

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

June 7-9, 2022

Riverhead, NY

MOTIONS

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Aquaculture

On behalf of the Ecosystem and Ocean Planning Committee, move that the Council approve the Draft Aquaculture Policy as modified by the EOPC on May 10, 2022 and reviewed by the Council today.

Wilke for Committee

Motion carries by consent with one abstention (NMFS)

Move to request the Regional Administrator suspend the minimum surfclam size for 2023.

Hughes/Wilke

Motion carries by consent with one abstention (NMFS)

Recreational Harvest Control Rule Framework/Addenda

Move to select in Section 3.1, Alt. B (Pct Change Approach) with a hybrid approach of sub-option B-1A and B-1B (for both liberalizations and reductions, the difference between 2 year average RHL and harvest estimate not to exceed 20% or 40% change (depending on B/B_{MSY}); i.e. - the lower value of the B-1A and B-1B options for the given B/B_{MSY} ratio) and sub-option B-2A (10% reduction or liberalization).

Council: Nowalsky/Risi

Policy Board: Nowalsky/McNamee

Move to amend to add: Implement for 2023 with a sunset no later than the end of the 2025 fishing year.

Council: Geer/Pentony (20/0/0) Motion carries

Policy Board: Geer/Pentony (16/0/0/0) Motion carries

Main motion as amended:

Move to select in Section 3.1, Alt. B (Pct Change Approach) with a hybrid approach of sub-option B-1A and B-1B (for both liberalizations and reductions, the difference between 2 year average RHL and harvest estimate not to exceed 20% or 40% change (depending on B/B_{MSY}); i.e. - the lower value of the B-1A and B-1B options for the given B/B_{MSY} ratio) and sub-option B-2A (10% reduction or liberalization). Implement for 2023 with a sunset no later than the end of the 2025 fishing year.

Policy Board: Motion carries by consent

Council: (17/3/0) Motion carries

Move to select in Section 3.3 Option A. No Action (Commission's current conservation equivalency policy applies.)

Council: Nowalsky/Townsend (17/2/0) Motion carries

Policy Board: Nowalsky/Gilmore (14/1/1/0) Motion carries

Move to select in section 3.4 Option B. Fishing mortality compared to an F threshold. If regularly updated estimates of total fishing mortality compared to the threshold are not available, then this comparison would default to the ABC comparison described in Option A.

Policy Board: Nowalsky/Davis (Motion carries by consent)

Council: Nowalsky/Cimino (17/3/0) Motion carries

Move to further develop Alt. B (Pct Change Approach), Alt. D (Biological Reference Point Approach) and Alt. E (Biomass Based Matrix Approach) for implementation no later than the beginning of the 2026 fishing year. Further development should consider, at minimum, F-based approaches for Alt. B and development of measures using modeling or other approaches for Alts. D and E.

Council: Nowalsky/Risi

Policy Board: Nowalsky/Gilmore

Move to amend to add: Further evaluate the issue of “borrowing” as raised by the SSC for alt B, D, and E.

Policy Board: Hasbrouck/Reid (Motion carries by consent with one abstention by NMFS)

Council: Farnham/Wilke (Motion carries by consent)

Main motion as amended:

Move to further develop Alt. B (Pct Change Approach), Alt. D (Biological Reference Point Approach) and Alt. E (Biomass Based Matrix Approach) for implementation no later than the beginning of the 2026 fishing year. Further development should consider, at minimum, F-based approaches for Alt. B and development of measures using modeling or other approaches for Alts. D and E. Further evaluate the issue of “borrowing” as raised by the SSC for alt B, D, and E.

Council: Motion carries by consent

Policy Board: Motion carries by consent

Council Only Motion:

Move to submit the Recreational Harvest Control Rule Framework with preferred alternatives as identified today to NMFS.

Nowalsky/Davidson

Council motion carries by consent with one abstention (NMFS)

Policy Board Only Motion:

Move to approve Addendum XXXIV to the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan and Addendum II to the Bluefish Fishery Management Plan as modified today.

Nowalsky/Clark

Policy Board motion carries by consent with one abstention (NMFS)

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

Atlantic Mackerel

I move that 2,197 MT be set aside for Canada for 2023.

Hughes for Committee

Motion carries by consent

I move to select as preferred Alternative 4 – 61% Rebuilding Probability in 10 Years.

Hughes for Committee

Motion carries by consent

I move to select as preferred a 20-fish per person Atlantic mackerel recreational possession limit for 2023 and could be adjusted in future specifications.

Hughes for Committee (18/1/0)

Motion carries

I move that a 2023 recreational deduction be made using the calculated expected deduction from the 20-fish possession limit.

Hughes for Committee

Motion carries by consent

I move that the Council utilize the proposed replacement 2023 discard set-aside and closure approach.

Hughes for Committee

Motion carries by consent

I move that the Committee recommend that the Council maintain the current 129 MT river herring and shad cap for 2023.

Hughes for Committee (16/1/1)

Motion carries

I move to substitute that the Council adopt an 89 MT RH/S cap for 2023.

Duval/Winslow (8/10/1)

Motion fails

I move that the Council select as preferred, No Action on commercial minimum mesh size.

Hughes for Committee

Motion carries by consent

I move that the Council request additional outreach and compliance assistance by NOAA Fisheries regarding the appropriate permitting and catch reporting for commercial and for-hire vessels possessing mackerel. (Would apply only to commercial and for-hire vessels and would not include previously-purchased fish with a bill of sale).

Hughes for Committee

Motion carries by consent

I move to submit to NMFS the Mackerel Rebuilding 2.0 Amendment.

Hughes/Cimino

Motion carries by consent with one abstention

Chub Mackerel

Move to adopt status quo chub mackerel specifications for 2023-2025, including a 5.07 mil lb ABC, 4.99 mil lb ACL, 4.79 mil lb ACT, and 4.50 mil lb TAL.

Hughes/Wilke

Motion carries by consent

RSA Redevelopment

Move to continue the process of redeveloping the Mid-Atlantic RSA program using the program framework outlined by the Research Steering Committee to inform a possible future management action through an omnibus framework or amendment.

Duval/Risi (19/0/0)

Motion carries