

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
SAWGRASS MARRIOTT, PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL
JUNE 9-13, 2014

SUMMARY OF APPROVED COUNCIL MOTIONS

SNAPPER GROUPER

The Council approved the following motions relative to Snapper Grouper:

Regulatory Amendment 16 (black sea bass pot closure)

MOTION #1: APPROVE RECOMMENDED IPT SUGGESTED CHANGES TO THE PURPOSE STATEMENT.

The purpose of Regulatory Amendment 16 is to reconsider the annual November 1 through April 30 prohibition on the use of black sea bass pot gear.

MOTION #2: ACCEPT THE IPT'S WORDING FOR THE NEED STATEMENT.

The need for the amendment is to increase socio-economic benefits to black sea bass pot endorsement holders while maintaining protection for ESA-listed whales in the South Atlantic region.

MOTION #3: APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO ACTION 1 AND ALTERNATIVE 2.

Action 1. Modify the annual November 1 through April 30 prohibition on the use of black sea bass pot gear.

Alternative 2. Remove the annual November 1 through April 30 prohibition on the retention, possession, and fishing for black sea bass using black sea bass pot gear.

MOTION #4: APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO ALTERNATIVE 3 UNDER ACTION 1.

Alternative 3. The black sea bass pot closure applies to the area currently designated as North Atlantic right whale critical habitat (Figure 2.1.1 in the document). This area encompasses waters between 31°15'N, (approximately the mouth of the Altamaha River, Georgia) and 30° 15'N (approximately Jacksonville, Florida) from the shoreline out to 15 nautical miles offshore; and the waters between 30° 15'N and 28°00'N, (approximately Sebastian Inlet, Florida) from the shoreline out to 5 nautical miles. The closure applies to the area annually from November 15 through April 15.

******GUIDANCE TO EXPLAIN "THIS AREA" REFERS TO THE RWCH******

MOTION #5: APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO ALTERNATIVE 4 UNDER ACTION 1.

Alternative 4 (New). The black sea bass pot closure applies to waters inshore of points 1-15 listed in the document (Table 2.1.1); approximately Ponce Inlet, Florida, to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina (Figure 2.1.2 in the document). The closure applies to the area annually from November 1 through April 30.

MOTION 6: APPROVE SUGGETSED EDITS TO ALTERNATIVE 5 UNDER ACTION 1.

Alternative 5 (New). The black sea bass pot closure applies to waters inshore of points 1-28 listed in the document (Table 2.1.2), approximately Cape Canaveral, Florida, to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina (Figure 2.1.3 in the document). The closure applies to the area annually from November 1 through April 30.

*****GUIDANCE TO BE CONSISTENT IN UNITS OF MEASURE (FEET VS. METERS)*****

MOTION #7: APPROVE ALTERNATIVES 6 AND 7 UNDER ACTION 1 AS PRESENTED.

Alternative 6. The black sea bass pot closure applies to waters inshore of points 1-28 listed in the document (Table 2.1.3); approximately Cape Canaveral, Florida, to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina (Figure 2.1.4 in the document). The closure applies to the area annually from November 1 through April 30.

Alternative 7. The black sea bass pot closure applies to waters inshore of points 1-20 listed in the document (Table 2.1.4), approximately Sebastian, Florida, to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. The closure applies to the area annually from November 1 through April 30.

MOTION #8: GIVE THE IPT LATITUDE TO CONSTRUCT AN ALTERNATIVE THAT IS A COMBINATION OF ALTERNATIVES 3 AND 8 UNDER ACTION 1.

Alternative 3. The black sea bass pot closure applies to the area currently designated as North Atlantic right whale critical habitat (Figure 2.1.1 in the document). This area encompasses waters between 31°15'N, (approximately the mouth of the Altamaha River, Georgia) and 30° 15'N (approximately Jacksonville, Florida) from the shoreline out to 15 nautical miles offshore; and the waters between 30° 15'N and 28 °00'N, (approximately Sebastian Inlet, Florida) from the shoreline out to 5 nautical miles. The closure applies to the area annually from November 15 through April 15.

Alternative 8. The black sea bass pot closure applies to waters off the states of North Carolina and South Carolina, annually, from November 1 through December 15 and March 15 through April 30.

Sub-alternative 8a. The black sea bass pot closure applies in the entire exclusive economic zone off the states of North Carolina and South Carolina (Table 2.1.5 in the document).

Sub-alternative 8b. The black sea bass pot closure applies in the exclusive economic zone off the states of North Carolina and South Carolina in waters shallower than 25 meters (Table 2.1.6 in the document).

MOTION #9: DIRECT THE IPT TO USE DATA FROM 2004 THROUGH 2013 FOR THE ANALYSES.

Amendment 29 (ORCS & gray triggerfish)

MOTION #10: APPROVE RECOMMENDED EDITS TO THE PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT.

The purpose of the actions is to: update the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (South Atlantic Council) acceptable biological catch (ABC) control based on recommendations from the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC); adjust ABCs for the affected species;

revise the ACLs for affected species; and revise management measures for gray triggerfish in federal waters of the South Atlantic region.

The need for action is to: specify ABCs, ACLs, and ACTs for snapper grouper species based on the best available scientific information, lengthen the commercial season for gray triggerfish to diminish and/or prevent derby conditions, and ensure that overfishing does not occur pending a new assessment of the gray triggerfish stock in the South Atlantic region.

MOTION #11: ADD NEW SUB-ALTERNATIVE 4D TO ACTION 2.

*Action 2. Apply the revised ABC control rule to select unassessed snapper grouper species.
Sub-alternative 4d. Apply a risk tolerance scalar of 0.70 for rock hind, tomtate, white grunt and gray triggerfish and 0.50 for scamp.*

MOTION #12: SELECT SUB-ALTERNATIVE 4D UNDER ACTION 2 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

MOTION #13: APPROVE THE SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS TO THE ALTERNATIVES UNDER ACTION 3.

*Action 3. Establish ACLs for select unassessed snapper grouper species.
Alternative 1 (No Action). $ACL=OY=Current\ ABC$
Alternative 2. $ACL=OY=Proposed\ ABC$
Alternative 3. $ACL=OY=0.95*Proposed\ ABC$
Alternative 4. $ACL=OY=0.90*Proposed\ ABC$
Alternative 5. $ACL=OY=0.80*Proposed\ ABC$*

MOTION #14: MODIFY ALTERNATIVE 5 UNDER ACTION 3.

*Action 3. Establish ACLs for select unassessed snapper grouper species.
Alternative 5. $ACL=OY=0.80*Proposed\ ABC\ FOR\ SCAMP.$*

MOTION #15: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 5 UNDER ACTION 3 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

MOTION #16: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 3 AS PREFERRED FOR THE REMAINING SPECIES EXCEPT THE DEEPWATER COMPLEX.

*Action 3. Establish ACLs for select unassessed snapper grouper species
Alternative 2. $ACL=OY=Proposed\ ABC$*

MOTION #17: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 1 (NO ACTION) UNDER ACTION 3 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE FOR THE DEEPWATER COMPLEX.

MOTION #18: APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO THE LANGUAGE OF THE ALTERNATIVES IN ACTION 4.

*Action 4. Modify the minimum size limit for gray triggerfish
Alternative 1 (No Action). Currently, the minimum size limit for gray triggerfish is specified in inches total length (TL) in federal waters off the east coast of Florida only. In Florida state waters, the minimum size for gray triggerfish is specified in inches fork length (FL). The*

minimum size limit is 12 inches TL in federal waters off the east coast of Florida and 12 inches FL in state waters off the east coast of Florida.

Alternative 2. Specify a minimum size limit for gray triggerfish of 12 inches fork length (FL) in federal waters off the east coast of Florida.

Sub-alternative 2a. The minimum size limit applies to the commercial sector.

Sub-alternative 2b. The minimum size limit applies to the recreational sector.

Alternative 3 (Preferred). Specify a minimum size limit for gray triggerfish of 12 inches fork length (FL) in federal waters off North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia.

Sub-alternative 3a (Preferred). The minimum size limit applies to the commercial sector.

Sub-alternative 3b (Preferred). The minimum size limit applies to the recreational sector.

Alternative 4. Specify a minimum size limit for gray triggerfish of 14 inches fork length (FL) in federal waters off North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and the east coast of Florida.

Sub-alternative 4a. The minimum size limit applies to the commercial sector.

Sub-alternative 4b. The minimum size limit applies to the recreational sector.

Alternative 5 (Preferred). Specify a minimum size limit for gray triggerfish of 14 inches fork length (FL) in federal waters off the east coast of Florida.

Sub-alternative 5a (Preferred). The minimum size limit applies to the commercial sector.

Sub-alternative 5b (Preferred). The minimum size limit applies to the recreational sector.

MOTION #19: APPROVE SUGGESTED EDIT TO ALTERNATIVE 1 UNDER ACTION 5

Action 5. Establish a commercial split season for gray triggerfish.

Alternative 1 (No Action). The commercial fishing year for gray triggerfish is the calendar year (January 1- December 31). The commercial ACL is allocated for the entire year.

Amendment 32 (blueline tilefish)

MOTION #20: APPROVE INCLUSION OF ACTION 1 AND SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Action 1. Revise the Composition of the Deepwater Complex and Adjust the Deep-Water Complex Annual Catch Limits, Optimum Yield, and Annual Catch Targets.

Alternative 2. Remove blueline tilefish from the Deep-Water Complex. Revise the Deep-Water Complex annual catch limits, optimum yield, and recreational annual catch targets to reflect the removal of blueline tilefish. The Deep-Water Complex total annual catch limit equals 79,684 pounds. The Deep-Water Complex annual catch limits and optimum yield would be 60,371 and 19,313 pounds whole weight for the commercial and recreational sectors, respectively. The Deep-Water Complex annual catch target for the recreational sector would be 9,657 pounds whole weight.

MOTION #21: INCLUDE AN ACTION TO REVISE ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES FOR THE DEEPWATER COMPLEX IN AMENDMENT 32.

MOTION #22: APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO ACTION 3 AND THE ALTERNATIVES UNDER ACTION 3.

Action 3. Establish Annual Catch Limits and Optimum Yield for Blueline Tilefish.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Do not establish annual catch limits and optimum yield for blueline tilefish. The National Marine Fisheries Service has temporarily removed blueline tilefish from the Deepwater Complex and established the following annual catch limits for blueline tilefish for the commercial and recreational sectors: total ACL = 224,100 pounds whole weight (lbs ww); commercial ACL = 112,207 lbs ww; and recreational ACL = 111,893 lbs ww. The temporary measures will be in place for 180 days (through October 14, 2014) and may be extended for 186 additional days.

Note: Blueline tilefish is in the Deepwater Complex, and there is an annual catch limit for the complex. Action 1 proposes to separate blueline tilefish from the complex.

Alternative 2. Establish annual catch limits for blueline tilefish. The blueline tilefish ACL = OY = ABC Specify commercial and recreational annual catch limits for blueline tilefish for 2015, 2016, and 2017 and beyond. The annual catch limit for 2017 would remain in effect until modified. Annual catch limits in 2016 and 2017 will not increase automatically in a subsequent year if present year projected catch has exceeded the total annual catch limit. Specify commercial and recreational annual catch limits based on existing sector allocations (50.07% commercial and 49.93% recreational).

Blueline Tilefish ACL (pounds whole weight)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Recreational</i>
<i>2015</i>	<i>36,359</i>	<i>18,205</i>	<i>18,154</i>
<i>2016</i>	<i>54,548</i>	<i>27,312</i>	<i>27,236</i>
<i>2017 (and beyond until modified)</i>	<i>72,928</i>	<i>36,515</i>	<i>36,413</i>

Alternative 3. Establish annual catch limits for blueline tilefish. The blueline tilefish ACL = OY = 98%ABC. Specify commercial and recreational ACLs for blueline tilefish for 2015, 2016, and 2017 and beyond. The annual catch limit for 2017 would remain in effect until modified. Annual catch limits in 2016 and 2017 will not increase automatically in a subsequent year if present year projected catch has exceeded the total annual catch limit. Specify commercial and recreational annual catch limits based on existing sector allocations (50.07% commercial and 49.93% recreational).

Blueline Tilefish ACL (pounds whole weight)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Recreational</i>
<i>2015</i>	<i>35,632</i>	<i>17,841</i>	<i>17,791</i>
<i>2016</i>	<i>53,457</i>	<i>26,766</i>	<i>26,691</i>
<i>2017 (and beyond until modified)</i>	<i>71,469</i>	<i>35,785</i>	<i>35,685</i>

Alternative 4. Establish annual catch limits for blueline tilefish. The blueline tilefish ACL = OY = 90%ABC. Specify commercial and recreational annual catch limits for blueline tilefish for 2015, 2016, and 2017 and beyond. The annual catch limit for 2017 would remain in effect until modified. Annual catch limits in 2016 and 2017 will not increase automatically in a

subsequent year if present year projected catch has exceeded the total annual catch limit. Specify commercial and recreational annual catch limits based on existing sector allocations (50.07% commercial and 49.93% recreational).

Blueline Tilefish ACL (pounds whole weight)

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Commercial</i>	<i>Recreational</i>
<i>2015</i>	<i>32,723</i>	<i>16,384</i>	<i>16,339</i>
<i>2016</i>	<i>49,093</i>	<i>24,581</i>	<i>24,512</i>
<i>2017 (and beyond until modified)</i>	<i>65,635</i>	<i>32,864</i>	<i>32,772</i>

DIRECTION TO STAFF TO ADD PROJECTED 2018 ABC/ACL TO TABLES UNDER ACTION 3

MOTION #23: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 3 UNDER ACTION 3 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Alternative 3- Establish annual catch limits for blueline tilefish. The blueline tilefish ACL = OY = 98%ABC. Specify commercial and recreational ACLs for blueline tilefish for 2015, 2016, and 2017 and beyond. The annual catch limit for 2017 would remain in effect until modified. Annual catch limits in 2016 and 2017 will not increase automatically in a subsequent year if present year projected catch has exceeded the total annual catch limit. Specify commercial and recreational annual catch limits based on existing sector allocations (50.07% commercial and 49.93% recreational).

MOTION #24: APPROVE THE SUGGESTED EDITS TO ALTERNATIVES UNDER ACTION 4.

Action 4. Establish a Recreational Annual Catch Target for Blueline Tilefish.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Do not establish an annual catch target for blueline tilefish for the recreational sector

Alternative 2. Establish an annual catch target for blueline tilefish for the recreational sector that equals the recreational ACL(1-PSE) or ACL*0.5, whichever is greater.*

Blueline Tilefish ACT (pounds whole weight)

2015

Action 3; Alternative 2 (ACL=ABC) 11,368 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 3 (Preferred) (ACL=98%ABC) 11,141 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 4 (ACL=90%ABC) 10,231 lbs.

2016

Action 3; Alternative 2 (ACL=ABC) 17,055 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 3 (Preferred) (ACL=98%ABC) 16,714 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 4 (ACL=90%ABC) 15,350 lbs.

2017 (and beyond until modified)

Action 3; Alternative 2 (ACL=ABC) 22,802 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 3 (Preferred) (ACL=98%ABC) 22,346 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 4 (ACL=90%ABC) 20,522 lbs.

Note: Calculations use the most recent 5 years of recreational landings to obtain the PSE.

Alternative 3. Establish an annual catch target for blueline tilefish for the recreational sector that equals 85% of the recreational annual catch limit.

Blueline Tilefish ACT (pounds whole weight)

2015

Action 3; Alternative 2 (ACL=ABC) 15,431 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 3 (Preferred) (ACL=98%ABC) 15,122 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 4 (ACL=90%ABC) 13,888 lbs.

2016

Action 3; Alternative 2 (ACL=ABC) 23,150 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 3 (Preferred) (ACL=98%ABC) 22,687 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 4 (ACL=90%ABC) 20,835 lbs.

2017 (and beyond until modified)

Action 3; Alternative 2 (ACL=ABC) 30,951 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 3 (Preferred) (ACL=98%ABC) 30,332 lbs.

Action 3; Alternative 4 (ACL=90%ABC) 27,856 lbs.

MOTION #25: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 4 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Action 4. Establish a Recreational Annual Catch Target for Blueline Tilefish.

Alternative 2. Establish an annual catch target for blueline tilefish for the recreational sector that equals the recreational $ACL \cdot (1 - PSE)$ or $ACL \cdot 0.5$, whichever is greater.

MOTION #26: APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO ALTERNATIVES UNDER ACTION 5

Action 5. Specify Accountability Measures for Blueline Tilefish for the Commercial Sector Alternative 1 (No Action). Do not specify accountability measures for blueline tilefish for the commercial sector. The National Marine Fisheries Service has temporarily removed blueline tilefish from the Deepwater Complex and established an in-season accountability measure for blueline tilefish for the commercial sector. The accountability measure is as follows: If commercial landings for blueline tilefish reach or are projected to reach the commercial annual catch limit, National Marine Fisheries Service will file a notification with the Office of the Federal Register to close the commercial sector for blueline tilefish for the remainder of the fishing year. The temporary measures will be in place for 180 days (through October 14, 2014) and may be extended for 186 additional days.

Note: Blueline tilefish is in the Deepwater Complex and there is an accountability measure for the commercial sector for the complex. Action 1 proposes to separate blueline tilefish from the complex.

Alternative 2. Specify the following in-season and post-season accountability measures for blueline tilefish for the commercial sector: If blueline tilefish commercial landings as estimated by the Science and Research Director reach or are projected to reach the commercial ACL, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to close the commercial sector for the remainder of the fishing year. On and after the effective date of such a

notification, all sale or purchase is prohibited and harvest or possession of this species in or from the South Atlantic EEZ is limited to the bag and possession limit. This bag and possession limit applies in the South Atlantic on board a vessel for which a valid Federal commercial or charter vessel/headboat permit for South Atlantic snapper grouper has been issued as appropriate, without regard to where such species were harvested, i.e., in state or Federal waters. Additionally,

Sub-alternative 2a. If the commercial ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the commercial overage, only if the species is overfished.

Sub-alternative 2b. If the commercial ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the commercial overage, only if the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded.

Sub-alternative 2c. If the commercial ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the commercial overage, only if the species is overfished and the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded.

MOTION #27: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2, SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2C, AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE UNDER ACTION 5.

Action 5. Specify Accountability Measures for Blueline Tilefish for the Commercial Sector Alternative 2. Specify the following in-season and post-season accountability measures for blueline tilefish for the commercial sector: If blueline tilefish commercial landings as estimated by the Science and Research Director reach or are projected to reach the commercial ACL, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to close the commercial sector for the remainder of the fishing year. On and after the effective date of such a notification, all sale or purchase is prohibited and harvest or possession of this species in or from the South Atlantic EEZ is limited to the bag and possession limit. This bag and possession limit applies in the South Atlantic on board a vessel for which a valid Federal commercial or charter vessel/headboat permit for South Atlantic snapper grouper has been issued as appropriate, without regard to where such species were harvested, i.e., in state or Federal waters. Additionally, Sub-alternative 2c. If the commercial ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the commercial overage, only if the species is overfished and the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded.

*****DIRECTION TO STAFF TO INCLUDE REVISIONS TO DEEPWATER COMPLEX COMMERCIAL AMs IN THIS ACTION******

MOTION #28: APPROVE INCLUSION OF ACTION 6 AND ITS ALTERNATIVES IN AMENDMENT 32.

Action 6. Specify Accountability Measures for Blueline Tilefish for the Recreational Sector. Alternative 1 (No Action). Do not specify accountability measures for blueline tilefish for the recreational sector. The National Marine Fisheries Service has temporarily removed blueline tilefish from the deepwater complex and established an in-season accountability

measure for blueline tilefish for the recreational sector. The accountability measure is as follows: If recreational landings for blueline tilefish reach or are projected to reach the recreational annual catch limit, National Marine Fisheries Service will file a notification with the Office of the Federal Register to close the recreational sector for blueline tilefish for the remainder of the fishing year. The temporary measures will be in place for 180 days (through October 14, 2014) and may be extended for 186 additional days.

Note: Blueline tilefish is in the Deepwater Complex and there is an accountability measure for the recreational sector for the complex. Action 1 proposes to separate blueline tilefish from the complex.

Alternative 2. Specify the following post-season accountability measures for blueline tilefish for the recreational sector: If blueline tilefish recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the recreational ACL, then during the following fishing year, recreational landings will be monitored for a persistence in increased landings.

Sub-alternative 2a. If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of fishing season and the recreational ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the recreational overage, only if the species is overfished. The length of the recreational season and recreational ACL will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary.

Sub-alternative 2b. If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of fishing season and the recreational ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the recreational overage, only if the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded. The length of the recreational season and recreational ACL will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary.

Sub-alternative 2c. If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of fishing season and the recreational ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the recreational overage, only if the species is overfished and the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded. The length of the recreational season and recreational ACL will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary.

Alternative 3. Specify the following in-season accountability measures for blueline tilefish for the recreational sector: If recreational landings for blueline tilefish reach or are projected to reach the recreational annual catch limit, National Marine Fisheries Service will file a notification with the Office of the Federal Register to close the recreational sector for blueline tilefish for the remainder of the fishing year.

MOTION #29: ADD A NEW ALTERNATIVE TO ACTION 6 THAT MIRRORS ALTERNATIVE 4 (AND ITS SUB-ALTERNATIVES) IN ACTION 1 OF THE COMPREHENSIVE AMS AMENDMENT.

Alternative 4. If recreational landings reach or are projected to reach the recreational annual catch limit, National Marine Fisheries Service will file a notification with the Office

of the Federal Register to close the recreational sector for the remainder of the fishing year unless, using the best scientific information available, the Regional Administrator determines that a closure is unnecessary.

Sub-alternative 4a. If the species is overfished.

Sub-alternative 4b. Regardless of stock status.

MOTION #30: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 4, SUB-ALTERNATIVE 4B, AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE UNDER ACTION 6.

Alternative 4. If recreational landings reach or are projected to reach the recreational annual catch limit, National Marine Fisheries Service will file a notification with the Office of the Federal Register to close the recreational sector for the remainder of the fishing year, unless, using the best scientific information available, the Regional Administrator determines that a closure is unnecessary.

Sub-alternative 4b. Regardless of stock status.

MOTION #31: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2, SUB-ALTERNATIVE 2C, AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE UNDER ACTION 6.

Alternative 2. Specify the following post-season accountability measures for blueline tilefish for the recreational sector: If blueline tilefish recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the recreational ACL, then during the following fishing year, recreational landings will be monitored for a persistence in increased landings.

Sub-alternative 2c. If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of fishing season and the recreational ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the recreational overage, only if the species is overfished and the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded. The length of the recreational season and recreational ACL will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary.

MOTION 32: APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS TO ACTION 7 AND THE ADDITION OF ALTERNATIVES.

Action 7. Establish a Trip Limit for Blueline Tilefish for the Commercial Sector.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Do not establish a trip limit for blueline tilefish for the commercial sector.

Alternative 2. Establish a commercial trip limit for blueline tilefish from January through April of 100 pounds whole weight (lbs ww).

Sub-alternative 2a. Establish a commercial trip limit from May onwards of 1,500 lbs ww until 80% of the ACL is projected to be met. Then reduce the trip limit to 100 lbs ww for the remainder of the fishing year until the ACL is met or is projected to be met.

Sub-alternative 2b. Establish a commercial trip limit from May onwards of 2,000 lbs ww until 80% of the ACL is projected to be met. Then reduce the trip limit to 100 lbs ww for the remainder of the fishing year until the ACL is met or is projected to be met.

Sub-alternative 2c. Establish a commercial trip limit from May onwards of 2,500 lbs ww until 80% of the ACL is projected to be met. Then reduce the trip limit to 100 lbs ww for the remainder of the fishing year until the ACL is met or is projected to be met.

MOTION #33: INCLUDE A NEW ALTERNATIVE FOR COMMERCIAL TRIP LIMITS OF 300, 200, AND 100 POUNDS YEAR-ROUND.

MOTION #34: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 2 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.

Alternative 2. Establish a commercial trip limit for blueline tilefish from January through April of 100 pounds whole weight (lbs ww).

Sub-alternative 2a. Establish a commercial trip limit from May onwards of 1,500 lbs ww until 80% of the ACL is projected to be met. Then reduce the trip limit to 100 lbs ww for the remainder of the fishing year until the ACL is met or is projected to be met.

Sub-alternative 2b. Establish a commercial trip limit from May onwards of 2,000 lbs ww until 80% of the ACL is projected to be met. Then reduce the trip limit to 100 lbs ww for the remainder of the fishing year until the ACL is met or is projected to be met.

Sub-alternative 2c. Establish a commercial trip limit from May onwards of 2,500 lbs ww until 80% of the ACL is projected to be met. Then reduce the trip limit to 100 lbs ww for the remainder of the fishing year until the ACL is met or is projected to be met.

MOTION #35: APPROVE SUGGESTED EDITS AND NEW ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION 8.

Action 8. Adjust the Bag Limit for Blueline Tilefish for the Recreational Sector.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Retain the current blueline tilefish aggregate grouper bag limit of 3/person/day. The aggregate group contains the following species: gag, black grouper, snowy grouper, misty grouper, red grouper, scamp, yellowedge grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, blueline tilefish, golden tilefish, sand tilefish, coney, graysby, red hind, and rock hind.

Alternative 2. Remove blueline tilefish from the aggregate grouper bag limit.

Alternative 3. Establish a bag limit of blueline tilefish of 1/person/day.

Alternative 4. Establish a vessel limit of blueline tilefish of 1/vessel/day.

MOTION #36: ADD ALTERNATIVES THAT MIRROR WHAT IS BEING CONSIDERED FOR SNOWY GROUPER IN REGULATORY AMENDMENT 20 IN ORDER TO BE CONSISTENT IN MANAGING DEEPWATER SPECIES.

MOTION #37: APPROVE AMENDMENT 32 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS IN AUGUST 2014

Regulatory Amendment 27 (Gag & Wreckfish)

Gag:

MOTION #38: MODIFY THE ABCs and ACLs FOR GAG AND WRECKFISH UNDER THE REGULAR FRAMEWORK.

MOTION #39: APPROVE THE RANGE OF ALTERNATIVES AND SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 1 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Action 1. Revise annual catch limits (ACL) and optimum yield (OY) for gag.

Alternative 2. ACL = ABC = projected landings from 2015-2019 with $P^=0.3$.*

MOTION #40: ADD AN ACTION AND ALTERNATIVE THAT INCREASES THE RECREATIONAL BAG LIMIT TO 2/PERSON/DAY OR 3/PERSON/DAY.

INTENT IS TO REMOVE GAG FROM AGGREGATE AND TO SEPARATE GAG/BLACK; BLACK WOULD REMAIN AT 1/PERSON/DAY

Wreckfish:

MOTION #41: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 2 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Action 2. Revise annual catch limits (ACL) and optimum yield (OY) for wreckfish.

Alternative 2. ACL = OY = ABC = projected landings from 2015-2020 with $P^=0.275$.*

MOTION #42: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 2 AS PREFERRED FOR ACTION 3.

Action 3. Specify the wreckfish recreational ACL in numbers of fish.

Alternative 2. Specify the new wreckfish recreational ACL in numbers of fish using an average weight of X pounds.

Regulatory Amendment 20 (Snowy grouper)

MOTION #43: ACCEPT THE IPT'S PROPOSED WORDING FOR THE PURPOSE AND NEED.

Purpose for Action

The purpose of this amendment is to adjust the rebuilding strategy, acceptable biological catch (ABC), annual catch limit (ACL), maximum sustainable yield (MSY), minimum stock size threshold (MSST), optimum yield (OY), and revise management measures for the snowy grouper component of the snapper grouper fishery. These adjustments address the recent stock assessment results based on data through 2012.

Need for Action

The need for the amendment is to prevent overfishing and continue rebuilding the stock while minimizing, to the extent practicable, adverse social and economic effects.

MOTION #44: ACCEPT THE IPT'S PROPOSED WORDING CHANGES FOR ALTERNATIVES 1-4 UNDER ACTION 1.

Action 1. Adjust the Rebuilding Strategy for Snowy Grouper

Alternative 1 (No Action). The current rebuilding strategy is specified as maintaining a modified/constant fishing mortality rate ($F=F_{MSY}$) throughout the rebuilding timeframe.

The total allowable catch (TAC) specified for 2009, of 102,960 pounds whole weight (lb ww) remains in effect beyond 2009 until modified. The current acceptable biological catch (ABC) is 102,960 lb ww consistent with this rebuilding strategy.

Alternative 2. Define a rebuilding strategy for snowy grouper that maintains a constant fishing mortality rate ($F=F_{Rebuild}$) throughout the rebuilding timeframe. Year 1 remains 2006 and the yield at $F_{Rebuild}$ and ABC projections will change with each assessment.

Specify a probability of success of 50% or what the SSC recommends based on the ABC

control rule (Council to specify). ABC would change each year until 2019; the ABC for 2019 would remain in effect until modified.

Alternative 3 (Preferred). Define a rebuilding strategy for snowy grouper that maintains a constant fishing mortality rate (F= 75%FMSY) throughout the rebuilding timeframe. Year 1 remains 2006 and the yield at 75%FMSY and ABC projections will change with each assessment. ABC would change each year until 2019; the ABC for 2019 would remain in effect until modified.

Alternative 4. Define a rebuilding strategy for snowy grouper that maintains a constant fishing mortality rate (F=Fcurrent) throughout the rebuilding timeframe. Year 1 remains 2006 and the yield at Fcurrent and ABC projections will change with each assessment. ABC would change each year until 2019; the ABC for 2019 would remain in effect until modified.

MOTION #45: APPLY THE COUNCIL’S EXISTING ALLOCATION FORMULA AS IT APPLIES TO SNOWY GROUPER (AVERAGE OF LANDINGS FROM 1986-2005) USING THE SEDAR LANDINGS DATA. THE RESULTING ALLOCATION WOULD CHANGE FROM 95%C/5%R TO 83%C/17%R.

MOTION #46: ACCEPT THE IPT’S PROPOSED WORDING FOR ALTERNATIVE 1 UNDER ACTION 2.

Action 2. Adjust Annual Catch Limits for Snowy Grouper

Alternative 1. (No Action.) The current acceptable biological catch (ABC) = 102,960 pounds whole weight (lb ww) or 87,254 pounds gutted weight (lb gw). The total annual catch limit (ACL) (=ABC), commercial ACL, and recreational ACL are shown below:

<i>whole weight</i>	<i>Calculated Values</i>	<i>Implemented Values (SG Am 15B)</i>
<i>ABC=102,960</i>	<i>Com ACL (95%)=97,812</i>	<i>Com ACL (95%)</i>
<i>ACL=102,960</i>	<i>Rec ACL (5%)=5,148</i>	<i>Rec ACL (5%)</i>
<i>gutted weight</i>		
<i>ABC=87,254</i>	<i>Com ACL (95%)=82,891</i>	<i>Com ACL (95%)=82,900</i>
<i>ACL=87,254</i>	<i>Rec ACL (5%)=4,363</i>	<i>Rec ACL (5%)=4,400=523 fish</i>

MOTION #47: APPROVE ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 2 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Alternative 2. Specify that ACL=ABC=OY.

DIRECTION TO STAFF TO COMBINE ACTIONS 3 AND 4 AND CALL THE ACTION COMMERCIAL MANAGEMENT MEASURES

DIRECTION TO GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO UPDATE THE CORRESPONDING TABLE

MOTION#48: ACCEPT THE IPT’S PROPOSED WORDING FOR ACTION 3 AND ALTERNATIVES 1 AND 2 UNDER ACTION 3.

Action 3. Split the Commercial Fishing Year into 2 Fishing Seasons for Snowy Grouper.

Alternative 1 (No Action). The current commercial snowy grouper fishing year with no split of the commercial ACL into separate seasons.

Alternative 2 (Revised). Split the commercial snowy grouper ACL into two quotas: 50% to the period January 1 through April 30 and 50% to the period May 1 through December 31. Any remaining commercial quota from the January through April season carries over into the May through December season; any remaining commercial quota from the May through December season does not carry over into the next fishing year. The following trip limit would apply to each season:

Sub-alternative 2a. 100 pounds gutted weight (lb gw).

Sub-alternative 2b. 150 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 2c. 200 lb gw.

MOTION #49: ACCEPT NEW ALTERNATIVE 3 UNDER ACTION 3 AS SUGGESTED.

Alternative 3. Split the commercial snowy grouper ACL into two quotas: 40% to the period January 1 through April 30 and 60% to the period May 1 through December 31. Any remaining commercial quota from the January through April season carries over into the May through December season; any remaining commercial quota from the May through December season does not carry over into the next fishing year. Maintain the current 100-pound gutted weight (lb gw) trip limit for the January 1 through April 30 season and establish the following trip limit for the May through December season:

Sub-alternative 3a. 100 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 3b. 150 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 3c. 200 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 3d. 250 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 3e. 300 lb gw.

MOTION #50: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 2, ACTION 4 TO UNDER ACTION 3.

Action 4. Modify the Commercial Trip Limit for Snowy Grouper

Alternative 2. Modify the commercial snowy grouper trip limit from January 1 until the ACL is met or projected to be met:

Sub-alternative 2a. 300 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 2b. 200 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 2c. 150 lb gw.

MOTION #51: MOVE EXISTING ALTERNATIVE 4 UNDER ACTION 4 TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.

Alternative 4. Modify the commercial snowy grouper trip limit of 100 lb gw January through April for all areas; for May through August from North Carolina through Cape Canaveral, Florida and south of Marathon, Florida as shown below; and 100 lb gw May through August for the rest of the area. From September through the end of the year, or until the ACL is met or projected to be met, the trip limit would be set at 100 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 4a. 200 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 4b. 250 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 4c. 300 lb gw.

MOTION #52: ADD REVISED ALTERNATIVE 4 UNDER ACTION 4.

Revised Alternative 4. Maintain the current commercial snowy grouper trip limit of 150 lb gw all year or until the commercial ACL is met or projected to be met except for the period May through August from the Florida Volusia/Brevard County line north when the trip limit will be as follows:

Sub-alternative 4a. 200 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 4b. 250 lb gw.

Sub-alternative 4c. 300 lb gw.

MOTION #53: MOVE REVISED ALTERNATIVE 4 TO ACTION 3

MOTION #54: MOVE ACTION 4 TO CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.

(NOTE: THIS REFERS TO THE REMAINING ITEMS IN ACTION 4 THAT WERE NOT MOVED TO ACTION 3.)

MOTION #55: ACCEPT THE IPT'S PROPOSED WORDING FOR ALTERNATIVES 1 AND 3 UNDER ACTION 5.

Action 5. Modify the Recreational Bag Limit for Snowy Grouper

Alternative 1. (No Action.) The current recreational grouper bag and possession limit is as follows:

- Grouper and tilefish, combined--3. Within the 3-fish aggregate bag limit: No more than one fish may be gag or black grouper, combined; no more than one fish per vessel may be a snowy grouper; no more than one fish may be a golden tilefish; and no goliath grouper or Nassau grouper may be retained.*

Alternative 3. Modify the recreational snowy grouper bag limit from 1/vessel/day year round to 1/vessel/day during May and June with no retention during the remainder of the year.

MOTION #56: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 1 UNDER ACTION 5 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Action 5. Modify the Recreational Bag Limit for Snowy Grouper

Alternative 1. (No Action.) The current recreational grouper bag and possession limit is as follows:

- Grouper and tilefish, combined--3. Within the 3-fish aggregate bag limit: No more than one fish may be gag or black grouper, combined; no more than one fish per vessel may be a snowy grouper; no more than one fish may be a golden tilefish; and no goliath grouper or Nassau grouper may be retained.*

*****COMMITTEE CONSENSUS THAT THIS IS THE INTENT: OPTION 3. CLARIFY THAT THE COUNCIL'S INTENT IS THAT SNOWY GROUPER REMAIN WITHIN THE AGGREGATE GROUPER BAG LIMIT IN ALTERNATIVES 2-4 UNDER ACTION 5*****

MOTION #57: APPROVE REGULATORY AMENDMENT 20 FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS

Amendment 36 (Spawning SMZs)

MOTION #58: APPROVE THE ALTERNATIVE SMZ APPROACH (AMENDMENT 36) FOR SCOPING IN AUGUST 2014.

Amendment 35 (Remove Species)

MOTION #59: APPROVE THE MODIFIED PURPOSE AND NEED STATEMENT.

Purpose: The purpose of Amendment 35 is to: remove species from the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Unit (FMU) that do not need federal management. Taking into account mandated specifications to provide ACLs and AMs for species in a fishery management plan other than annual stocks or designated ecosystem component species, the Council is simplifying its system of ACLs by removing some of the less frequently landed species that are not in need of federal management.

Need: The need for Amendment 35 is to: Simplify federal management without reducing the protection for species rarely caught in states other than Florida.

MOTION #60: MODIFY THE DOCUMENT AND REMOVE NASSAU GROUPEL FROM CONSIDERATION.

MOTION #61: APPROVE AMENDMENT 35 FOR SCOPING IN AUGUST 2014.

Timing and Tasks

MOTION #62: APPROVE TIMING AND TASK MOTION AS PRESENTED.

1. Direct staff to conduct another review of the Oculina Closed Area Evaluation Plan in 5 years, once the entire area has been mapped.
2. Direct staff to continue to develop Regulatory Amendment 16 (BSB pot closure) and prepare the amendment for review at the September 2014 meeting.
3. Direct staff to prepare Amendment 29 (ORCS & Gray Triggerfish) for approval for Secretarial review at the September 2014 meeting.
4. Direct staff to prepare Amendment 32 (Blueline Tilefish) for public hearings in August 2014 and Council's final review at the September 2014 meeting.
5. Request the SEFSC to provide the average weight by year for wreckfish for 2015 through 2020 to convert lbs ww to numbers of fish. This is needed by June 30, 2014 to complete analyses for the public hearing document to be reviewed at the September 15-19, 2014 Council meeting.
6. Direct staff to prepare Regulatory Amendment 22 (Gag & Wreckfish) for review & approval for public hearings at the September 2014 meeting.
7. Direct staff to prepare Regulatory Amendment 20 (Snowy grouper) for public hearings in August 2014 and Council's final review at the September 2014 meeting.
8. Direct staff to revise the scoping document for Amendment 36 (Spawning SMZs) for scoping in August 2014 and Council's review at the September 2014 meeting.
9. Direct staff to revise the scoping document for Amendment 35 (Removing Species) for scoping in August 2014 and Council's review at the September 2014 meeting.

10. Direct staff to work with NOAA GC and SERO staff to address the golden tilefish longline endorsement issue and report back to the Council at the September 2014 meeting and Council's review at the September 2014 meeting.

MOTION #63: DIRECT STAFF TO DETERMINE THE BEST VEHICLE TO SEPARATE ALMACO JACK FROM THE JACKS COMPLEX

MACKEREL

The Council approved the following motions relative to mackerel:

Framework Amendment 2 (Atlantic Spanish mackerel trip limits in Florida)

MOTION #1: MOVE ALTERNATIVE 2 IN THE ACTION TO THE CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED APPENDIX.

Action: Modify the system of quota and trip limit adjustments for Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel in the Florida Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Alternative 2. Establish a trip limit of 3,500 lbs for the Florida EEZ.

The following motions pertained to the alternatives:

MOTION #2: ACCEPT THE PROPOSED SOUTHERN ZONE QUOTA AS THE TRIGGER MECHANISM.

MOTION #3: HAVE THE ALTERNATIVES IN FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT 2 APPLY TO EEZ OFF SOUTHERN ZONE.

MOTION #4: ACCEPT THE ALTERNATIVES AS MODIFIED.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Do not modify the current system of trip limits for Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel.

Alternative 3. Establish a trip limit of 3,500 lbs for the Southern Zone for March 1-November 30. After December 1, when 75% of the adjusted [proposed] Southern Zone Quota has been landed or projected to be landed, the trip limit would be reduced to 1,500 lbs.

Alternative 4. Establish a trip limit of 3,500 lbs for the Southern Zone. When 75% of the [proposed] Southern Zone commercial quota has been landed or projected to be landed, the trip limit would be reduced to 500 lbs.

Alternative 5. Establish a trip limit of 3,500 lbs for the Southern Zone. When 75% of adjusted quota of the [proposed] Southern Zone quota has been landed or projected to be landed, the trip limit would be reduced to 1,500 lbs. When 100% of adjusted quota of the [proposed] Southern Zone quota is reached, the trip limit is reduced to 500 lbs until the end of the fishing year or until the [proposed] Southern Zone commercial quota is met or projected to be met.

MOTION #5: ACCEPT THE MODIFIED PURPOSE AND NEED.

Purpose for Actions

The purpose of this amendment is to modify the current trip limit system for commercial harvest of Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel in the Southern Zone.

Need for Actions

The need for this amendment is to tailor the trip limit system for the Southern Zone to current conditions in the fishery and the new catch limits, while increasing social and economic benefits of the CMP fishery through sustainable and profitable harvest of Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel.

MOTION #6: ACCEPT THE MODIFICATIONS TO THE PURPOSE AND NEED TO REFLECT THAT THEY APPLY TO THE ENTIRE SOUTHERN ZONE.

MOTION #7: APPROVE FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT 2 FOR AUGUST PUBLIC HEARINGS.

Timing and Tasks

MOTION #8: ADOPT THE TIMING AND TASK ITEMS AS PRESENTED:

- 1. Prepare Framework Amendment 2 for public hearings in August 2014.*
- 2. Continue work on the options paper for Amendment 24 to present in December 2014.*

JOINT DOLPHIN WAHOO/SNAPPER GROUPE

The Council approved the following motions relative to dolphin wahoo/snapper grouper:

Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7/Snapper Grouper Amendment 33 (Fillets from The Bahamas)

MOTION #1: ACCEPT THE IPT'S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE PURPOSE AND NEED.

Purpose: *The purpose of these management measures is to allow recreational fishermen to bring dolphin and wahoo fillets from The Bahamas into the U.S. EEZ and update regulations that currently allow recreational fishermen to bring snapper grouper fillets from The Bahamas into the U.S. EEZ.*

Need: *The management measures are needed to increase the social and indirect economic benefits to recreational fishermen by removing impediments to the possession of fish in the U.S. EEZ that were legally harvested in Bahamian waters.*

MOTION #2: UNDER ACTION 1 ACCEPT IPT RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE CHANGES EXCEPT THE LANGUAGE THAT DELETES THE LANGUAGE REFERENCING PASSPORTS IN ALTERNATIVE 2.

Action 1. Exempt dolphin and wahoo harvested lawfully in The Bahamas from regulations that require them to be landed with head and fins intact in the U.S. EEZ. This action applies only to the recreational sector as there is no commercial harvest of dolphin and wahoo by U.S. vessels allowed in Bahamian waters.

Alternative 2 (Preferred). Allow dolphin and wahoo lawfully harvested in The Bahamas and brought into the U.S. EEZ from The Bahamas as fillets. The vessel must have stamped and dated passports to prove that the vessel passengers were in The Bahamas, as well as valid current Bahamian cruising and fishing permits onboard the vessel. The vessel must be in continuous transit in the U.S. EEZ when dolphin and/or wahoo fillets are onboard. A vessel is in transit through the South Atlantic EEZ when it is on a direct and continuous course through the South Atlantic EEZ and no one aboard the vessel fishes in the EEZ. Two fillets of dolphin or wahoo, regardless of the size of the fillet, will count as 1 fish towards the possession limit.

MOTION #3: MAKE ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 1 THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

MOTION #4: GIVE STAFF EDITORIAL LICENSE TO ADD LANGUAGE REGARDING STOWAGE OF FISHING GEAR WHILE IN TRANSIT.

MOTION #5: ACCEPT IPT RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER ACTION 2 AND MAKE ALTERNATIVE 3 THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Action 2. Exempt dolphin and wahoo harvested lawfully from The Bahamas from the U.S. bag and possession limits in the U.S. EEZ. Vessels may possess onboard 2 wahoo per person and 10 dolphin per person with a maximum of 60 dolphin.

Alternative 3 (Preferred). Exempt wahoo lawfully harvested in The Bahamas from regulations for bag limits in the U.S. EEZ.

MOTION #6: ACCEPT IPT'S RECOMMENDED WORDING CHANGES FOR ACTION 3.

Action 3. Require fillets of dolphin, wahoo, and snapper grouper species brought into the U.S. EEZ lawfully harvested from The Bahamas to have the skin intact.

Alternative 1 (No Action). Snapper grouper fillets possessed in the U.S. EEZ from The Bahamas are currently not required to have skin intact.

Alternative 2 (Preferred). Snapper grouper fillets brought into the U.S. EEZ from The Bahamas must have the skin intact.

Alternative 3 (Preferred). Dolphin and wahoo fillets brought into the U.S. EEZ from The Bahamas must have the skin intact.

MOTION #7: CHOOSE ALTERNATIVE 2 UNDER ACTION 4 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Action 4. In addition to possessing valid Bahamian cruising and fishing permits, require stamped and dated passports to prove that vessel passengers were in The Bahamas if the vessel is in possession of snapper grouper fillets in the U.S. EEZ.

Alternative 2 (Preferred). Vessels bringing snapper grouper fillets into the U.S. EEZ from The Bahamas are required to have stamped and dated passports to prove that the vessel passengers were in The Bahamas, as well as valid current Bahamian cruising and fishing permits onboard the vessel.

MOTION #8: UNDER ACTION 5 ADD THE FIRST IPT RECOMMENDED ACTION REGARDING FILLETS OF SNAPPER GROUPER SPECIES INTO THE DOCUMENT.

Action 5. Number of snapper grouper fillets lawfully harvested in The Bahamas that may be brought into the U.S. EEZ.

MOTION #9: MAKE ALTERNATIVE 2 OF THE NEW ACTION THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE.

Alternative 2 (Preferred). Two fillets of snapper grouper species, regardless of the size of the fillet will count as 1 fish towards the possession limit. Up to 40 fillets of snapper grouper species lawfully harvested in The Bahamas may be brought into the U.S. EEZ.

MOTION #10: RECOMMEND THE MODIFIED DRAFT OF DW7/SG33 BE SENT OUT FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS IN AUGUST OF 2014.

Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 8/Snapper Grouper Amendment 34 (Generic Accountability Measure and Dolphin Allocation Amendment)

MOTION #11: REMOVE DEEPWATER SPECIES FROM THE PURPOSE (BLUELINE TILEFISH, YELLOWEDGE GROUPER, SILK SNAPPER, MISTY GROUPER, QUEEN SNAPPER, SAND TILEFISH, BLACK SNAPPER, BLACKFIN SNAPPER).

MOTION #12: APPROVE IPT RECOMMENDED LANGUAGE FOR THE PURPOSE AND NEED.

Purpose for actions

The purpose for these three amendments is to modify the accountability measures for snapper grouper species (black grouper, mutton snapper, yellowtail snapper, unassessed snapper grouper species, greater amberjack, red porgy, gag, golden tilefish, red grouper, red snapper, snowy grouper, and wreckfish), and golden crab, and adjust sector allocations for dolphin.

Need for actions

The need for Amendment 34 to the Snapper Grouper FMP and Amendment 9 to the Golden Crab FMP is to create a consistent regulatory environment while preventing unnecessary negative socio-economic impacts, and ensure overfishing does not occur in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. The need for Amendment 8 to the Dolphin Wahoo FMP is to base sector allocations on the best scientific information available, and use the most appropriate allocation method to determine sector allocations.

MOTION #13: ACCEPT IPT RECOMMENDED CHANGES FOR ALTERNATIVE 1 UNDER ACTION 1.

Action 1: Exempt dolphin and wahoo harvested lawfully in The Bahamas from regulations that require them to be landed with head and fins intact in the U.S. EEZ. This action applies only to the recreational sector as there is no commercial harvest of dolphin and wahoo by U.S. vessels allowed in Bahamian waters.

Alternative 1 (No Action): Dolphin and wahoo in or from the Atlantic EEZ must be maintained with head and fins intact. Such fish may be eviscerated, gilled, and scaled, but must otherwise be maintained in a whole condition.

MOTION #14: SELECT ALTERNATIVES 2C, 3C, AND 4B AS PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES UNDER ACTION 1.

Alternative 2. If commercial landings as estimated by the Science and Research Director reach or are projected to reach the commercial ACL, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to close the commercial sector for the remainder of the fishing year. On and after the effective date of such a notification, all sale or purchase is prohibited and harvest or possession of this species in or from the South Atlantic EEZ is limited to the bag and possession limit. This bag and possession limit applies in the South Atlantic on board a vessel for which a valid Federal commercial or charter vessel/headboat permit for South Atlantic snapper grouper, dolphin wahoo, or golden crab has been issued as appropriate, without regard to where such species were harvested, i.e., in state or Federal waters. Additionally,

Sub-alternative 2C (Preferred). If the commercial ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the commercial overage, only if the species is overfished and the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded.

Alternative 3. If recreational landings, as estimated by the Science and Research Director, exceed the recreational ACL, then during the following fishing year, recreational landings will be monitored for a persistence in increased landings.

Sub-alternative 3C (Preferred). If necessary, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of fishing season and the recreational ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the recreational overage, only if the species is overfished and the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded. The length of the recreational season and recreational ACL will not be reduced if the Regional Administrator determines, using the best scientific information available, that a reduction is unnecessary.

Alternative 4. If recreational landings reach or are projected to reach the recreational annual catch limit, National Marine Fisheries Service will file a notification with the Office of the Federal Register to close the recreational sector for the remainder of the fishing year, unless, using the best scientific information available, the Regional Administrator determines that a closure is unnecessary.

Sub-alternative 4B (Preferred). Regardless of stock status.

MOTION #15: REMOVE DEEPWATER SNAPPER GROUPER SPECIES (BLUELINE TILEFISH, YELLOWEDGE GROUPER, SILK SNAPPER, MISTY GROUPER, QUEEN SNAPPER, SAND TILEFISH, BLACK SNAPPER, BLACKFIN SNAPPER) FROM ACTION 1 OF SNAPPER GROUPER AMENDMENT 34.

*****DIRECTION TO STAFF TO HAVE THE WRECKFISH ITQ TO COVER THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR AM FOR THAT FISHERY*****

MOTION #16: SELECT ALTERNATIVE 4 AS THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE UNDER ACTION 2.

Action 2. Revise the sector allocations for dolphin.

Alternative 4 (Preferred). Set the commercial allocation at the average of the percentages of the total catch over the past 5 years (2008-2012). The recreational sector allocation for dolphin is 90%, and commercial sector allocation is 10%.

*** DIRECTION TO STAFF: GIVE MORE DISCUSSION OF “FAIR AND EQUITABLE” FOR CHANGING THE ALLOCATION CHANGE. BOWTIE METHOD WAS APPLIED TO THIS FISHERY IN THE COMP ACL AMENDMENT WHEREAS IT WASN’T APPLIED IN OTHER FISHERIES THAT ALREADY HAD ALLOCATIONS. THE AP WANTED THE ALLOCATIONS TO GO BACK TO THE PRE-COMP ACL ALLOCATIONS***

MOTION #17: APPROVE THE MODIFIED DRAFT DW8/SG34 TO BE SENT OUT FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS IN AUGUST OF 2014.

MOTION #18: APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS FOR DW7/SG33 AND DW8/SG34.

For DW7/SG33:

- 1. Public hearings in August 2014.*
- 2. Distribute to MAFMC & NEFMC for them to publicize/hold public hearings and provide comments to SAFMC.*
- 3. Public Hearing draft to be sent to The Bahamas for their review of the document*
- 4. South Atlantic Council reviews public input, revises document as necessary, and takes final action in September 2014.*
- 5. Bahamian officials will be invited to attend the September Council meeting to comment and provide input on the actions in DW Amendment 8/SG Amendment 33.*
- 6. Submit DW Amendment 7/SG Amendment 33 for formal review by October 31, 2014.*
- 7. Target date for regulations to be in place by summer of 2015.*

For DW8/SG 34:

- 1. Public hearings in August 2014.*
- 2. Distribute to MAFMC & NEFMC for them to publicize/hold public hearings and provide comments to SAFMC.*
- 3. SAFMC reviews public hearing comments, modify and approve all actions in September 2014.*
- 4. Approve for formal review in December 2014.*
- 5. Submit for formal review in December 2014.*
- 6. Target date for regulations to be in place in 2015.*

ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT AND HABITAT

The Council approved the following motions relative to Ecosystem-Based Management and Habitat:

MOTION #1: APPROVE THE MARINE AQUACULTURE POLICY PRESENTED.

MOTION #2: APPROVE THE SUBMERGED AQUATIC VEGETATION POLICY AS PRESENTED.

MOTION #3: APPROVE THE IN-STREAM FLOW POLICY AS PRESENTED.

MOTION #4: APPROVE THE MARINE AND ESTUARINE INVASIVE SPECIES POLICY AS PRESENTED.

MOTION #5: APPROVE TIMING AND TASKS

1. *Approved policy statements - distribute and post to website by June 30, 2014.*
2. *Work with the Habitat AP to further refine existing and develop new SAFMC EFH policy statements for consideration at the December 2014 Council meeting.*
3. *Coordinate with Council Members, Habitat AP state sub-panel chairs and ecosystem partners to refine membership on review and writing teams for development of FEP II and integrated EFH update. Provide update on timing and participation at September 2014 meeting.*

MOTION #6: REQUEST NMFS SEFSC TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BY SEPTEMBER 1, 2014.

1. *VMS data to up to latest in 2014*
2. *SA rock shrimp bycatch results from observer trips*
3. *Detailed mapping (% area mapped, etc.) of the area (northern extension)*
4. *Observations on algae in the southern area of the rock shrimp fishery*
5. *Updated landings through 2014*
6. *Updated trip costs and value*
7. *ELB data from Gulf shrimp vessels operating in the South Atlantic*

SEDAR

The Council approved the following motions relative to SEDAR:

MOTION #1: APPROVE THE BLACK GROUPER TERMS OF REFERENCE AS PROVIDED.

MOTION #2: APPROVE THE ADDITION TO GRAY TRIGGERFISH TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SEDAR 41.

MOTION #3: REPLACE THE 2014 (TERMINAL YEAR) VERMILION UPDATE WITH A STANDARD ASSESSMENT OF BLUELINE TILEFISH.

MOTION #4: ESTABLISH SAFMC SPECIES RANKINGS AS:

1. BLUELINE TILEFISH STANDARD
2. GOLDEN TILEFISH UPDATE
3. RED GROUPER UPDATE
4. RED PORGY BENCHMARK/STANDARD

5. SCAMP BENCHMARK

6. VERMILION SNAPPER UPDATE

AND TO ASK THE SSC TO CONSIDER IF A STANDARD ASSESSMENT OF RED PORGY WILL BE ADEQUATE.

MOTION #5: APPROVE THE SUGGESTED MODIFICATIONS TO THE PEER REVIEW PROCESS, AND TO INDICATE THAT PEER REVIEWERS NEED TO BE MEMBERS OF THE SEDAR ADVISORY PANEL.

MOTION #6: APPROVE THE RESEARCH AND MONITORING PRIORITIZATION PLAN AS MODIFIED.

ADVISORY PANEL SELECTION

The Council approved the following motions relative Advisory Panel Selection:

MOTION #1: MOVE DESIGNATED SEATS FOR THE WRECKFISH SUBPANEL TO OPEN COMMERCIAL SEATS ON THE SNAPPER GROUPER ADVISORY PANEL.

MOTION #2: REAPPOINT RANDY MANCHESTER TO THE GOLDEN CRAB ADVISORY PANEL.

MOTION #3: APPOINT EMILY HELMICK TO THE HABITAT ADVISORY PANEL.

MOTION #4: APPOINT SONNY DAVIS, JAMES GEIGER, BARBARA MUHLING AND MITCHELL ROFFER TO THE SEDAR POOL ADVISORY PANEL.

MOTION #5: REAPPOINT KENNY FEX AND ROBERT THOMPSON TO THE SNAPPER GROUPER ADVISORY PANEL.

MOTION #6: APPOINT KERRY MARHEFKA TO THE SNAPPER GROUPER ADVISORY PANEL.

EXECUTIVE FINANCE

The Council approved the following motions relative to executive finance:

MOTION #1: ALLOW THE COUNCIL EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR TO DRAFT COMMENTS ON THE MSA BILLS.

DATA COLLECTION

The Council approved the following motions relative to data collection:

MOTION #1: DIRECT STAFF TO WORK WITH ACCSP IN DEVELOPING A COMMERCIAL LOGBOOK ELECTRONIC DATA ENTRY FORM. NMFS SEFSC WOULD PROVIDE THE DATA ELEMENTS AND PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT. NMFS SERO WOULD ALSO PARTICIPATE AND PROVIDE THE LINKAGE TO THE PERMITS DATABASE.

MOTION #2: APPROVE THE TASKS AND TIMING AS PRESENTED:

- 1. Direct staff to arrange presentations on Northeast bycatch reporting for the September 2014 Council meeting.*
- 2. Direct staff to assist in preparing the Council's comments on the Electronic Technology Implementation Plan.*
- 3. Direct staff to work with ACCSP on developing a commercial logbook electronic data entry form. Gregg Waugh will be the staff person working on this and NMFS SERO and SEFSC will appoint an individual to work on this along with Monica Smit-Brunello (NOAA GC).*
- 4. Direct staff to continue working on the charterboat logbook technical sub-committee to complete the report for the December 2014 meeting. A status report will be presented at the September 2014 meeting.*

SSC SELECTION

The Council approved the following motions relative to SSC Selection:

MOTION #1: REAPPOINT DR. SCOTT CROSSON, DR. ERIC JOHNSON, ANNE LANGE, DR. MARCEL REICHERT AND DR. TRACEY YANDLE TO THE SSC.

MOTION #2: APPOINT DR. AMY SCHUELLER TO THE SSC.

PROTECTED RESOURCES

There were no motions approved.

HMS

The 2003 HMS Committee motions were approved.

GOLDEN CRAB

The Council approved the following motions relative to Golden Crab:

Golden Crab Amendment 9 (Generic Accountability Measure and Dolphin Allocation Amendment)

MOTION #1: SELECT SUBALTERNATIVE 2C UNDER ACTION 1 AS THE PREFERRED SUBALTERNATIVE.

Action 1. Revise accountability measures (AMs).

Alternative 2 (Preferred). *If commercial landings as estimated by the Science and Research Director reach or are projected to reach the commercial ACL, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to close the commercial sector for the remainder of the fishing year. On and after the effective date of such a notification, all sale or purchase is prohibited and harvest or possession of this species in or from the South Atlantic EEZ is limited to the bag and possession limit. This bag and possession limit applies in the South Atlantic on board a vessel for which a valid Federal commercial or charter vessel/headboat permit for South Atlantic snapper grouper, dolphin wahoo, or golden crab has been issued as appropriate, without regard to where such species were harvested, i.e., in state or Federal waters. Additionally,*

Sub-alternative 2c (Preferred). *If the commercial ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the commercial ACL in the following fishing year by the amount of the commercial overage, only if the species is overfished **and** the total ACL (commercial ACL and recreational ACL) is exceeded.*

MOTION # 2: APPROVE GOLDEN CRAB AMENDMENT 9 FOR PUBLIC HEARING IN AUGUST OF 2014.

Timing and Task

MOTION #3: APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TIMING AND TASKS ITEMS.

For DW8/SG 34:

- 1. Public hearings in August 2014.*
- 2. Distribute to MAFMC & NEFMC for them to publicize/hold public hearings and provide comments to SAFMC.*
- 3. SAFMC reviews public hearing comments, modify and approve all actions in September 2014.*
- 4. Approve for formal review in December 2014.*
- 5. Submit for formal review in December 2014.*
- 6. Target date for regulations to be in place in 2015.*

VISIONING

There were no motions approved.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

The Council selected Ranger First Class David Brady as the 2013 Law Enforcement of the Year.

There were no other actions.

COUNCIL SESSION (OTHER MOTIONS)

There were no other motions approved.