

**Gulf Council Motions Report**  
**August 10-13, 2015**  
**New Orleans, Louisiana**

**REEF FISH MOTIONS**

**Public Hearing Draft Amendment 39 – Regional Management of Recreational Red Snapper**

**Motion:** In Action 1, to change the Preferred Alternative to Alternative 4.

**Alternative 4:** Establish a regional management program in which a state or group of adjacent states (regions) submit proposals to a **technical review committee** describing the **conservation equivalency measures** the region will adopt for the management of its portion of the recreational sector ACL. The proposals must specify the red snapper season and bag limit. To be a CEP, the plan must be reasonably expected to limit the red snapper harvest to the region’s assigned portion of the recreational red snapper ACL. The technical review committee reviews and may make recommendations on the plan, which is either returned to the region for revision or forwarded to NMFS for final review. If a region does not participate or its plan is determined by NMFS to not satisfy the conservation equivalency requirements, then the recreational harvest of red snapper in the federal waters adjacent to such region would be subject to the federal default regulations for red snapper.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** That the technical review committee be comprised of one member from each state designated by the State Fisheries Director.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** In Action 2, to accept the language in Alternative 4 to include the phrase “as a single unit.”

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** In Action 2, to make Alternative 4 the Preferred Alternative.

**Alternative 4:** Remove the sunset and **end** the separate management of the federal for-hire and private angling components upon implementation of this amendment, and have this amendment **apply to the entire recreational sector**. The private angling and federal for-hire components would be managed *as a single unit* by each region under regional ACLs based on the allocation selected in Action 6.

Motion failed by roll call vote 8 to 9.

**Roll call vote:**

Walker – No	Sanchez – No	Dana – No
Fisher – Yes	Matens – Yes	Bosarge – No
Diaz – No	Boyd – Yes	Stunz – Yes
Riechers- Yes	Bademan – Yes	Swindell – No
Green – No	Williams – No	Anson – Yes
Lucas – Yes	Crabtree – No	

**Substitute Motion:** In Action 2, make Alternative 2 the Preferred Alternative

**Alternative 2:** Remove the sunset and **extend** the separate management of the federal for-hire and private angling components of the recreational sector and have this amendment **apply to the private angling component**, only. The private angling component would be managed by each region under regional ACLs that are based on the allocation selected in Action 6 and the federal for-hire component would be managed Gulf-wide under a component ACL based on the allocation selected in Amendment 40.

Substitute motion failed by roll call vote 8 to 9.

**Roll call vote:**

Dana – Yes	Crabtree – Yes	Riechers – No
Bosarge – Yes	Boyd – No	Sanchez – Yes
Lucas – No	Matens – No	Stunz – No
Fisher – No	Walker – Yes	Diaz – No
Williams – Yes	Green – Yes	Anson – No
Swindell – Yes	Bademan – No	

**Substitute Motion:** In Action 2, to make Alternative 3 the Preferred Alternative.

**Alternative 3:** Remove the sunset and **extend** the separate management of the federal for-hire and private angling components of the recreational sector and have this amendment **apply to both components** in any region intending to manage both private angling and federal for-hire components for its region. A region would specify its intent to manage both components in its CEP or state regulations under delegation. In a region that manages both components, the regional ACL will be separated into private angling and federal for-hire component ACLs, based on the component allocation selected in Amendment 40 and the regional allocation selected in Action 4. In all other regions, the private angling component would be managed by each region under the regional ACLs based on the allocation selected in Action 6, and the federal for-hire component would continue to be managed Gulf-wide under a component ACL based on the allocation selected in Amendment 40.

Substitute motion failed by roll call vote 7 to 10.

**Roll call vote:**

Boyd – No	Bosarge – No	Dana – Yes
Swindell – No	Bademan – No	Green – No
Diaz – Yes	Crabtree – Yes	Lucas – No
Riechers – No	Walker – Yes	Fisher – No
Stunz – No	Matens – No	Anson – Yes
Sanchez – Yes	Williams – Yes	

**Updated Options Paper – Framework Action to Set Gag Recreational Season and Gag and Black Grouper Minimum Size Limits**

**Motion:** In Action 1, to make Alternative 2 the Preferred Alternative.

**Alternative 2.** Set the recreational minimum size limit for gag at 24 inches TL.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** In Action 2, to make Alternative 2 the Preferred Alternative.

**Alternative 2.** Set the recreational minimum size limit for black grouper at 24 inches TL.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Final Action – Amendment 28 – Red Snapper Allocation**

**Motion:** In Action 1, to make Alternative 9 the Preferred Alternative.

**Alternative 9:** The increase in allowable harvest (due to changes in recreational data) from the update assessment will be allocated to the recreational sector. The increase for the recreational sector should be the amount attributable to the change in size selectivity and to the recalibration of MRIP catch estimates between 2015 and 2017. Commercial and recreational allocations are based on the average percentages of the red snapper quota that would be allocated to each sector between 2015 and 2017.

Alternative	Year	Total ACL	Commercial		Recreational	
			ACL	Percent	ACL	Percent
<b>Alternative 9:</b> Allocate increases due to the recalibration of MRIP catch estimates and to the change in size selectivity to rec sector; Average percentages between 2015 and 2017	2016	13.960	5.933	42.5%	8.027	57.5%
	2017	13.740	5.840	42.5%	7.901	57.5%

For the components of the recreational sector, resulting ACLs and ACTs (in million pounds whole weight) are as follows:

Alternative	Year	Total Recreational		Private Angling Component		Federal For-Hire Component	
		ACL	ACT	ACL	ACT	ACL	ACT
Alternative 9	2016	8.027	6.422	4.632	3.705	3.395	2.716
	2017	7.901	6.320	4.559	3.647	3.342	2.674

Motion failed by roll call vote 8 to 8 with 1 abstention.

**Roll call vote:**

Williams – No	Matens – Yes	Boyd – Yes
Bademan – Yes	Dana – No	Stunz – Yes
Lucas – Yes	Swindell – No	Green – No
Walker – No	Riechers – Yes	Diaz – No
Sanchez – No	Fisher – Yes	Anson – Yes
Crabtree – Abstain	Bosarge – No	

**Substitute Motion:** In Action 1, to make Alternative 1 the new Preferred Alternative.

**Alternative 1:** No Action – Maintain the allocation set in Reef Fish Amendment 1. The commercial and recreational red snapper allocations remain at 51% and 49% of the red snapper quota respectively. Based on red snapper quotas between 2016 and 2017, resulting allocations (in million pounds whole weight and in percent) to the commercial and recreational sectors are:

Alternative	Year	Total ACL	Commercial		Recreational	
			ACL	Percent	ACL	Percent
<b>Alternative 1: Status Quo</b>	2016	13.960	7.120	51.0%	6.840	49.0%
	2017	13.740	7.007	51.0%	6.733	49.0%

For the components of the recreational sector, resulting ACLs and ACTs (in million pounds whole weight) are as follows:

Alternative	Year	Total Recreational		Private Angling Component		Federal For-Hire Component	
		ACL	ACT	ACL	ACT	ACL	ACT
Alternative 1	2016	6.840	5.472	3.947	3.158	2.893	2.315
	2017	6.733	5.386	3.885	3.108	2.848	2.278

Substitute motion failed by roll call vote 6 to 11.

**Roll call vote:**

Bosarge – Yes	Fisher – No	Williams – Yes
Boyd – No	Riechers – No	Stunz – No
Diaz – No	Sanchez – Yes	Crabtree – No
Green – Yes	Swindell – No	Dana – Yes
Matens – No	Walker – Yes	Anson – No
Lucas – No	Bademan – No	

**Motion:** To approve Amendment 28 and that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text as modified in discussion 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.

Motion carried by roll call vote 12 to 5.

**Roll call vote:**

Riechers – Yes	Fischer – Yes	Williams – Yes
Stunz – Yes	Matens – Yes	Lucas – Yes
Greene – No	Sanchez – No	Dana – Yes
Diaz – Yes	Bademan – Yes	Boyd – Yes
Swindell – No	Crabtree – Yes	Anson – Yes
Bosarge – No	Walker – No	

**Final Action – Framework Action to Retain a Portion of the Commercial Red Snapper Quota in 2016**

**Motion:** In Action 1 of the Framework Action, make Alternative 2 the Preferred Alternative

**Alternative 2:** Before the distribution of the 2016 red snapper commercial quota to RS-IFQ account shareholders, **withhold up to 34.7 % of the red snapper commercial quota.** The exact amount to be retained for later distribution will be determined by the percentage of the red snapper commercial quota that would be reallocated to the recreational sector under Reef Fish Amendment 28.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** To approve the Framework Action to retain 2016 commercial Red Snapper quota and that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text as modified in discussion 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.

Motion carried by roll call vote 16 to 1.

**Roll call vote:**

Lucas – Yes	Walker – No	Williams – Yes
Fisher – Yes	Green – Yes	Stunz – Yes
Diaz – Yes	Bademan – Yes	Boyd – Yes
Swindell – Yes	Sanchez – Yes	Riechers – Yes
Crabtree – Yes	Dana – Yes	Anson – Yes
Matens – Yes	Bosarge – Yes	

**Draft Framework Action – Modify Gear Restrictions for Yellowtail Snapper**

**Motion:** To accept the language in Action 1.

**Action 1. Changes to Hook Requirements for Commercially Harvested Yellowtail Snapper in the Gulf of Mexico**

**Alternative 1:** No action – Do not change the current hook requirements for commercially harvested yellowtail snapper in the Gulf of Mexico. Circle hooks will remain required when fishing with natural bait yellowtail snapper in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico.

**Alternative 2:** Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when commercial fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper throughout the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico.

**Alternative 3:** Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when commercial fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper south of 28° 0' North latitude in the exclusive economic zone of the Gulf of Mexico.

**Alternative 4:** Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when commercial fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper south of 25° 23' North latitude on the west coast of Monroe County, Florida south to the Gulf Council jurisdictional boundary.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Options Paper – Amendment 42 – Federal Reef Fish Headboat Management**

**Motion:** That in Reef Fish Amendment 42, the species included be red snapper and gag grouper only.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** To remove section 2.2.1 Size Limit, Bag Limit and Season Adjustments

Motion failed 6 to 9.

**Options Papers – Amendments 41 – Federal Charter-For-Hire Red Snapper Management and Amendment 42 – Federal Reef Fish Headboat Management**

**Motion:** To remove discussions of regional fishing organizations/associations in both Amendments 41 and 42.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** To direct staff to use the AP's provided recommendations within the creation of Amendments 41 and 42 as much as is practicable.

Motion failed 8 to 9.

**Motion:** Take Amendments 41 and 42 Options Papers out to Scoping meetings.

Motion carried 10 to 5.

**Other Business**

**Motion:** To defer any action in creating the Ad Hoc Private Recreational AP until the October 2015 Council meeting.

Motion carried 9 to 6.

**JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY AND  
BUDGET/PERSONNEL MOTIONS**

**Discuss Combining Administrative Policy and Budget/Personnel Committees**

**Motion:** To merge the budget process into the Administrative Committee and leave the Personnel Committee as a stand-alone Committee of the Council.

Motion carried.

**Motion:** Have staff return with Tab G-6 with an Ad Hoc one year review in January to decide whether to continue an ad hoc Committee and/or to reappoint members, and keep staggered Committee terms for the other Committees.

Motion carried.

**Discuss Procedures for AP Appointments with respect to the Council’s Fishing Violation Policy**

**Motion:** To recommend that boat owners not be automatically held responsible for violations by a crew member when the owner is not present, relative to our AP appointment process.

Motion carried.

**Motion:** The individual not be eligible to serve on an AP within three years of the time that the violation was adjudicated.

Motion carried.

**Motion:** The violations would be federal fishery violations or state violations of federally managed species.

Motion carried.

**Motion:** After appointment of AP members we request NOAA Law Enforcement to ask state enforcement agencies if those appointees have violations of federally managed species.

Motion carried.

**MACKEREL MOTIONS**

**CMP Amendment 26**

**Motion:** To include Alternatives 4 and 5 in Action 7.

**Alternative 4:** Conditionally transfer a certain percentage (*Options a-c*) of the recreational allocation to the commercial sector until such a time that recreational landings reach a predetermined threshold (*Options d-f*). If this threshold is met, the recreational and commercial allocations will revert to 68% for the recreational sector and 32% for the commercial sector.

*Conditional Quota Transfer (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Option a:** Transfer 5% of the recreational allocation to the commercial sector.

**Option b:** Transfer 10% of the recreational allocation to the commercial sector.

**Option c:** Transfer 20% of the recreational allocation to the commercial sector.

*Recreational ACL Threshold (MUST CHOOSE ONE):*

**Option d:** Revert to the status quo sector allocations if 80% of the adjusted recreational sector ACL is landed.

**Option e:** Revert to the status quo sector allocations if 90% of the adjusted recreational sector ACL is landed.

**Option f:** Revert to the status quo sector allocations if 100% of the adjusted



recreational sector ACL is landed.

**Alternative 5:** Establish a sunset provision for any change in the status quo sector allocations for Gulf migratory group king mackerel (68% for the recreational sector and 32% for the commercial sector). After the predetermined time period, any change in sector allocations would revert back to the allocations specified in the original Coastal Migratory Pelagics Fishery Management Plan for the Gulf of Mexico.

**Option a:** Sunset any change in sector allocations after a five year period (2016-2020).

**Option b:** Sunset any change in sector allocations after a ten year period (2016-2025).

**Option c:** Sunset any change in sector allocations after a fifteen year period (2016-2030).

Motion carried.

## SHRIMP MOTIONS

### **Revised Draft Options Paper for Shrimp Amendment 17 – Addressing the Expiration of the Shrimp Permit Moratorium**

**Motion:** In Action 2-1, Alternative 3. Set a target number of Gulf shrimp vessel permits based on the number of valid permits issued:

1. at the beginning of the moratorium (1,933 permits)
2. 2009 – 1,722 permits
3. 2011 – 1,582 permits
4. 2013 – 1,501 permits

Option a. If the number of permits reaches the target number, any permits that are not or were not renewed within one year of the expiration date on the permit will go into a Gulf Shrimp Vessel Permit Reserve Pool.

Option b. If the number of permits reaches the target number, the Council will review the status of the fishery to determine if action is needed.

**Substitute Motion:** That the motion above be incorporated into Shrimp Amendment 17B which will address the creation of a permit pool.

Substitute motion carried 11 to 3.

**Motion:** Add an action to 17B to address the specification of optimum yield.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Public Hearing Locations for Shrimp Amendments:

Brownsville and Palacios, Texas  
Theodore/Tillman's Corner, Alabama  
Biloxi/D'Iberville, Mississippi  
Tampa and Ft. Myers, Florida  
Bellchase and Houma, Louisiana

## DATA COLLECTION

**Draft Public Hearing Draft – Joint Electronic Charter Vessel Reporting Amendment**

**Motion:** To request that the Technical Subcommittee of the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils on Electronic Logbook Reporting Guidelines in coordination with GulfFIN, ACCSP, SEFSC and Council staff, develop a standalone reference document that describes specific catch and effort reporting elements, data standards and protocols that can be used to standardize implementation of Southeast region-wide electronic monitoring initiatives.

The data standards and program protocols that should to be developed include but are not necessarily limited to the following:

- Hardware (electronic tools and devices)
- Process and flow
- Data integrity
- Data integration
- Minimum reporting elements
- Effort validation
- Catch validation
- Compliance tracking
- Non-reporting (expansion of estimates)

**Substitute Motion:** To request that the Technical Subcommittee of the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils on Electronic Logbook Reporting Guidelines in coordination with GulfFIN, ACCSP, SEFSC and Council staff, develop a standalone reference document that describes specific catch and effort reporting elements, data standards and protocols that can be used to standardize implementation of Southeast region-wide electronic monitoring initiatives.

The data standards and program protocols that should to be developed include but are not necessarily limited to the following:

- Electronic tools and devices
- Process and flow
- Data integrity
- Data integration
- Minimum reporting elements
- Effort validation
- Catch validation
- Compliance tracking
- Non-reporting (expansion of estimates)

Substitute motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** In Action 3, to make Alternative 2 be the Preferred Alternative, with Sub-Alternatives 2a and 2b.

**Alternative 2.** Require federally permitted for-hire vessels to use a NMFS approved electronic device that automatically records vessel location at specified time intervals for later transmission:

**Sub-Alternative 2a.** In the Gulf (headboat)

**Sub-Alternative 2b.** In the Gulf (charter vessel)

Motion carried with no opposition.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Motion:** To nominate Kevin Anson as Council Chair

Motion carried with no opposition

**Motion:** To nominate Leann Bosarge as Vice-Chair  
To nominate Douglas Boyd as Vice-Chair

Motion carried by secret ballot electing Leann Bosarge as Vice-Chair