During the December 2014 meeting, the Committee provided guidance on modifications to the amendment and timing. Council staff will give an overview of those changes and discuss the timing for public hearings, etc.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:** review actions/alternatives, modify as needed, select alternatives for detailed analyses, and approve for public hearings.

**H. System Management Plan for Deepwater MPAs** (*Attachment 7*)

At the September 2013 meeting, the Council directed Council staff/IPT to work on a System Management Plan (SMP) for the existing 8 MPAs. An outline was presented at the September 2013 meeting. An updated draft will be presented to the Committee.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:** Discuss and provide guidance.

**I. Amendment 35 (Removal of Species and Golden Tilefish Endorsements; *Attachments 8a-8c*)**

Council staff conducted an informational webinar and public hearings were held in Florida (Key West & Cocoa Beach) and South Carolina (Georgetown). Council staff will give an overview of public comments. The Council is scheduled to approve the amendment for formal review at the June 2015 meeting.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:** Consider public comment, modify the amendment as necessary, and approve all actions.

**J. Blueline Tilefish Landings north of North Carolina** (*Attachments 9a-9d*)

In a letter dated January 30, 2015 addressed to Chairman Hartig (*Attachment 9c*), Rick Robbins, Mid-Atlantic Council Chair, expresses concern over the existence of “a regulatory loophole that poses an immediate risk to the blueline tilefish resource in the Mid-Atlantic region.” The letter states that recent commercial landings of blueline tilefish in states north of the South Atlantic Council’s jurisdiction are near the current ACL for that species in the South Atlantic. Furthermore, Mid-Atlantic states (other than VA and MD) have no regulations on the harvest of blueline tilefish. Hence, the Mid-Atlantic Council approved a motion at their December 2014 meeting to send letters to Mid-Atlantic state directors (see *Attachment 9c*) to request that states adopt commercial and recreational management measures to prevent the “unmanaged expansion” of the blueline tilefish fishery. To inform the Snapper Grouper Committee discussion, Dr. Jack McGovern will present commercial and recreational landings of blueline tilefish in the South Atlantic and Mid-Atlantic regions (*Attachments 9a & 9b*), Monica Smit-Brunello (NOAA GC) will provide legal guidance, and Council staff will present a Decision Document (*Attachment 9d*) containing background information and options for moving forward to address continued overfishing of blueline tilefish.

**REQUIRED COMMITTEE ACTION:** consider emergency action and provide guidance to staff on amendment development and timing.

**K. Other Business**

The Committee will address other items as appropriate.