

**FINAL**  
**SUMMARY REPORT**  
**SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**  
**Full Council Session I**

**March 7, 2022**  
**Jekyll Island, Georgia**

The Council approved the agenda and minutes from December 2021 and February 2022.

**Reports**

NOAA Office of Law Enforcement, US Coast Guard, state agencies, and Council liaisons provided reports to the Council. The Council approved the following motion:

**MOTION 1: REQUEST THAT THE SSC RECONSIDER THE ABC FOR GOLIATH GROUPER  
APPROVED BY COUNCIL**

**Acceptable Biological Catch Control Rule Amendment**

Staff presented the most recent actions and alternatives language drafted by the IPT concerning the acceptable biological catch (ABC) control rule, carry-overs, and revisions to framework procedures. The SSC Chair provided the SSC's recommendations on ABC control rule modification and carry-over alternatives.

The Council reviewed the methodology for developing stock risk ratings and the approach for implementing carry-overs through framework procedures. The Council provided the following guidance:

Direction to staff:

- Continue development of the amendment, including:
  - Removal of level 1, tier 1, classifications 4 and 5 under Action 1-Alternative 3, as recommended by the SSC.
  - Development of the stock risk rating component of Action 1-Alternative 2 and Action 4 as discussed at this meeting.
- Discuss among the IPT and add language as necessary to describe:
  - Precedence of Council-specified rebuilding plans
  - Application of the ABC control rule to jointly managed species
  - Carry-over for split season fisheries.

**Allocations Decision Tool Review**

To help the Council incorporate multiple sources of information when making sector allocations decisions, staff developed a Decision Tree Approach and presented the most up-to-date draft to

the Council in February 2022. At this meeting, the Council further discussed the approach, potential changes, and how to use the approach moving forward. The Council provided the following direction to staff:

- Public input tool:
  - Develop an online tool to collect public input on topics relevant to allocations and long-term trends in the fisheries.
  - The tool will be reviewed by the Council at a later date.
- Fishery Performance Reports (FPRs):
  - Include the proposed additional questions when developing the FPR.
  - Add a question intended to gather observations on commercial wholesale and retail/end consumer prices.
  - When discussing cultural importance, gather observations on how fisheries are important to local tourism and marketing.
  - Provide an introduction to the APs outlining how the FPRs may be used in management, including the allocations decision tool.
- Additional review:
  - Ask the Socio-Economic Panel to review FPR and allocations decision tool questions as appropriate.
  - Coordinate with NMFS staff for additional targeted input.
- Next steps:
  - Apply the allocations decision tool to Spanish mackerel for review at the December 2022 meeting.