

**GULF COUNCIL MOTIONS
OCTOBER 29-NOVEMBER 1, 2012
GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI**

Ad Hoc Restoration

Motion: To send a letter to NOAA, the Trustee's Council, and the RESTORE Act Council for BP oil spill of priority projects to have in mind as they consider a settlement.

1. Increase frequency and number of stock assessments.
2. Enhance fishery independent surveys, both federal and state.
3. Work with MRIP to decrease the frequency to two week waves for high profile species.
4. Develop a more robust observer program.
5. Development of data collections programs for the headboat and for-hire sector.
6. Enhance oyster restoration projects.

Substitute motion: To send a letter to NOAA and have staff submit to the Trustee's Council through the restoration online portal these priority projects to have in mind upon settlement or through early restoration:

1. Increase and fund frequency and number of stock assessments.
2. Enhance and fund fishery independent surveys, both federal and state.
3. Work with MRIP to decrease the frequency to two week waves for high profile species.
4. Develop and fund a more robust observer program.
5. Enhance/create and fund oyster restoration projects and coastal reef fish habitat.
6. Development of and funding for data collections programs for the headboat and for-hire sector and a charterboat electronic data collection system.
7. Research and fund projects on barotrauma tools for reductions in bycatch mortality.

Substitute motion carried with no opposition.

AP Selection

Motion: To appoint the following persons to the Ad Hoc Artificial Substrate Advisory Panel:

Allain	Bret	LA	R
Ballard	James	MS	GSMFC
Cuevas	Kerwin	MS	MDMR
Dale	David	FL	NMFS
Delaney	Glenn	Wash., D.C.	O
Dodrill	Jon	FL	FWC
Falgout	Ted	LA	OIL
Gala	William	CA	OIL
Hunger	Drew	TX	OIL
Huye	George	LA	R/CB/EN
Janowski	Lori Schmitz	FL	O
Kaller	Arie	LA	O (BOEM)
Lindberg	Bill	FL	UF
Newton	Craig	AL	ADCNR
Peter	Douglas	LA	LDWF
Phillips	Todd	TX	EN
Shively	Dale	TX	TPWD
Sinclair	James	LA	S/BSEE
Stunz	Greg	TX	TX A&M
Tackett	Bruce	Wash., D.C.	OIL
Williamson	Troy	TX	R

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To appoint Damon McKnight to the Reef Fish Advisory Panel and the Artificial Reef Advisory Panel and to appoint Bob Gill to the Reef Fish Advisory Panel and the Outreach & Education Advisory Panel.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Data Collection

Motion: To create a subcommittee with a member of the South Atlantic HMS, Gulf Council, SEFSC, and MRIP to coordinate and bring back a complementary document to deal with headboat data collection system.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To split electronic reporting for headboats into a separate amendment and work cooperatively with the South Atlantic Council, and to work on a separate amendment to address electronic reporting for charterboats.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: When meeting with the SAFMC, to include in the discussion electronic logbook reporting and the timing of those reports as well.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To begin work on an amendment for electronic reporting for charterboats and to make the South Atlantic Council aware that we are developing the amendment.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: That the charge of the Ad Hoc Private Recreational Data Collection AP be as follows:

- Work with different experts to evaluate the merit of using offshore fishing permits, vessel registration information, and satellite imaging to gauge fishing effort.
- Work with staff from the Southeast Science Center to evaluate the utility of self-reported angler data. (i.e. electronic web based/ phone apps)
- Suggest possible “citizen scientists” projects that can be used to supplement current recreational data.
- Critique the MRIP Strategic Communications Plan for recreational data collection, provide feedback on clarity and effectiveness of the message, and advise the Council on which pathways should be used to connect with anglers.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Law Enforcement

Motion: That the Council approve the Gulf of Mexico Cooperative Law Enforcement Strategic Plan 2013-2016 and the Gulf of Mexico Cooperative Law Enforcement Operations Plan 2013-2014.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Reef Fish

Motion: To bring Reef Fish Amendment 28 back before the Council.

Motion carried 10 to 5.

Amendment 37 – Gray Triggerfish

Motion: In Action 3.2, to change the trip limits into numbers of fish.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: That Reef Fish Amendment 37 – Gray Triggerfish Rebuilding Plan be submitted for Secretarial review, approval, and implementation.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Ms. Williams	Yes	Dr. Dana	Yes	Dr. Abele	Yes
Mr. Boyd	Yes	Mr. Anson	Yes	Dr. Shipp	Yes
Mr. Perret	Yes	Mr. Diaz	Yes	Mr. Greene	Yes
Ms. Bademan	Yes	Mr. Riley	Absent	Ms. Hamer	Yes
Mr. Riechers	Yes	Mr. Sanchez	Yes	Mr. Matens	Yes
Dr. Crabtree	Yes	Mr. Pearce	Yes		

Motion: That the codified text for Reef Fish Amendment 37 be deemed necessary and appropriate.

Motion carried by roll call vote.

Ms. Bademan	Yes	Ms. Hamer	Yes	Mr. Boyd	Yes
Mr. Anson	Yes	Mr. Riechers	Yes	Dr. Abele	Yes
Mr. Riley	Absent	Ms. Williams	Yes	Dr. Crabtree	Yes
Dr. Dana	Yes	Mr. Matens	Yes	Mr. Sanchez	Yes
Mr. Diaz	Yes	Mr. Perret	Yes	Dr. Shipp	Yes
Mr. Pearce	Yes	Mr. Greene	Yes		

Amendment 39 – Regional Management of Red Snapper

Motion: That the scoping document for Amendment 39 be sent out to scoping hearings.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To instruct staff to coordinate with Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission, state regional directors, and National Marine Fisheries Service to discuss issues of regional management, including boundaries and regional management proposals.

Motion carried.

Motion: To request attendance of state representatives from each office of fisheries in addition to a Council member at the regional scoping meetings.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To hold scoping meetings for Amendment 39 in the following cities:

- Corpus Christi, TX
- LaMarque/Dickinson area, TX
- Baton Rouge, LA
- Gulfport/Biloxi area, MS
- Destin, FL
- St. Petersburg, FL
- Orange Beach/Gulf Shores area, AL

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To include an additional action in the Regulatory Amendment to Adjust Red Snapper Total Allowable Catch (TAC) that looks at reducing the bag limit to one fish.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Regulatory Amendment – Vermilion Snapper ACL and Bag Limits

Motion: In Action 1, that Alternative 5 be the preferred alternative.

Alternative 5: Set stock ACL at 75% of the overfishing limit (OFL) yield stream recommended by the SSC. The stock ACT would not be used:

Stock ACL = 75% of OFL			
Year	OFL	ABC	Stock ACL
2013	4.59	4.41 mp	3.44 mp
2014	4.56	4.34 mp	3.42 mp
2015	4.57	4.33 mp	3.43 mp
2016+	4.61	4.33 mp	3.46 mp

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

Alternative 1: No action. The stock ACL and stock ACT specified in the Generic ACL/AM Amendment will remain in effect:

Year	ABC	Stock ACL	Stock ACT
2013	4.41 mp	3.42 mp	2.94 mp
2014	4.34 mp		
2015	4.33 mp		
2016+	4.33 mp		

Substitute motion carried.

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

Alternative 3: Set the recreational bag limit for vermilion snapper at 10 fish per angler within the 20-reef fish aggregate bag limit.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To hold public hearings for the Vermilion Snapper Regulatory Amendment in the following cities:

Galveston, TX
Port Aransas, TX
Kenner area, LA
Gulfport/Biloxi area, MS
Orange Beach/Gulf Shores area, AL
Destin, FL
St. Petersburg, FL

Substitute motion: To choose not to hold hearings regarding the Vermilion Snapper Regulatory Amendment.

Substitute motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To draft alternatives for venting rule action to include:

Alternative 1 (status quo): At least one venting tool is required and must be used to deflate the abdominal cavities of Gulf reef fish to release the fish with minimum damage.

Alternative 2: At least one venting tool is required to be onboard.

Alternative 3: To eliminate the requirement to have a venting tool and use it, and that Alternative 3 be the preferred alternative.

Motion carried with one opposed.

Regulatory Amendment – 2013 Gag Recreational Season and Bag Limit

Motion: In Action 1, that a new option be added under Alternative 3 to establish two subseasons, the first June 1 through July 15, the second ending December 31st and working backward, that would allow the ACT to be caught, a bag limit of two fish, and that it be the preferred alternative.

Substitute motion: In Action 1, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 2c(i).

Alternative 2: Retain a single season that will remain open until the date that the annual catch target (ACT) is projected to be reached. The opening date for the season will be:

Option 2c: July 1 (same as status quo, but allow season to extend beyond October 31).

The bag limit will be:

Suboption 2c(i): two fish (estimated season length 133-155 days).

Motion carried.

Motion: In Action 2, that the preferred alternative be Alternative 4.

Alternative 4: Eliminate the February 1 through March 31 recreational closed season on shallow-water grouper in federal waters shoreward of the 20 fathom boundary. Seaward of the boundary, the closed season remains in effect.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: That the 2013 Gag Recreational Season and Bag Limit Regulatory Amendment be sent to the Secretary of Commerce for approval and implementation.

Amendment: To add: And deem the codified regulations necessary and appropriate.

Amendment carried.

Motion as amended: That the 2013 Gag Recreational Season and Bag Limit Regulatory Amendment be sent to the Secretary of Commerce for approval and implementation, and deem the codified regulations necessary and appropriate.

Motion as amended carried by roll call vote.

Mr. Sanchez	Yes	Mr. Riley	Absent	Mr. Pearce	Yes
Dr. Shipp	Yes	Mr. Boyd	Yes	Mr. Diaz	Yes
Ms. Hamer	Yes	Mr. Riechers	Yes	Mr. Anson	Yes
Dr. Dana	Yes	Dr. Crabtree	Yes	Ms. Bademan	No
Mr. Matens	Yes	Mr. Greene	Yes	Mr. Perret	Yes
Dr. Abele	Yes	Ms. Williams	Yes		

Other Reef Fish Motions

Motion: To instruct staff to develop a framework action to set the yellowtail snapper ACL consistent with the ACL control rule, 901,125 lbs.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To request that the SEDAR committee meet again and review the planning on the gag assessment.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To schedule a Reef Fish Committee meeting at a date to be determined by the Chairman to focus on red snapper issues.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: To separate Sector Separation and Allocation into two amendments.

Motion carried 8 to 7.

Shrimp

Motion: To request that staff begin work on a plan amendment to establish new reference points for white, pink, and brown shrimp based on the SSC's recommendation on these assessments.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Motion: That staff work with NOAA Office of General Counsel to determine the best procedure to eliminate the quota from the regulations and replace it with the ACL implemented through our ACL amendment.

Motion carried with no opposition.

SSC Selection

Motion: That staff convene a meeting of the Socioeconomic SSC and the Standing SSC to address the relationship between the biological and socioeconomic members.

Motion carried with no opposition.

Other Motions

Motion: To accept the committee recommendations and appointments as listed on Tab A, No. 4.

Motion carried with no opposition.