

Gulf Council Motions Report
August 12-15, 2019
New Orleans, Louisiana

ADMINISTRATIVE/BUDGET

Approval of Final 2019 Funded Budget

Motion: To approve the 2019 revised funded budget.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Guidance from NMFS on the Multi-Year 2020-2024 Council Budget Requests and Gulf Council Projection

Motion: To approve the proposed budget request for 2020-2024.

Motion carried with no opposition.

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

Draft Framework Action to Modify Federal For-hire Trip Limits

Motion: In Action 1, to make Alternative 2, Option 2b the preferred.

Alternative 2: The on-board possession limit for federal for-hire trips in the Gulf exceeding a given trip duration (Options 2a-2c) will be two daily bag limits per angler (or vessel for speckled hind and Warsaw grouper), excluding captain and crew. The second daily bag limit can be retained anytime during a trip with a minimum trip duration of:

Option 2b: Greater than 30 hours

Motion carried with no opposition.

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

Motion: To accept the revised language from the SSC in Action 1, Sub-action 1.1, Alternative 3.

SSC Motion:

Alternative 3: set MSY proxy as yield at $F_{30\%SPR}$

SSC Motion: For future assessments of reef fish stocks and red drum, the MSY or MSY proxy equals the yield produced by F_{MSY} or F_{PROXY} recommended by the Council's SSC and subject to approval by the Council through a plan amendment.

Motion carried with no opposition.

REEF FISH

SSC Report

Motion: To reconvene the ABC Control Rule Working Group to evaluate the existing rule and propose improvements.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Draft Amendment 36B: Modifications to Commercial IFQ Programs and Presentations

Motion: In Action 2, to modify Alternative 5 to read:

Alternative 5: Distribute to a non-profit, third party-administered quota bank the reclaimed shares with oversight from NMFS, the Council, and other involved parties. The quota bank will retain the shares and distribute the allocation associated with the shares each year.

Motion carried with one opposed.

Motion: To instruct staff to explore the feasibility to establish a non-NOAA quota bank using regional fishery associations (RFAs), as an example.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, to modify Alternative 3 to read:

Alternative 3: Distribute in inverse proportion the reclaimed shares held by NMFS among accounts with shareholdings of each share category within one month of the effective date of the final rule implementing this amendment.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, to remove Alternative 2.

Alternative 2: Equally distribute reclaimed shares held by NMFS among all accounts with shares of each share category to shareholders within one month of the effective date for the final rule implementing this amendment.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To begin a stand-alone document for Actions 1.1 and 1.2.

Action 1.1 – Permit Requirements

Action 1.2 – Share Divestment

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To request that the Science Center provide estimates of discards in both weight and numbers of fish, as well as estimated release mortality for each gear type used to harvest commercial IFQ species for incorporation into Amendment 36B.

Motion carried with no opposition.

FINAL ACTION: Framework Action to Modify the Recreational For-hire Red Snapper Annual Catch Target Buffer

Motion: To approve the Framework Action to Modify the Recreational For-Hire Red Snapper Annual Catch Target Buffer and that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text 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.

Mr. Robinson – yes	Dr. Shipp – absent	Ms. Bosarge – yes
Mr. Dugas – yes	Dr. Crabtree – yes	Mr. Diaz – yes
Dr. Stunz – yes	Mr. Spraggins – yes	Ms. Guyas – yes
Mr. Swindell – yes	Mr. Sanchez – yes	Mr. Williamson – absent
Ms. Boggs – yes	Mr. Dyskow – yes	Dr. Frazer – yes
Mr. Banks – yes	Mr. Anson – yes	

Motion carried 15 to 0 with 2 absent by roll call vote.

FINAL ACTION: Amendment 51: Establish Gray Snapper Status Determination Criteria, Reference Points, and Modify Annual Catch Limits

Motion: To approve the Amendment 51: Establish Gray Snapper Status Determination Criteria, Reference Points, and Modify Annual Catch Limits and that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text 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.

Ms. Bosarge – yes	Dr. Shipp – absent	Ms. Boggs – yes
Mr. Banks – yes	Mr. Spraggins – yes	Mr. Diaz – yes
Mr. Dyskow – yes	Mr. Williamson – absent	Dr. Stunz – yes

Mr. Anson – yes	Dr. Crabtree – yes	Mr. Robinson – yes
Mr. Sanchez – yes	Mr. Dugas – yes	Dr. Frazer – yes
Ms. Guyas – yes	Mr. Swindell – yes	

Motion carried 15 to 0 with 2 absent by roll call vote.

Draft Framework Action to Modify Greater Amberjack Recreational Management Measures

Motion: In Action 3, to add an Alternative 5:

Alternative 5: Modify the recreational seasonal closure to be Oct 1 – April 30 and May 21 – June 30 (Open May 1 – May 20 and July 1- September 30).

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 1, to make Alternative 2 the preferred

Alternative 2: Reduce the recreational bag limit to 1 fish per 2 or fewer anglers per day.

Motion withdrawn.

Motion: To direct staff to develop an amendment that would allow for state management of the recreational greater amberjack fishery.

Motion withdrawn.

Motion: In Action 1, to add an Alternative that reduces the recreational possession limit on a multi-day trip to 1 fish per angler.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To add an Action 4 to the document that provides options for zone management of greater amberjack harvest.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Amendment 52: Red Snapper Allocation

Motion: To rephrase Objective # 2 of the Reef Fish FMP Objectives.

- **Rephrase Objective #2** (To achieve robust fishery reporting and data collection systems across all sectors for monitoring the reef fish fishery which minimizes management uncertainty.) to “**minimizes scientific, management, and risk uncertainty**”.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To delay consideration of Amendment 52: Red Snapper Allocation until the January 2020 Council meeting.

Motion carried with no opposition.

HABITAT PROTECTION AND RESTORATION

No Motions.

DATA COLLECTION

No Motions.

VOTE OF EXEMPTED FISHING PERMIT (EFP) APPLICATIONS

Motion: To recommend that NMFS approve the FWC lionfish Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) application.

Motion carried with no opposition.

OTHER BUSINESS

Election of Council Chair and Vice Chair

Motion: To nominate Tom Frazer as Chair.

Approved by acclamation.

Motion: To nominate Dale Diaz as Vice Chair.

Approved by acclamation.