

**GULF COUNCIL MOTIONS
APRIL 16-APRIL 19, 2012
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS**

Artificial Reef

Motion: To direct staff to develop a plan amendment to evaluate the appropriateness of designating fixed petroleum platforms and artificial reefs as EFH and develop alternatives that they be recognized as habitat areas of particular concern.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Budget/Personnel

Motion: To approve the 2012 budget as outlined in Tab K, No. 3.

Motion carried with one opposed.

Data Collection

Motion: To accept the proposed options with the associated deletions in Action 1 of the Generic Amendment.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, Alternatives 2 and 3, to delete Options c and e.

Motion withdrawn.

Motion: To accept the changes from the South Atlantic Council on Action 2 and request that staff clarify the specifics of these alternatives before the June 2012 Council meeting.

Motion carried.

Motion: To accept the changes from the South Atlantic Council on Action 3, Alternative 4 and Alternative 5.

Motion carried.

Mackerel

Amendment 19

Motion: In Action 1, to direct staff to add an Alternative 4 which would require that for a person to sell king or Spanish mackerel in or from the EEZ of the Gulf of Mexico or Atlantic, those fish must have been harvested aboard a vessel with a commercial vessel permit/endorsement for each species taken and prohibit the sale of king or Spanish mackerel caught under the bag limit.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 1, Alternative 3, to remove “South Atlantic Council” and to add Option a. Gulf Council and Option b. South Atlantic Council to read as follows:

Alternative 3: Prohibit the sale of king and Spanish mackerel caught under the bag limit except for allowing sale by for-hire vessels that possess the necessary state and federal commercial permits to sell CMP species harvested in or from:

Option a. the South Atlantic Council’s jurisdiction

Option b. the Gulf Council’s jurisdiction.

Prohibition of sale during a commercial closure would apply.

Motion carried.

Motion: In Action 1, to move Alternative 2 to the considered but rejected section.

Alternative 2: For a person to sell king or Spanish mackerel in or from the EEZ of the Atlantic or Gulf of Mexico, those fish must have been harvested aboard a vessel with a commercial vessel permit/endorsement for each species taken.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 4, to eliminate Option c.

Option c. Six years before the control date (2004-2009).

- i. Average of all years
- ii. Average of the best five of six years
- iii. At least one of the six years
- iv. At least two of the six years
- v. At least three of the six years

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 5, to eliminate Option c.

- Option c.** Five years (2004/2005-2008/2009 or 2005/2006-2009/2010)
- i. Average of all years
 - ii. Average of the best four of five years
 - iii. At least one of the five years
 - iv. At least two of the five years

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To move Action 6 to the considered but rejected section.

Action 6 – Passive Reduction of Permits

Motion carried with no opposition.

Mackerel 20

Motion: To move Action 1 to the considered but rejected section.

Action 1 - Consider modifications to the existing commercial fishery boundary line between the Gulf group king mackerel eastern zone and western zone (currently set at the Alabama - Florida border [87°31'06"]).

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, to request staff to add an Alternative 4 that develops alternatives to permit access to the king mackerel fishery by those just north of the Collier/Lee boundary.

Motion carried.

Motion: In Action 2, to eliminate Alternative 3.

Alternative 3: Eliminate the northern subzone and add the assigned allocation to the western zone based on any of the boundaries chosen in Action 1.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To add a new Action 11 to Amendment 20 as shown in Tab C, No. 5(a) to make the changes to the framework as discussed with staff at Council.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Outreach and Education

Motion: To approve the Crisis Communications Plan.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Reef Fish

Amendment 35 - Greater Amberjack Rebuilding Plan

Motion: In Action 2.1, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 2.

Alternative 2: Modify the minimum size limit for greater amberjack to 32 inches FL.

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

Alternative 1: No action – do not modify the current minimum size limit of 30 inches fork length (FL).

Substitute motion carried.

Motion: In Action 2.2, to add a new Preferred Alternative 6, that the greater amberjack recreational closure would be June 1-July 20.

Motion failed.

Motion: That Amendment 35 be considered a final action and forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for implementation and that the regulations be deemed necessary and appropriate.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Mr. McKnight	Absent	Mr. Riley	Yes	Mr. Pearce	Yes
Dr. Shipp	Yes	Mr. Boyd	Yes	Mr. Perret	Yes
Mr. Fischer	Yes	Mr. Riechers	Yes	Mr. Anson	Yes
Dr. Dana	Yes	Dr. Crabtree	Yes	Ms. McCawley	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes	Mr. Green	Yes	Dr. McIlwain	Yes
Dr. Abele	Yes	Ms. Williams	Yes		

Amendment 38 – Revise Post-Season Recreational Accountability Measures for Shallow-water Grouper

Motion: That an action to allow revisions to accountability measures via framework action be added to Amendment 38.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Interim Rule – Gray Triggerfish Annual Catch Limit and In-Season Closure Authority

Motion: That the Interim Rule for Gray Triggerfish Annual Catch Limit and In-Season Closure Authority be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for implementation.

Motion carried by roll call vote with one opposed.

Dr. Shipp	Yes	Ms. Williams	Yes	Mr. Riley	Yes
Dr. Crabtree	No	Mr. McKnight	Absent	Mr. Pearce	Absent
Mr. Riechers	Yes	Mr. Greene	Yes	Dr. Dana	Yes
Mr. Gill	Yes	Dr. McIlwain	Yes	Mr. Perret	Yes
Dr. Abele	Yes	Ms. McCawley	Yes	Mr. Boyd	Yes
Mr. Anson	Yes	Mr. Fischer	Yes		

Amendment 37 – Gray Triggerfish Management Measures

Motion: In Action 2.3.1, that Alternative 4 be removed.

Alternative 4: Modify the minimum size limit for gray triggerfish to 20 inches FL.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2.4.1, to move Alternative 4 to the considered but rejected section.

Alternative 4: Modify the minimum size limit for gray triggerfish to 20 inches fork length.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Amendment 33 – Limited Access Privilege Program

Motion: To request that staff cease work on Amendment 33 and request it be brought back up at the June 2012 Council meeting.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Red Snapper Provisions for Overage Adjustments

Motion: To table the discussion of the scoping document for Red Snapper Provisions for Overage Adjustments.

Motion to table carried.

Grouper Allocation

Motion: To recommend to NMFS that they conduct the following:

- Improve quality of IFQ allocation and share price data.
- Collect charter/for-hire fees and variable costs per trip.
- Collect continuous client information for charter/for-hire boats.
- Collect demographic and socioeconomic profile information on captains and crew of commercial and charter/for-hire boats.
- Collect demographic and economic data on dealers and processors.

Motion carried.

Substitute motion: To recommend to NMFS that they conduct the following:

- Improve quality of IFQ allocation and share price data.

Substitute motion failed.

Contractual Services for the For-Hire Sector

Motion: That Option 2 be the preferred option.

Option 2: Modify the regulations for a federal charter permit to remove the word “fee” and adopt the following language:

“A vessel will be considered a charter vessel or headboat when the vessel in question is carrying a passenger for whom consideration is provided as a condition of carriage on the vessel, whether directly or indirectly flowing to the owner, charterer, operator, agent, or any other person having an interest in the vessel. Any quid pro quo exchange provided for the trip can be considered to satisfy this requirement.”

Motion carried with no opposition.

Other Reef Fish Motions

Motion: To request that a plan amendment on sector separation be developed and moved to scoping.

Motion carried.

Motion: To initiate a framework action to modify the venting tool use requirement to permit use of venting tools as needed.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To request that staff begin work on a framework action to address the 2013 gag season and to consider a split season.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To request that staff include alternatives to modify or eliminate the February-March recreational shallow-water grouper closure in the framework action evaluating a split gag season.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: That the Council offer support for the EFP as presented in Tab L, No. 4, based upon the initial letter with an additional tournament from Florida and Texas as selected by the appropriate state agency, and a review by NMFS Science Center.

Substitute motion: That the Council offer support for the EFP as presented in Tab L, No. 4, based upon the initial letter and follow up email for tournaments in states that are in compliance with federal red snapper bag and season regulations.

Substitute motion withdrawn.

Amendment: To add “and compliance with TED and BRD regulations.”

Amendment withdrawn.

Substitute motion: That the Council offer support for the EFP as presented in Tab L, No. 4 based upon the April 18, 2012, letter to NMFS, with an additional tournament from Florida and Texas as selected by the appropriate state agency, provided that the 2012 season is no shorter than 40 days.

Substitute motion carried.

SSC Selection

Motion: To recommend that staff proceed with Option 3 and consult with the SSC on their recommendations regarding this option.

Motion carried with one opposed.

Other Motions

Motion: To recommend to NMFS that they approve the Gulf Headboat Cooperative Exempted Fishing Permit.

Motion carried 7 to 6.

Motion: To authorize funding up to \$5,000 to cover the cost of the Law Enforcement Advisory Panel Workshop.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To send a letter to BSEE and address the issue of the idle iron policy and to readdress the other issues we had addressed in our previous letter.

Motion carried with no opposition.