

**Gulf Council Motions Report
June 5 – 8, 2023
Mobile, Alabama**

LAW ENFORCEMENT

LETC Meeting Summary from March 2023 Meeting

Motion: The Council requests that the LETC, at its upcoming October meeting, research all IFQ Red Snapper advanced landing notifications from 2022, among all five Gulf States, and formulate a comparison report of the proportion of inspected to non-inspected red snapper IFQ landings and subsequent proportion of amended landings reports for each category and the quantity of pounds amended by category. Further, provide a comparison of the number of non-inspected amended landing reports that adjusted poundage higher versus lower along with the frequency of occurrence and the magnitude of adjustments in pounds and whether any patterns exist. In addition, the report should include incidents of mismatched reports and amended landing reports as to the relationship of the dealer and the fishermen being the same entity. The LETC should provide a report back to the Council at its January, 2024 meeting in the Law Enforcement Committee.

Motion carried with no opposition.

ECOSYSTEM

Ecosystem Technical Committee (ETC) Report

Motion: To direct the Ecosystem Technical Committee to remove offshore wind energy and achieving optimum yield for the reef fish complex from the working list of FEIs.

Motion carried with no opposition.

DATA COLLECTION

No motions.

SHRIMP

No motion.

SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

Overview Presentation on Rice's Whale Status and Recent Speed Limit Petition in the Gulf of Mexico

Motion: To direct staff to write a letter to NOAA Fisheries outlining the Council's concerns as they relate to the proposed Rice's whale petition.

Motion carried with no opposition.

REEF FISH

Individual Fishing Quota Objectives

Motion: To use the following goals and objectives discussed during the Reef Fish Committee meeting to initiate a plan amendment:

Goal 1: Improve opportunities for participants to enter the program

Objectives:

- To evaluate the merits of limiting share ownership and implement, if appropriate, alternative mechanisms for equitably redistributing shares and allocation to accounts harvesting IFQ species.
- Limit share ownership (maintaining and obtaining shares) to accounts that are harvesting IFQ species
- Identify barriers inhibiting or limiting participation by surveying participants and those wanting to enter the fishery
- Create an allocation bank to reduce barriers to fishing privileges

Goal 2: Reduce IFQ discards

Objectives:

- Improve collection of discard information from IFQ vessels
- Create an allocation bank to further reduce bycatch and discards of IFQ species
- Evaluate additional or new flexibility measures to reduce discards

Goal 3: Maintain flexible fishing options and economic stability within the IFQ Programs

Goal 4: Increase IFQ market transparency (eliminates information asymmetries)

Goal 5: Reduce costs per unit harvest

Staff develop an additional objective under Goal 1 to address the inheritability of shares and their ownership in perpetuity. A proposed objective is as follows:

- Recover and redistribute IFQ shares and allocation held previously by a deceased shareholder to accounts of fishermen currently harvesting IFQ species.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To discontinue work on Reef Fish Amendments 36b and 36c.

- Amendment 36B: Permit Requirement for Shareholders in the IFQ Programs
- Amendment 36C: Commercial IFQ Modifications

Motion carried with no opposition.

FINAL ACTION: Recalibration of Red Snapper Recreational Catch Limits and Modification of Gray Snapper Catch Limits

Motion: To approve Framework Action-Recalibration of Red Snapper Recreational Catch Limits and Modification of Gray Snapper Catch Limits and forward it 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.

B.6.1 To recommend the Council approve the framework action recalibration of Red Snapper recreational catch limits and Modification of Gray Snapper catch limits and forward it ...

First Name	Last Name			
Kevin	Anson	Yes		
Susan	Boggs	Yes		
Billy	Broussard	Yes		
Dale	Diaz	Yes		
Phil	Dyskow	Yes		
Tom	Frazer	Yes		
Dakus	Geeslin	Yes		
Michael	McDermott	Yes		
Chris	Schieble	Yes		
Joe	Spraggins	Yes		
Greg	Stunz	Yes		
CJ	Sweetman	Yes		
Troy	Williamson	Yes		
Bob	Shipp		No	
Andy	Strelcheck	Yes		
Result - Passed	Subtotals	Yes (14)	No (1)	Abstain (0)

Motion carried 14 to 1 with 2 absent.

Draft Framework Action: Modifications to Recreational and Commercial Greater Amberjack Management Measures

Motion: In Action 1, to move **Alternatives 2** and **4** to Considered but Rejected.

Alternative 2: Modify the recreational fixed closed season to be September 1 – July 31 (open August 1 – August 31).

Alternative 4: Modify the recreational fixed closed season to be August 1 – October 31 and January 1 – July 31 (open November 1 – December 31).

B.7.1 In Action 1, to move alternatives 2 & 4 to Considered but Rejected				
First Name	Last Name			
Kevin	Anson	Yes		
Susan	Boggs		No	
Billy	Broussard	Yes		
Dale	Diaz	Yes		
Phil	Dyskow	Yes		
Tom	Frazer	Yes		
Dakus	Geeslin	Yes		
Michael	McDermott	Yes		
Chris	Schieble	Yes		
Greg	Stunz	Yes		
CJ	Sweetman	Yes		
Troy	Williamson	Yes		
Bob	Shipp	Yes		
Andy	Strelcheck	Yes		
Result - Passed	Subtotals	Yes (13)	No (1)	Abstain (0)

Motion carried 13 to 1 with 3 absent.

Motion: In Action 1, to make **Alternative 3** the preferred.

Alternative 3: Modify the recreational fixed closed season to be August 1 – August 31 and November 1 – July 31 (open September 1 – October 31).

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 1, to move **Alternative 5** to Considered but Rejected.

Alternative 5: Modify the recreational fixed closed season to be August 1 – August 31, November 1 – April 30, and June 1 - July 31 (open September 1 – October 31 and May 1 - 31).

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, to add an **Alternative 5** to establish a commercial trip limit of 8 fish.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, to move **Alternative 2** to Considered but Rejected.

Alternative 2: Establish a commercial trip limit for Gulf greater amberjack of 250 lbs gw (260 lbs ww).

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, to make **Alternative 5** the preferred.

Alternative 5: Establish a commercial trip limit of 8 fish.

B.7.4 In Action 2, to make Alternative 5 the Preferred				
First Name	Last Name			
Kevin	Anson		No	
Susan	Boggs		No	
Billy	Broussard	Yes		
Dale	Diaz		No	
Phil	Dyskow		No	
Tom	Frazer		No	
Dakus	Geeslin		No	
Michael	McDermott		No	
Chris	Schieble	Yes		
Rick	Burris	Yes		
Greg	Stunz			Abstain
CJ	Sweetman		No	
Troy	Williamson		No	
Bob	Shipp		No	
Andy	Strelcheck			Abstain
Result - Failed	Subtotals	Yes (3)	No (10)	Abstain (2)

Motion failed 3 to 10 with 2 abstentions and 2 absent.

SSC Summary Report from the May 2023 Meeting: Black Grouper and Yellowfin Grouper Catch Limits

Motion: To direct staff to modify the amendment for scamp and yellowmouth grouper OFLs, ABCs, and ACLs to include black grouper and yellowfin grouper SSC catch recommendations. In the amendment consideration should be given also to implications to the IFQ fishery involving the shallow water grouper complex.

Motion carried with no opposition.

SSC Summary Report from the May 2023 Meeting: Mid-water Snapper Complex Catch Limits

Motion: To consider removal of wenchman from the Reef Fish FMP, and to set ACLs and AMs for the remaining species in the mid-water snapper complex (blackfin snapper, queen snapper, and silk snapper).

Motion carried with no opposition.

FINAL ACTION: Draft Amendment 56: Modifications to the Gag Grouper Catch Limits, Sector Allocations, and Fishing Seasons

Motion: To approve Draft Amendment 56: Modifications to the Gag Grouper Catch Limits, Sector Allocations, and Fishing Seasons and forward it 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.

B.9.1 To Recommend the Council approve Draft Amendment 56: Modifications to the Gag Grouper Catch Limits, Sector Allocations, and Fishing Seasons...

First Name	Last Name			
Kevin	Anson	Yes		
Susan	Boggs		No	
Billy	Broussard	Yes		
Dale	Diaz	Yes		
Phil	Dyskow	Yes		
Tom	Frazer	Yes		
Dakus	Geeslin	Yes		
Michael	McDermott	Yes		
Chris	Schieble	Yes		
Rick	Burris	Yes		
Greg	Stunz	Yes		
CJ	Sweetman	Yes		
Troy	Williamson	Yes		
Bob	Shipp	Yes		
Andy	Strelcheck	Yes		
Result - Passed	Subtotals	Yes (14)	No (1)	Abstain (0)

Motion carried 14 to 1 with 2 absent.

CLOSED SESSION

Selection of Coastal Migratory Pelagics Advisory Panel Members

The Full Council was convened in a Closed Session the afternoon of June 5th to appoint the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Advisory Panel members. The Council made the following appointments.

- Steven Asher
- Kesley Banks
- Charles Bergmann II
- William Campbell
- Joshua Ellender
- Justin Fadalla
- Martin Fisher
- Gary Hayes
- Benjamin Knight
- David Krebs, Jr.
- Christopher Mallory
- Tom Marvel
- Alex Murray
- George Niles
- Kelty Readenour
- Lance Robinson
- Will Stein III
- Edward Swindell
- Ed Walker
- Robert Woithe

FULL COUNCIL

Exempted Fishing Permit

Motion: To recommend approval of the Mote Marine Laboratory's EFP.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Discussion on Disbanding IFQ and Shrimp Focus Groups

Motion: To disband the IFQ and Shrimp Focus Groups.

Motion carried with no opposition.