

**Gulf Council Motions Report (revised)**  
**September 28 – 30, 2020**  
**Webinar**

**REEF FISH**

**Discussion of Fishing Industry Impacts Due to COVID-19 and Potential Emergency Rule Requests**

**Motion:** To have the Council review IFQ data at each upcoming Council meeting through January 2021 to assess the need for a possible emergency action due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**MRIP-FES Calibration Workshop**

**Motion:** To direct Council staff draft a letter to the NOAA OST recommending an examination (pilot program, other method) be used to examine whether those publicly-available sampling location catch rates are appropriate for application to the full shore effort, or whether an alternative method is (more appropriate / preferable / possible) for private access locations. Further, NOAA OST should prioritize developing a protocol and automated check program to detect and flag extreme or unusual values in MRIP/FES catch estimates and determine the source of those extreme values, such as input data or calibration procedures.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Review: August 5, 2020, MRIP Red Snapper State Data Calibration Webinar**

**Motion:** The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council instructs that management advice for Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper be derived using the uncalibrated state-derived harvest estimates from state surveys (TPWD, LA Creel, MS Tails n' Scales, AL Snapper Check and FL Gulf Reef Fish Survey) until such time as the causal factors and relationships explaining the disagreement between MRIP FES survey and the state surveys are established.

**Substitute Motion:** The Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council recommends that 2021 management advice for Gulf red snapper be derived using the unadjusted catch estimates from the state surveys (TPWD, LA Creel, MS Tails n' Scales, AL Snapper Check and FL Gulf Reef Fish Survey). States will provide monthly catch estimates and detailed protocols used to calculate the estimates to NMFS within 60 days of the end of each month starting in December 2020. Any overages that occur in 2020 and/or 2021 will be proportionately accounted for the following year or years if the overage is larger than the state sub-ACL by the state or states that contributed to the overage through a reduction in the state private angler sub-ACLs.

**Second Substitute Motion:** To instruct Council staff develop an appropriate document that provides private recreational red snapper conversion (calibration) options for Council

consideration that includes, but not limited to, conversion ratios as presented by NOAA, no action, buffers for each state weighted by each state’s current allocation percentage, etc. Time decisions that involve converted (calibrated) state survey data for the private recreational red snapper fishery to coincide with the results of the Great Red Snapper Count are known and reviewed by the SSC.

Mr. Diaz – yes	Mr. Williamson – no	Mr. Anson – no
Mr. Banks – yes	Dr. Crabtree – yes	Mr. Dugas – no
Ms. Guyas – yes	Dr. Stunz – no	Mr. Spraggins – no
Ms. Bosarge – yes	Mr. Riechers – no	Mr. Swindell – yes
Dr. Shipp – no	Ms. Boggs – yes	Dr. Frazer – abstain
Mr. Dyskow – yes	Mr. Sanchez – yes	

Second Substitute Motion carried 9 to 7 with one abstention by roll call vote.

**Other Business**

**Motion:** To direct staff develop a white paper that would develop separate sector allocations between the private and for-hire components of the recreational sector for the following four reef fish species: red and gag groupers, greater amberjack, and gray triggerfish.

Dr. Stunz – no	Ms. Guyas – yes	Mr. Riechers – no
Mr. Sanchez – yes	Mr. Diaz – no	Ms. Boggs – yes
Mr. Dyskow – no	Mr. Spraggins – no	Mr. Williamson – no
Dr. Shipp – no	Mr. Swindell – yes	Ms. Bosarge – yes
Mr. Dugas – no	Mr. Anson – yes	Dr. Frazer – yes
Dr. Crabtree – yes	Mr. Banks – yes	

Motion carried 9 to 8 by roll call vote.

**ADMINISTRATIVE/BUDGET**

**Review and Approval of Funded 2020 Budget**

**Motion:** To approve the 2020 budget as funded.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**SHRIMP**

No motions.

## SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES

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

**Motion:** In Action 4.1, to accept the following recommended changes:

**Alternative 1:** No Action. Do not define optimum yield (OY) for stocks and stock complexes in Action 1. Do not define an OY for hogfish.

**Alternative 2:** For reef fish stocks from Action 1 and for hogfish, where OY is undefined, OY, implicitly accounting for relevant economic, social, or ecological factors, would be:

**Option 2a.** 85% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Option 2b.** 90% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Option 2c.** 95% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Option 2d.**  $(ACL/OFL) * MSY$  or MSYproxy; or zero if the ACL equals zero.

**Alternative 3:** For shallow-water grouper, OY, implicitly accounting for relevant economic, social, or ecological factors, would be:

**Option 3a.** 85% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Option 3b.** 90% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Option 3c.** 95% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Alternative 4:** For goliath grouper, OY, implicitly accounting for relevant economic, social, or ecological factors, would be:

**Option 4a.** 85% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Option 4b.** 90% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Option 4c.** 95% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Option 4d.**  $(ACL/OFL) * MSY$  or MSYproxy; or zero if the ACL equals zero.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** In Action 4.1, to make Options 2b, 3b, and 4d the preferred.

**Alternative 2:** For reef fish stocks from Action 1 and for hogfish, where OY is undefined, OY, implicitly accounting for relevant economic, social, or ecological factors, would be:

**Option 2b.** 90% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Alternative 3:** For shallow-water grouper, OY, implicitly accounting for relevant economic, social, or ecological factors, would be:

**Option 3b.** 90% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Alternative 4:** For goliath grouper, OY, implicitly accounting for relevant economic, social, or ecological factors, would be:

**Option 4d.** (ACL/OFL) \* MSY or MSYproxy; or zero if the ACL equals zero.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** In Action 4.2, accept the recommended changes below.

**Alternative 2:** For red drum, OY, implicitly accounting for relevant economic, social, or ecological factors, would be:

**Option 2a:** 85% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Option 2b:** 90% of MSY or MSYproxy.

**Option 2c:** 95% of MSY or MSYproxy.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** In Action 4.2, to make Alternative 1 the preferred.

**Alternative 1:** No action. Maintain the red drum optimum yield (OY) for red drum:

All red drum recreationally and commercially harvested from state waters landed consistent with state laws and regulations under a goal of allowing 30 percent escapement of the juvenile population.

All red drum commercially or recreationally harvested from the Primary Area of the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) under the total allowable catch (TAC) level and allocations specified under the provisions of the FMP, and a zero-retention level from the Secondary Areas of the EEZ. (Note: TAC for the EEZ has been set at zero since 1988.)

Motion carried with no opposition.

**Motion:** To take Draft Amendment Reef Fish 48/Red Drum 5: Status Determination Criteria and Optimum Yield for Reef Fish and Red Drum out for public hearing via webinar.

Motion carried with no opposition.

### **Other Business**

**Motion:** To direct staff start a document to allow the States of Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana to manage red drum out to 9 nautical miles.

Dr. Stunz – yes	Mr. Dyskow – yes	Mr. Diaz – yes
Mr. Swindell – yes	Mr. Anson – yes	Mr. Riechers – yes
Ms. Boggs – yes	Mr. Banks – yes	Mr. Crabtree – yes
Mr. Sanchez – yes	Mr. Spraggins – yes	Ms. Bosarge – no
Mr. Williamson – yes	Mr. Shipp – yes	Dr. Frazer – abstain
Mr. Dugas – yes	Ms. Guyas – yes	

Motion carried 15 to 1 with one abstention by roll call vote.

**MACKEREL**

**Review of SEDAR 28 Update: Gulf of Mexico Migratory Group Cobia Stock Assessment**

**Motion:** To direct staff start a plan amendment to reduce the fishing mortality in the commercial and recreational cobia fishery in the Gulf of Mexico, which will include bag limits, vessel limits, size limits, seasons and catch limit options.

**Substitute Motion:** To direct staff start a plan amendment to reduce the fishing mortality in the commercial and recreational cobia fishery in the Gulf of Mexico, which will include bag limits, vessel limits, size limits, and catch limit options.

Ms. Guyas – yes	Mr. Banks – yes	Mr. Spraggins – yes
Mr. Williamson – yes	Ms. Boggs – yes	Dr. Stunz – yes
Mr. Dyskow – yes	Mr. Dugas – yes	Mr. Sanchez – yes
Ms. Bosarge – abstain	Mr. Anson – yes	Dr. Shipp – yes
Mr. Riechers – yes	Mr. Swindell – no	Dr. Frazer – abstain
Mr. Diaz – yes	Dr. Crabtree – no	

Substitute motion carried 13 to 2 with two abstentions by roll call vote.

**Other Business**

**Motion:** To request an analysis of king mackerel sector landings and quotas for the past 5-10 years with recreational landings and quotas in FES currency.

Motion carried with no opposition.

**COASTAL MIGRATORY PELAGICS AND RED DRUM ADVISORY PANEL APPOINTMENTS**

The following individuals were selected to serve a three-year term (2020-2023) on the Coastal Migratory Pelagics Advisory Panel:

Charles Bergmann II	William (Neil) Gryder V	Kelty O. Readenour II
James Bruce	Chris Jenkins	William Stein III
Charles Roy Cravey	Christopher R. Mallory	Ed Walker
Joshua R. Ellender	Thomas Marvel	James Mike Whitfield
Martin Fisher	Jeffrey G. Mathews	Robert D. Woithe
Kelsey Gibson	George W. Niles	

The following individuals were selected to serve a three-year term (2020-2023) on the Red Drum Advisory Panel:

John Aukeman	Mark Luitjen	Thomas Prewitt III
Doug Boyd	James McClellon	Erman Rawlings
Mike Frenette	Burt E. Moritz	Derek Shoobridge
Benjamin Graham	Herb Murphy	William Stein III
John Green	Lance Nacio	Rudy Valenciano
Joseph Hendon	Harris Pappas	

### ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

**Motion:** To nominate Tom Frazer as Council chair. To nominate Dale Diaz as Council Chair.

Tom Frazer approved as Council Chair by vote.

**Motion:** To nominate Dale Diaz as Council Vice-Chair.

Dale Diaz approved as Council Vice-Chair by acclamation.