

**Gulf Council Motions Report
January 30-February 2, 2017
New Orleans, LA**

ADMINISTRATIVE/BUDGET

Review of Advisory Panels

Motion: To keep the existing 4 Ad Hoc APs for another year without re-advertising any of the memberships.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: That the Red Drum AP openings not be advertised, but be rolled over until the three-year term ends.

Motion carried with no opposition.

MACKEREL

Final Action – CMP Amendment 29 – Allocation Sharing and Accountability Measures for Gulf King Mackerel

Motion: In Action 1, to make Alternative 2, Option 2a the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 2: Conditionally transfer a certain percentage (*Options 2a-2d*) of the allocation to the commercial sector in the next fishing year, if the minimum recreational landings threshold is not met (*Options 2e-2g*). If the commercial sector does not land at least 90% of its annual catch limit (ACL), this transfer will not occur. Landings data from two years prior will be used to determine allocation transfers.

Conditional Quota Transfer (MUST CHOOSE ONE):

Option 2a: Conditionally transfer 5% from the stock allocation to the commercial allocation.

Substitute Motion: In Action 1, to make Alternative 1, the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 1: No Action – Do not establish a quota sharing system. Maintain the current recreational and commercial allocations for Gulf migratory group king mackerel (68% recreational, 32% commercial).

Substitute Motion carried 10 to 6.

Motion: To postpone CMP Amendment 29 indefinitely.

Motion carried 16 to 0.

DATA COLLECTION

South Atlantic Generic For-Hire Reporting Amendment

Motion: To accept all the preferred selections within the South Atlantic Electronic Reporting Amendment.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To approve the South Atlantic Electronic Reporting Amendment and that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text as necessary and appropriate, giving staff 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.

Mr. Sanchez – yes	Dr. Frazer – yes	Mr. Walker – yes
Mr. Anson – yes	Mr. Banks – yes	Mr. Diaz –yes
Dr. Dana – yes	Dr. Lucas – yes	Ms. Guyas – yes
Dr. Stunz – yes	Mr. Matens – yes	Mr. Boyd – yes
Mr. Riechers – yes	Dr. Crabtree – yes	Ms. Bosarge – yes
Mr. Swindell – yes	Mr. Greene – yes	

Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Gulf Council Generic For-Hire Reporting Amendment

Motion: In Action 1, to make Alternative 3 the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 3: Require that the owner or operator of a charter vessel for which a Gulf charter/headboat permit for reef fish or CMP has been issued submit fishing records to the SRD daily via electronic reporting via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware/software). Daily = by noon (local time) of the following day.

Motion failed 6 to 9.

Motion: In Action 1, to modify the language in Preferred Alternative 4.

Original - Preferred Alternative 4: Require that the owner or operator of a

charter vessel for which a Gulf charter/headboat permit for reef fish or CMP has been issued submit fishing records to NMFS for each trip via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware/software) prior to arriving at the dock.

Modified - Preferred Alternative 4: Require that the owner or operator of a charter vessel for which a Gulf charter/headboat permit for reef fish or CMP has been issued submit fishing records to NMFS for each trip via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware/software) prior to offloading fish.

Motion carried 9 to 7.

Motion: In Action 2, to modify the language in Preferred Alternative 4.

Original - Preferred Alternative 4: Require that the owner or operator of a federally permitted headboat for which a Gulf charter/headboat permit for reef fish or CMP has been issued submit fishing records to NMFS for each trip via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware/software) prior to arriving at the dock.

Modified - Preferred Alternative 4: Require that the owner or operator of a federally permitted headboat for which a Gulf charter/headboat permit for reef fish or CMP has been issued submit fishing records to NMFS for each trip via electronic reporting (via NMFS approved hardware/software) prior to offloading fish.

Motion carried 16 to 0.

Motion: That the Council accept the IPT recommendations for the alternatives in Action 3, *Trip Notification and Reporting Requirements*.

IPT Recommendation for Alternative 2: Prior to departing for any trip, the owner or operator of a vessel issued a charter vessel/headboat permit for Gulf reef fish or Gulf CMP is required to declare (hail out) the type of trip (e.g., for-hire or other trip). When departing on a for-hire trip they must include the expected return time and landing location.

IPT Recommendation for Alternative 3: Prior to arriving at the dock/port at the end of each for-hire trip, the owner or operator of a vessel issued a charter vessel/headboat permit for Gulf reef fish or Gulf CMP is required to hail in and submit fishing records via NMFS approved hardware/software as determined in Action 4.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 3, to deselect Alternative 3 as the Preferred Alternative.

Hail in

Preferred Alternative 3: Prior to arriving at the dock/port at the end of each for-hire trip, require the vessel operator to hail in and submit fishing records via electronic reporting. (Technical Committee Recommendation)

Preferred Option a: Charter vessels

Preferred Option b: Headboats

IPT Recommendation for Alternative 3: Prior to arriving at the dock/port at the end of each for-hire trip, the owner or operator of a vessel issued a charter vessel/headboat permit for Gulf reef fish or Gulf CMP is required to hail in and submit fishing records via NMFS approved hardware/software as determined in Action 4.

Motion carried 16 to 0.

Motion: In Action 4, to add the IPT recommended language in Preferred Alternative 2 and Alternative 3.

IPT Recommendation for Alternative 2: Require vessel operators to submit fishing records via NMFS approved hardware/software with GPS capabilities that, at a minimum, archive vessel position data to NMFS. **The GPS portion of the hardware is permanently affixed to the vessel.**

Option a: Charter vessels

Option b: Headboats

IPT Recommendation for Alternative 3: Require vessel operators to submit fishing records via NMFS approved hardware/software with GPS capabilities that, at a minimum, provide real-time vessel position data to NMFS. **The GPS portion of the hardware is permanently affixed to the vessel**

Option a: Charter vessels

Option b: Headboats

Motion carried 15 to 1.

Motion: To accept the IPT recommendations for Alternative 4, in Action 4 *Hardware/Software Requirements for Reporting*.

Alternative 4: Require vessel operators to submit fishing records via NMFS approved vessel monitoring system hardware/software that provides vessel position and is permanently affixed to the vessel.

Option a: Charter vessels

Option b: Headboats

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 4, to select Alternative 3 as the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 3: Require vessel operators to submit fishing records via NMFS approved hardware/software with minimum real-time GPS capabilities that provides vessel position.

Option a: Charter vessels

Option b: Headboats

Motion failed 2 to 14.

Motion: To approve the Generic Charter Vessel and Headboat Reporting Requirements Amendment and that it be forwarded to the Secretary of Commerce for review and implementation, and deem the codified text as necessary and appropriate, giving staff 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.

Mr. Swindell – yes	Mr. Boyd – yes	Mr. Sanchez – yes
Mr. Walker – yes	Mr. Greene – yes	Dr. Frazer – yes
Mr. Diaz – yes	Dr. Crabtree – yes	Mr. Banks – yes
Dr. Lucas – yes	Mr. Anson – yes	Mr. Riechers – yes
Mr. Matens –yes	Dr. Stunz – yes	Ms. Bosarge – yes
Dr. Dana – yes	Ms. Guyas – yes	

Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

SHRIMP

Public Hearing Draft for Shrimp Amendment 17B

Motion: In Action 1, to make Alternative 2 the preferred alternative.

Alternative 2: Establish aggregate MSY using the method developed by the Shrimp Effort Working Group (SEWG). For the federal commercial Gulf shrimp fishery, aggregate MSY = 112,531,374 lbs of tails.

Motion carried with no opposition.

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

Alternative 2: For the federal shrimp fishery, aggregate OY = 85,761,596 lbs of tails which is aggregate MSY reduced for certain ecological, social, and economic factors.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 3, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 2.

Alternative 2: Set a threshold number of valid or renewable Gulf shrimp vessel permits equal to the predicted number of active permitted vessels (those with landings from offshore waters) needed to attain aggregate OY in the offshore fishery. Aggregate OY accounts for relatively high CPUE and landings while reducing the risk of exceeding sea turtle and juvenile red snapper bycatch (for Action 2 Alternative 2: 1,072 permits).

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 4, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 4, changing the number of shrimp moratorium permits from 1300 to 1175.

Alternative 4: When the number of valid or renewable shrimp moratorium permits reaches 1,175 the Council will form a review panel to review the details of a permit pool and other options. If the number of permits reaches the threshold set in Action 3, any permits that are not renewed within one year of the expiration date on the permit will go into a Gulf Shrimp Vessel Permit Reserve Pool. The panel would consist of Shrimp AP members, Science and Statistical Committee (SSC) members, NMFS and Council staff.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 5, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 2.

Alternative 2: A vessel possessing shrimp may transit Gulf federal waters without a federal vessel permit if fishing gear is appropriately stowed. Transit means non-stop progression through the area; fishing gear appropriately stowed means trawl doors and nets must be out of the water and the bag straps must be removed from the net.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: That Shrimp Amendment 17B be sent out for public hearings.

Motion carried with no opposition.

REEF FISH

Draft Framework Action – Mutton Snapper ACL and Management Measures and Gag Commercial Size Limit

Motion: In Action 2, to move Alternatives 2 and 3 and associated options to the Considered but Rejected Appendix.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 2, to move Options 4a and 4c in Alternative 4 to the Considered but Rejected Appendix.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Joint Ad Hoc Red Snapper Charter Vessel AP/Ad Hoc Reef Fish Headboat AP

Motion: To instruct staff to develop a white paper outlining the changes necessary to include red snapper, gag, gray triggerfish, greater amberjack and red grouper in the management program for Charter-for-Hire allocation-based management consistent with CFH AP recommendations and joint CFH/HB AP consensus.

This should explore:

- A) Required changes to current amendment including Purpose & Need, Title, etc.
- B) Method for determining CFH ACL for gray triggerfish, gag, red grouper, and greater amberjack
- C) Develop mechanisms for trading different species to accommodate regional differences.
- D) Scenarios illustrating how initial allocation of shares would change through cyclical redistribution (discussed at length during joint For-Hire AP meeting) based on reported landings methodology chosen.

Motion carried 11 to 4.

Motion: Request staff to craft a stand-alone action to address cyclical redistribution for shares of red snapper that are not being used by permit holders (permits that do not report landings after program implementation) and include a suite of options for redistribution methods with timelines, including an appeals process for permit holders.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Public Hearing Draft Amendment 44 – Minimum Stock Size Threshold for Reef Fish Stocks

Motion: In Action 1, to make Alternative 3 the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 3: For all reef fish stocks $MSST = (1-M) * B_{MSY (or proxy)}$ or $0.75 * B_{MSY (or proxy)}$, whichever provides a larger buffer between MSST and $B_{MSY (or proxy)}$.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: In Action 1, to add an Alternative to look at $0.85 * B_{MSY}$ (or proxy)

Motion carried with no opposition.

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

Motion: In Action 2.2, to accept the IPT recommendations in Alternative 4.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To send Amendment 36A out for Public Hearings.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Public Hearing Draft Amendment 46- Gray Triggerfish Rebuilding Plan

Motion: In Action 4, to make Alternative 4 the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative 4: Increase the commercial trip limit for gray triggerfish 16 fish per trip.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Mechanism to Carry Over the Unharvested Red Snapper ACL to the Following Season

Motion: To direct staff to add carryover provisions in the ABC Control Rule amendment and modify the framework procedure to allow for NMFS to update the appropriate quotas once landings data are available.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Preliminary 2016 Red Snapper For-Hire Landings Relative to ACL

Motion: To have staff review Federal charter-for-hire permits transferred for the purposes of fishing outside the Federal red snapper season and to identify options to address the issue.

Motion carried with no opposition.

SPINY LOBSTER

Draft Options Joint Spiny Lobster Regulatory Amendment 4

Motion: To make Alternative 2 the Preferred Alternative in Action 1-1.

Alternative 2: The MSY proxy and MFMT will be equal to the revised OFL as recommended by the Gulf and South Atlantic SSCs using the mean landings from the years 1991/1992- 2015/2016 plus two standard deviations.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To make Alternative 2 the Preferred Alternative in Action 1-2.

Alternative 2: The ACL is equal to the ABC as recommended by the Gulf and South Atlantic SSCs using the mean landings from the years 1991/92-2015/16 plus 1.5 standard deviations (9.6 mp). The ACT is 90% of the new ACL (8.64 mp).

Motion carried with no opposition.

JOINT CORAL / HABITAT PROTECTION & RESTORATION

Revised Scoping Draft of Coral Amendment 7

Motion: To bring the Revised Scoping Draft of Coral Amendment 7 out for scoping hearings.

Motion carried with no opposition.

OTHER BUSINESS

Motion: To direct staff to develop an amendment that would specify a single ABC and ACL for yellowtail snapper in the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic.

Motion carried unanimously.