



Tab C, No. 7(a)



Amendment 33: Gulf King Mackerel Catch Limits and Sector Allocations

GMFMC June 2022 Meeting



Background

- 2020 Gulf king mackerel update (SEDAR 38U):
 - Not overfished, not experiencing overfishing
- Proposed modifications:
 - Catch limits (OFL, ABC, ACLs) – moved to KM FW 11
 - Currently in CHTS; proposed in FES
 - Not affected by sector allocation
 - Sector allocations (commercial, recreational)
 - Currently 68% recreational, 32% commercial; in effect since 1985

Background

- Proposed modifications:
 - Sector allocations (commercial, recreational)
 - Currently 68% recreational, 32% commercial; in effect since 1985.
 - *Reallocation is being considered to address the differences in sector landings relative to sector ACL, while accounting for adjustments in historical recreational landings from the replacement of Marine Recreational Information Program's (MRIP) Coastal Household Telephone Survey (CHTS) data with MRIP's Fishing Effort Survey (FES) data.*

Gulf Council & South Atlantic Council Joint Coastal CMP FMP Objectives

- The Gulf Council and the South Atlantic Council last modified the FMP objectives in CMP Amendment 6 (1992), which brought the number of objectives from 7 to 8.
- NMFS Procedural Directive 01-119-02 (NMFS 2016) provides recommended practices during an allocation review, which includes a Council re-assessing the FMP objectives, if they are not current, clear, or measurable.
- Also, helpful to identify the FMP Objective(s) that CMP 33 is working to accomplish.

Gulf Council & South Atlantic Council Joint Coastal CMP FMP Objectives

1. The primary objective of this FMP is to stabilize yield at the maximum sustainable yield (MSY), allow recovery of overfished populations, and maintain population levels sufficient to ensure adequate recruitment.
2. To provide a flexible management system for the resource which minimizes regulatory delay while retaining substantial Council and public input in management decisions and which can rapidly adapt to changes in resource abundance, new scientific information, and changes in fishing patterns among user groups or by areas.
3. To provide necessary information for effective management and establish a mandatory reporting system for monitoring catch.
4. To minimize gear and user group conflicts.

Gulf Council & South Atlantic Council Joint Coastal CMP FMP Objectives

5. To distribute the total allowable catch of Atlantic migratory group Spanish mackerel between recreational and commercial user groups based on the catches that occurred during the early to mid-1970s, which is prior to the development of the deep water run-around gillnet fishery and when the resource was not overfished.
6. To minimize waste and bycatch in the fishery.
7. To provide appropriate management to address specific migratory groups of king mackerel.
8. To optimize the social and economic benefits of the coastal migratory pelagic fisheries.

Feedback from Gulf SSC (2019 meeting) on CMP FMP Objectives

- Objective #1 (*The primary objective of this FMP is to stabilize yield at the maximum sustainable yield (MSY), allow recovery of overfished populations, and maintain population levels sufficient to ensure adequate recruitment.*) may conflict with Objective #8 (*To optimize the social and economic benefits of the coastal migratory pelagic fishery.*).
- Could Objective #1 be phrased similarly to Objective #6 of the Reef Fish FMP (*To manage Gulf stocks at OY as defined in MSA*)?
- Should cobia be added to Objective #7 (*To provide appropriate management to address specific migratory groups of king mackerel.*)?

Purpose and Need (Proposed after FA 11 Split)

- Purpose:

- The purpose of this amendment is to revise the Gulf king mackerel allocation between the commercial and recreational sectors in order to address the differences in sector landings relative to sector ACL.

- Need:

- The need for this amendment is to increase social and economic benefits for the king mackerel component of the CMP fishery through sustainable harvest in accordance with provisions set forth in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Sector Allocations

- Recent landings history: % ACL landed

Fishing Year	Total TAC/ACL	Comm Sector ACL	Comm Landings	Rec Sector ACL	Rec Landings	% of Sector ACL Landed		% of Total ACL Landed
						Comm ¹	Rec ²	
2012/2013	10,800,000	3,456,000	3,501,893	7,344,000	3,224,351	101.3%	43.9%	62.3%
2013/2014	10,800,000	3,456,000	3,236,234	7,344,000	2,082,852	93.6%	28.4%	49.3%
2014/2015	10,800,000	3,456,000	3,753,959	7,344,000	4,015,683	108.6%	54.7%	71.9%
2015/2016	10,800,000	3,456,000	3,642,992	7,344,000	2,531,260	105.4%	34.5%	57.2%
2016/2017	9,210,000	2,950,000	2,902,360	6,260,000	2,587,187	98.4%	41.3%	59.6%
2017/2018	8,880,000	2,840,000	3,031,397	6,040,000	2,356,343	106.7%	39.0%	60.7%
2018/2019	8,710,000	2,790,000	2,780,813	5,920,000	2,338,564	99.7%	39.5%	58.8%
2019/2020	8,550,000	2,740,000	2,658,942	5,810,000	1,622,334	97.0%	27.9%	50.1%

Proportion of sector ACLs landed and proportion of total ACL landed for Gulf king mackerel in MRIP-CHTS for the 2001/2002 – 2019/2020 fishing years. The total ACL, commercial ACL, recreational ACL, recreational landings, and commercial landings are in lbs lw.

¹Commercial allocation = 32% ²Recreational allocation = 68%



Action: Modify the Sector Allocation for Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) Migratory Group King Mackerel (Gulf King Mackerel)

Alternative 1: No Action. Maintain the sector allocation of the total annual catch limit (ACL) for Gulf king mackerel between the commercial and recreational sectors. The sector allocation for Gulf king mackerel is 32% commercial and 68% recreational. This allocation was derived from the average landings using available landings data from the years 1975 through 1979, and established in Amendment 1 to the Coastal Migratory Pelagic (CMP) Fishery Management Plan (FMP) in 1985.

Action: Modify the Sector Allocation for Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) Migratory Group King Mackerel (Gulf King Mackerel)

Alternative 2: Modify the sector allocation for Gulf king mackerel by reallocating to the commercial sector 25% of the average difference between the total landings from the 2016/2017 through 2019/2020 fishing years using Marine Recreational Information Program's (MRIP) Fishing Effort Survey (FES) data and the total simulated annual catch limit (ACL) for Model 2 in Appendix B for the predicted total landings by sector and the total projected ACL. The resulting sector allocation for Gulf king mackerel is 42% commercial and 58% recreational.

Action: Modify the Sector Allocation for Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) Migratory Group King Mackerel (Gulf King Mackerel)

Alternative 3: Modify the sector allocation for Gulf king mackerel by reallocating to the commercial sector 50% of the average difference between the total landings from the 2016/2017 through 2019/2020 fishing years using MRIP-FES data and the total simulated ACL for Model 2 in Appendix B for the predicted total landings by sector and the total projected ACL. The resulting sector allocation for Gulf king mackerel is 53% commercial and 47% recreational.

Action: Modify the Sector Allocation for Gulf of Mexico (Gulf) Migratory Group King Mackerel (Gulf King Mackerel)

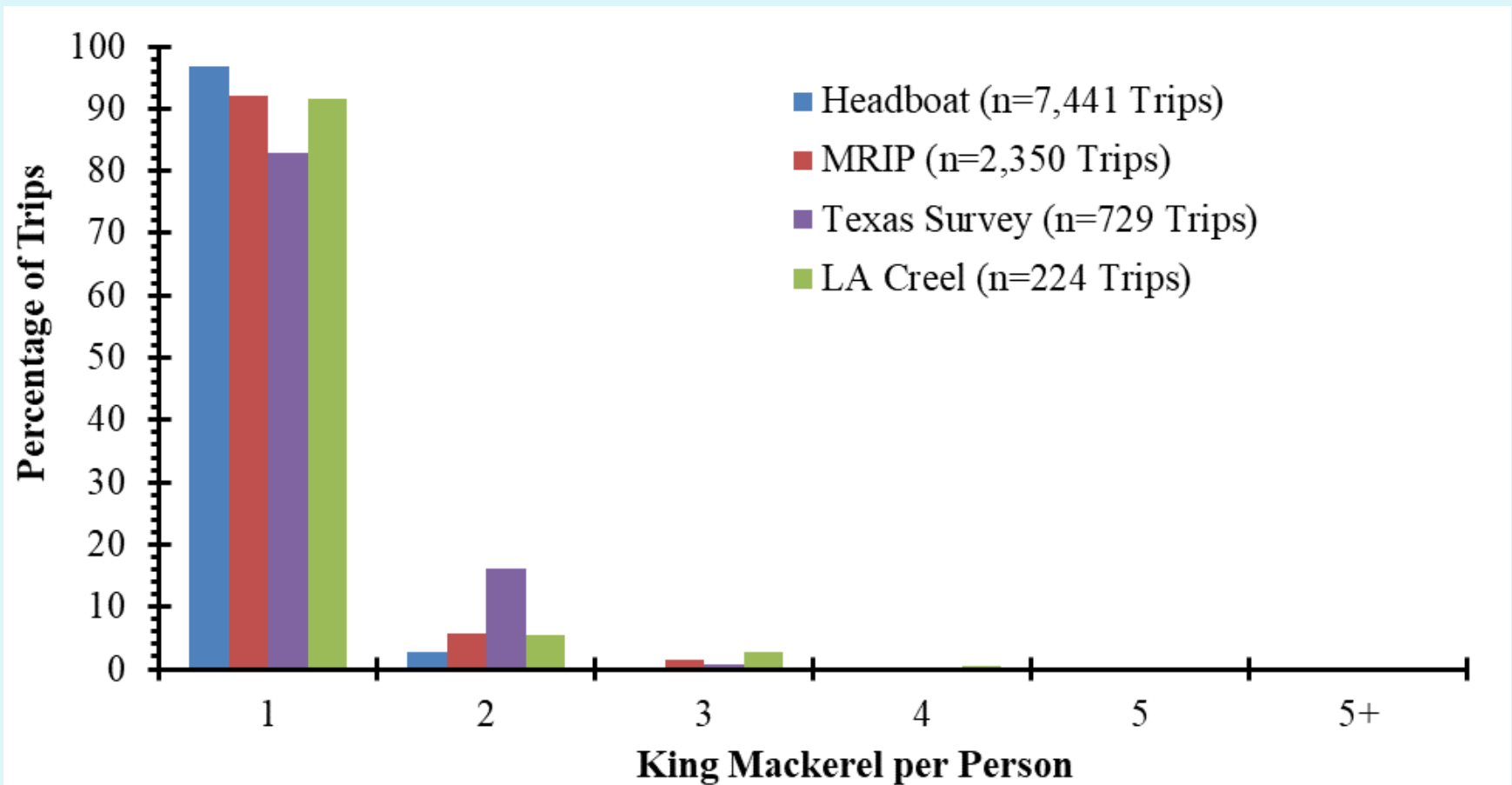
Fishing Year	Total Landings MRIP-FES (lbs lw)	Total Projected ACL from Model 2 (lbs lw)	Difference (Landings and Projected ACL, lbs lw)	Average the Difference for 4 years (lbs lw)
2016/2017	9,367,484	13,690,000	4,322,516	4,119,399
2017/2018	9,380,321	13,030,000	3,649,679	
2018/2019	9,054,434	12,530,000	3,475,566	
2019/2020	7,130,166	12,160,000	5,029,834	

Alternative	Rec ACL (lbs lw)	Rec Allocation (%)	Comm ACL (lbs lw)	Comm Allocation (%)
Alt 1: 0%	6,793,200	68%	3,196,800	32%
Alt 2: 25%	5,763,350	58%	4,226,650	42%
Alt 3: 50%	4,733,501	47%	5,256,499	53%

Comparison of Alternative 2 and Alternative 3 to the average of the sector-specific landings from the last four fishing years (2016/2017 – 2019/2020).

Average Rec Landings (FES)	2023/2024+ Rec ACL	
	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
4,620,301	5,763,350	4,733,501
<i>Percentage</i>	80.2%	97.6%
Average Com Landings (Sim 2)	2023/2024+ Com ACL	
	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
4,112,800	4,226,650	5,256,499
<i>Percentage</i>	97.3%	78.2%
Average Com Landings	2023/2024+ Com ACL	
	Alternative 2	Alternative 3
2,843,478	4,226,650	5,256,499
<i>Percentage</i>	67.3%	54.1%

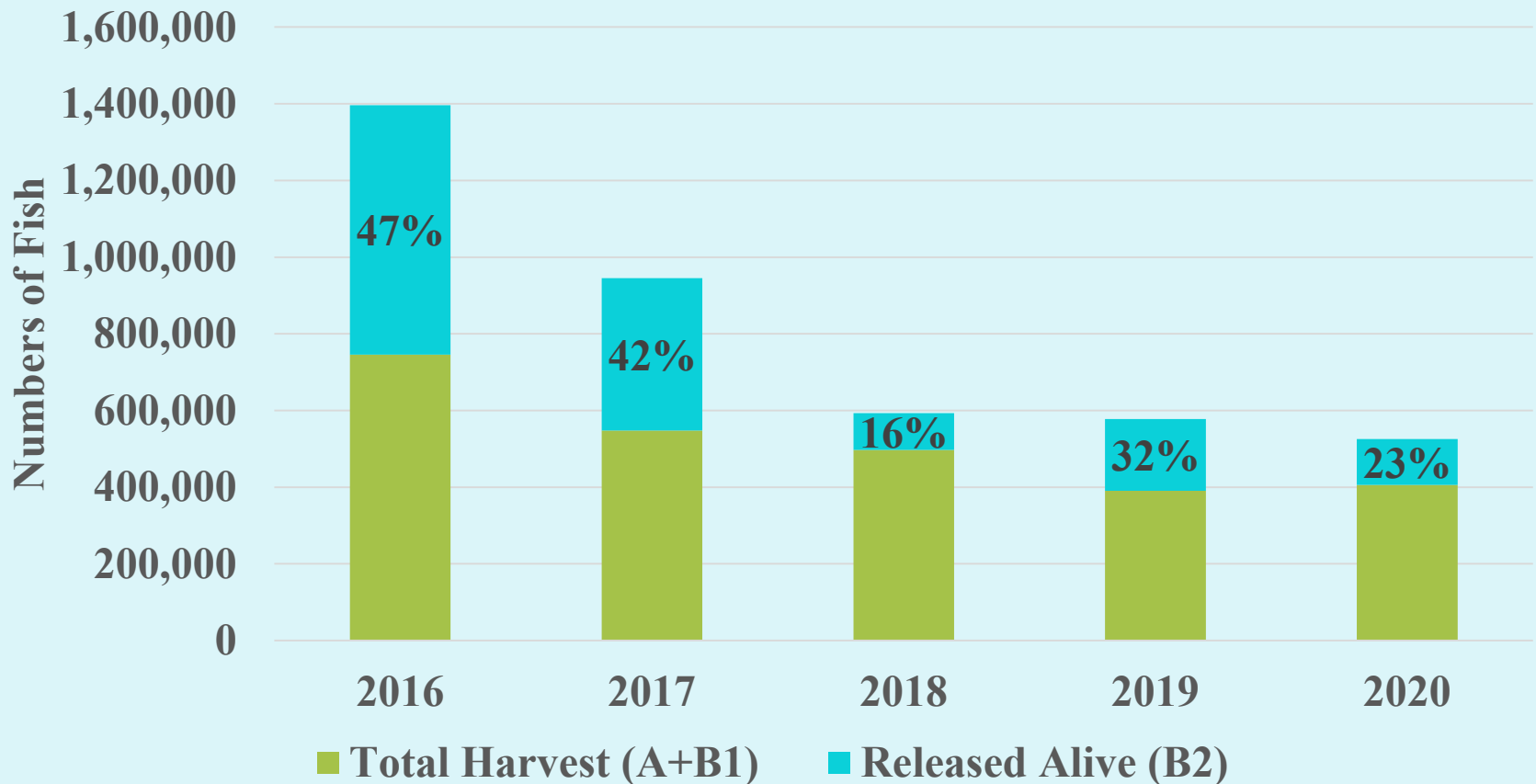
Gulf king mackerel bag limit distribution from 2015/2016 through 2019/2020 fishing years



Source: Marine Recreational Information Program, Southeast Region Headboat Survey, Texas Parks and Wildlife recreational survey, and Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries creel survey.

Other Requests

Additional Info: Recreational Catch versus Releases (FES)



Questions?



GMFMC January 2022 Motions

- **Motion:** To move Option 2c and 2d of Alternative 2 in Action 2 to Considered but Rejected. *Motion carried unanimously*
- **Justification:**
 - Gulf Council wants to keep recreational season open year round
 - Option 2c and 2d of Alternative 2 in Action 2 may result in recreational quota closures



GMFMC January 2022 Motions

- **Substitute Motion:** To request presentations of the New England and Mid-Atlantic RSA programs at a future Council meeting for consideration. *Motion carried 14-1*
- **Justification:**
 - Gulf Council interested in learning about research set-asides for expanding funding for Council-identified research needs



GMFMC January 2022 Motions

- **Motion:** To remove **Action 1** from Amendment 33 and start a new framework action. *Motion carried 9-7*
- **Justification:**
 - Gulf Council interested in moving faster on implementing updated catch limits
 - Any future change to sector allocation can be implemented without affecting change to catch limits
 - Fleet selectivity, retention, catchability not dissimilar between sectors



- Recent landings history:
CHTS vs FES

Fishing Year	Recreational CHTS	Recreational FES	Commercial	Total CHTS	Total FES	% Increase to FES
2012/2013*	3,224,351	6,856,317	2,739,233	5,963,584	9,595,550	161%
2013/2014*	2,082,852	3,948,649	2,524,253	4,607,105	6,472,902	140%
2014/2015*	4,015,683	7,777,977	2,833,403	6,849,086	10,611,380	155%
2015/2016*	2,528,084	4,809,690	2,593,097	5,121,181	7,402,787	145%
2016/2017	2,586,973	4,986,461	2,693,084	5,280,057	7,679,545	145%
2017/2018	2,354,916	5,209,295	3,032,173	5,387,089	8,241,468	153%
2018/2019	2,338,564	5,044,834	2,808,800	5,147,364	7,853,634	153%
2019/2020	1,052,149	2,104,025	2,694,643	3,746,792	4,798,668	128%
Source: SERO ACL Monitoring Data						
* FLEC excluded from commercial totals for comparison						