

### Reef Fish Committee Action Guide and Next Steps for Tab B

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**Agenda Item IV:** Reef Fish Landings

**Timeline Status:** Background Information (no presentation)

**Council input and next steps:** This document is provided by NMFS and provides the status of reef fish landings relative to ACLs. This is provided for information only. There will be no presentation. This is an ongoing report to the Council and requires no action by the Committee.

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**Agenda Item V:** State Management Program for Recreational Red Snapper and Individual State Amendments

**Timeline Status:** Revised Draft Amendments

**Council input and next steps:** Staff will review the amendments and the Committee should continue to review existing preferred alternatives and select additional ones, as appropriate, in the individual state amendments. Staff will raise some remaining issues for Committee discussion. These include whether there should be a sunset on state management under Alternative 3 of Action 1 in the Program Amendment, and clarifying the intent of whether the overage adjustment in Action 2 of the Individual State Amendments applies to a state regardless of the total recreational sector ACL being exceeded. The Committee may want to remove Option b of Action 2, as this may be inconsistent with the underage adjustment being developed in the Generic Carryover Amendment. The Committee should recommend approval of the amendments for public hearings, if appropriate.

For the Committee's information, the following public hearings have been scheduled:

December 3: Panama City, FL  
December 4: Destin, FL  
December 5: Mobile, AL  
December 10: Baton Rouge, LA  
December 11: Biloxi, MS  
January 7: Ft. Myers, FL  
January 8: St. Petersburg, FL  
January 14: Brownsville, TX  
January 15: Corpus Christi, TX  
January 16: League City, TX

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**Agenda Item VI:** Review of Reef Fish Management Objectives

**Timeline Status:** White Paper

**Council input and next steps:** Staff will provide an overview of relevant amendments and context for the Reef Fish FMP objectives. The Committee should discuss the extent to which the objectives have been achieved, whether any objectives may be removed or should be modified, and if any new objectives should be added.

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**Agenda Item VII:** Establish Gray Snapper SDC, Reference Points, and Modify ACLs

**Timeline Status:** Draft Amendment

**Council input and next steps:** The Committee will be presented with an overview of status determination criteria terms and definitions as it relates to decision points in the draft amendment for gray snapper. Then Council staff will review the draft reef fish amendment which will define or modify status determination criteria and modify annual catch limits for gray snapper. The Committee is asked to provide staff with guidance on the range of alternatives in Actions 1 and 2. Action 2 considers modifying the Maximum Fishing Mortality Threshold for gray snapper. If the Committee is not interested changing the current definition, Action 2 could be removed from the amendment. Staff will either bring a revised draft amendment to the January 2019 Council meeting for committee review.

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**Agenda item VIII:** The Great Red Snapper Count

**Timeline Status:** Presentation: Information

**Council input and next steps:** Dr. Drymon will give a presentation summarizing the status, preliminary findings, and timeline for a comprehensive effort to estimate red snapper abundance in the Gulf of Mexico. The study uses multiple gear types and calibration efforts are ongoing to ensure accurate estimates of fish density and abundance. Data collected during spring and summer 2018 are currently being analyzed and the project will be completed in summer 2019.

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**Agenda item IX:** SSC Summary Report

**Timeline Status:** For Information Only

**Council input and next steps:** The SSC representative will summarize items, if any, reviewed by the SSC at its October 2-3, 2018, meeting that are not addressed under other agenda items.

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**Agenda item X:** Status of Convening the Ad Hoc Reef Fish Headboat and Red Snapper Charter For-hire APs

**Timeline Status:** Information

**Council input and next steps:** Council staff would review the dates of the two AP meetings. The Ad Hoc Headboat AP is scheduled Tuesday December 11 and Ad Hoc Red Snapper Charter For-hire AP is scheduled Wednesday December 12. For each advisory panel, enough members were available for a quorum.

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**Agenda Item XI:** Other business

**Timeline Status:** Additional items that can be brought up for discussion, but no action can be taken since they have not been announced

**Council Input and Next Steps:** Additional items may be brought up for discussion by Committee members, time permitting. If the committee wishes to pursue action, then action can be scheduled at a future Council meeting.

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