

FINAL
SUMMARY REPORT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
JUNE 15, 2021

(MEETING HELD VIA WEBINAR)

The South Atlantic Council’s Executive Committee met via webinar on June 15, 2021. The Committee approved the meeting agenda and March 2021 minutes.

CCC Report

John Carmichael provided an overview of the Council Coordination Committee meeting held May 18 – 20, 2021. The Committee asked if there was any further clarification on the meaning of “conservation” as used in Executive Order 14008. No specific definition was provided at the CCC, and it was noted that the Committee expected to receive a presentation from NMFS during this meeting on a report required by the EO. However, this report was not given because due to a newly created federal holiday, NMFS staff were not available on Friday as planned. The Committee also discussed the CCC Legislative Workgroup’s policy summary document. SAFMC sections will be revised and reviewed by the Executive Committee.

2021 Budget Review and Approval

Kelly Klasnick presented the updated 2021 budget, highlighting changes due to ongoing COVID impacts and the anticipated return to in-person meetings in the fourth quarter of 2021. The Committee approved the revised budget as presented.

Workplan Review

The Committee was provided an updated workplan that addressed direction and progress from this meeting. Notable changes include delaying public hearing approval of King Mackerel (CMP 34) until September and dividing the Red Snapper response into two items. Priorities for September 2021 include receiving Red Snapper ABC recommendations the SSC, continuing work on ongoing amendments, and final approval of Coral Amendment 10. Expediting the Red Snapper short-term response amendment is feasible if these items are accomplished and the options paper for the long-term response is provided in December 2021.

The workplan was discussed during the full Council session on Friday, June 18. The Council provided several suggestions for addressing Council priorities and balancing the workload over the next 6 months:

- Consider holding a special topic full Council webinar meeting to further discuss and consider approval of Coral Amendment 10 prior to the end of current member terms (on or around August 11).
- Consider holding special topic full Council webinar meetings to address general business items and updates, such as:
 - Recreational Working Group Reports
 - Habitat Blueprint

- ABC Control Rule
- Consider a dedicated webinar meeting to discuss long-term Red Snapper strategies (discussed at the Snapper Grouper Committee)
- Consider delaying work on the Wreckfish ITQ update since it is not related to addressing stock status issues. Alternatively, consider addressing this topic on an “every other meeting” basis.
- Consider if efficiencies can be gained by combining some Snapper Grouper amendments that are on similar schedules.
- Clarify timing for SAFMC consideration of GMFMC-led CMP amendments.

MOTIONS

MOTION # 1: APPROVE THE FINAL 2021 OPERATIONAL BUDGET AS PRESENTED.

Approved by Committee

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Timing and Tasks

MOTION: APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

- Conduct an Executive Committee review of the CCC legislative policies document and prepare a draft for Council approval by March 2022.

APPROVED BY COUNCIL