

**SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING  
JEKYLL ISLAND, GEORGIA  
MARCH 8, 2007  
SUMMARY COUNCIL MOTIONS**

**SNAPPER GROUPER**

**MOTION #1:** THE COUNCIL VOTED NOT TO CHANGE THE CONFIGURATION OF THE OCULINA CLOSED AREA.

**MOTION #2:** THIS ACTION CLARIFIED THAT THE COUNCIL IS ALLOWING TRANSIT (WITH GEAR STOWED ON A VESSEL) THROUGH THE TYPE 2 MPAS PROPOSED IN SNAPPER GROUPER AMENDMENT 14.

**MOTION #3:** THE COUNCIL APPROVED DRAFT SNAPPER GROUPER AMENDMENT 14 WITH THE CHANGES MADE (GIVING EDITORIAL LICENSE TO STAFF). FINAL ACTION ON AMENDMENT 14 IS SCHEDULED TO BE TAKEN AT THE JUNE COUNCIL MEETING.

**MOTION #4:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO DEVELOP VERMILION SNAPPER ALLOCATION ALTERNATIVE 1 (SUBALTERNATIVES FOR 1999-2003 AND 1986-2005), ALTERNATIVE 2 (1999-2001 AND 1986-2001), AND NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE.

**MOTION #5:** THE COUNCIL APPROVED DEVELOPING RED PORGY ALLOCATION ALTERNATIVE 1 (SUBALTERNATIVES FOR 1986-1998, 1999-2005 AND 1986-2005), ALTERNATIVE 2 (1999-2004 AND 1986-2004 AND 1986-1998), AND NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE.

**MOTION #6:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO DEVELOP WHITE GRUNT, GREATER AMBERJACK AND TRIGGERFISH ALLOCATION ALTERNATIVE 1 (SUBALTERNATIVES FOR 1999-2003 AND 1986-2005) AND NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE.

**MOTION #7:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO DEVELOP RED GROUPER ALLOCATION ALTERNATIVE 1 (SUBALTERNATIVES FOR 1999-2003 AND 1992-2005) AND NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE.

**MOTION #8:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO DEVELOP SCAMP GROUPER ALLOCATION ALTERNATIVE 1 (SUBALTERNATIVES FOR 1999-2003 AND 1992-2005) AND NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE.

**MOTION #9:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO DEVELOP RED SNAPPER ALLOCATION ALTERNATIVE 1 (SUBALTERNATIVES FOR 1999-2003 AND 1992-2005) AND NO ACTION.

**MOTION #10:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO DEVELOP SNOWY GROUPER ALLOCATION ALTERNATIVE 3 AS 88% COMMERCIAL AND 12% RECREATIONAL; ALTERNATIVE 1 (1999-2003 AND 1986-2005 AND 1992-2005) AND ALTERNATIVE 2 (1999-2002 AND 1992-2002); RECREATIONAL ALLOCATION = 0 (TEMPORARY WITH PERIODIC REVIEW); AND NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

**MOTION #11:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO DEVELOP SPECKLED HIND, WARSAW GROUPER AND YELLOWEDGE GROUPER ALLOCATION ALTERNATIVE 1 (1999-2003 AND 1986-2005 AND 1992-2005 AND 1986-1993) AND NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE.

**MOTION #12:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO DEVELOP GOLDEN TILEFISH ALLOCATION ALTERNATIVE 3 AS 92% COMMERCIAL AND 8% RECREATIONAL; ALTERNATIVE 1 (1999-2003 AND 1986-2005 AND 1992-2005) AND ALTERNATIVE 2 (1999-2002 AND 1992-2002); RECREATIONAL ALLOCATION = 0 (TEMPORARY WITH PERIODIC REVIEW); AND NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE.

**MOTION #13:** UNDER REBUILDING STRATEGY ALTERNATIVES, THE COUNCIL VOTED TO CHANGE SUBALTERNATIVES 4A AND 4B TO A RUNNING 3-YEAR AND 2-YEAR RUNNING AVERAGE (THE INTENT IS THAT 4A REMAIN THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE).

**MOTION #14:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO REMOVE UNDERAGE ALTERNATIVES FROM THE AMENDMENT (THESE ALTERNATIVES WILL BE MOVED TO APPENDIX AS CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED).

**MOTION 15:** THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE FOLLOWING:

ANY BLACK SEA BASS POT FISHERMAN FISHING:

- A. <50 POTS = WILL BE LIMITED TO MAX 50 POTS
- B. 51-54 POTS = WILL BE LIMITED TO 50 POTS
- C. >54 POTS = THE NUMBER OF POTS WILL BE REDUCED BY 10%
- D. THE MAXIMUM # OF POTS ALLOWED = 125 POTS
- E. THE # OF POTS WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE AVERAGE # OF POTS FISHED ON TRIPS OCCURRING BETWEEN 1/1/05 AND 12/31/06
- F. FISHERMEN ENTERING THE FISHERY AFTER 1/1/07 OR LATER WILL BE LIMITED TO 50 POTS
- G. THE # OF TAGS ALLOWED = THE # OF POTS + 10% FOR DAMAGE & LOSS (CAN ONLY FISH # OF POTS ALLOWED)

(THE INTENT IS THAT THE SOURCE OF DATA FOR # OF POTS WOULD BE LOGBOOKS THAT HAVE TO HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE 3/8/07)

## **SEDAR**

**MOTION #1:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO REQUEST THAT THE KING MACKEREL SEDAR ASSESSMENT PROVIDE ASSESSMENT RESULTS FOR THE THREE ALTERNATIVES IN MACKEREL AMENDMENT 16.

**MOTION #2:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO APPROVE THE SOUTH ATLANTIC RESEARCH AND MONITORING PLAN AS MODIFIED FOR THE REVIEW PROCESS/TIMING AS OUTLINED.

**MOTION #3:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO APPROVE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AS PROVIDED FOR THE VERMILION SNAPPER UPDATE.

**MOTION #4:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO APPROVE THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AS PROVIDED FOR THE SOUTH ATLANTIC GREATER AMBERJACK AND RED SNAPPER SEDAR ASSESSMENTS.

**MOTION #5:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO HAVE THE SSC MAKE THE ABC DETERMINATIONS (NOT SEDAR PROCESS). [THE INTENT IS THAT AFTER THE SEDAR PROCESS IS COMPLETE, THE SSC WILL THEN DEVELOP THE ABC].

### **CONTROLLED ACCESS**

**MOTION #1:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO CHANGE THE NAME OF THE CONTROLLED ACCESS COMMITTEE TO THE LIMITED ACCESS PRIVILEGE (LAP) PROGRAM COMMITTEE.

**MOTION #2:** THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE OVERALL GOAL AND OBJECTIVES AS A STARTING POINT FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION BY THE LIMITED ACCESS PRIVILEGE PROGRAM WORKGROUP.

#### Overall Goal

*To refine a system whereby profitability, efficiency, fairness, and capacity of the commercial snapper grouper fishery is aligned with available yields from the South Atlantic Ecosystem and which contribute to conserving healthy stocks and/or rebuilding overfished stocks consistent with the snapper grouper FMP and Magnuson-Stevens Act.*

#### Specific Objectives for Consideration

*1. Eliminate discards through methods such as*

- 100% retention;*
- Gear modification or development; and/or*
- other methods*

*2. Provide the opportunity for a flexible and sustainable year-round fishery for all participants;*

*3. Maintain commercial catch at or below the commercial quota;*

*4. Promote safe fishing operations;*

*5. Allow for transferability of quota shares and pounds;*

*6. Allow for data collection sufficient to evaluate the LAP program periodically;*

*7. Create mechanisms for new entry fishermen to enter the industry;*

*8. Foster improved relations between sectors, including environmentalists, commercial fishermen, fishery managers, and recreational fishermen;*

*9. Protect participation of small scale fishermen and prevent monopolies;*

*10. Develop a system that “simplifies” the current management of the snapper grouper resource; and*

*11. Multispecies LAP for the whole snapper grouper fishery with the exclusion of wreckfish.*

**MOTION #3:** THE COUNCIL DETERMINED THAT THE LAP PROGRAM WORKGROUP SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING VOTING MEMBERS:

3 FROM NORTH CAROLINA, 2 FROM SOUTH CAROLINA, 1 FROM GEORGIA, 3 FROM FLORIDA, 1 FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP FROM ANY OF THE 4 STATES, AND POSSIBLY 1 LONGLINE REPRESENTATIVE FROM ANY OF THE 4 STATES. THE STATE REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS FROM THE FOLLOWING GROUPS: BLACK SEA BASS POT FISHERMEN, HOOK AND LINE FISHERMEN, DIVERS, AND A SEAFOOD DEALER.

**MOTION #4:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO ACCEPT THE LAP ACTION PLAN AS MODIFIED.

**MOTION #5:** THE COUNCIL ESTABLISHED A CONTROL DATE OF 12/31/2006 FOR USE IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC SNAPPER GROUPER LAP PROGRAM (EXCLUDING THE BLACK SEA BASS POT FISHERY AND THE WRECKFISH FISHERY).

**MOTIONS #6 - #13:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO APPOINT THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS TO THE LAP WORK GROUP:

MICHAEL (CHOPS) COWDREY, SEAN MCKEON AND JACK COX FROM NC.

MARK MARHEFKA AND PHIL CONKLIN FROM SC.

CHARLIE PHILLIPS FROM GA.

BEN HARTIG, BOBBY CARDIN AND SCOTT ZIMMERMAN FROM FL.

DAN WHITTLE - ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP REPRESENTATIVE

STEVE AMICK FROM GA.

DOUG GREGORY, BARRY NASH AND AMBER VON HAARTEN FROM SEA GRANT.

**MOTION #14:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO HAVE THE WORKING GROUP FOCUS ON LAPS IN THE COMMERCIAL SNAPPER GROUPER FISHERY.

**MOTION #15:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO CHANGE THE RECREATIONAL SEAT TO A VOTING SEAT.

**MOTION #16:** THE COUNCIL ESTABLISHED A CONTROL DATE OF 12/31/2006 FOR USE IN THE BLACK SEA BASS POT FISHERY.

**MOTION #17:** THE COUNCIL CLARIFIED THAT THE WORKING GROUP WILL BE CONSIDERED A “LAPP EXPLORATORY WORK GROUP”.

## **MACKEREL**

**MOTION #1:** THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE SCOPING DOCUMENT FOR AMENDMENT 16.

**MOTION #2:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO CHANGE MACKEREL AMENDMENT SEQUENCE BY CHANGING AMENDMENT 16 TO AMENDMENT 19.

## **JOINT HABITAT/ECOSYSTEM-BASED MANAGEMENT**

**MOTION #1:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO CONTINUE TO ADDRESS THE AQUACULTURE POLICY BASED ON COMMENTS MADE BY MARK ROBSON AND MIKE RUBINO BEFORE TAKING ACTION AT THE JUNE COUNCIL MEETING.

**MOTION #2:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO APPROVE THE DEEPWATER CORAL RESEARCH PLAN WITH SOME REVISIONS TO THE LANGUAGE. THE REVISED TIMELINE WILL BE APPROVED AT A LATER DATE.

## **SHRIMP**

**MOTION #1:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO ACCEPT THE REPORT OF THE SHRIMP REVIEW PANEL THAT ADDRESSED THE CONDITION OF THE PINK SHRIMP STOCK. (IT IS THE INTENT THAT THE STATUS REPORT BE FOOTNOTED WITH THE SHRIMP REVIEW PANEL'S CONCLUSION).

**MOTION #2:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO AMEND THE SHRIMP FMP TO REMOVE THE USE IT OR LOSE IT CLAUSE FOR ROCK SHRIMP IN SHRIMP AMENDMENT 5. (IT IS THE COUNCIL'S INTENT THAT ANY PERMITS THAT ARE REVOKED FOR NOT MEETING THE ROCK SHRIMP LANDINGS REQUIREMENT WHILE THE AMENDMENT IS BEING DEVELOPED WILL BE REINSTATED.)

## **JOINT EXECUTIVE/FINANCE**

**MOTION #1:** THE COUNCIL VOTED TO APPROVE THE DRAFT FMP/AMENDMENT/Framework SCHEDULE WITH THE ADDITION OF GAG AND VERMILION SNAPPER TO THE FISHERY ECOSYSTEM PLAN COMPREHENSIVE AMENDMENT AND ROCK SHRIMP AS A SEPARATE AMENDMENT.