

**Gulf Council Motions Report
October 5-8, 2015
Galveston, Texas**

REEF FISH

Motion: To have the Council explore working with a consortium of scientists to begin working with stock assessments.

Motion carried 11-4.

Motion: To ask for an analysis of a 1 fish bag limit for Gray Triggerfish.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To untable Reef Fish Amendment 33 and include gray triggerfish in the amendment.

Substitute Motion: At the next Council meeting (January 2016) to review the status of Reef Fish Amendments 33 and 36, the content of these amendments, workload implications, and to have a discussion on how to proceed.

Substitute Motion carried 14-3 by Roll Call Vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Williams-Yes
Bademan-No
Walker-Yes
Swindell-Yes
Sanchez-Yes
Fischer-No

Riechers-Yes
Lucas-Yes
Matens-No
Greene-Yes
Stunz-Yes
Boyd-Yes

Crabtree-yes
Diaz-Yes
Dana-Yes
Bosarge-Yes
Anson-Yes

Motion: To ask for analyses of both a 15” and 16” FL size limit on gray triggerfish.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Final Action – Framework Action to Set Gag Recreational Season and Gag and Black Grouper Minimum Size Limits

Motion: In Action 3, Modifications to the Recreational Gag Fishing Season, add a new Preferred Alternative that would remove the June 1-30 portion of the fixed closed season, begin the season on June 1, and close when the recreational ACL is projected to be reached.

Motion carried with one opposed.

Motion: To change the commercial size limit for gag and black grouper to 24” TL.

Motion withdrawn.

Motion: To direct staff to begin a Framework Amendment that would increase the minimum size limit for commercial harvest of gag to 24 inches TL.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To approve the Final Framework Action for Gag and Black Grouper 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.

Motion carried unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

Options Paper – Amendment to Define Gulf of Mexico Hogfish Stock, and set ACL

Motion: To add an action to look at increases to the minimum size limit for hogfish.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Public Hearing Draft-Amendment 39, Regional Management of Red Snapper

Motion: In Action 1 (Regional Management) to add Alternative 5, Option b, as a Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 5: Establish a provision to sunset regional management after:
Option b: 5 calendar years of the program.

Motion carried 10-7.

Motion: In Action 2 (Regional Management & Sector Separation) to make Alternative 4 the Preferred Alternative.

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 as a single unit by each region under regional ACLs based on the allocation selected in Action 6.

Motion failed 7-10.

Substitute Motion: In Action 2 (Regional Management & Sector Separation) to make Alternative 2 the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 2: Extend the separate management of federal for-hire and private angling components of the recreational sector. This amendment would apply to the private angling component only. The private angling component would be managed by each region under regional ACLs based on the allocation selected in Action 6.

Substitute Motion failed 8-9 by Roll Call Vote.

Roll Call Vote:

Sanchez-Yes
Williams-Yes
Fischer-No
Lucas-No
Bosarge-Yes

Boyd-No
Diaz-No
Crabtree-Yes
Matens-No
Swindell-Yes

Greene-Yes
Walker-Yes
Bademan-No
Stunz-No
Riechers-No

Dana-Yes
Anson-No

Substitute Motion: In Action 2 (Regional Management & Sector Separation) to make Alternative 3 the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 3: Extend the separate management of the federal for-hire and private angling components of the recreational sector. This amendment could apply to both components. The recreational sector ACL will be divided into regional ACLs using the allocation selected in Action 6. The regional ACLs will be further divided into regional component ACLs (i.e., apply the allocation formula established through Amendment 40 to the region's average proportion of landings by each component). A region may manage both components or may opt to manage the private angling component only. If managing the private angling component only, the region's for-hire component ACL would become part of the federal for-hire component ACL.

Substitute Motion failed 4-12.

Motion: To replace Preferred Alternative 5 with Alternative 8 in Action 6.

Alternative 8: Apportion the recreational sector ACL (or component ACLs) among the regions selected in Action 3 such that each region's allocation provides an equivalent number of fishing days.

Motion failed 7-8.

Motion: In Action 7 (Post-Season Accountability Measures) to remove Alternatives 3 and 4 and add Options a and b, in Alternative 2, as proposed by staff.

Preferred Alternative 2: While red snapper are overfished (based on the most recent Status of U.S. Fisheries Report to Congress), if the combined recreational landings exceed the recreational sector ACL, then reduce in the following year the regional ACL of any region that exceeded its regional ACL by the amount of the region's ACL overage in the prior fishing year. The recreational ACTs will be adjusted to reflect the previously established percent buffer.

Option a: If a region has both a private-angling ACL and a federal for-hire ACL, the reduction will be applied to the component(s) that exceeded the applicable ACL.

Option b: If a region has both a private-angling ACL and a federal for-hire ACL, the reduction will be applied equally to both components.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Options Paper – South Florida Management Issues

Motion: To begin a separate amendment that would address management issues with yellowtail snapper. The amendment would address consolidating the ABC/ACL and yellowtail snapper AMs (remove these from S. FL amendment), as well as the commercial fishing year start date, and recreational/commercial allocations in both Gulf and South Atlantic jurisdictions.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To have Action 7 apply to the waters adjacent to the State of Florida.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 7, move Alternative 2d to considered but rejected.
Option 2d: Minor modifications to existing allowable gear

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To remove Actions 10 and 11 in the Options Paper and replace them with Actions 6, 7 and 8 in the Restructured Document.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Framework Action to set Mutton Snapper ACL

No Motions

Options Paper – Adjust Minimum Stock Size Threshold (MSST)

No Motions

Other Business

Motion: To direct staff to begin a Framework Action for the recreational red snapper fishery to reduce the buffer between the ACT and ACL.

Motion carried by roll call vote of 9-8.

Roll Call Vote:

Bosarge-No	Greene-No	Swindell-Yes
Boyd-Yes	Matens-Yes	Walker-No
Diaz-Yes	Lucas-Yes	Bademan-No
Crabtree-No	Fischer-Yes	Williams-No
Dana-No	Riechers-Yes	Anson-Yes
Stunz-Yes	Sanchez-No	

Motion: To add a new Alternative 5 to Action 1 of the Yellowtail Snapper Framework action:

Alternative 5: Remove the requirement to use circle hooks when commercial fishing with natural bait for yellowtail snapper south of 25° 09' North latitude on the west coast of Monroe County, Florida south to the Gulf Council jurisdictional boundary.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Discussion – Ad Hoc Private Recreational AP

Motion: To have the Council request the 5 State Directors on the Council to convene and obtain a consensus as to how the private recreational sector wishes to be managed.

Substitute Motion: To postpone the discussion on formation of an Ad Hoc Private Recreational AP until the January 2016 Council meeting.

Substitute Motion carried.

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES/ECOSYSTEM

No motions

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY & BUDGET/PERSONNEL

Motion: To move the appointment of the Spiny Lobster and Coral APs to 2016.

Motion carried with no opposition.

MACKEREL

Public Hearing Draft for CMP Amendment 26: Changes in Allocations, Stock Boundaries and Sale Provisions for Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Migratory Groups of King Mackerel

Motion: In Action 1, Adjust the Management Boundary for Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) and Atlantic Migratory Groups of King Mackerel, make Alternative 3 the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 3: Establish a single year-round boundary for separating the Gulf and Atlantic migratory groups of king mackerel at the Miami-Dade/Monroe county line (Figure 2.1.3). The Gulf Council would be responsible for management measures in the mixing zone.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To amend Alternatives 3 and 4 in Action 4 of CMP Amendment 26 such that the end of season 1 is October 31 instead of October 1.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Actions 4 and 5 of CMP 26 to accept the South Atlantic Council's modified language.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 6, modify the ACL for Gulf Migratory Group King Mackerel, to make Alternative 2 the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 2: Set the Gulf migratory group king mackerel ACL equal to the ABC recommended by the Gulf Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) for 2015-2019. ABC values are in millions of pounds, whole weight:

Year	ABC (mp ww)
2015	9.62
2016	9.21
2017	8.88
2018	8.71
2019	8.55

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To accept the IPT’s recommendations to give staff editorial license to update Action 8, Revise the Recreational and Commercial Allocations for the Gulf Migratory Group King Mackerel, to reflect the Council’s intent.

Motion carried without opposition.

Motion: In Action 8, Alternative 4, add an option to transfer 15% of the stock ACL to the commercial sector.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 9, Modify the Recreational Bag Limit for Gulf Migratory Group King Mackerel, select Alternative 2 as the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 2: Increase the bag limit to three fish per person per day.

Substitute Motion: In Action 9, Modify the Recreational Bag Limit for Gulf Migratory Group King Mackerel, select Alternative 3 as the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 3: Increase the bag limit to four fish per person per day.

Substitute Motion carried 13-3.

Options Paper for CMP Amendment 28: Separating Permits for Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Migratory Groups of King Mackerel and Spanish Mackerel.

Motion: To discontinue the development of CMP Amendment 28.

Motion carried with no opposition.

DATA COLLECTION

Motion: To agree with the South Atlantic Council and split the Joint Modifications and Charter Vessel and Headboat Reporting Requirements Amendment into two separate amendments.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To remove the South Atlantic members from the subcommittee membership list.

3.1 Membership

- Mike Cahall – ACCSP
- Mike Errigo – SAFMC
- Eric Hiltz - SCDNR
- Doug Mumford - NCDENR

Motion carried with no opposition.

SHRIMP

Draft Options Paper for Shrimp Amendment 17B – Establishing Optimum Yield, Target Number of Permits, Permit Pool, and Addressing Transit Provisions Through Federal Waters

Motion: That the Council convene a working group to evaluate aggregate MSY and OY for all shrimp species.

Motion carried with no opposition.

SEDAR

No motions

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion: CMP Public Hearing Locations:

Louisiana: Kenner

Mississippi: Pascagoula Area

Texas: Corpus Christi, La Marque Area

Florida: Destin, Sarasota, Key West

Alabama: Orange Beach

Motion carried by consensus.

Approval of 2016 Committee Appointments

Motion: To accept the committee assignments as shown in Tab A-6 with the naming conventions discussed, and adding David Walker to the Data Collection Committee and Greg Stunz to the Sustainable Fisheries / Ecosystem Committee.

Motion carried with no opposition.