

Reef Fish Committee: Action Guide and Next Steps for Tab B

Agenda Item IV: Review of Reef Fish Landings

Timeline Status: Status report

Council input and next steps: NMFS staff will review the status of reef fish landings relative to ACLs. This is an ongoing report to the Council and requires no action by the Committee.

Agenda Item V: Ad Hoc Private Recreational Red Snapper AP Summary

Timeline Status: Discussion

Council Input and Next Steps: Staff will summarize items reviewed by the AP at its January 18, 2018 meeting that are not addressed under other agenda items.

Agenda item VI: State Management Program for Recreational Red Snapper

Timeline Status: Draft amendments

Council input and next steps: Staff will review the amendments, noting the LETC and Ad Hoc Private Recreational Red Snapper AP comments where appropriate. For the allocation action, Dr. Farmer will review the data used for the red snapper biomass estimates and recreational trips alternative, and the SSC representative will provide the SSC’s comments. Staff will present a decision tool for the alternatives in the allocation action. The Committee should continue to discuss the allocation action and select a preferred alternative, if appropriate. In the individual state amendments, the Committee should discuss the responses provided by the state marine resource departments regarding the meaning of “full delegation” and provide guidance to staff to clarify the alternative. The Committee should also discuss the next steps for the amendments.

Agenda item VII: Update on Implementation of the Generic For-Hire Electronic Reporting Amendment

Timeline Status: Status report

Council input and next steps: Dr. Nick Farmer will provide an update on the Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) system that is being developed to support electronic reporting by for-hire vessels in the southeast region. This is for information only. No action is required by the Committee.

Agenda item VIII: Analysis of Red Grouper Indices of Abundance

Timeline Status: Review of analysis

Council input and next steps: The SSC representative will summarize the results of an analysis of red grouper indices of abundance and comments by the SSC. This analysis was requested by the Council at the October 2017 partly as a result of concern that was expressed during public testimony about the status of the stock, and partly based on discussions that the Science Center is developing an index based projection analysis for south Atlantic red snapper. A red grouper standard assessment (SEDAR 61) is scheduled for completion by February 2019. Based on the analysis and SSC recommendations, the Committee should decide whether to recommend that a management action be developed prior to completion of the assessment.

Agenda item IX: Amendment 41 – Allocation-based Management for Federally Permitted Charter Vessels

Timeline Status: Draft amendment

Council input and next steps: Staff will give a presentation of an updated draft Amendment 41. The Committee is requested to discuss current actions and alternatives and provide recommendations for preferred alternatives. Timeline and next steps are dependent on the Committee's recommendations.

Agenda Item X: Amendment 42 – Reef Fish Management for Headboat Survey Vessels

Timeline Status: Draft amendment

Council input and next steps: Staff will present a revised draft Amendment 42. The Committee may suggest modifications to the actions and management alternatives included in the amendment. The Committee is expected to discuss a timeline and next steps for this amendment.

Agenda Item XI: NMFS Response Regarding Referendum Requirements for Auctions

Timeline Status: Information

Council Input and Next Steps: As requested by Council, NOAA General Counsel will provide the legal determination for the use of auctions as a mechanism to distribute IFQ shares.

Agenda Item XII: SSC Summary Reports

Timeline Status: Discussion

Council Input and Next Steps: The SSC representative will summarize items reviewed by the SSC at its October 31, 2017 webinar, and at its January 9-11, 2018 meeting, that are not addressed under other agenda items. These include:

- a. October 31, 2017 webinar meeting summary (**Tab B, No. 15a**)
 - Review of relevant legislative approaches to recreational red snapper management
 - SEDAR activities
 - A comparison of recent stock assessment results using SS3 vs. DLMToolkit
 - Review of framework action to modify the ACT for red snapper federal for-hire and private angler components

- b. January 9-11, 2018 meeting summary (**Tab B, No. 15b**)
 - Review of draft status determination criteria and optimum yield options paper
 - SEDAR activities- SEDAR 62 gray triggerfish standard assessment
 - Spawning aggregations in the Gulf of Mexico
 - Evaluating robustness of harvest control rules to future red tide events
 - Discussion of an ABC control rule for data-limited stocks

Agenda item XIII: Presentation – Greater Amberjack Commercial Trip Limits and Fishing Year, and Recreational Split Seasons

Timeline Status: Options for a framework action

Council input and next steps: Staff will give a presentation of potential actions to be included in a framework action that was requested at the October 2017 meeting. The Committee will review the purpose and need, potential actions, and range of alternatives. Based on the Committee input, a draft document will be developed for the April 2018 meeting.

Agenda Item XIV: Other Business

Timeline Status: Additional items that can be brought up for discussion, but no action can be taken since they have not been announced

Council Input and Next Steps: Additional items may be brought up for discussion by Committee members, time permitting. If the Committee wishes to pursue action, then action can be scheduled at a future Council meeting. Currently, one item has been added under Other Business:

- Conversion of historical charter/headboat captain permits into regular permits