

GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

SHRIMP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Perdido Beach Resort Orange Beach, Alabama

January 28, 2019

**VOTING MEMBERS**

- 10 Leann Bosarge.....Mississippi
- 11 Kevin Anson (designee for Scott Bannon).....Alabama
- 12 Roy Crabtree.....NMFS
- 13 Dale Diaz.....Mississippi
- 14 Jonathan Dugas.....Louisiana
- 15 Robin Riechers.....Texas
- 16 John Sanchez.....Florida
- 17 Chris Schieble (designee for Patrick Banks).....Louisiana

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS**

- 20 Susan Boggs.....Alabama
- 21 Doug Boyd.....Texas
- 22 Dave Donaldson.....GSMFC
- 23 Phil Dyskow.....Florida
- 24 Tom Frazer.....Florida
- 25 Martha Guyas (designee for Jessica McCawley).....Florida
- 26 Paul Mickle (designee for Joe Spraggins).....Mississippi
- 27 Bob Shipp.....Alabama
- 28 Greg Stunz.....Texas
- 29 Ed Swindell.....Louisiana

**STAFF**

- 32 Assane Diagne.....Economist
- 33 Matt Freeman.....Economist
- 34 John Froeschke.....Deputy Director
- 35 Morgan Kilgour.....Fishery Biologist
- 36 Mara Levy.....NOAA General Counsel
- 37 Emily Muehlstein.....Public Information Officer
- 38 Ryan Rindone.....Fishery Biologist & SEDAR Liaison
- 39 Bernadine Roy.....Office Manager
- 40 Camilla Shireman.....Administrative and Communications Assistant
- 41 Carrie Simmons.....Executive Director

**OTHER PARTICIPANTS**

- 44 Darryl Boudreau.....Milton, FL
- 45 Ryan Bradley.....MS Commercial Fisheries United, MS
- 46 J.P. Brooker.....Ocean Conservancy, St. Petersburg, FL
- 47 James Bruce.....Magnolia, MS
- 48 Nikki Burch.....Magnolia, MS

1 Ron Chicola.....Ruston, LA  
2 Bubba Cochrane.....Galveston, TX  
3 Mike Colby.....Clearwater Marine Association, FL  
4 Chris Conklin.....SAFMC  
5 Traci Floyd.....MDMR, MS  
6 Troy Frady.....AL  
7 Johnny Greene.....AL  
8 Ken Haddad.....ASA, FL  
9 Bill Kelly.....FKCFA, FL  
10 Laura Picariello.....

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PAGE 11: Motion in Action 2 to make the option the preferred. The motion carried on page 11.

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1 The Shrimp Management Committee of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery  
2 Management Council convened at the Perdido Beach Resort, Orange  
3 Beach, Alabama, Monday morning, January 28, 2019, and was called  
4 to order by Chairman Leann Bosarge.

5  
6 **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**  
7 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
8 **ACTION GUIDE AND NEXT STEPS**  
9

10 **CHAIRMAN LEANN BOSARGE:** I will call the Shrimp Management  
11 Committee to order. Just to refresh your memory, our members  
12 are myself, Mr. Banks, Mr. Anson, Dr. Crabtree, Mr. Diaz, Mr.  
13 Dugas, and Mr. Riechers.

14  
15 Our agenda can be found under Tab D, Number 1. Were there any  
16 changes or modifications to the agenda as presented? Seeing  
17 none, the agenda is approved as presented. Our minutes from our  
18 October 2018 committee meeting can be found under Tab D, Number  
19 2 in the briefing book. Were there any changes or revisions  
20 that needed to be made to those minutes? Seeing none, the  
21 minutes are approved as presented.

22  
23 Our Action Guide and Next Steps, that's found under Tab D,  
24 Number 3 in your briefing book, and, essentially, we'll be going  
25 through Shrimp Amendment 18, and so, Dr. Kilgour, I will turn it  
26 over to you.

27  
28 **DRAFT: SHRIMP AMENDMENT 18: EVALUATION OF SHRIMP EFFORT**  
29 **THRESHOLD REDUCTION IN THE AREA MONITORED FOR JUVENILE RED**  
30 **SNAPPER BYCATCH**  
31

32 **DR. MORGAN KILGOUR:** Thank you, Madam Chair. The Action Guide  
33 and Next Steps essentially say that we need to select preferred  
34 options for this document, Shrimp 18. If it's okay with you, we  
35 can just jump right into Shrimp 18.

36  
37 While that is pulling up and we're getting to Action 1, I wanted  
38 to notify the committee that this has been deemed as a  
39 categorical exclusion, and so the format looks a lot different  
40 than what you are used to. The discussions and effects are all  
41 contained in Chapter 2, and, in Chapter 1, we have the  
42 description of the environment, but the committee is requested  
43 to select a preferred option for both Action 1 and Action 2.

44  
45 It's not necessary to go out to public hearings for this,  
46 because it's a CE, but, if you would like us to host a webinar  
47 public hearing or something, that's something the committee  
48 should discuss.

1  
2 I will just jump right into it, and so the first action would  
3 adjust the target reduction goal for juvenile red snapper  
4 mortality in the federal Gulf of Mexico shrimp fishery in  
5 Statistical Zones 10 through 21 in the ten to thirty-fathom  
6 depth zone, and so this has been modified based on the October  
7 council meeting, where we have the three options.

8  
9 We can modify the target reduction goal from 67 percent, which  
10 it's currently at, to 63 percent, which is essentially halfway  
11 to 60 percent, which was outlined in Amendment 14. Option b  
12 would modify the target reduction goal to 60 percent, and Option  
13 c would modify the target reduction goal for juvenile red  
14 snapper to 56 percent, and so this would allow -- All three of  
15 these options will allow shrimp effort to increase in this area  
16 that's monitored, and I would be happy to take any questions.

17  
18 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. Is there feedback or questions  
19 from the group? Morgan, this is our public hearing draft, and  
20 so we hope to pick some preferreds today and then possibly take  
21 this out to the public, in the form of a webinar, and get some  
22 feedback there and at the AP, and that's why we want to try and  
23 pick our preferreds today, so that people would have something  
24 to give us feedback on? Is that where we're headed? Okay. All  
25 right. Dr. Crabtree.

26  
27 **DR. ROY CRABTREE:** My memory is the SSC looked at that and gave  
28 us a recommendation, I think, at the last meeting, and that was  
29 to go to 60 percent, and is that correct?

30  
31 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Yes, they looked at it, and they said that,  
32 by going down to that 60 percent, that they couldn't see any  
33 significant impacts. I don't think they made a specific  
34 recommendation on what number to hit, but they generally told us  
35 that. Dr. Crabtree.

36  
37 **DR. CRABTREE:** Then I would like to make a motion in Action 1 to  
38 adopt Option b as our preferred alternative.

39  
40 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Okay. We have a motion on the board, and  
41 we'll give staff just a minute to actually get that on the  
42 board. Okay. I think we have this motion on the board. **In**  
43 **Action 1, to make Option b the preferred. Option b would modify**  
44 **the target reduction goal for juvenile red snapper shrimp trawl**  
45 **bycatch mortality on red snapper from 67 percent less than the**  
46 **benchmark years of 2001 through 2003 to 60 percent.** Do we have  
47 a second for the motion? Seconded by Mr. Anson. Is there  
48 discussion? Mr. Diaz.

1  
2 **MR. DALE DIAZ:** This might be a question for Morgan. I am  
3 debating on whether or not to support this motion or to make a  
4 substitute motion to go down to 56 percent. I do know that the  
5 motion that was passed by the SSC said that they didn't see any  
6 issues with going down here, but it seems like we had a chart at  
7 the last meeting that showed the difference between going down  
8 to 60 percent and going down to 56 percent, and the difference  
9 between the two was negligible. Could you show that chart, just  
10 to refresh my memory and indulge me, please? Thank you.

11  
12 **DR. KILGOUR:** No problem. It's in the appendix, and so I'm just  
13 trying to figure out which table it's on, so that I can have  
14 Bernie go straight there. It's Table 3 in the appendix, which  
15 is the first -- It's Appendix A.

16  
17 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** It's paper copy page 57. I don't know about  
18 the PDF page. Is that the table you were looking for?

19  
20 **DR. KILGOUR:** Yes, that's the table, and so these are the ABCs  
21 for red snapper, and the SEDAR 52 uses a 67 percent reduction in  
22 that Statistical Zone 10 through 21 in ten to thirty fathoms.  
23 If you reduce to 60 percent, that would be the projected ABCs  
24 for red snapper, and, if you reduce to 56 percent, that column  
25 is the projected ABCs for red snapper.

26  
27 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Right, and I think the other thing to keep in  
28 mind, Morgan, is that's if we actually shrimp that hard. That  
29 doesn't necessarily mean that it would have that effect every  
30 year. That's only if we actually increased effort in the shrimp  
31 fleet that those numbers would come to fruition, right?

32  
33 **DR. KILGOUR:** It's my understanding that, when they're running  
34 the assessment, they use the percent reduction as the bycatch  
35 estimate from the shrimp fishery, whether that actual percent  
36 reduction was achieved or not, and so I would go with they  
37 assume that all the way to that percentage is conducted, and  
38 that's my understanding, and I could be very incorrect, but that  
39 was my understanding on that.

40  
41 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** No, they use actual effort, and they actually  
42 use a super-year approach, where they do a little bit of an  
43 averaging, but they do actually use the actual effort. Dr.  
44 Crabtree.

45  
46 **DR. CRABTREE:** But I think, when they do the projections out  
47 into the future, to see what happens with these target levels,  
48 that they assume that those target levels will be realized, and,

1 if they're not, then in fact you would be somewhat better off, I  
2 suppose.

3  
4 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Yes, you're right, and so, Morgan, yes,  
5 you're correct. If you're talking about the projections, you  
6 are correct, and I guess the point that I was trying to make is  
7 that we haven't actually gone over this yet, and so we haven't  
8 actually shrimped that hard yet, and, essentially, I guess, in  
9 my mind, what that 56 percent does is it says, all right, if you  
10 actually have a good year, where fuel is down and the price of  
11 shrimp is up, you could actually shrimp a little harder than one  
12 year, because usually that doesn't happen multiple years, and it  
13 doesn't happen very often, and you wouldn't be punished for it,  
14 whereas, all these other years, you're not shrimping that hard,  
15 and, therefore, you're not having that bycatch, and you're not  
16 actually seeing that death or any reduction in the ACL. Mr.  
17 Diaz.

18  
19 **MR. DIAZ:** Madam Chair, based on the discussion that we had  
20 around the table and the reviewing Table 3 in the appendix, I  
21 would make a substitute motion that we make the preferred going  
22 down to 56 percent. If I get a second, I will give a little bit  
23 more rationale.

24  
25 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. Let's give staff just a second to  
26 get that on the board. Is there a second for the motion while  
27 they're getting that on the board? I will second it. All  
28 right. Mr. Diaz.

29  
30 **MR. DIAZ:** I do think the difference is negligible, when you  
31 look out to 2032, and, to echo some of what Leann just said, the  
32 shrimp industry has not exceeded this threshold to date, and so  
33 the shrimp industry has done their part in trying to rebuild  
34 this fishery, and, based on the science, the difference at 2032  
35 is negligible, and I think it's reasonable for us to go down to  
36 56 percent. In my opinion, I don't think it's going to have any  
37 significant impact, based on the science we have before us.  
38 Thank you, Madam Chair.

39  
40 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Thank you, Mr. Diaz. Mr. Riechers.

41  
42 **MR. ROBIN RIECHERS:** Dale, I don't disagree that certainly the  
43 shrimp industry has done their part in the respect to the  
44 rebuilding to this point. I am going to basically vote against  
45 your motion and go back to Dr. Crabtree's. The rationale for me  
46 is simply that, when it was all put in place, we've got a 2032  
47 rebuilding target, and that, even at the 56 percent, even though  
48 the difference is negligible, it would start to eat into the



1 gains being made towards that goal, as we get towards the end of  
2 that time series on that table that we just talked about.

3  
4 The 2032 goal set out the reduction to 60 percent, and so, by  
5 going there, we basically are meeting our target and getting  
6 there a lot quicker. Both the 63 percent and the 60 percent  
7 give a greater threshold, which, as you suggest, the shrimp  
8 industry hasn't met yet, and so I think we can give that same  
9 threshold, and we haven't been seeing these huge increases in  
10 effort come into the fishery, and I don't really think they're  
11 going to be there, and what we're trying to do is just increase  
12 that buffer a little bit more, so that, if we do see those  
13 pulses, like Leann is talking about, and last year was one where  
14 we had a little pulse and got a little closer, we're making up  
15 for that right now, and so I don't think we've got to go all the  
16 way to 56 to do that. I think we can go to 60 and do that, but  
17 that's just my rationale.

18  
19 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Is there further feedback? I guess I see 56  
20 as kind of like what we just went through for the carryforward  
21 document. We've been under all this time and made sure that we  
22 didn't have that extra effort, and that's great, but we don't  
23 have any carryforward, and so, essentially, if we go to this 56,  
24 that's kind of our carryforward. We've been under, under,  
25 under, and we haven't had the effort, and there hasn't been the  
26 mortality, and so, if we have one good year, where we could  
27 actually shrimp a little harder, we actually get some benefit  
28 for being under, under, under.

29  
30 If this had been at 56 from the get-go, if on paper it had been  
31 a 56 percent reduction for the shrimp industry from back from --  
32 What year was it, 2007? Anyway, whatever year it was, the  
33 rebuilding plan would be in the same spot it was, because we  
34 have never fished that hard, right, and so it really doesn't  
35 have an impact on the rebuilding plan unless we finally have one  
36 good year.

37  
38 Like you said, that's probably few and far between that we would  
39 get there, but it sure would be nice to know that, if we did  
40 have a good year, it wouldn't hurt us and we could actually fish  
41 it for once.

42  
43 All right. We have a substitute motion on the board. **In Action**  
44 **1, to make Option c the preferred, and Option c is to modify the**  
45 **target reduction goal for juvenile red snapper shrimp trawl**  
46 **bycatch mortality on red snapper from 67 percent less than the**  
47 **benchmark years of 2001 to 2003 to 56 percent.** Yes, Mr.  
48 Sanchez.

1  
2 **MR. JOHN SANCHEZ:** Thank you, Madam Chair. Early on, when you  
3 read the roster of committee members on this, I didn't hear my  
4 name, but I think I'm on it, and I just want to clarify before I  
5 maybe vote on this.  
6  
7 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Did I skip you?  
8  
9 **MR. SANCHEZ:** I think so, and I may not have been paying  
10 attention, but I think so.  
11  
12 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** That's because, on my paper copy, I don't see  
13 you on there. Hang on. We will pull the committee roster.  
14 Okay. I am seeing yes. Louisiana is telling me that, yes, they  
15 have the committee roster in their hand, and you are on the  
16 committee, and so, yes, sir, you are free to vote. Thank you.  
17 Sorry about that, Mr. Sanchez.  
18  
19 All right. Now that we know who all can vote, all those in  
20 favor, signify by saying aye; all those opposed, same sign.  
21 We're going to have to have a show of hands, I think. **All**  
22 **right. To move the reduction down to the 56 percent, all those**  
23 **in favor, signify by raising your hand, three; all those**  
24 **opposed, same sign, five. The motion fails.**  
25  
26 That brings us back to the original motion. In Action 1, to  
27 make Option b the preferred, and Option b would modify the  
28 target to the 60 percent. **All those in favor, signify by saying**  
29 **aye; all those opposed, same sign. The motion carries.** Dr.  
30 Kilgour, I will turn it back over to you.  
31  
32 **DR. KILGOUR:** Thank you, Madam Chair. Action 2 is revise the  
33 Shrimp FMP management measures framework procedure, and so the  
34 committee has the option to either do this or not. The option  
35 is to revise the Shrimp FMP management measures, and I have  
36 highlighted in the actual framework procedure, starting on page  
37 37, that the ABC and the changes to the target effort reduction  
38 goal for juvenile red snapper mortality would be added to the  
39 framework procedure for shrimp.  
40  
41 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. There we go. We're getting it up  
42 there. Is there discussion? Morgan, you may have just said  
43 this and I missed it, and so this is Action 2, and there is the  
44 one option. Do we have to pick a preferred? Did I miss you  
45 saying that?  
46  
47 **DR. KILGOUR:** This is strange for me, because I'm not used to  
48 this format either, but I would think that you would have to

1 select this as the preferred option if you wanted -- So that you  
2 could let the public know that this is where you were going.

3

4 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Dr. Crabtree.

5

6 **DR. CRABTREE:** I move we select Action 2 as preferred.

7

8 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right. We have a motion going on the  
9 board to select Action 2 as preferred, the option in that action  
10 as preferred, and that motion has been seconded by Mr. Diaz.  
11 All right. I will read it into the record.

12

13 **The motion is to select Action 2, the option, as the preferred.**  
14 **Action 2 is revise the Shrimp FMP management measures framework**  
15 **procedure. The option is to revise the Shrimp FMP management**  
16 **measures framework procedure to allow changes to the target**  
17 **effort reduction goal for juvenile red snapper mortality through**  
18 **the standard open framework documentation process and modify the**  
19 **abbreviated documentation process to allow specification of an**  
20 **ABC recommended by the council's Scientific and Statistical**  
21 **Committee (SSC) based on the results of a new stock assessment**  
22 **and using the ABC control rule.**

23

24 Okay. I did have one question. What is the ABC part of that,  
25 just because we don't usually have ABCs?

26

27 **DR. KILGOUR:** Sorry about that. We don't have an ABC for  
28 shrimp, except for royal reds, but this was part of the  
29 carryover document, and, since we had a shrimp document, we  
30 moved it over to here, and this is just to make sure that all of  
31 the abbreviated framework procedures are the same.

32

33 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** Right, and royal red would qualify. All  
34 right. Is there any further discussion on the motion on the  
35 board? **Seeing none, is there any opposition to the motion?**  
36 **Seeing no opposition, the motion carries.** Dr. Kilgour.

37

38 **DR. KILGOUR:** I'm done.

39

40 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** All right, and so that takes us through the  
41 document, and, Dr. Kilgour, I think you have a webinar  
42 scheduled, or hope to schedule, in the near future to bring this  
43 to the public to get some feedback, and then we also have a  
44 Shrimp AP meeting scheduled in the near future, and will it be  
45 presented there as well?

46

47 **DR. KILGOUR:** Yes, and so, right now, we tentatively have  
48 webinar planned for the evening of the Shrimp AP meeting, which

1 the Shrimp AP meeting is currently scheduled for March 21. Your  
2 new lead staff member will be Dr. Freeman, and he has an agenda  
3 that he will be submitting, and it should hopefully go through  
4 the FRN process so that you guys can have that meeting on March  
5 21.

6  
7 **CHAIRMAN BOSARGE:** That brings up another point. You have done  
8 an amazing job with all of our shrimpers here in the Gulf, and  
9 you will most definitely be missed, Dr. Kilgour. They have  
10 already reached out to tell me that. They said, what, is she  
11 leaving? Really? So, we love you, and we've loved having you.  
12 Dr. Freeman, don't worry. We will love you just as much, and  
13 I'm sure you'll do a great job. We're a salty group, but you'll  
14 fit in just fine. All right. Is there any other business to  
15 come before the committee? Seeing none, that wraps us up, and  
16 our committee is adjourned.

17  
18 (Whereupon, the meeting adjourned on January 28, 2019.)

19  
20  
21

- - -