

**Reef Fish Committee:** Action Schedule for Tab B

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**Agenda Item IV:** Review of Proposed Regulations on the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary

**Timeline Status:** White Paper

**Council Input and Next Steps:** Staff will present the white paper on the proposed regulations for the FGBNMS expansion. Comments from the Reef Fish AP regarding the proposed regulations will also be presented to the Committee. The Committee should review the white paper and suggest any changes to the document on the proposed regulations. Mr. Schmahl, Superintendent of the FGBNMS will be available to answer questions on the proposed expansion. Staff will make changes, prepare a letter introducing the white paper, and prepare the white paper for submittal to the FGBNMS by the December 2016 deadline. The Committee is requested to approve the white paper for submittal to the FGBNMS.

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**Agenda Item V:** SEDAR 47 Goliath Grouper Benchmark Assessment

**Timeline Status:** Presentation

**Council Input and Next Steps:** The Committee will be given a presentation summarizing the assessment and reasons why it was not accepted by the SEDAR Review Workshop. Comments from the SSC and Reef Fish AP will also be presented. The SSC did not set an ABC, so the Council cannot take action to re-open the fishery. Therefore, no action is required by the Committee.

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**Agenda item VI:** Mutton Snapper and Gag Management Measures.

**Timeline Status:** Draft Framework Action

**Council input and next steps:** The Committee will review the draft Framework Action that would modify the mutton snapper ACL, consider changes to minimum size limits and recreational bag limits. The Committee will also consider changes to the commercial trip limits and an Action to increase the minimum size limit of gag in the commercial sector. The Committee should provide guidance about the revised Actions and Alternatives and update the timeline for completion of this Framework Action.

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**Agenda Item VII a:** Draft Amendment 42 – Reef Fish Management for Headboat Survey Vessels

**Timeline Status:** Revised Draft

**Council Input and Next Steps:** The Committee is expected to review management actions and alternatives included in the amendment. The Committee should, if needed, revise existing actions and suggest additional actions and alternatives that would contribute to improving the allocation-based program under consideration. The Committee should also discuss a timeline for this amendment.

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**Agenda Item VII b:** Referendum Eligibility Requirements for Reef Fish Amendment 42 – Reef Fish Management for Headboat Survey Vessels

**Timeline Status:** Final Action

**Council Input and Next Steps:** The Committee is expected to review alternative referendum eligibility criteria. The Committee should select preferred eligibility requirements for participation in the referendum and request that NMFS take the appropriate steps to administer the referendum in due time.

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**Agenda Item VIII:** Preliminary 2016 Red Snapper For-hire Landings Relative to ACT

**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 not yet complete, the federal for-hire season was June 1 to July 16. Landings for Wave 3 (May-June) are available, and preliminary landings for Wave 4 (July-August) should be available by October 15.

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**Agenda Item IX:** Draft Amendment 46 – Modify Gray Triggerfish Rebuilding Plan

**Timeline Status:** Draft Amendment and Review of AP, SSC, and Technical Committee recommendations

**Council Input and Next Steps:** The Committee will review the revised draft and provide guidance to staff for adding and/or deleting management alternatives. The SSC reviewed and approved the commercial and recreational decision tools, including modifications made to the recreational decision tool such as effort shifting scalars. Additionally, the Committee will hear the Reef Fish AP recommendations and Law Enforcement Technical Committee comments on the actions and alternatives in the document. Staff needs guidance on the rebuilding target and sector annual catch targets (ACT), as well as any effort shifting scalar (0-100%) for the recreational component the Council anticipates selecting in the document. Then staff can determine which management alternatives or combination of alternatives might achieve the necessary reductions in harvest to meet the rebuilding plan. Staff intends to bring a public hearing draft to the January 2017 Council meeting. Thus, the Council should consider selecting public hearing locations.

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**Agenda Item X:** Draft Amendment 41 – Red Snapper Management for Federally Permitted Charter Vessels

**Timeline Status:** Review draft amendment

**Council Input and Next Steps:** Staff will review the draft amendment and highlight the changes made in response to the Council’s directions at its August meeting. Staff will also provide the recommendations from the Ad Hoc Red Snapper Charter AP. The Committee should discuss and make modifications to the document’s actions and alternatives, if appropriate. The Committee is requested to provide guidance to staff on further developing the amendment.

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**Agenda Item XI:** Draft Amendment 36A – Modifications to Commercial IFQ Programs

**Timeline Status:** Review Draft Amendment

**Council Input and Next Steps:** Staff will review the draft amendment, including the new Action 4, requested by the Council at its August meeting. Staff will also present the recommendations of the Reef Fish AP and the Law Enforcement Technical Committee. Committee members should discuss the actions and alternatives and make any modifications, as appropriate. The Committee should also discuss the amendment’s timeline for staff to prepare a public hearing draft. The Committee may recommend public hearing locations, if appropriate.

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

**Timeline Status:** Report of the September SSC meeting

**Council Input and Next Steps:** The SSC met September 20-21. Many of the items that they discussed have been reviewed as part of 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:

- Evaluation of candidate species for future data-poor assessments
- Evaluation of recreational red snapper split seasons (previously presented to the Council prior to review by the SSC)
- Review of updated SEDAR schedule
- Discussion on limit and target reference points and MSY proxies for reef fish
- Overview of ABC control rules
- Carryover of quota underharvests
- Terms of reference, schedule and participant solicitation for SEDAR 50: blueline tilefish

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

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**Agenda Item XIII:** Reef Fish AP Summary (for items not discussed elsewhere on agenda)

**Timeline Status:** Summary Report

**Council Input and Next Steps:** The Reef Fish AP met October 4-5 in Tampa. Many of the items they discussed have been reviewed as part of specific agenda items on this or other committees. Staff will summarize the remaining items discussed by the AP and if warranted, the Committee should provide guidance to staff regarding the development of any of these items.

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**Agenda Item XIV:** 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.