



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Jessica McCawley, Chair | Mel Bell, Vice Chair
John T. Carmichael, Executive Director

January 13, 2020

LN 2020-03

Dr. Carrie Simmons
Executive Director
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
4107 W. Spruce Street, Suite 200
Tampa, FL 33607

During the November 2019 meeting of the Council Coordination Committee there was a suggestion that the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Councils convene a working group that will meet informally to coordinate efforts to address provisions of the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Act. At our December 2019 meeting, the South Atlantic Council supported the informal workgroup approach and identified participants. To expedite these discussions, the Council further recommended providing this letter to the Gulf Council, for consideration at their January 2020 meeting, to propose a plan for a working group meeting.

The South Atlantic Council proposes the following:

SAFMC Representatives:

Jessica McCawley, Mel Bell, Spud Woodward, Steve Poland, and Chester Brewer

Initial Topics:

- 1) Review the *Report to Congress on Section 201 of the Modernizing Recreational Fisheries Act*.
- 2) Review the GAO report on allocations that is expected to be available in March 2020.
- 3) Develop a list of potential topics and shared issues for further discussion and evaluation.
- 4) Develop a timeline and plan of work for the group.

First Workgroup Meeting:

South Atlantic Council members suggested holding a first meeting of this workgroup via webinar. We propose initiating a doodle poll to find a time to meet between April and June 2020, once the GAO allocations report is available.

The South Atlantic Council requests that the Gulf of Mexico Council review these initial proposals at your January 2020 meeting. Please consider appointing workgroup representatives and provide feedback on possible workgroup meeting dates and topics.

Thank you for your consideration of this topic. Please contact John Carmichael if you have any questions on the South Atlantic recommendations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. McCawley', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jessica McCawley
Chair

cc: Council Members
Tech Staff
Monica Smit-Brunello