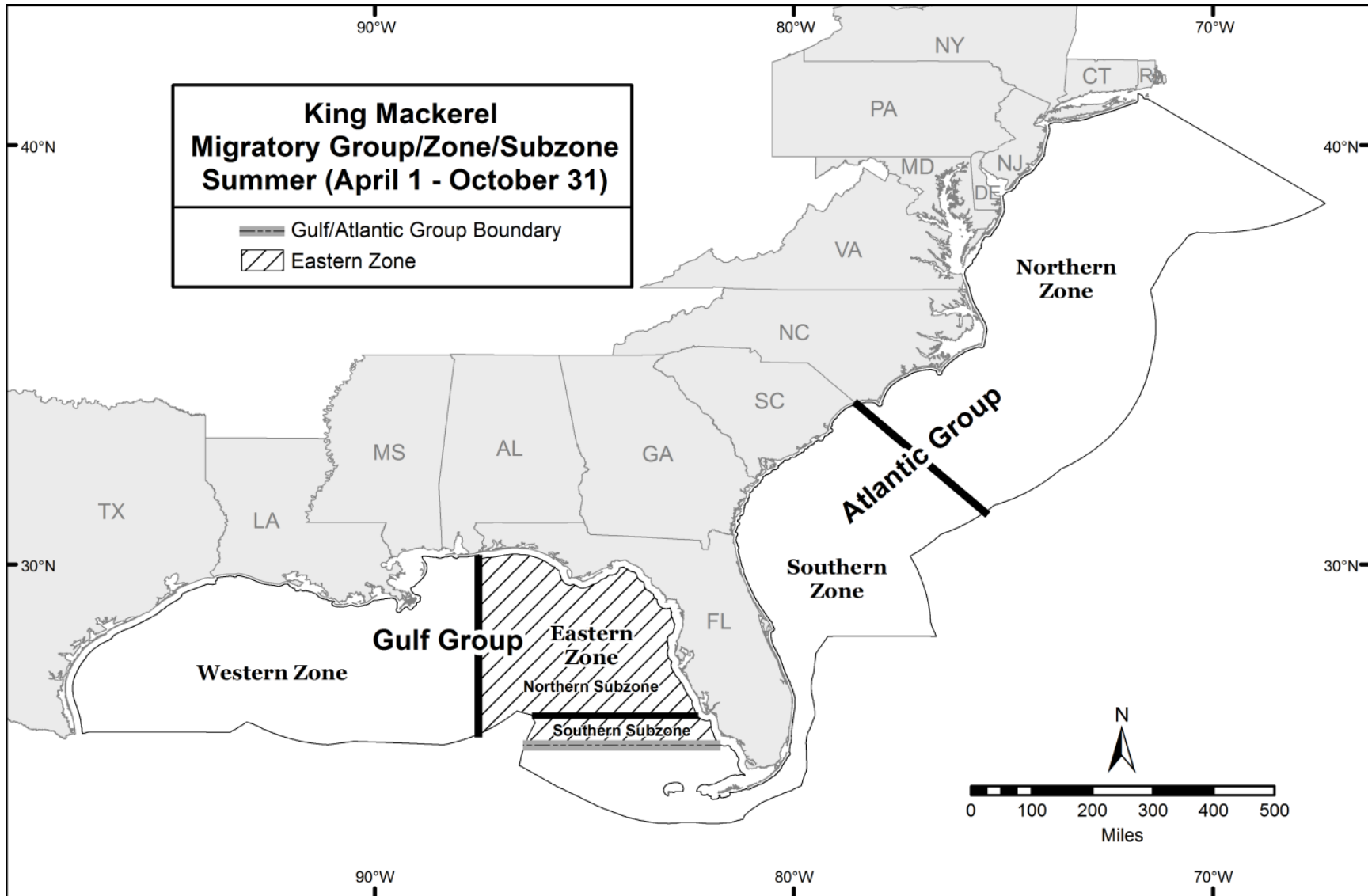


Figure 1. King mackerel seasonal boundaries April 1-October 31, with the proposed Northern and Southern Zones in the Atlantic Group (pending CMP Amendment 20B).

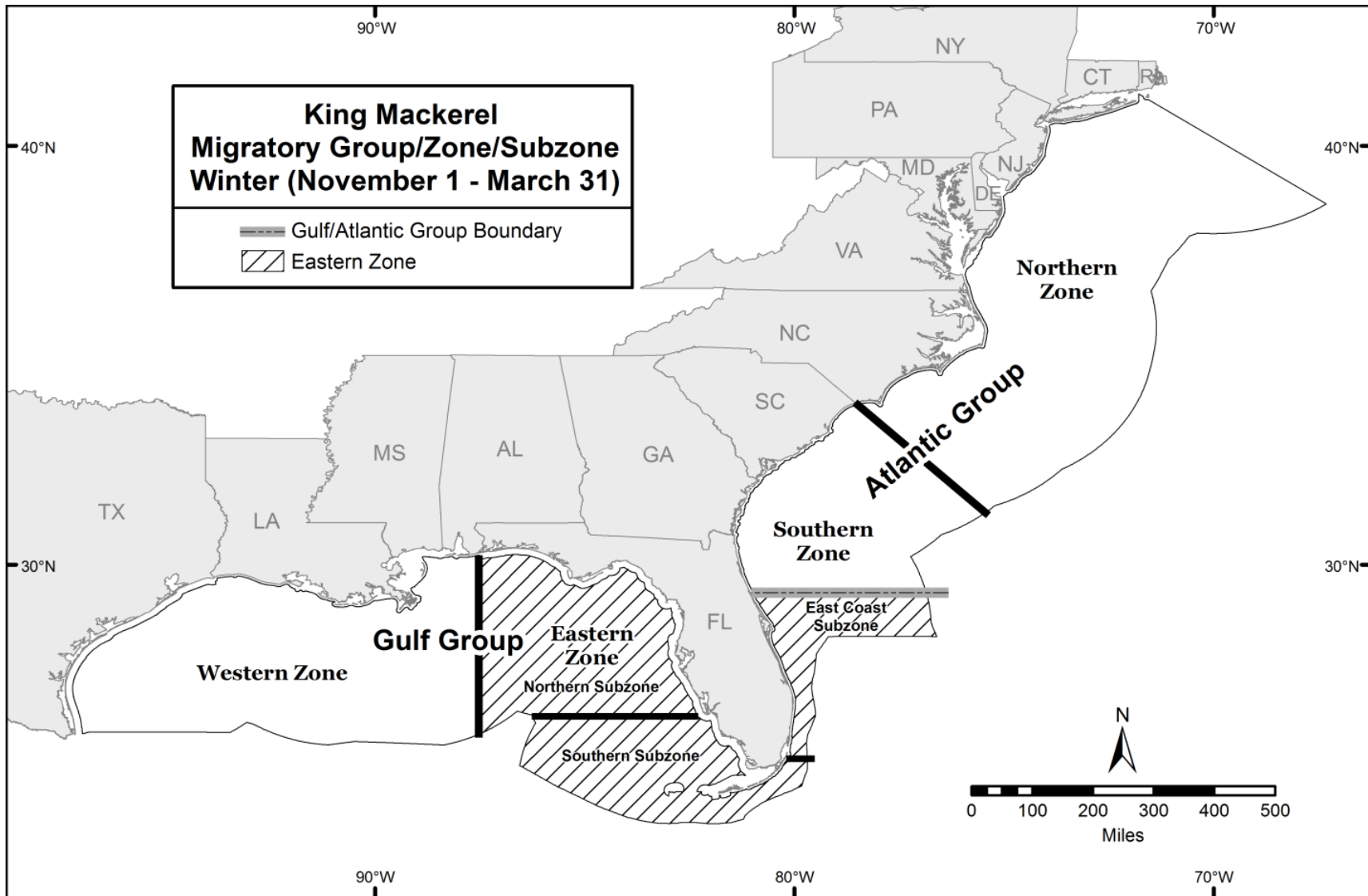


Figure S-2. King mackerel seasonal boundaries November 1- March 31, with the proposed Northern and Southern Zones in the Atlantic Group (pending CMP Amendment 20B).

Preliminary Schedule

- December 2014- South Atlantic Council reviews SSC recommendations; direction on actions and alternatives to include in Am 26
- early January 2015- Gulf Council SSC reviews SEDAR 38 results for Gulf king mackerel
- late January 2015- Gulf Council SSC reviews SSC recommendations; direction on actions and alternatives to include in Am 26
- January 2015- South Atlantic scoping
- March 2015- South Atlantic reviews public comments; revises actions and alternatives as needed
- April 2015- South Atlantic Mackerel AP reviews actions and alternatives
- June 2015- Joint Gulf and South Atlantic meeting in Key West

Potential Actions and Alternatives

- ACL updates for Gulf and Atlantic king mackerel
- Change the stock boundary based on the boundary in SEDAR 38
- Gulf sector allocations; commercial quotas for zones and sub-zones

Committee Actions:

1) Do you want to add an action to revise the Atlantic group king mackerel ABC, OY, and ACL (including recreational and commercial ACLs)?

P star= 0.325		ABC HIGH	ABC MED	ABC LOW	Deterministic equilibrium yield at FSPR30	Deterministic equilibrium yield at 75% FSPR30	Buffer between ABC and OFL		
Fishing year	OFL						Alt 2	Alt 3	Alt 4
2015	22.0581	20.1065	19.6765	19.1127	12.702	11.582	9%	11%	13%
2016	19.75	17.4478	16.5454	15.3707	12.702	11.582	12%	16%	22%
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2020	14.2985	11.54	11.2501	11.0247	12.702	11.582	19%	21%	23%

2) Do you want to add an action to change the stock boundary for king mackerel?

Possible language:

Action: Modify the Mixing Zone Designation and Stock Boundaries for Gulf and Atlantic Migratory Groups of King Mackerel.

Option 1: No action – Maintain the current mixing zone designation and stock boundaries for Gulf and Atlantic migratory groups of king mackerel.

Option 2: Adopt the mixing zone designation and stock boundaries presented in the most recent stock assessment for Gulf and Atlantic migratory groups of king mackerel (SEDAR 38).

Option 2 would shift the effective stock boundary between the Gulf and Atlantic migratory groups to the Dade/Monroe County line, with the mixing zone between the migratory groups only persisting south of the Florida Keys from November 1 through March 31.

3) Do you want to add any other actions for Atlantic group king mackerel?

Reminder: Amendment 20B (pending approval) will implement the KM quota zones:

- North of the SC/NC line will be the Northern Zone with a quota of 33.3% of the comm ACL
- South of the SC/NC line will be the Southern Zone with a quota of 67.7% of the comm ACL

A) Action to allow sale of king mackerel bycatch in the drift gillnet small coastal shark fishery

Action. Sale of king mackerel bycatch in the Drift Gillnet Small Coastal Shark Fishery
Alternative 1 (No Action). King mackerel caught with drift gillnet as bycatch in the Drift Gillnet Small Coastal Shark Fishery is prohibited.

Alternative 2. Allow sale of king mackerel caught with drift gillnet as bycatch in the Drift Gillnet Small Coastal Shark Fishery for any vessel with a valid Directed Shark commercial permit AND valid king mackerel commercial permit. No more than 2 king mackerel per crew member can be sold (maximum 8 fish) per trip.

B) NOTE: Mackerel AP recommendation in April 2014:

MOTION: RECOMMEND TO THE SOUTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL THAT THEY RECONSIDER BAG LIMIT SALES FOR CHARTER BOATS [SAME AS THE GULF COUNCIL IN AMENDMENT 20A]. Approved by AP (6/2).

C) Others?

4) What information do you need to see at the March 2015 meeting?

5) Approve for scoping in January 2015