

SCOPE OF WORK
GULF OF MEXICO FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
AND
SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
JOINT WORKGROUP FOR SECTION 102
OF THE MODERNIZING RECREATIONAL FISHERIES
MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2018

GMFMC Tampa Office and Webinar
October 12, 2022
9:30 AM – 4 PM, eastern time

Agenda item IV: Can Status Quo Fishery Management Tools Resolve Federal Managed Recreational Fisheries Challenges, or Is it Time to Change the Paradigm?

Documents: Item IV: Presentation by Mr. Andy Strelcheck

Action: Presentation and discussion

Committee input and next steps: Mr. Andy Strelcheck, NOAA Southeast Regional Administrator, will discuss federal fisheries management successes and challenges, how management has traditionally responded to address fishery problems, and the need to expand use of new, innovative management approaches to successfully achieve future management goals and objectives.

Agenda Item V: South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Workgroup Summary: Reporting and Permitting in the Private Recreational Snapper Grouper Fishery

Documents: Item V: Presentation – Ms. Myra Brouwer and Mr. John Carmichael

Action: Presentation and discussion

Committee input and next steps: Mr. John Carmichael (SAFMC Executive Director) will summarize recommendations from the South Atlantic Council’s working group on private recreational reporting for the snapper grouper fishery. The Council convened the working group to explore permitting and reporting to improve data collection. The Group met several times between February 2021 and February 2022, and provided a final report to the Council in March 2022. In response to working group recommendations, the Council restarted an amendment to address permitting and reporting for private recreational snapper grouper anglers and created a technical advisory panel to provide additional input.

Agenda item VI: Review: National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy

Documents: Item VI: Presentation – Mr. Russ Dunn

Action: Presentation, discussion and recommendations

Committee input and next steps: Mr. Russ Dunn (NMFS Staff) will provide a review of the NMFS National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Policy. The Policy has been undergoing revisions, and public comment on these revisions is currently being accepted. The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidance to NMFS in its deliberations pertaining to development and maintenance of enduring and sustainable high-quality saltwater recreational fisheries. This Policy identifies goals and guiding principles to be integrated into NMFS’ planning, budgeting, decision-making, and activities, and includes examples of implementation concepts and strategies supported by NMFS. Consistent with the purposes of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) and other applicable federal statutes, the goals of this Policy are to:

- 1) support and maintain sustainable saltwater recreational fisheries resources, including healthy marine and estuarine habitats;
- 2) promote saltwater recreational fishing for the social, cultural, and economic benefit of the nation; and,
- 3) enable enduring participation in, and enjoyment of, saltwater recreational fisheries through science-based conservation and management.

This Policy pertains to non-commercial fishing activities, as set out in the MSA definition of recreational fishing, whether retaining (e.g., consuming, sharing) or releasing their catches, as well as the businesses and industries (e.g., the for-hire fleets, bait and tackle businesses, tournaments) which support them. The Joint Workgroup should consider the Policy and its proposed revisions and provide recommendations as appropriate.

Agenda Item VII: Review: March 2022 Recreational Fisheries Summit Recap

Documents: Item VII: Presentation – Mr. Russ Dunn

Action: Presentation, discussion and recommendations

Committee Input and Next Steps: Mr. Russ Dunn will summarize the proceedings of the March 2022 Recreational Fisheries Summit, which was convened from March 29 – 30, 2022, in Arlington, Virginia. The 2022 National Saltwater Recreational Fisheries Summit was organized by NMFS and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, in collaboration with a Steering Committee of marine recreational fishery representatives throughout the coastal U.S. The theme for the 2022 Summit was “Recreational Fisheries in a Time of Change.” Discussions included considerations of the effects of contemporary influences on recreational fisheries, including climate change, novel uses of ocean space, new technologies, and more. These influences offer both challenges and opportunities for collaboration to safeguard recreational fisheries by enhancing sustainability and access. The recreational fishing community, managers, and scientists were encouraged to work together to understand and adapt to these changes to ensure abundant and sustainable recreational fishing opportunities. The Joint Workgroup should

consider the information presented and provide comments and recommendations as appropriate. The Joint Workgroup may choose to make recommendations on next steps for certain outcomes from the Summit, such as moving proceedings forward for consideration in future management deliberations.

Agenda Item VIII: Review of Workgroup Goals: How are the Councils doing?

Documents: Item VIII: Presentation – Mr. Ryan Rindone / Mr. John Carmichael

Action: Presentation, discussion and recommendations

Committee Input and Next Steps: Mr. Ryan Rindone (GMFMC Staff) and Mr. Carmichael will review the sorts of measures already discussed by the Joint Workgroup that are currently being used by the GMFMC and SAFMC. Due in large part to their respective and considerable recreational angling communities, both Councils currently use a number of creative measures to provide flexibility in recreational fisheries management. Mr. Rindone and Mr. Carmichael will detail examples of these measures, and comment on measures that have not been adopted for regionally specific reasons. The Joint Workgroup should consider the information presented and provide comments and recommendations as appropriate.

Agenda Item IX: Recommendations to the Councils for Alternative Recreational Fisheries Management Strategies

Documents: Item IX: Presentation – Mr. Ryan Rindone

Action: Discussion and recommendations

Committee Input and Next Steps: Mr. Rindone will guide the Joint Workgroup through making formalized recommendations to the Councils with regard to new approaches to recreational fisheries management. The Joint Workgroup should consider the totality of discussions had over the course of its several meetings, and endeavor to provide directed examples of ways in which any measures may be further developed for consideration in policy decisions. These recommendations will be presented to the respective Councils at upcoming Council meetings.

Agenda Item X: Public Comment

Action: Discussion

Committee Input and Next Steps: The Joint Workgroup will receive public comment as time allows.

Agenda Item XI: Other Business

Action: Discussion

Committee Input and Next Steps: Additional items may be brought up for discussion by Joint Workgroup members, time permitting. If the Joint Workgroup wishes to pursue action, then action can be scheduled at a future Workgroup meeting.

Workgroup Members

Kevin Anson (*Chair*) – GMFMC
Susan Boggs – GMFMC
Tom Frazer – GMFMC
Michael McDermott – GMFMC
Chris Schieble – GMFMC
Troy Williamson – GMFMC
Mel Bell – SAFMC
Chester Brewer – SAFMC
Kristin Foss – SAFMC
Spud Woodward – SAFMC

Council Staff

Myra Brouwer
John Carmichael
Chip Collier
John Froeschke
Ryan Rindone
Carrie Simmons