

## Appendix A. Considered But Rejected Alternatives

This section describes actions and alternatives that the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (South Atlantic Council) considered in developing Regulatory Amendment 22 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (Regulatory Amendment 22), but decided not to pursue. The description of each alternative is followed by a summary statement of why it was eliminated from Regulatory Amendment 22.

### Gag

**Alternative 2.** Revise the composition of the aggregate grouper bag limit by removing gag and specify the recreational gag bag limit.

**Select one as preferred:**

**Sub-alternative 2a.** Specify the gag bag limit of 2 per person per day

**Sub-alternative 2b.** Specify the gag bag limit of 3 per person per day

**Select as preferred if also revising the aggregate grouper bag limit:**

**Sub-alternative 2c.** Specify an aggregate bag limit of 2 per person per day

Alternatives	1	2a	2b	2c
Aggregate grouper bag Limit	3 fish Includes gag	3 fish/No gag	3 fish/No gag	2 fish/No gag
Recreational Gag Bag Limit	N/A	2 fish	3 fish	2 or 3 (depending on if 2a or 2b was chosen)

### **Discussion:**

This alternative and its sub-alternatives were removed from further consideration because the Council did not wish to consider removing gag from the aggregate grouper bag limit. The way the alternative and its sub-alternatives are structured did not allow the Council the flexibility to make changes to the gag bag limit without also affecting the composition of the aggregate. The Council did not want there to be any confusion as to their intent to only consider changing the bag limit for gag within the existing 3-fish aggregate. Therefore, the Council requested that staff re-word the action and alternatives appropriately.