Gulf Council Motions
August 1, 2007 - San Antonio, Texas

Joint Reef Fish/Mackerel/Red Drum

Aquaculture Amendment

Motion: to have the IPT incorporate and address the concerns raised by public review, SSC, Council and have General Counsel review the document and provide their input to the IPT

Motion carried with no objection

Motion: to tie the purpose and need section to the objectives of each FMP

Motion carried with no objection

Motion: Action 3: Preferred Alternative 3 to remove “one or more of” so the sentence would read: “Establish the following permit conditions”

Motion carried with no objection

Motion: Action 3: Preferred Alternative 3 subsection b) to remove “one or more of”; so the text would read “Describe plans for the following”

Motion carried with no objection

Motion: Action 3: Preferred Alternative 3, b), add a sub v: emergency disaster plan for hurricanes, net and/or cage failure, escapement or pollution event

Motion carried with no objection

Motion: Items 1-9 on Page 23 be added to the preferred alternative 3 for Action 3

Motion carried with no objection

Motion: Action 4: Preferred Alternative 4 be reworded: Allow the aquaculture of all marine species in the Gulf of Mexico managed by the Council and send a letter to NOAA Fisheries Service requesting development of concurrent rulemaking to allow aquaculture of highly migratory species. Do not allow non-native species, transgenic species or otherwise genetically modified species to be used for aquaculture in the Gulf of Mexico
Motion carried with no objection

**Motion:** Action 6: Preferred Alternative 4: Do not establish marine aquaculture areas but establish general siting criteria to be applied on a case-by-case basis to ensure reliable offshore growing system technology is used to provide environmental safeguards. Siting criteria would include but not be limited to the items in table 6.7-1 and requirements of ACOE, MMS, EPA, NOAA Fisheries Service, and other regulatory agencies with authority in the EEZ as applied to aquaculture.

Motion carried with no objection

**Motion:** Action 8: Preferred Alternative 2: delete “one or more of”

Motion carried with no objection

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**Red Drum**

**Motion:** to establish a long term program to collect age structure by cooperative research program, MARFIN, and similar programs that could use recreational and commercial harvesters to collect samples and associated data

*Motion carried by voice vote*

**Motion:** to recommend holding a SEDAR assessment on Red Drum for 2009

*Motion carried with no objection*

**Motion:** to convene the Ad Hoc Red Drum Advisory Panel to begin to establish the long term research program to collect age structure by cooperative research program, MARFIN, and similar programs that could use recreational and commercial harvesters to collect samples and associated data

*Motion carried with no objection*

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**Reef Fish**

Reef Fish Amendment 30A –
gray triggerfish and greater amberjack

Greater Amberjack

**Motion:** Preferred Alternative be Alternative 1
Status Quo: Maintain the allocation of TAC between the recreational and commercial greater amberjack fisheries as specified in Amendment 1 to the Reef Fish FMP as the average share during the years 1981 through 1987. The recreational fishery would receive 84 percent of the TAC and the commercial fishery would receive 16 percent.

**Motion failed** by roll call vote

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Gray Triggerfish

**Motion:** Action 7: Alternative 2 be the Preferred Alternative: Establish a constant F rebuilding plan for gray triggerfish defined by the constant FOY projection from the 2006 assessment. Directed TAC levels for the 2008 through 2012 would be set at the directed yield for each year; TAC for 2008 would be 0.5 mp, TAC in 2009 would be 0.58 mp, TAC in 2010 would be 0.66 mp, TAC in 2011 would be 0.73 mp, and TAC in 2012 would be 0.79 mp.

**Motion carried** with no objection

**Motion:** Action 8: The preferred alternative be Alternative 4: If commercial and/or recreational gray triggerfish landings, as estimated by the
SEFSC, exceed the three-year running average TAC associated with fishing at FOY (Table 2.2.3), then the Regional Administrator shall issue a notice reducing the length of the fishing season for the sector experiencing the overage by a percentage equal to the average percentage overage during the previous three years. In year-1 of the rebuilding plan, the accountability measure will be the same as for Alternatives 2 and 3, in year-2 of the rebuilding plan overages will be based on average landings during 2008 and 2009, thereafter, a three-year running average will be used.

Motion carried with no objection

Motion: to add a new alternative 5. If commercial and/or recreational gray triggerfish landings, as estimated by the SEFSC, exceed the three-year running average TAC associated with fishing at FOY (Table 2.2.3), then the Council shall request the Regional Administrator to implement temporary regulations in the following year to return landings to the target annual TAC level (annual catch limit) as specified in the preferred rebuilding plan in Action 6. In year-1 of the rebuilding plan, the accountability measure will be the same as for Alternatives 2 and 3, in year-2 of the rebuilding plan overages will be based on average landings during 2008 and 2009, thereafter, a three-year running average will be used.

Motion carried with no objection

Substitute Motion: For Action 8 have Alternative 5 be the preferred alternative

Substitute Motion failed

Motion: For Action 9, the Preferred Alternative be Alternative 1. Status Quo, Maintain allocation of gray triggerfish TAC between the recreational and commercial fisheries as the average share during the years 1981 through 1987. The recreational fishery would receive 93 percent of the TAC and the commercial would receive 7 percent

Motion failed 10 to 4 by roll call vote

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Crabtree         Abstained  
Perret           No  
Minton           Yes  
Hendrix          No  
Walker           Yes  
McIlwain         No  
Teehan           No  
Riechers         Abstained  

**Motion:** Action 11: Alternative 2 be the preferred alternative: Increase the gray triggerfish recreational size limit to 14 inches FL. Reduces landings by 60 percent.

*Motion carried* with no objection

**Motion:** Action 12: to add an alternative for gray triggerfish for a 14-inch FL fork length commercial size limit with a hard quota of 80,440 pounds; and to not select a preferred alternative.

*Motion carried*

**Motion:** to approve the following locations for public hearings for Reef Fish Amendment 30A the week of September 10-13:

- Corpus Christi, TX
- Galveston, TX
- New Orleans, LA
- Biloxi, MS
- Orange Beach, AL
- Destin/Miramar, FL
- Madeira Beach, FL

**Amendment:** to add Palacios, TX, Panama City, FL rather than Destin, FL

*Amendment carried*

**Motion as amended:** to approve the following locations for public hearings the week of September 10-13:

- Corpus Christi, TX
- Galveston, TX
- Palacios, TX
- New Orleans, LA
- Biloxi, MS
Motion as amended carried

**Motion:** That amendment 30a be approved for public hearings

Motion carried with no objection

Amendment 30B: Gag and Red Grouper

**Motion:** That in Action 6, Alternatives 2 and 3, sub-option a have sub-sub-options added to select for alternative management actions in response to recreational harvest overages.

Motion carried

Reef Fish Amendment 29: Grouper management

**Motion:** to request Environmental Defense to bring BC fishermen to the next council meeting to discuss their IFQ system; expenses would be paid by Environmental Defense.

Motion carried with no objection

**Motion:** To approve scoping hearing locations for Reef Fish Amendment 29

Corpus Christi, TX
Galveston, TX
New Orleans, LA
Biloxi, MS
Orange Beach, AL
Destin/Miramar, FL
Madeira Beach, FL
Ft. Myers Beach, FL

Amendment: Change Destin to Panama City, FL and add Palacios, TX

Amendment carried

**Motion as amended:** Approve scoping hearing locations for Reef Fish Amendment 29

Corpus Christi, TX
Motion as amended carried

Motion: That the scoping document for reef fish amendment 29 be approved for scoping hearings.

Motion carried with no objection

Motion: to table the red snapper geographic management discussion to a meeting in the future

Motion carried

Other Motions

Motion: to add the discussion of Senator Vitter’s supplemental funding to the October/November Council agenda for further consideration

Motion failed for lack of a second

Motion: The Council send a letter of support for the bill and that Council staff have editorial license to include areas of concern discussed at this meeting:

- states receiving disproportionate shares due to quantity of oil and gas platforms
- membership of the ocean policy trust fund council to include one commercial and one recreational representative from the Gulf region.

Motion carried by voice vote

Motion: To appoint the following people to SEDAR 16 King Mackerel DATA WORKSHOP (February 11-15, 2008, Charleston, SC)

AP: Mike Holmes
AP: Ed Presley
AP: Donald Waters
Motion carried

Motion: to write a letter from the Council to object to the closure of the recreational harvest of blacktip sharks in the Gulf of Mexico

- consolidating three regions to one, GOM should have its own region
- utilizing existing data collection systems
- lengthen the comment period

Motion carried with no objection