

Reef Fish Committee: Action Schedule and Next Steps for Tab B

Agenda Item IV: SEDAR Gag Update Assessment

Timeline Status: Presentation and Management Decisions, if any

Council Input and Next Steps: An SSC representative will present a review of the 2016 SEDAR 33 gag update assessment and OFL/ABC recommendations

The SSC representative will review the 2016 SEDAR 33 gag update assessment that was prepared by the SEFSC. The SSC representative will then summarize the SSC's comments and recommendations, including recommendations for OFL and ABC yield streams. The Committee should recommend whether to proceed with a framework action to adjust the gag ACLs and ACTs, and whether any other management changes should be considered at this time.

Agenda Item V: Joint Ad Hoc Red Snapper Charter Vessel AP/Ad Hoc Reef Fish Headboat AP meeting summary

Timeline Status: Summary of Meeting

Council Input and Next Steps: The Ad Hoc Headboat and Ad Hoc Red Snapper Charter For-hire Advisory Panels met January 9-10 in New Orleans. Staff will present a summary of the meeting including recommendations regarding management approaches for the for-hire sector. The Committee is expected to review recommendations made by the advisory panels and provide guidance to staff regarding further development of for-hire management programs.

Agenda item VI: Public Hearing Draft Amendment 44 – Minimum Stock Size Threshold for Reef Fish Stocks

Timeline Status: Public Hearing Draft

Council input and next steps: This amendment contains a single action to define or redefine MSST for all stocks (only 6 reef fish stocks currently have an MSST definition, and a seventh MSST proposal is under review as part of Amendment 43). A previous action to define MSY proxies was removed and deferred to a later amendment to allow Amendment 44 to proceed more quickly. The SSC representative will summarize the SSC's analysis and review of the times needed for stocks to recover from various MSST levels. The Committee should select a preferred alternative and approve public hearings. Because of the technical nature of this amendment, staff recommends a webinar public hearing only.

Agenda Item VII Public Hearing Draft Amendment 36A – Modifications to Commercial IFQ Programs

Timeline Status: Public Hearing Draft

Council Input and Next Steps: Staff will review the public hearing draft and the Committee should review the preferred alternatives and updated document. If appropriate, the Committee should approve the draft for public hearings, which will be conducted by a mail-out to IFQ program participants.

Agenda Item VIII: Public Hearing Draft Amendment 46 – Gray Triggerfish Rebuilding Plan

Timeline Status: Public Hearing Draft

Council Input and Next Steps: The Committee should review the public hearing draft and provide guidance to staff for any modifications to the management alternatives or document. The Committee should select a preferred alternative for Action 4 - Modify the Commercial Trip Limit. Based on a motion made at the October 2016 Council meeting, a 16 fish trip limit alternative was added to the document and the commercial decision tool was updated to include this alternative. Both the commercial and recreational decision tools are included in the briefing book. If the Council approves the document for public hearings staff will conduct public hearings in March 2017 and provide comments to the Committee at the April 2017 Council meeting. Public hearings are currently scheduled at the following locations:

- Alabama: Spanish Fort (Five Rivers Facility)
- Florida: Destin, St. Pete Area
- Louisiana: Via Webinar Only
- Mississippi: Via Webinar Only Texas: Galveston, Corpus Christi

A final action document will be prepared for the April 2017 Council meeting.

Agenda Item IX: Gulf Anglers Focus Group Report

Timeline Status: Presentation

Council Input and Next Steps: Ken Haddad, American Sportfishing Association, will review the findings and recommendations from a series of facilitated meetings held by the Gulf Anglers Focus Group. The Committee should review these recommendations and discuss forwarding them to the Ad Hoc Red Snapper Private Angler AP to consider as part of their deliberations.

The Committee should also discuss the scheduling and timing for convening the Ad Hoc Red Snapper Private Angler AP.

Agenda Item X: Mechanism to Carry over the Unharvested Red Snapper ACL to the Following Season

Timeline Status: Review of SEFSC analysis and draft options

Council Input and Next Steps: The Committee will review the carryover mechanism proffered by the SEFSC at the January 2017 SSC meeting, followed by draft options designed around the SEFSC's input. The Committee should provide additional feedback to staff for developing a more complete options paper for the next Council meeting.

Agenda Item XI: Preliminary 2016 Red Snapper For-Hire Landings Relative to ACL

Timeline Status: Discussion

Council Input and Next Steps: The Committee will review the available red snapper recreational landings data under sector separation for 2015 and 2016 (partial data), and discuss whether there is sufficient justification to recommend that the Council consider adjusting the ACT for the charter-for-hire component only. Although the 2016 fishing year is complete, final landings for the year are not yet available. Preliminary landings for Wave 3 (May-June), Wave 4 (July-August), and Wave 5 (September-October) are available, and preliminary landings for Wave 6 (November-December) may be available by the Council meeting.

Agenda Item XII: Presentation on Amendment 36B – Commercial Reef Fish IFQ Modifications

Timeline Status: Presentation

Council Input and Next Steps: Staff will provide background information for the items to be considered in the amendment. The Committee should provide guidance to staff regarding the inclusion of each item and the intent or scope for development into draft actions. The Committee may wish to add, remove, or modify the potential items, including the range of options to begin considering.

Agenda Item XIII: Options Paper for Amendment 47 – Modify Vermilion Snapper ACLs and MSY proxy

Timeline Status: Draft Options

Council Input and Next Steps: Staff will review an options paper to select an MSY proxy for vermilion snapper and ACL for 2017-2021 based on the SEDAR 46 stock assessment presented to the Council in June 2016. An action to revise the MSY proxy is necessary because SEDAR 46 used a different proxy than that specified in Amendment 23. The alternatives for ACL include both constant catch and declining yield streams. The Committee should review and provide comments and recommendations on the draft actions and alternatives. Staff plans to prepare a public hearing draft for the April 2017 Council meeting.

Agenda Item XIV: Draft Framework Action – Mutton Snapper ACL and Management Measures and Gag Commercial Size Limit

Timeline Status: Discussion

Council Input and Next Steps: Additional data and analyses have been added since the last time the Council saw this document. The Committee should provide feedback to staff on the proposed actions and alternatives. The next step for the document is the completion of the remaining analyses in preparation for final action.

Agenda Item XV: Standing and Reef Fish SSC Summary (for items not discussed elsewhere on agenda)

Timeline Status: Report of the January SSC meeting

Council Input and Next Steps: The SSC met January 10-11. Many of the items that they discussed have been reviewed as part of the specific agenda items on this or other committees. The SSC representative will summarize items discussed by the SSC that have not been discussed under other agenda items. These may include:

- SEDAR 49 Data-limited Stock Assessment
- Discussion on economic and social implications of catch limits

The Committee may choose to make recommendations for guidance to staff on whether and how to proceed with these items.

Agenda Item XVI: 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.