

**Gulf Council Motions Report
April 7-10, 2014
Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

Administrative Policy

Motion: To approve the Regional Operating Agreement.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In the Administrative Handbook, that accumulated compensatory time be capped at 120 hours.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Budget/Personnel

Motion: To approve the stipend increase for SSC members to \$300 per day.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To approve the budget with regard to capital equipment.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To approve the budget with regard to contractual services.

Substitute motion: To approve the contractual services budget with the modification that up to \$105,000 be provided for the update of the Kemp's Ridley stock assessment and the International Symposium.

Substitute motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To add to the contractual services budget to supply the states and the GSMFC a one-time state liaison funding increase of \$10,000 each.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To approve the total budget for CY 2014 of \$4.06M.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Data Collection

Motion: To request that NMFS give an updated presentation on the current status of the ELB headboat program at the June 2014 Council meeting.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Mackerel

Mackerel 20B

Motion: In Action 2, to remove Option a from both Alternatives 2 and 3.

Alternative 2: Change the fishing year for Gulf group king mackerel season to September 1 – August 31.

Gulf Preferred Option a. For the Western Zone

Alternative 3: Change the fishing year for Gulf group king mackerel season to October 1 – September 30

Option a. For the Western Zone

Motion carried 12 to 4.

Motion: That CMP Amendment 20B be submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for implementation and that the regulations be deemed as necessary and appropriate, and that staff be given editorial license to make the necessary changes in the document. The Council Chair is given the authority to deem any changes to the codified text as necessary and appropriate.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Dr. Crabtree	Yes	Mr. Robinson	Yes	Dr. Dana	Yes
Mr. Matens	Yes	Mr. Sanchez	Yes	Mr. Fischer	Yes
Dr. Shipp	Yes	Mr. Pearce	Yes	Mr. Anson	Yes
Mr. Boyd	Yes	Mr. Riley	Yes	Mr. Green	Yes
Ms. Bosarge	Yes	Ms. Bademan	Yes	Mr. Williams	Yes
Mr. Perret	Yes	Mr. Diaz	Yes		

Motion: To adopt the South Atlantic language in Action 1, preferred Alternative 2.

Preferred Alternative 2. Revise the ACL (including sector ACLs), OY, and ACT for Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel for 2014 through 2016. The ABC recommended by the SSC is 6.063 mp ww. Set ACL = OY = ABC, and the recreational ACT = $ACL[(1-PSE) \text{ or } 0.5]$, whichever is greater. The ABC, ACL, and recreational ACT values are based on landed catch only; discards are accounted for in specifying the ABC in terms of landed catch and not total kill. The average PSE from MRIP for 2005-2009 is 13.34. The values would remain until modified.

ACL = OY = ABC = 6.063 mp ww
Commercial ACL (55%) = 3.333 mp ww
Recreational ACL (45%) = 2.727 mp ww
Recreational ACT = 2,364,388 lbs ww

Motion carried with no opposition.

Framework Amendment 1 to Modify Spanish Mackerel ACL/ACT

Motion: That Framework Amendment 1 to Modify Spanish Mackerel ACL/ACT be submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for implementation and that the regulations be deemed as necessary and appropriate, and that staff be given editorial license to make the necessary changes in the document. The Council Chair is given the authority to deem any changes to the codified text as necessary and appropriate.

Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Greene	Yes	Dr. Shipp	Yes	Mr. Riley	Yes
Mr. Robinson	Yes	Ms. Bosarge	Yes	Mr. Matens	Yes
Mr. Anson	Yes	Mr. Pearce	Yes	Mr. Diaz	Yes
Mr. Williams	Yes	Dr. Dana	Yes	Mr. Perret	Yes
Dr. Crabtree	Yes	Mr. Boyd	Yes	Ms. Bademan	Yes
Mr. Sanchez	Yes	Mr. Fischer	Yes		

Red Drum

Motion: To approve the membership of the working group as presented in the SSC report (Tab D, No. 7), to add Dawn Davis, a Louisiana state representative, and to request an update from the working group to be given at the February 2015 Council meeting.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To request that staff begin work on a plan amendment to give the states the authority to manage recreational red drum out to 9 nautical miles using the current management strategy of managing for a 30% or greater escapement rate.

Substitute motion: To request that staff begin work on a plan amendment to manage recreational red drum out to 9 nautical miles using the current management strategy of managing for a 30% or greater escapement rate. Staff should consider delegation to the states as well as Council management strategies.

Substitute motion carried with no opposition.

Reef Fish

Motion: To withdraw the framework action that rescinds the Amendment 30B permit provision.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Dr. Shipp	Yes	Mr. Pearce	Yes	Mr. Perret	Yes
Mr. Greene	Yes	Mr. Fischer	No	Mr. Sanchez	No
Mr. Riley	Yes	Mr. Robinson	No	Mr. Matens	No
Dr. Dana	No	Mr. Boyd	Abstain	Ms. Bademan	No
Ms. Bosarge	Yes	Mr. Anson	Yes	Dr. Crabtree	Yes
Mr. Williams	Yes	Mr. Diaz	Yes		

Motion: To set the buffer at 20% for an 11 day season.

Motion carried 15 to 1.

Substitute motion: To set the buffer at 30% for an 8 day season.

Substitute motion failed by roll call vote.

Dr. Crabtree	Abstain	Mr. Robinson	No	Dr. Dana	No
Mr. Matens	Yes	Mr. Sanchez	No	Mr. Fischer	Yes
Dr. Shipp	No	Mr. Pearce	No	Mr. Anson	No
Mr. Boyd	Abstain	Mr. Riley	No	Mr. Greene	No
Ms. Bosarge	No	Ms. Bademan	Yes	Mr. Williams	No
Mr. Perret	No	Mr. Diaz	No		

Motion: To request an emergency rule to implement the 20% buffer with an 11 day season.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Mr. Robinson	Yes	Mr. Fischer	Yes	Mr. Boyd	Yes
Mr. Riley	Yes	Mr. Matens	Yes	Mr. Williams	Yes
Mr. Greene	Yes	Mr. Sanchez	Yes	Mr. Diaz	Yes
Mr. Perret	Yes	Ms. Bademan	Yes	Dr. Dana	Yes
Mr. Pearce	Yes	Dr. Crabtree	No	Mr. Anson	Yes
Ms. Bosarge	Yes	Dr. Shipp	Yes		

Revised ACLs for IFQ Species

Motion: In Action 2.1, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 1.

Alternative 1: No Action - Do not revise the quota for the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) species complexes:

Other shallow-water grouper, deep-water grouper, and tilefishes, which are currently equal to the commercial ACT from the Generic Annual Catch Limit/Accountability Measures Amendment (Generic ACL/AM Amendment, GMFMC 2011; Table 2.7.5.1.1).

Motion carried with no opposition.

Amendment 40

Motion: To add to an existing action in Amendment 40 that participants in the for-hire component of a voluntary sector separation should be identified by an endorsement to the federal for-hire reef fish permit.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Amendment 28 – Red Snapper

Motion: To add an action to Amendment 28 with accountability measures alternatives that include buffers.

Motion carried 15 to 2.

Substitute motion: To direct Council staff to develop a stand-alone plan amendment that considers in season and post-season accountability measures for the red snapper recreational fishery as a public hearing draft for the June 2014 meeting.

Substitute motion failed 8 to 9.

Motion: To add an action to Amendment 28 that evaluates paybacks as an accountability measure in the recreational red snapper fishery.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: Overall Goal: To manage the reef fish fishery of the United States within the waters of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council jurisdiction to attain the greatest overall benefit to the nation with particular reference to food production and recreational opportunities on the basis of the maximum sustainable yield as reduced by relevant ecological, economic, or social factors; A1-7. To maximize net socioeconomic benefits from the reef fish fishery; A15-1. To increase the stability of the red snapper fishery in terms of fishing patterns and markets; A15-2. To avoid to the extent practicable the “derby” type fishing season; A15-3. To promote flexibility for the fishermen in their fishing operations; A15-5. To optimize, to the extent practicable and allowed by law, net benefits from the fishery. New objective: To maximize the available days to recreational fishermen.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2.1, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 1.

Alternative 1: No Action – Maintain the allocation set in Amendment 1 to the Reef Fish Fishery Management Plan. The commercial and recreational red snapper allocations remain at 51% and 49% of the red snapper quota, respectively. Based on a red snapper quota of 11.0 million pounds (mp), resulting allocations to the commercial and recreational sectors are 5.610 mp and 5.390 mp, respectively.

Motion failed due to a tied roll call vote.

Dr. Shipp	No	Mr. Pearce	Yes	Mr. Perret	Yes
Mr. Green	Yes	Mr. Fischer	No	Mr. Sanchez	Yes
Mr. Riley	Yes	Mr. Robinson	No	Mr. Matens	No
Dr. Dana	No	Mr. Boyd	No	Ms. Bademan	No
Ms. Bosarge	Yes	Mr. Anson	Yes	Dr. Crabtree	Abstain
Mr. Williams	Yes	Mr. Diaz	No		

Motion: To convene the Socioeconomic SSC to review Amendment 28, the King and Buc document, and the March 22, 2013, study by the Bren School of Environmental Science, “The Snapper Saga: An Assessment of Sector Separation on the Gulf of Mexico Recreational Red Snapper Fishery”.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Cooperative SEAMAP Fishery-Independent Gulf-Wide Sampling Methods and Information

Motion: To request that staff write a letter that would encourage the Science Center, Jeff Rester at GSMFC and all the individual partners to work together to find a continuity in sampling design and protocol.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Shrimp

Motion: To recommend to have the Texas closure concurrent with the date that they recommend the closure out to 200 miles for the 2014 season.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Shrimp Amendment 16

Motion: In Action 1, that Alternative 4 be the preferred alternative.

Alternative 4: Remove both the 334,000-lbs of tails ACL and the 392,000 lbs of tails quota. Change the ACL to 337,000 lbs of tails.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Amendment 16, Action 1, to move Alternative 3 to the considered but rejected section.

Alternative 3: Remove the 334,000-lb commercial annual catch limit
Retain the 392,000-lb quota and set it equal to the commercial annual catch limit

Motion: In Action 2, that Alternative 2 be the preferred alternative.

Alternative 2: Retain the AM set through the Generic ACL/AM Amendment*
Remove the in-season closure set through the revised 1981 FMP.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Other Shrimp Motions

Motion: That up to \$105,000 be provided to Texas Sea Grant to fund the update of the Kemp's Ridley stock assessment and the International Turtle Symposium if GSMFC does not provide the funding.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: That a letter be sent requesting funding for the Kemp's Ridley Restoration Fund and to request that U.S. Fish and Wildlife reinstate the \$250,000 in funds.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To hold a workshop to evaluate the MSY and ABC control rule based benchmarks for penaeid shrimp and that the cost of the workshop be added to our annual budget.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To request that staff begin work on a document addressing the permit moratorium, including but not limited to biological yield, economic yield, CPUE, shrimping effort, and permit activity status over time.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem

Motion: To send the Framework Action to Define For-Hire Fishing in the Gulf of Mexico back to the Law Enforcement Advisory Panel for further review.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Other Council Motions

Motion: To recommend to NMFS approval of the Alabama Charter Fishing Cooperative’s EFP application.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Ms. Bademan	No	Mr. Fischer	No	Mr. Boyd	Yes
Mr. Anson	Yes	Mr. Robinson	No	Mr. Williams	Yes
Mr. Riley	Yes	Ms. Bosarge	Yes	Dr. Crabtree	Abstain
Dr. Dana	Abstain	Mr. Matens	No	Mr. Sanchez	Yes
Mr. Diaz	Abstain	Mr. Perret	Yes	Dr. Shipp	Yes
Mr. Pearce	Yes	Mr. Greene	Yes		

Motion: To request that staff begin work on a scoping document to develop a red snapper IFQ-type program for for-hire vessels in the Gulf of Mexico.

Motion carried 11 to 5 with one abstention.

Motion: To establish an ad hoc red snapper for-hire IFQ advisory panel.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: That the Council convene a summit group of recreational red snapper fishermen to discuss management alternatives.

Motion carried with two opposed.

Council Closed Session

The Council met in closed session to discuss AP and SSC appointments, the recently adjudicated lawsuit on quota management, current inspector general investigations, and recent FOIA requests.

The Council decided to remove Buddy Bradham from the Reef Fish Advisory Panel and the Ad Hoc Red Snapper IFQ Advisory Panel, and to remove Brad Gentner from the Socioeconomic SSC.