

Gulf SEDAR Committee: Action Guide & Next Steps for Tab I

Agenda Item IV: Discussion of the 2017 Extended Recreational Red Snapper Season

Timeline Status: Immediate.

Council Input and Next Steps: 1) The NMFS Southeast Regional Administrator will present an overview of the 2017 extended recreational red snapper season, 2) The Committee will discuss the potential impacts on the 2018 fishing season and any necessary Council actions, and 3) The Committee will also discuss with the SEFSC the pros and cons of possibly delaying the red snapper assessment until the 2017 landings data can be incorporated or request a subsequent update assessment immediately after the 2017 landings data are available.

1) Consider writing a letter to the Department of Commerce regarding the 2017 extended recreational red snapper season expressing concern about circumventing the Magnuson-Stevens Act Council process and the potential impacts on future ACLs and the red snapper rebuilding schedule, and 2) Consider writing a letter to the SEFSC requesting a delay in the red snapper assessment so 2017 landings data can be incorporated.

Agenda Item V: SEDAR Schedule Review (Tab I, No.4)

Timeline Status: Proposed changes needed before September 2017 SEDAR Steering Committee meeting.

Council Input and Next Steps: 1) The Committee will review the current SEDAR Schedule and discuss with the SEFSC the feasibility of including a cobia assessment in 2018 as well as a red grouper assessment, and 2) Identify modifications to the SEDAR Schedule and direct staff to notify the SEDAR Steering Committee of any suggested changes.
