

Sustainable Fisheries Committee: Action Guide and Next Steps for Tab E

Agenda Item IV: Summary Report from the Joint Council Section 102 Workgroup

Timeline Status: Discussion and feedback

Council input and next steps: The Committee will receive a summary of the Joint Council Section 102 Workgroup's June 3 webinar, which discussed funds budgeted to NMFS to address the implementation of the Modern Fish Act of 2018, the flexibility available to explore new management methods, and the Workgroup's discussion of those methods. The Committee should ask questions and provide feedback to Workgroup participants.

Agenda Item V: SSC Recommendations on Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rule

Timeline Status: Presentation, discussion, and feedback

Council input and next steps: Dr. Kai Lorenzen (acting SSC Chair) will briefly summarize the SSC's initial discussions in exploring modifications to the Council's ABC Control Rule. This control rule is used to adjust the ABC relative to the overfishing limit to account for scientific uncertainty. The SSC has determined that the current ABC Control Rule does not adequately capture this uncertainty through its P* approach, and will endeavor to address its concerns through discussions with the Southeast Fisheries Science Center at subsequent SSC meetings. The Committee should ask questions and provide feedback as appropriate.

Agenda Item VI: Manna Fish Farms, Gulf of Mexico Update

Timeline Status: Information and Discussion

Council Input and Next Steps: Dr. Kelly Lucas (University of Southern Mississippi) will update the Committee on Gulf of Mexico Finfish Farm Operations of Manna Fish Farms. Dr. Lucas will cover several issues including site requirements and screening, species information, farm design, cage and gear information, and production plan. The Committee may discuss the information presented and ask questions as needed.

Agenda Item VII: Standardized Bycatch Reduction Methodology

Timeline Status: Discussion and Feedback

Council Input and Next Steps: Mr. Dan Luers (SERO) will provide a presentation on the Review of Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology (SBRM) for the Gulf of Mexico and

Joint Fishery Management Plans that are required for each FMP and reviewed once every 5 years. The purpose of SBRM is to establish consistent procedures used to collect, record, and report bycatch data in a fishery and in conjunction with other information, are used to assess the amount and type of bycatch. NMFS and Council staff are in the process of reviewing the current Gulf SBRM information and will provide a draft document for review by the SSC and Council in the coming months. The Committee is requested to ask questions about specific fisheries and bycatch reduction methods that may be applicable in our affected FMPs.

Agenda Item VII: Other Business

Timeline Status: Potential Additional items

Council Input and Next Steps: Additional items may be brought up for discussion by the Committee, time permitting. If the Committee wishes to pursue action, then action can be scheduled at a future Council meeting.
