

**Mackerel Committee
Action Guide and Next Steps for Tab C**

Agenda Item IV: Draft Framework Amendment 14: Modifications to Gulf Migratory Group Spanish Mackerel Catch Limits and Accountability Measures

Timeline Status: Information, discussion, and feedback

Council input and next steps: Council staff will review the document that considers modifying the catch limits and accountability measures for the Gulf migratory group of Spanish mackerel (Gulf Spanish mackerel) based on the recent SEDAR 81 stock assessment and the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee's (SSC) recommendations. SEDAR 81 transitioned the recreational catch and effort data to the Marine Recreational Information Program's Fishing Effort Survey (MRIP-FES) and determined the stock was not overfished or undergoing overfishing. This version of the document includes an additional action to consider reducing the bag limit for Gulf Spanish Mackerel. The Committee should consider the new action and select a preferred alternative as appropriate. Staff will develop a final draft for the August 2024 meeting.

Agenda Item IV: Draft Framework Amendment 15: Modifications to Gulf Migratory Group King Mackerel Catch Limits and Recreational Bag Limit

Timeline Status: Presentation, discussion, and feedback

Council input and next steps: During recent Council meetings and the Coastal Migratory Pelagic Advisory Panel meeting, concern has been voiced about the decline in king mackerel abundance in the Gulf. Similarly, a recent Interim Assessment for king mackerel indicated low levels of recruitment. During the October 2023 Council meeting, a motion was passed to address this feedback and consider modifications to the king mackerel catch limits and management measures. Council staff will present an initial draft document to reduce the annual catch limit using recent landings information and explore reducing the recreational bag limit. The Committee should ask questions of staff and provide guidance on next steps for the draft document.