

**GULF COUNCIL MOTIONS
AUGUST 15-19, 2011
AUSTIN, TEXAS**

Administrative Policy

Motion: To accept the SEDAR Policies and Procedures as written in Tab O, No. 3.

Motion carried.

Motion: To accept the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council's guidelines for SEDAR Administrative Approval Process in Tab O, No. 4(a) and Tab O, No. 4(b).

Motion carried.

Motion: To adopt the change in language regarding Council advisory groups.

Motion carried.

Advisory Panel Selection

Motion: To appoint the following candidates to the Ad Hoc Headboat Advisory Panel:
 Evonn Caraway
 Scott Hickman

Motion carried.

Motion: To appoint Ed Sapp to the Reef Fish Advisory Panel and Spiny Lobster Advisory Panel, and to appoint Joe Hendrix to the Ad Hoc Aquaculture Advisory Panel.

Motion carried.

Budget/Personnel

Motion: To eliminate quarterly budget reports and associated committee meetings and return to an annual budget review and approval meeting.

Motion carried.

Data Collection

Motion: To create an ad hoc advisory panel to provide guidance relative to the collection of private recreational angler data.

Motion carried.

Motion: To request that staff develop the mechanisms necessary for implementation of electronic reporting for the headboat industry in concert with the Science Center and bring back to the Council at its October 2011 meeting.

Motion carried.

Motion: To request that an MRIP program representative attend the October 2011 Council meeting and provide an update on the MRIP process.

Motion carried.

Mackerel

Motion: To approve the changes in the appropriate sections that add acceptable biological catch (ABC) and annual catch limit (ACL) for Gulf group king mackerel in 2013.

Motion carried.

Motion: To approve Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 18, that it be submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for implementation, and that the regulations be deemed necessary and appropriate.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

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

Motion: To approve Action 4 to the Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 2 (Tab C, No. 6(b)), that it be submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for implementation, and that the regulations (Tab C, No. 6(c)) be deemed necessary and appropriate.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Dr. Shipp	Yes	Ms. Williams	Yes	Mr. Riley	Abstain
Dr. Crabtree	Yes	Mr. McKnight	Yes	Mr. Pearce	Yes
Mr. Riechers	Yes	Mr. Greene	Yes	Dr. Dana	Abstain
Mr. Gill	Yes	Dr. McIlwain	Yes	Mr. Perret	Yes
Dr. Abele	Yes	Mr. Teehan	Yes	Mr. Boyd	Yes
Mr. Anson	Yes	Mr. Fischer	Yes		

Outreach & Education

Motion: To approve of the Five-Year Strategic Communications Plan.

Motion carried.

Motion: To request that staff develop a crisis communication plan.

Motion carried.

Motion: To have staff explore the development of a baseline survey and follow up surveys to measure the outcomes of the Strategic Plan.

Motion carried.

Reef Fish

Regulatory Amendment for Red Grouper Total Allowable Catch

Motion: In Action 1, that the second sentence in both Alternative 2 and Alternative 3 be changed to read:

“The increases in TAC are contingent upon the TAC not being exceeded in previous years.”

Motion carried.

Motion: To forward the Red Grouper Regulatory Amendment to the Secretary of Commerce for implementation and to deem the proposed regulations necessary and appropriate.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

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

Reef Fish Amendment 32

Motion: To revise the yield stream in Action 3, Preferred Alternative 2 to reflect decreasing dead discard buffer with increasing biomass as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Original Yield</u>	<u>% Reduction</u>	<u>Revised Yield</u>	<u>Revised % Reduction</u>
2012	0.567 MP	14	0.567 MP	14
2013	0.708 MP	14	0.724 MP	12
2014	0.835 MP	14	0.874 MP	10
2015	0.939 MP	14	1.005 MP	8

Motion failed.

Motion: In Action 6, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 1, no action, do not create additional time and area closures that prohibit fishing for gag and other reef fishes.

Motion carried.

Motion: To forward Amendment 32 to the Secretary of Commerce for implementation and to deem the regulations necessary and appropriate.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

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

Regulatory Amendment for Fall Red Snapper Season

Motion: In Action 1, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 3.

Alternative 3: Extend the recreational red snapper open season through December 31.

Motion carried.

Motion: To split Action 2 into two separate actions, one for the current season and one for the supplemental season.

Motion carried.

Motion: To direct staff to develop a plan amendment to look into sector specific payback provisions for overages for the red snapper fishery.

Motion carried.

Motion: That the Regulatory Amendment for Fall Red Snapper Season include alternatives for annual catch targets and buffers for the recreational fishery designed to reduce the likelihood of their exceeding their quota.

Motion carried.

Motion: That staff develop a plan amendment that will include alternatives that consider the trading of allocation between sectors, and that also consider alternatives that allow shifts of allocation as a fishery rebuilds.

Motion carried.

Amendment 35 – Greater Amberjack

Motion: In Action 1, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 3, Option b.

Alternative 3: Modify the rebuilding plan for greater amberjack using the Gulf Council’s Preferred ACL/ACT Control Rule established in the Generic ACL/AM Amendment. Using these methods Option a: would set stock ACL = 1,539,000 pounds ww as reduced from ABC for a period of three years beginning in 2012. Option b: would set the ACL = ABC = 1,780,000 pounds ww and ACT = 1,539,000 pounds ww as reduced from ACL for a period of three years beginning in 2012. Based on the 27% commercial and 73% recreational allocation of greater amberjack the sector quotas are as follows:

Option a. Stock ACL	
Sector	Stock ACL
Commercial	409,000
Recreational	1,130,000
Total	1,539,000

Option b. ACL = ABC and set an ACT		
Sector	ACL = ABC	ACT
Commercial	481,000	409,000
Recreational	1,299,000	1,130,000
Total	1,780,000	1,539,000

Motion carried.

Motion: In Action 1, to move Alternative 4 to the considered but rejected section.

Alternative 4: Modify the rebuilding plan for greater amberjack based on information in the 2011 Update Assessment. In 2009 the fishing mortality rate was estimated at 0.609 and needs to be reduced to 0.333 (approximately 55%). Using these methods **Option a:** would set the stock ACL = 1,220,000 pounds ww as reduced from ABC for a period of three years beginning in 2012. **Option b:** would set the ACL = ABC= 1,780,000 pounds ww and ACT = 1,200,000 pounds ww as reduced from ACL for a period of three years beginning in 2012. Based on the 27% commercial and 73% recreational allocation of greater amberjack the sector quotas are as follows:

Option a. Stock ACL	
Sector	Stock ACL
Commercial	329,000
Recreational	891,000
Total	1,220,000

Option b. ACL = ABC and set an ACT		
Sector	ACL=ABC	ACT
Commercial	481,000	329,000
Recreational	1,299,000	891,000
Total	1,780,000	1,220,000

Motion carried.

Motion: In Action 2.3, to add a new alternative that would have the fishery reopen from the fixed seasonal closure when red snapper closes.

Motion carried.

Substitute motion: To close amberjack season on June 1 and reopen amberjack season on July 24.

Substitute motion withdrawn.

Motion: To add a new alternative to close amberjack season on June 1 and reopen amberjack season on July 24.

Motion carried.

Motion: To move Option d and Option e in Action 3, Alternative 2, to the considered but rejected section.

Alternative 2: Establish commercial greater amberjack trip limit and maintain March 1-May 31 closed season.

Option a: No Trip Limit

Option b: Establish a 2,000 pound whole weight trip limit for greater amberjack.

Option c: Establish a 1,500 pound whole weight trip limit for greater amberjack.

Option d: Establish a 1,500 pound whole weight trip limit to August 31, and 1,000 pound trip limit from September 1-December 31.

Option e: Establish a 1,500 pound whole weight trip limit to September 31, and 1,000 pound trip limit from October 1- December 31.

Option f: Establish a 1,000 pound whole weight trip limit for greater amberjack.

Motion carried.

Motion: In Action 3, Alternative 2, to add a trip limit option of 500 lbs.

Motion carried.

Motion: To hold public hearings for Greater Amberjack Amendment 35 in the following locations:

Panama City, FL

Tampa, FL

Biloxi area, MS

Galveston, TX

Port Aransas, TX

Kenner, LA

Orange Beach, AL

Motion carried.

Other Reef Fish Motions

Motion: To develop a plan amendment to address changes to the red snapper IFQ program using the Ad Hoc Red Snapper IFQ Five-Year Review Advisory Panel's July 2011 report as guidance.

Motion carried.

Motion: To initiate a plan amendment that defines that IFQ shares/allocations can be transferred for the red snapper IFQ program only to individuals/vessels with a valid commercial reef fish permit. Eligible individuals must be persons who are U.S. citizens or permanent resident aliens.

Motion carried.

Motion: To initiate a plan amendment to incorporate the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Commercial Reef Fish Advisory Panel to establish a catch share program utilizing the proposed species including vermilion snapper, amberjacks, gray triggerfish, lesser amberjacks, almaco, banded rudderfish, as well as include red porgy. This program may be added to an existing program or stand alone, as appropriate.

Motion carried.

Motion: That the Council urge the Science Center to provide as much updated information as possible to the SSC by the end of this year in order for the SSC to reevaluate the stock assessment for red snapper at their February 2012 meeting.

Motion carried.

Motion: That the Council urge the SEDAR Steering Committee to schedule a standard red snapper stock assessment in 2012 with a benchmark assessment to be completed in 2013.

Motion carried.

Motion: To direct staff to prepare an options paper relative to the for-hire permits.

Motion carried.

Motion: To request that staff begin developing an options paper to require dealer permits and the necessary requirements for electronic reporting.

Motion carried.

Sustainable Fisheries/Ecosystem

Generic ACL/AM Amendment

Motion: In Action 7.4, that the preferred alternative be changed to Alternative 2.

Alternative 2. Using the Gulf Council's allocated acceptable biological catch (ABC) and divide the annual catch limit (ACL) between the commercial and recreational sector based on average landings from 1986-2008: Recreational = 18% of ACL and Commercial = 82% of ACL.

Substitute motion: In Action 7.4, that the preferred alternative be alternative 4.

Alternative 4. Using the Gulf Council’s allocated acceptable biological catch (ABC) and divide the annual catch limit between the commercial and recreational sector based on average landings from 2004-2008: Recreational = 27% of ACL and Commercial = 73% of ACL.

Substitute motion carried.

Motion: That the Generic ACL/AM Amendment be submitted to the Secretary of Commerce for review and deem the regulations as necessary and appropriate.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

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

Other Motions

Motion: That the SSC Selection Committee review all Science and Statistical Committees (SSCs) for best structure, hierarchy, composition, charge, and reporting mechanism to Council and make recommendations, including changes to the SOPPs, to Council for appropriate improvements.

Motion carried.

Motion: To hold the elections for chair and vice chair.

Motion carried.

Motion: To nominate Doug Boyd as vice chair.

Motion carried by acclamation.

Motion: To nominate Bob Gill as chair.

Motion carried by acclamation.

Motion: To recommend approval of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Exempted Fishing Permit.

Motion carried.

Motion: To recommend approval of the Texas Tech University Exempted Fishing Permit request.

Motion carried.

Motion: To convene the Coral SSC to help plan the Coral workshop and assist with the search to fill the Coral GIS position.

Motion carried.