

**Gulf Council Motions Report
June 8-12, 2015
Key West, Florida**

REEF FISH

Hogfish and Mutton Snapper OFL and ABC

Motion: Initiate a plan amendment to define a West Florida Shelf hogfish stock with associated status determination criteria and ACLs.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To request Council staff work with the SSC to provide a constant catch ABC for hogfish.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Options Paper – Framework Action to Set Gag ACL and Recreational Season

Motion: That the Preferred Alternative in the Modifications to the Gag Annual Catch Limits and Annual Catch Targets Document be Alternative 1, No Action.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, Modifications to the Recreational Gag Fishing Season Alternative 2, remove the December 3-31 fixed closed season. The recreational gag season will remain open through the end of the year or until a projection that the ACT will be reached sooner be the Preferred Alternative.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To have staff prepare a size limit alternative on gag and black grouper of 24 inches.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: Move Action 1, Modifications to the Gag Annual Catch Limits and Annual Catch Targets, to considered but rejected.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Reef Fish Amendment 39 – Regional Management of Recreational Red Snapper

Motion: To send Amendment 39 out to Public Hearings.

Motion carried 13-1.

Motion: To hold Public Hearings for Amendment 39 in the following locations:

Corpus Christi, TX
League City, TX
San Antonio, TX
Baton Rouge, LA
Biloxi/Gulfport, MS
Mobile, AL
Destin, FL
Saint Petersburg Area, FL

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 1, remove “size limits” from the alternatives. The regions will manage red snapper with the federal minimum size limit established in Action 4.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, add the following alternative:

Alternative: End the separate management of the federal for-hire and private angling components upon implementation of this amendment and have this amendment apply to the entire recreational sector. The private angling and federal for-hire components would be managed by each region under regional ACLs based on the allocation selected in Action 6. A region may establish different management measures for its private angling and for-hire vessels, specifying these measures in the region’s CEP or state regulations under delegation. For such a region, the regional component ACLs would be created based on:

Option a: the average of the region’s historical landings for the years 1986-2013.

Option b: the average of the region’s historical landings for the years 1996-2013.

Option c: the average of the region’s historical landings for the years 2006-2013.

Option d: 50% of the region’s average historical landings from 1986-2013 and 50% of the region’s average historical landings from 2006-2013.

Option e: and excluding landings from 2006.

Option f: and excluding landings from 2010.

Motion failed 8-8.

Motion: In Action 2, move Alternative 3 to the considered but rejected section.

Alternative 3: Extend the separate management of the federal for-hire and private angling components of the recreational sector and have this amendment **apply to both components** in

any region intending to manage both private angling and federal for-hire components for its region. A region would specify its intent to manage both components in its CEP or state regulations under delegation. In a region that manages both components, separate private angling and for-hire component ACLs would be established under each regional ACL, based on the component allocation selected in Amendment 40 and the regional allocation selected in Action 4. In all other regions, the private angling component would be managed by each region under the regional ACLs based on the allocation selected in Action 6, and the federal for-hire component would continue to be managed Gulf-wide under a component ACL based on the allocation selected in Amendment 40.

Motion failed 5-9.

Motion: In Action 2, to move Alternative 4 to the considered but rejected section.

Alternative 4: End the separate management of the federal for-hire and private angling components upon implementation of this amendment, and have this amendment **apply to the entire recreational sector**. The private angling and federal for-hire components would be managed by each region under regional ACLs based on the allocation selected in Action 6

Motion withdrawn.

Motion: In Action 5, move Alternative 3 to the Considered but Rejected section.

Alternative 3: Establish a Gulf-wide boundary within the EEZ shoreward of which the recreational harvest of red snapper is permitted.

Option 3a: The recreational harvest of red snapper is permitted within **9 nautical miles** (3 marine leagues) from shore, only.

Option 3b: The recreational harvest of red snapper is permitted within **20 nautical miles** from shore, only.

Option 3c: The recreational harvest of red snapper is permitted within the **20-fathom curve** (approximating 120 feet/36.6 meters depth), only.

Option 3d: The recreational harvest of red snapper is permitted within the **30-fathom curve** (approximating 180 feet/54.9 meters depth), only.

Motion carried 12-0.

Substitute Motion: That Action 5 in Amendment 39, Closures in the Gulf EEZ, be moved to the considered but rejected section.

Substitute Motion failed 8-8.

Amendment 28- Red Snapper Allocation

Motion: In Action 2.1, to move Alternative 9 to the considered but rejected section of Amendment 28.

Alternative 9: The increase in allowable harvest (due to changes in recreational data) from the update assessment will be allocated to the recreational sector. The increase for the recreational sector should be the amount attributable to the change in size selectivity and to the recalibration of MRIP catch estimates between 2015 and 2017. Commercial and recreational allocations are based on the average percentages of the red snapper quota that would be allocated to each sector between 2015 and 2017. Resulting percentages allocated to each sector will remain until changed by the Council.

Motion failed 5-10.

Scoping Summaries – Amendment 36 – Red Snapper IFQ Modifications

Motion: To retain the item to restrict future transfer of shares to only shareholder accounts that hold a valid commercial reef fish permit.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To delete the item to allow accounts with shares but without a commercial reef fish permit to harvest the allocation associated with those shares.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To retain the item to limit the amount of shares/allocation non-permitted IFQ accounts may possess.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To eliminate the item to adopt a roll-over provision for unused IFQ allocation.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Report of the Ad Hoc Red Snapper Charter For-Hire AP

Motion: To direct staff to begin developing an options paper for Amendment 41, including consideration of the motions from the charter for hire advisory panel.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: Develop a plan amendment with alternatives to the sunset provision of Amendment 40 to allow adequate consideration of the charter for hire performance under that amendment, including extensions of the sunset time frame as recommended by the AP.

Motion failed 8-8.

MACKEREL MOTIONS

Final Action CMP Framework Amendment 3

Motion: That in Action 1, to make the preferred Alternative 3: Increase the trip limit to 45,000 lbs.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, to make Alternative 3, Option (a) the preferred alternative

Alternative 3: If the Florida West Coast Southern Subzone gillnet ACL is exceeded in a year, NMFS would reduce the Florida West Coast Southern Subzone gillnet ACL in the following year by the amount of the overage. The ACT (if established) will also be adjusted to reflect the previously established percent buffer.

Option a: Payback regardless of stock status

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: Add new Alternative 4. If the Florida west coast southern subzone gillnet ACL is exceeded in a year, NMFS would reduce the gillnet trip limit for subsequent seasons until modified by The Council.

Option a: 35,000 lbs

Option b: 25,000 lbs

Motion failed 0-15.

Motion: That in Action 4, Alternative 3, Option (a) be the preferred alternative

Alternative 3: Allow commercial king mackerel gillnet permits to be renewed only if *landings for a single year* during 2006-2015 were greater than one of the options listed below. Gillnet permits that do not qualify will be non-renewable and non-transferable.

Option a: 1 pound

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To approve the CMP Framework Amendment 3 and that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text as modified in discussion 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.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Ms. Bosarge	Yes	Mr. Boyd	Yes	Mr. Walker	Yes
Mr. Perret	Yes	Mr. Diaz	Yes	Mr. Greene	Yes
Ms. Bademan	Yes	Dr. Stunz	Yes	Mr. Fischer	Yes
Mr. Robinson	Yes	Mr. Sanchez	Yes	Mr. Matens	Yes
Dr. Crabtree	Yes	Mr. Pearce	Absent	Mr. Anson	Yes
Dr. Dana	Yes	Mr. Williams	Yes		

Motion: A person has thirty days from the effective date of the final rule for CMP Amendment 3 to submit their logbook.

Motion carried with no opposition.

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES/ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

Motion: Give staff editorial license in amending the document found as Tab B4a (National Standard 1,3, 7 revision comments)

Motion carried with no opposition.

SHRIMP

Final Action Shrimp Amendment 15

Motion: In Action 1.3, that Alternative 4 be the preferred alternative.

Alternative 4: The overfished threshold is defined as the MSST. The MSST for each penaeid shrimp stock is defined as the minimum spawning stock biomass at MSY (SSB_{MSY}). SSB_{MSY} values for the penaeid shrimp stocks are values produced by the stock synthesis model. Species specific SSB_{MSY} values will be recomputed during the updated assessments, but only among the fishing years 1984-2012. The values for each species will be updated every 5 years through the framework procedure, unless changed earlier by the Council. Currently, the stock synthesis model produces the following values:

- Brown shrimp: SSB_{MSY} is 6,098,868 lbs of tails.
- White shrimp: SSB_{MSY} is 365,715,146 lbs of tails.
- Pink shrimp: SSB_{MSY} is 23,686,906 lbs of tails.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To approve Shrimp Amendment 15 and recommend that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text as modified in discussion 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.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Mr. Perret	Yes	Ms. Bosarge	Yes	Mr. Greene	Yes
Mr. Williams	Yes	Mr. Walker	Yes	Mr. Robinson	Yes
Mr. Sanchez	Yes	Dr. Crabtree	Yes	Ms. Bademan	Yes
Mr. Pearce	Absent	Mr. Diaz	Yes	Mr. Fischer	Yes
Dr. Dana	Yes	Mr. Boyd	Yes	Mr. Anson	Yes
Mr. Matens	Yes	Dr. Stunz	Yes		

Options Paper Shrimp Amendment 17

Motion: In Action 1, to select Alternative 2, Option b as the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 2 – Extend the moratorium on the issuance of federal Gulf commercial shrimp vessel permits. The moratorium would be extended for:

Option b. 10 years

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: That in Action 3, Royal Red Shrimp Endorsement, to move Alternative 3, to considered but rejected.

Alternative 3: To renew a royal red shrimp endorsement, the applicant must have had a minimum royal red shrimp landings during one of the three calendar years preceding the application

Option a: 300 lbs

Option b: 1,000 lbs

Option c: 10,000 lbs

Motion carried with no opposition.

CORAL/HABITAT PROTECTION

Review of the Joint Coral SSC/AP Report

Motion: To instruct staff to convene a meeting of the appropriate coral scientists along with other fishery stakeholders to review potential coral HAPCs.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Other Business

Motion: To create an Ad Hoc Private Recreational Committee to discuss possible management changes to the private recreational fishery.

Motion carried 9-6.

Motion: That staff take no action on formation of the Ad Hoc Private Recreational Committee before the August 2015 Council meeting.

Motion carried 9-5.

Motion: To direct staff to begin work on a Framework Action for commercial yellowtail snapper fishermen that would allow the use of J hooks with natural bait.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To reconvene a closed session of the AP Selection Committee to consider appointment of an NGO member to the Reef Fish AP at the next Council Meeting.
(August 2015)

Motion failed 3-10.

Motion: To send the Ehrenwerth letter endorsing the habitat mapping project proposed by the Department of Commerce.

Motion failed for lack of a second.

Motion: That the Council write a letter nominating William “Corky” Perret to the MAFAC.

Motion carried with no opposition.

2015 Reef Fish AP

1. Allen, Ralph
2. Anderson, Pamela
3. Bennett, Patrick
4. Black, Jane
5. Clements, James
6. DeLaCruz, Jason
7. Eicke, Francis
8. Eliason, James
9. Eller, George
10. Fisher, Martin
11. Frady, Troy
12. Guindon, Buddy
13. Hickman, Scott
14. Huye, George
15. Jenkins, Chris
16. Krebs, David
17. Nugent, Michael
18. Thierry, Mike
19. Turke, Thomas
20. Walker, Ed
21. Whitfield, James
22. Williamson II, Troy
23. Zurbrick, Jim

STANDING SSC

1. Anderson, Lee
2. Barbieri, Luiz
3. Blanchet, Harry
4. Blount, Benjamin
5. Christman, Mary
6. Gill, Bob
7. Griffith, David
8. Isaacs, Jack
9. Isely, John
10. Keithly, Walter
11. Landry, Lisa
12. Lorenzen, Kai
13. Mickle, Paul
14. Patterson, Will
15. Powers, Joe
16. Powers, Sean
17. Roberts, Kenneth
18. Scyphers, Steven
19. Shipp, Robert
20. Tolan, James

SPINY LOBSTER SSC

1. Gandy, Ryan
2. Hunt, John
3. Larkin, Sherry

SOCIOECONOMIC SSC

1. Freeman, Matthew
2. Jacob, Steve
3. Larkin, Sherry
4. Stocks, Gabriella

SHRIMP SSC

1. Burris, Richard
2. Gandy, Ryan
3. Hartman, Leslie
4. Marx, Jeffrey
5. Nance, James

REEF FISH SSC

1. Adriance, Jason
2. Drymon, James
3. Ellis, Robert
4. Herbig, Jennifer
5. Mareska, John

RED DRUM SSC

1. Adriance, Jason
2. Leaf, Robert
3. Lowerre-Barbieri, Susan
4. Satterfield, Emily

COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGIC SSC

1. Adriance, Jason
2. Recks, Melissa

CORAL SSC

1. Brooke, Sandra
2. Jaap, Walter
3. Lang, Judith
4. Ruzicka, Richard
5. Sammarco, Paul
6. Schmahl, George

Joint Gulf and South Atlantic Council Meeting
Thursday June 11, 2015
Key West, Florida

Joint Options Paper - Charter Vessel Electronic Reporting

Gulf Council Motion: Approve the SAFMC language for the purpose and need

The *purpose* of the generic modifications to charter vessel and headboat reporting requirements amendment is to increase the accuracy and timeliness of landings, discards, effort and socio-economic data of federally permitted for-hire vessels participating in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic managed fisheries.

The *need* for this action is to improve charter vessel and headboat fishery data used for management and to improve monitoring and compliance of federally permitted for-hire vessels in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic managed fisheries.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Select Action 1, Alternative 4 as the preferred alternative for the Gulf of Mexico.

Alternative 4 requires that federally permitted charter vessels submit fishing records to the SRD for each trip via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware/software) prior to arriving at the dock.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Select Action 2, Alternative 4 as the preferred alternative for the Gulf of Mexico.

Alternative 4 requires that headboats submit fishing records to the SRD for each trip via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware/software) prior to arriving at the dock

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Approve adding new Alternative 4 to Action 3 (below) with the understanding that it only apply in the South Atlantic

New Alternative 4. Require federally permitted charter vessels in the South Atlantic to report location manually by latitude/longitude in degrees and minutes or by clicking on a headboat grid.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Substitute Motion: Move Action 4 and the alternatives into the discussion of the joint amendment.

GMFMC Substitute motion carried.

Joint Options Paper - CMP Amendment 26

Gulf Council Motion: Approve the Purpose and Need for Amendment 26.

The *purpose* of this amendment is to modify the stock boundary and revise the ACLs for Atlantic and Gulf migratory group king mackerel; to modify the commercial zone quotas for Gulf migratory king mackerel; to revise recreational and commercial allocations for Gulf migratory king mackerel; to create an incidental catch allowance of Atlantic migratory king mackerel for the shark gillnet fishery; and to revise or create management measures for Atlantic migratory group king mackerel in the Florida East Coast Subzone.

The *need* for this amendment is to ensure annual catch limits are based on the best scientific information available and to ensure overfishing does not occur in the coastal migratory pelagics fishery, while increasing social and economic benefits of the CMP fishery through sustainable and profitable harvest of Gulf and Atlantic migratory group king mackerel in accordance with provisions set forth in Magnuson-Stevens Conservation and Management Act.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Approve the new language with the deletion for Alternative 3 in Action 1.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Approve the new language for the biological parameters in Action 2.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Make the suggested changes to Action 2-1.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Accept the changes in Action 2-2.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Accept the (*IPT-recommended*) changes in Action 3, with Alternative 3 moved to the Considered but Rejected Appendix.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Accept the Alternatives proposed under Action 4-1.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Accept the suggested language changes under Action 4-2.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Approve the modifications to the Alternatives in Action 4-3.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Accept the Alternatives proposed in Action 5 for further analysis.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Accept the alternatives proposed in Action 6 for further analysis.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Accept the alternatives proposed in Action 7 for further analysis.

To add an Alternative to Action 7 to conditionally transfer a certain percentage (5%, 10%, 20%) of the recreational quota to the commercial sector up until the point that the recreational quota is met. If the recreational ACL is met, the recreational and commercial allocations will revert to 68% for the recreational sector and 32% for the commercial sector. Give staff editorial license to craft the alternative appropriately.

GMFMC Motion carried

Motion: Accept the alternatives proposed in Action 8 for further analysis.

GMFMC Motion carried

Motion: Adopt the task and timing items as presented.

GMFMC Motion carried

CMP Amendment 28 – Splitting of Commercial King and Spanish Mackerel Permits

Gulf Council Motion: Staff continue work on CMP Amendment 28.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Add to the scope of work in Amendment 28 to proceed with separate FMPs in the management of king mackerel, Spanish mackerel, and cobia.

GMFMC Motion carried

Draft Options Paper- Joint South Florida Management Issues

Gulf Council Motion: The purpose of this amendment is to provide consistent fisheries management measures to reef fish species unique to the south Florida region which are currently managed by different regulatory agencies in the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and State of Florida waters.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Approve the need as modified: The need for this amendment is to facilitate ~~decrease the public's burden~~ of compliance with differing regulations based on separate regulatory agencies across adjacent bodies of water (i.e., Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and State of Florida waters). This action would decrease administrative burdens with respect to geographical and temporal law enforcement concerns, and would improve the efficacy with which fishery resources in the South Florida region are managed.

GMFMC Motion carried

Guidance to staff/IPT – Look at the wording and resolve differences for the need statement.

Gulf Council Motion: to make Alternatives 2a, 2b, and 2c in Action 1 the preferred alternatives.

Alternative 2: Determine specific recreational management items for delegation to the State of Florida for yellowtail snapper:

Option 2a: Size limits

Option 2b: Seasons

Option 2c: Bag limits

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Choose Alternative 3 and Options 3a-3c in Action 1 as preferred.

GMFMC Motion failed 8-8.

Gulf Council Motion: Direct staff/IPT to develop a reasonable range of alternatives for recreational and commercial size limits, bag limits, seasons, and trip limits for yellowtail snapper for Action 1 to bound the range of actions the State of Florida may consider.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: In action 1 that options 2d and 3d be moved to considered but rejected.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: That (Action 1) apply to the waters adjacent to the state of Florida.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: To remove the discussion of the State of Florida submitting management plans from the document that pertain to delegation.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: In Action 2, clarify that this action pertains to the entire Gulf & South Atlantic jurisdictions.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Add the following new Alternative 4.

New Alternative 4: Manage yellowtail snapper as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional acceptable biological catch (ABC) and annual catch limit (ACL). Allocate the ACL according to one of the following formula:

Option 4a: Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013.

Option 4b: Base sector allocations on average landings from 2009-2013

Option 4c: Base sector allocations on average landings from 2004-2013

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Under Action 2 remove the original Alternative 3.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: In Action 3, to move Alternatives 2 (option d) and 3 (option d) to considered but rejected.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Make Alternative 2 and Options 2a-2c preferred in Action 3.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: That Action 3 be applied to waters adjacent to the State of Florida.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: To have Action 4 apply to the entire Gulf and South Atlantic jurisdictions.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Add the new Alternative 4 for Action 4 to the document.

New Alternative 4: Manage mutton snapper as a single unit with an overall combined multijurisdictional acceptable biological catch (ABC) and annual catch limit (ACL).

Option 4a: Use the following sector allocation formula: divide the sector allocations based on the ratio of landings with 50% of the weighting given to the mean of the landings from 1993-2008, and 50% on the mean of the landings from 2009-2013.

Option 4b: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 2009-2013

Option 4c: Base sector allocations for waters off Florida on average landings from 2004-2013

GMFMC Motion carried

Direction to Staff/IPT: Address the wording in the Options to change “off Florida” to all of the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico when calculating average landings.

Gulf Council Motion: Remove Alternative 3 under Action 4.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Eliminate Option 2c and 3c from Alternatives 2 and 3 in Action 5.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: In Action 6 have Alternative 4 be moved to considered but rejected.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: To apply Action 6 to the entire Gulf and South Atlantic jurisdictions.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Move Actions 5 and 6 to the Councils’ Amendments that will implement the new mutton snapper ABC/ACL

GMFMC Motion carried

Hogfish Decision Document

Gulf Council Motion: To remove hogfish from the Gulf fishery management unit (FMU) and add the west Florida shelf hogfish stock to the Gulf FMU. It is the Gulf Council's intent to have the South Atlantic Council manage the East Florida/Florida Keys hogfish stock.

GMFMC Motion carried

Gulf Council Motion: Use Shark Point as the boundary line between the West Florida shelf hogfish stock and the Keys/South Florida hogfish stock. Shark Point is specified at 25 degrees 23 minutes north latitude on the west coast of Florida.

GMFMC Motion carried