

Sustainable Fisheries Committee: Action Guide and Next Steps for Tab E

Agenda Item IV: Draft Framework Action to Modify Federal For-hire Trip Limits

Timeline Status: Draft Options

Council input and next steps: The Committee will review the options presented to modify the possession limits for anglers on for-hire vessels on trips exceeding 24 hours in duration. Presently, anglers on these trips may possess two daily bag limits for species managed under the Reef Fish and Coastal Migratory Pelagics FMPs; however, the second daily bag limit may not be possessed until after 24 hours have elapsed. The Committee should review the proposed management options, and may recommend preferred alternatives or modify them as appropriate. Staff will plan to bring a revised draft back to the October 2019 Council meeting.

Agenda Item V: Draft Amendment Reef Fish 48/Red Drum 5: Status Determination Criteria and Optimum Yield for Reef Fish and Red Drum

Timeline Status: Draft Amendment

Council input and next steps: Staff will review the revised actions and alternatives in the amendment as well as any SSC recommendations on this Amendment. The Committee should review the range of alternatives in each action. The Committee should advise staff about necessary modifications to the document before developing a public hearing draft. Staff will bring back a revised draft for Committee review at a subsequent Council meeting.

Agenda Item VI: Discussion of Council Research and Monitoring Priorities for 2020 – 2024

Timeline Status: Discussion and Modifications

Council Input and Next Steps: The Committee will review the Council’s Research and Monitoring Priorities for 2020 – 2024, and recommend modifications to the Council. These priorities cover large subjects such as data collection, estimation of bycatch and discards, ecosystem-based management, episodic mortality events, priorities specific to individual species, and socioeconomic issues. Generally, these priorities help inform the Council’s research partners and regulatory collaborators of the most pressing challenges facing the Council’s marine resource management obligations. Once the SSC and Council approve the 2020-2024 Research and Monitoring Priorities they will be posted on the Council website as final and submitted to the Southeast Regional Office.

Agenda Item VII: NMFS Southeast Regional Strategic Plan

Timeline Status: Presentation and Information

Council Input and Next Steps: NMFS SERO staff will give a presentation on the strategic plan for the Southeast region. The presentation discusses the local landscape of the Southeast region, provides strategic goals, and discusses strategies and approaches to achieve these goals. The Committee may ask questions following the presentation.

Agenda Item VIII: Presentation on Endangered Species Act Listing of Bryde’s Whale

Timeline Status: Presentation and Information

Council Input and Next Steps: The Gulf of Mexico Bryde’s (pronounced “broodus”) Whale was listed in on the Endangered Species Act (ESA) in April 2019. The ESA designation provides conservation management protections to the population estimated to contain fewer than 100 individuals. Ms. Barb Zoodsma from the SERO division of Protected Resources will provide the Committee a presentation regarding the biology, distribution, and threats to the Gulf of Mexico Bryde’s Whale. After the presentation, the Committee can ask questions of SERO staff regarding how the listing of the Bryde’s Whale may affect fisheries management in the Gulf of Mexico.

Agenda Item IX: Committee Discussion on Allocation Issues

Timeline Status: Discussion

Council Input and Next Steps: This is the second iteration of the recurring discussion on allocation the Council initiated during the June 2019 meeting. Committee members are expected to continue to discuss allocation-related issues and envision what well allocated fisheries could look like in the Gulf of Mexico. Following the discussion, the Committee will determine next steps, as necessary.
