

## **Appendix A. Considered But Rejected Alternatives**

**Alternative 3.** Prohibit retention, possession, and fishing for black sea bass using black sea bass pot gear, annually, from November 15 through April 15.

**Discussion:** This alternative was removed from Regulatory Amendment 16 to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region (Regulatory Amendment 16) because the timeframe of the prohibition on the use of black sea bass pots did not encompass the time during which large whales first arrive off the coast of North Carolina during their southward migration. Similarly, as the whales undertake their northward migration in late spring, they can be found off the Carolina's after April 15. Hence, the Council determined this alternative did not meet the purpose and need of Regulatory Amendment 16 and voted to remove it from further consideration.