

Gulf Council Motions Report
June 5-8, 2017
Naples, FL

GULF SEDAR

Gulf SEDAR Schedule Review

Motion: To assess gray triggerfish and cobia in 2018 as standard track assessments with a terminal year of 2016.

Substitute Motion: In 2018, to assess in priority, 1-gray snapper benchmark continued, 2-MRIP calibration updates, 3-king mackerel research tracks, 4-gray triggerfish standard, 5-cobia standard, and 6-red grouper standard.

Substitute motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To assess red grouper as the number one priority in 2019 as a standard track assessment with a terminal year of 2018.

Substitute Motion: To assess in 2019, in order of priority, 1-scamp research track, 2-vermilion snapper standard, 3-yellowedge grouper standard, 4-tilefish standard, 5-Spanish mackerel standard.

Substitute motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: For the Red grouper assessment in 2018 the terminal year will be 2016.

Motion carried with no opposition.

REEF FISH

Final Action on Reef Fish Amendment 44 – Minimum Stock size threshold for Reef Fish Stocks

Motion: In Action 1, to make Alternative 6 the preferred alternative.

Alternative 6: For the reef fish stocks listed in Table 1.3.1, reef fish stocks MSST = $0.50 \times \text{BMSY}$ (or proxy).

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To approve Reef Fish Amendment 44, and that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, giving staff editorial license to make the necessary changes in the document.

Mr. Anson – yes	Dr. Dana – yes	Ms. Guyas – yes
Dr. Stunz – yes	Mr. Greene – yes	Mr. Robinson – yes
Dr. Crabtree – yes	Dr. Frazer – yes	Dr. Mickle – yes
Mr. Swindell – yes	Mr. Walker – yes	Mr. Matens – yes
Mr. Boyd – yes	Mr. Diaz – yes	Ms. Bosarge – yes
Mr. Sanchez – yes	Mr. Banks – yes	

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Final Action on Reef Fish Amendment 47 – Vermilion Snapper MSY Proxy and ACL

Motion: To approve Reef Fish Amendment 47, and that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text as necessary and appropriate, giving staff editorial license to make the necessary changes in the document. The Council Chair is given the authority to deem any changes to the codified text as necessary and appropriate.

Mr. Swindell – yes	Mr. Greene – yes	Ms. Guyas – yes
Mr. Banks – yes	Dr. Crabtree – yes	Mr. Anson – yes
Mr. Walker – yes	Mr. Robinson – yes	Mr. Sanchez – yes
Dr. Mickle – yes	Dr. Frazer – yes	Dr. Dana – yes
Mr. Boyd – absent	Mr. Matens – yes	Ms. Bosarge – yes
Mr. Diaz – yes	Dr. Stunz – yes	

Motion carried 16 to 0 by roll call vote with one absent.

Final Action on Abbreviated Framework Action to Modify the Number of Unrigged Hooks Carried Onboard Bottom Longline Vessels

Motion: To make Option 3 the preferred option.

Option 3. Modify the total number of hooks to be unlimited of which no more than 750 hooks are fished or rigged for fishing. While the option of greater than 1,500 hooks per vessel was not analyzed in Amendment 31 (GMFMC 2010), the regulation to only allow 750 hooks to be fished or rigged for fishing would remain in place. Therefore, there should not be any additional concern for protected species interactions. Law enforcement would only need to check the number of rigged hooks (750) because there would be an unlimited number of unrigged hooks allowed in this option, reducing any burden on law enforcement.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To approve the Abbreviated Framework Action to Modify the Number of Unrigged Hooks Carried onboard Bottom Longline Vessels, and that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text as necessary and appropriate, giving staff editorial license to make the necessary changes in the document. The Council Chair is given the authority to deem any changes to the codified text as necessary and appropriate.

Dr. Dana – yes	Mr. Robinson – yes	Mr. Anson – yes
Ms. Guyas – yes	Dr. Mickle – yes	Mr. Sanchez – yes
Mr. Matens – yes	Dr. Frazer – yes	Mr. Boyd – absent
Mr. Diaz – yes	Dr. Stunz – yes	Mr. Greene – yes
Mr. Swindell – yes	Mr. Walker – yes	Ms. Bosarge – yes
Mr. Banks – yes	Dr. Crabtree – yes	

Motion carried 16 to 0 by roll call vote with one absent.

Draft Framework Action - Greater Amberjack ACL and Management Measures

Motion: In Action 2, to add a new alternative that would modify the recreational closed season from January 1 – July 31.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To move Action 3 to Considered but Rejected.

2.3 Action 3: Modify the Recreational Minimum Size Limit

Alternative 1: No Action – Do not modify the current recreational minimum size limit of 34 inches fork length (FL)

Alternative 2: Modify the minimum recreational size limit for greater amberjack to 30 inches FL

Alternative 3: Modify the minimum recreational size limit for greater amberjack to 32 inches FL

Alternative 4: Modify the minimum recreational size limit for greater amberjack to 36 inches FL

Motion carried with no opposition.

Options Paper – Amendment 36B – Commercial Reef Fish IFQ Modifications

Motion: In Section 2.3, to add an alternative for an adaptive management redistribution method based on cyclical redistribution, which depends on fishing participation.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To direct staff to write a letter to NMFS to request a determination if an auction of commercial red snapper quota above 4.65 mp would require a referendum.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Revised Draft Amendment 41 – Allocation Based Management for Federally Permitted Charter Vessels

Motion: In Action 1, make Alternative 2, Option 2b the preferred.

Alternative 2: Establish a fishing quota program that provides participants with shares and annual allocation.

Option 2b: a Permit Fishing Quota (PFQ) program.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, to make Alternative 1 the preferred alternative.

Alternative 1: No Action. Do not establish a voluntary red snapper management program for charter vessels. The red snapper management program applies to all charter vessels with a valid or renewable Gulf Charter/Headboat permit for Reef Fish.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To move Action 2 (Program Participation) to Considered but Rejected.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 3, Alternative 2, to make options 2a, 2b, and 2c the preferred.

Alternative 2. Include the following species in the management program:

Option 2a: Red snapper

Option 2b: Greater amberjack

Option 2c: Gray triggerfish

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 3, to move Alternative 2, Options 2d and 2e to Considered but Rejected.

Alternative 2. Include the following species in the management program:

Option 2d: Gag

Option 2e: Red grouper

Motion failed 7 to 9.

Motion: In Action 6.1, to make Alternative 3, Option 3a the preferred alternative.

Alternative 3: The cycles for adaptive management will occur in an increasing progressive range, starting at X year(s) and incrementing by 1 year until Y years. Thereafter, cycles will be Y years in length.

Option 3a: 1 year incrementing by 1 year till reaching 3 years (cycle 1= 1 year, cycle 2 = 2 years, cycle 3+ = 3 years)

Motion carried with no opposition.

Other Business - Status Determination Criteria Amendment

Motion: To make the Status Determination Criteria Amendment a priority on the proposed action schedule.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Other Business - Turtle Release Gear

Motion: To direct staff to begin work on a document to address turtle release gear.

Motion carried with no opposition.

ADMINISTRATIVE/BUDGET

No Motions.

SPINY LOBSTER

Final Action on Joint Spiny Lobster Regulatory Amendment 4

Motion: To recommend that Spiny Lobster Regulatory Amendment 4 be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text as necessary and appropriate, giving staff editorial license to make the necessary changes in the document. The Council Chair is given the authority to deem any changes to the codified text as necessary and appropriate.

Mr. Matens – yes	Dr. Mickle – yes	Dr. Crabtree – yes
Mr. Greene – yes	Ms. Guyas – yes	Dr. Dana – yes
Mr. Diaz – yes	Dr. Stunz – yes	Mr. Banks – yes
Dr. Frazer – yes	Mr. Walker – yes	Mr. Anson – yes
Mr. Robinson – yes	Mr. Sanchez – yes	Ms. Bosarge – yes
Mr. Swindell – yes	Mr. Boyd – yes	

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Update on bully-netting regulations – NMFS

Motion: To direct staff to begin work on a plan amendment to address the bully-net issue and reestablish the protocol procedures with the State of Florida.

Motion carried with no opposition.

JOINT CORAL/HABITAT PROTECTION & RESTORATION

Options Paper for Coral Amendment 9

Motion: To move Actions 1 and 2 to Considered but Rejected.

- Action 1. Incorporation of deep-water octocoral species into the fishery management unit (FMU)
- Action 2. Establish management benchmarks for octocoral species.

Motion failed 0 to 16 with one abstention.

Motion: In Action 1, to add a new alternative that would exclude octocorals in the EEZ off of Florida from federal management.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To direct staff to define criteria to evaluate areas for “evidence of fishing” using VMS and ELB datasets. In areas that have evidence of fishing, to direct staff to include options that allow for a “tiered approach,” or specific exemptions, for fishing with bottom tending gear.

Motion carried with no opposition.

DATA COLLECTION

No Motions.

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

No Motions.

ANNOUNCE COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGICS AND RED DRUM ADVISORY PANEL MEMBERS

The following were appointed to the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Advisory Panel:

Roy CRAVEY – MS	Michael NUGENT – TX
Judson CURTIS – TX	Kelty READENOUR – LA
Gary JARVIS – FL	William STEIN III – LA
Chris JENKINS – LA	Fred TEWELL – AL
David KREBS – FL	Ed WALKER – FL
Tom MARVEL – FL	Lance WALKER – LA
Jeffrey MATHEWS – TX	James Michael WHITFIELD – FL
George NILES – FL	Robert WOITHE – FL

The following were appointed to the Red Drum Advisory Panel:

Francis DONALDSON – LA	Lance NACIO – LA
Benjamin GRAHAM – LA	Ben RAINES – AL
John GREEN – FL	Erman RAWLINGS – MS
Joseph HENDON – MS	Harvey SCHINDLER – MS
Robert LEAF – MS	Derek SHOOBRIDGE – TX
Jeffrey MILLER – FL	Dustin TROCHESSET – MS
Burt E. MORITZ – TX	Troy WILLIAMSON – TX