

**February 2015 Motions**  
**February, 11-12, 2015**  
**Doubletree by Hilton Raleigh Brownstone-University**  
**Raleigh, NC**

**Surfclam and Ocean Quahog Cost Recover Amendment**

With respect to the Cost Recovery Amendment I move that the Council adopt alternative 5. With respect to the administrative procedure to update the biological reference points, I move that the Council adopt alternative 2. With respect to the Optimal yield range, I move that the Council adopt alternative 2.  
King/McMurray (20/0/0)  
Motion carries

Move to submit the Amendment to NMFS.  
Anderson/McMurray (19/0/1)  
Motion carries

**Omnibus Observer Amendment**

Move that the following option be included in Section 2.3.2, the Atlantic mackerel monitoring alternatives, in the Omnibus Observer Amendment:

To require third-party at-sea monitoring on midwater trawl (and Tier 1 small mesh bottom trawl mackerel vessels). Staff should evaluate [, including the costs of,] options designed to meet the following objectives: (1) to document all fish not retained on board the vessel for any reason, including detailed accounting of full and partial slippage events and (2) to sample for river herring and shad consistent with the high volume fisheries training for NEFOP observers.

When the Observer Amendment is implemented (year 1), the third party at-sea monitor coverage level for Mid-Water Trawls (and Tier 1 small mesh bottom trawl mackerel vessels) under this option will be (sub-Options) (a) 100%, (b) 75%, (c) 50% of all trips (on trips without a NEFOP observer) (sub-Options) with/without waivers when the vessel is declared into the herring fishery.

Staff should evaluate options to fund “NMFS Cost Responsibilities” for implementing an at-sea-monitoring program, including an option to reallocate any savings that result from the use of at-sea monitors from SBRM funding designated for mid-water trawl (and Tier 1 small mesh bottom trawl mackerel vessels) to cover those costs. Staff should evaluate whether implementing these options require changes to the SBRM or to NOAA Fisheries / NMFS existing budget language.

This option includes portside sampling and electronic monitoring (EM), to be phased-in through the framework adjustment process. The third party at-sea monitor coverage

target specified in this amendment will be adjusted as portside sampling/EM programs are implemented. Initially, the service provider standards under this option will be the same as those for the groundfish at-sea monitoring program, but these standards will be modified for portside sampling/EM in the implementing action.

McMurray/Anderson (17/0/1)

Motion carries

I move that the Council support the development of mackerel fishery-specific alternatives in the Omnibus Observer Amendment consistent with the NEFMC letter to Dr. Moore dated February 4, 2015 including the recommendation that the Omnibus Observer Amendment needs more development and additional analysis and should be reviewed by the Observer Policy Committee and both Councils at a future meeting prior to going out to public hearings.

Kaelin/McMurray (18/0/0)

Motion carries

### **Deep Sea Coral Amendment**

Move to convene a workshop with the SMB and Ecosystem Advisory Panels, FMAT members, coral researchers and others to consider additional potential revisions to the draft deep sea coral discrete zone boundaries that would protect corals and consider current fishing practices, to be followed by an FMAT analysis and review prior to final Council action on the deep sea coral amendment at the June Council meeting.

Anderson/DiLernia (16/0/0/2)

Motion carries

Move to tentatively select the 400 meter broad zone as a preferred alternative.

Anderson/Elliott

Move to substitute that the Council select as a preferred alternative 1C, a 300 meter broad zone, for designation.

McMurray/DiLernia

Move to postpone further action on broad zones until the June Council meeting, after the workshop.

McMurray/Linhard (13/1/1/2)

Motion carries

Move to add to the alternatives the list of transit provisions described in the FMAT report, as well as an option to transit by changing VMS declaration.

Kaelin/Baum (17/0/0/2)

Motion carries

Move to add commercial tilefish and red crab exemptions to management measures in discrete zones.

Kaelin/O'Reilly (14/0/1/2)

Motion carries

Move to add pharmaceutical product research and development to list of frameworkable items.

Kaelin/Deem

Motion withdrawn

Move to add prohibition on anchoring in deep sea coral zones as frameworkable items.

Kaelin/King (11/2/2/2)

Motion carries

Move that the FMAT examine potential impacts of mid-water trawl gear and include such analysis in the amendment.

McMurray/

Motion fails due to lack of second