

Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council
Reef Fish Advisory Panel
Scope of Work
October 6, 2020
Webinar

Agenda Item III: Approval of Minutes from the October 2, 2019, meeting in Tampa, Florida

Action: Review, modify (if necessary), and approve minutes

Panel input and next steps: The Reef Fish Advisory Panel (AP) will review, modify if necessary, and approve the minutes from its October 2, 2019 meeting.

Agenda Item V: Draft Reef Fish Amendment 53: Red Grouper Allocations and Annual Catch Levels and Targets

Action: Presentation, discussion, and recommendations

Panel input and next steps: Council staff will present the Purpose and Need statements for Draft Amendment 53, along with an overview of the current actions and alternatives. The AP should discuss the current actions and alternatives and provide recommendations to the Council about those. The AP may also propose new actions or alternatives they would like the Council to consider.

Agenda item VI: SEDAR 67: Gulf of Mexico Vermilion Snapper Stock Assessment

Action: Presentations, discussion, and recommendations

Panel input and next steps: The AP will receive a summary presentation of the model, results, and projections for the SEDAR 67 stock assessment of Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) vermilion snapper from the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC). Council staff will review the findings of the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), present draft management alternatives, and review the results of the Council's Something's Fishy tool for vermilion snapper. The AP should consider the information presented and make recommendations to the Council such as setting the annual catch limit (ACL) or changes to the recreational and commercial management measures. The Stock Assessment Executive Summary for SEDAR 67 is provided as background information.

Agenda item VII: SEDAR 64: Southeastern US Yellowtail Snapper Stock Assessment

Action: Information

Panel input and next steps: The AP will receive a brief overview of the progress to date of the SEDAR 64: Southeastern U.S. Yellowtail Snapper Stock Assessment. The Stock Assessment Executive Summary for SEDAR 64 is provided as background information. The AP will be reconvened at a later date to review the assessment and provide recommendations to the Council.

Agenda item VIII: Gray Triggerfish Interim Analysis

Action: Presentation, discussion, and recommendations

Panel input and next steps: The AP will receive a presentation on the interim analysis results and projections for gray triggerfish from the SEFSC. Council staff will review the recommendations from the SSC. The AP should consider the information presented and make recommendations to the Council such as setting the ACL or changes to the recreational and commercial management measures.

Agenda item IX: Draft Reef Fish Framework Action: Modification of the Gulf Lane Snapper Annual Catch Limit

Action: Presentation, discussion, and recommendations

Panel input and next steps: Council staff will present a draft framework action to update catch limits and consider modifications to the accountability measures for lane snapper. Catch limit updates will affect the lane snapper OFL, ABC, and ACL. Proposed catch limits for lane snapper have been updated based on the recent stock assessment update and calibrated to account for changes in recreational data collection to MRIP-FES. Additionally, considerations for modifying the current accountability measures are also being considered. Specifically, this would include updating the ACT based on the Council's ACL/ACT Control Rule and modifying mechanisms for implementing in-season closures for both sectors. The AP should review the draft framework action, provide recommendations, and give guidance to the Council on the range of alternatives within each action.

Agenda item X: Public Hearing Draft Amendment 36B: Modifications to Commercial IFQ Programs

Action: Presentation, discussion, and recommendations

Panel input and next steps: Staff will review the actions and alternatives in Amendment 36B. The actions and alternatives have not changed since last reviewed by the AP at its October 2, 2019, meeting, except for the addition of the alternative recommended by the AP at that meeting. The AP should discuss the actions and make recommendations to the Council as appropriate.

Agenda item XI: *Testing assumptions about sex change and spatial management in the protogynous gag grouper, *Mycteroperca microlepis**

Action: Presentation, discussion, and recommendations

Panel input and next steps: Dr. Susan Lowerre-Barbieri of the FWC's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) will review the results and potential implications of FWRI's work to further characterize gaps in knowledge about the eastern gag populations in and around the Steamboat Lumps marine protected area. The AP should consider these results and their potential implications and make recommendations for Council response and future research as appropriate.

Agenda Item XII: Other Business

Action: Discussion

Panel Input and Next Steps: Additional items may be brought up for discussion by AP members, if they are added to the agenda before it is adopted and time permitting. If the AP wishes to pursue action on an item and the Council concurs then action can be scheduled at a future AP meeting. Public comment will also be heard at the discretion of the AP chair as time allows.