

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

Agenda Item IV: Reef Fish and Coastal Migratory Pelagics Landings

Timeline Status: Information and Discussion

Council input and next steps: NMFS provides this update on the status of reef fish and coastal migratory pelagics landings relative to ACLs. This is provided for information only. This ongoing report to the Council requires no action by the Committee.

Agenda Item V: Draft Amendments 36B and 36C: Modifications to Commercial IFQ Programs and Presentations

Timeline Status: Draft Amendment 36B

Council input and next steps: Staff will review the history of Amendment 36 beginning with its initiation in 2011 until the current drafts of Amendments 36B and 36C. SEFSC staff will present the requested discard estimates for red snapper and red grouper. The Committee should discuss the scope of actions currently under consideration including the purpose and need for each document and provide guidance to staff as appropriate.

Agenda Item VI: Draft Framework Action to Modify Greater Amberjack Recreational Management Measures

Timeline Status: Presentation and Review of Decision Support Tool

Council input and next steps: At the October meeting, the Council requested the development of management decision tool as well as the inclusion of a possible split-season management approach along with potential modifications to the daily bag limit. The developed tool is specific to proposed zone and split season quota measures and is available here: https://gulfcouncilportal.shinyapps.io/GAJ_tool/. A presentation will be given to introduce the decision tool, the daily bag limit alternatives, and provide an outline of how the framework could be structured depending on the Committee's decision. The Committee should review the presentation, explore the decision tool, and provide input on potential draft action alternatives.

Agenda Item VII: SSC Report: Lane Snapper FES-Adjusted Catch Recommendations

Timeline Status: Information

Council input and next steps: The SSC representative will review the SSC’s deliberations on the updated iTarget model run for lane snapper, based on the approach used in SEDAR 49 and using the new Fishing Effort Survey-calibrated Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP-FES) data. This assessment used total catch data (harvest and discards), as opposed to harvest data only, which is the metric by which the catch limits are monitored. Thus, the SSC will review a version of the assessment considering harvest data only at its March 2020 meeting to re-specify the OFL and ABCs.

Agenda Item VIII: Draft Options Paper for Amendment 53: Red Grouper Allocations and Catch Levels

Timeline Status: Discussion and recommendations

Council input and next steps: Staff will present a draft options paper for an amendment to modify the red grouper allocations and catch levels. The Committee should discuss the draft purpose and need, as well as the draft options, and provide guidance to staff on further development. Timeline and next steps are dependent on the Committee’s recommendations. In addition, the SSC representative will review the SSC’s deliberations on the updated projections for red grouper, using the updated weight estimation procedures for the MRIP-FES data from the NMFS ACL Monitoring database. These data have been determined to be the best scientific information available by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center. The SSC reviewed the method by which the overfishing limit and acceptable biological catch values were determined for each of the options for time series in Amendment 53, and those decisions are reflected in the SSC Summary Report and in Amendment 53.

Agenda Item IX: Draft Amendment 52: Red Snapper Sector Allocations

Timeline Status: Discussion and recommendations

Council input and next steps: Staff will present draft options for reallocation of red snapper between the commercial and recreational sectors, which were last reviewed by the Council at its August 2019 meeting. The Committee is expected to review the draft options and provide guidance to staff on further development. Timeline and next steps are dependent on the Committee’s recommendations.

Agenda Item X: State Management Performance Reports for the 2019 Private Angling Red Snapper Fishing Season

Timeline Status: Discussion and recommendations

Council input and next steps: The Committee will review presentations by representatives from each of the five Gulf states about the performance of their management efforts for the private angling component of the recreational red snapper fishery under the exempted fishing permits for the 2019 fishing year. The Committee should consider the outcomes of the methods used to manage the fishing effort for each state, and may make recommendations to each state as appropriate.

Agenda Item XI: SSC January 2020 Meeting Summary Report

Timeline Status: Discussion and recommendations

Council input and next steps: The SSC representative will review the remaining items from the SSC's January 9, 2020, meeting in Tampa for consideration by the Committee.

Agenda Item XII: Other Business

Timeline Status: Additional items that can be brought up for discussion

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