

**Appendix A. Alternatives the Council considered but eliminated from detailed study, and a brief discussion of the reasons for their elimination.**

This section describes alternatives to the proposed actions that the Council considered in developing this document, but decided not to pursue. The description of each alternative is followed by a summary statement of why it was eliminated from more detailed summary.

**Rejected Alternatives 1. Require that each black sea bass pot in the water or at sea on a vessel in the South Atlantic EEZ have an attached valid identification tag issued by NMFS. Limit the number of black sea bass pots fished annually to 50 per holder of Federal snapper grouper vessel permits for (a) any fishermen that is currently using an average of less than 55 pots (based on average number of pots fished on trips between 1/1/05 and 12/31/06) and (b) and fishermen entering the fishery after 1/1/07. For any fishermen currently using an average of 55 or more pots (based on average number of pots fished on trips between 1/1/05 and 12/31/06), limit the number of black sea bass pots annually to their average less as reduced by 10%. Limit the maximum number of pots allowed per holder of Federal snapper-grouper vessel permits to 125. Limit the number of black sea bass pot tags issued annually each holder of Federal snapper-grouper vessel permits to the number of pots allowed plus 10% for damage and loss; however, each permit holder may only fish the number of pots allowed. The number of pots fished will be determined from snapper-grouper logbooks that have been submitted to NMFS on or before 3/8/07.**

*Rationale for elimination: This alternative was proposed as a method of limiting the number of black seabass pots used in the fishery. At the March 2009 meeting the Council removed this alternative from detailed analysis because it was considered too complex and because under this alternative, the limitations were not restrictive enough to achieve the Council desired outcome.*

**Rejected Alternatives 2. Require vessels with a state recreational fishing license to have an electronic logbook tied to the vessel's GPS onboard the vessel, if selected.**

*Rationale for elimination: The Council eliminated this alternative from detailed analysis because it was not considered financially feasible or realistic to assume that all vessels with recreational fishing licenses have a GPS onboard the vessel.*

**Rejected Alternatives 3. Require vessels with a state recreational fishing license to carry a NMFS approved observer when on a trip in the South Atlantic.**

*Rationale for elimination: The Council eliminated this alternative from detailed analysis because it was not considered practical for observers to be carried on vessels with a state recreational fishing licenses due to the size of many of the vessels participating in recreational fishing.*

