Initiative Goal/Vision

- **Stability** in rec. mgmt. measures (bag/size/season)
- **Flexibility** in the mgmt. process
- **Accessibility** aligned with availability/stock status*
Oct. 2020 Joint Motion

Move to initiate a joint framework/addendum to address the following topics for summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, and bluefish, as discussed today:

- Better incorporate MRIP uncertainty into management
- Develop guidelines for maintaining status quo measures
- Develop a process for setting multi-year measures
- Consider changes to the timing of federal waters measures recommendations
- Harvest control rule

and to also initiate an amendment to address recreational sector separation and recreational catch accounting such that scoping for the amendment would be conducted during the development of the framework/addendum.
### Staff Recommendation

#### Technical Guidance Document

- Develop a process for identifying and smoothing outlier MRIP estimates.*
- Evaluate the pros and cons of using preliminary current year MRIP data.*
- Develop guidelines for maintaining status quo measures.

#### Framework/Addendum

- Envelope of uncertainty approach for determining if changes to recreational management measures are needed.*
- Develop process for setting multi-year recreational management measures.
- Consider changes to the timing of recommending federal waters measures.
- Harvest Control Rule proposal put forward by 6 recreational organizations.

#### Amendment

- Recreational sector separation.
- Recreational catch accounting.

*Part of “better incorporate MRIP uncertainty into management.”
# Draft Timeline for Work in 2021

**Staff Memo**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Technical Doc.</th>
<th>FW/Addendum</th>
<th>Amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan</td>
<td>Form MC/TC subgroup or other technical team</td>
<td>Form FMAT/PDT or other group to assist with analysis and development of alternatives</td>
<td>Form FMAT/PDT</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>Further develop and analyze topics</td>
<td>Development of alternatives</td>
<td>Develop draft scoping document</td>
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<td>Mar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>Council/Board review of progress</td>
<td>Council/Board review and refine alternatives</td>
<td>Council/Board approve scoping document and scoping plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jun</td>
<td>Further technical development</td>
<td>Further develop alternatives</td>
<td>Scoping</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jul</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug</td>
<td>Council/Board review draft document and consider for approval</td>
<td>Council/Board review alternatives and approve draft addendum for public hearings</td>
<td>Council/Board review scoping comments and refine scope of action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep</td>
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<td>Public hearings, if desired by states</td>
<td>FMAT/PDT development of alternatives</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov</td>
<td>MC/TC consider for use in 2022 rec specs</td>
<td>AP meeting to provide input</td>
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<td>Council/Board review alternatives</td>
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# Draft Timeline for Work in 2021
Revised after further staff discussion

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</table>
Discussion
Backup Slides
Recreational Reform Initiative Potential Topics

1: Better incorporate MRIP uncertainty into mgmt.

- Adopt a standardized process for **IDing and smoothing outliers** - for both high and low outliers.

- Use an "**envelope of uncertainty**" approach for determining if changes to measures are needed.
  - Define a range above and below the projected harvest estimate (e.g., based on PSE). If RHL falls within that range, no changes would be made to measures.

- Evaluate the **pros and cons of using preliminary current year data**.

- All 3: technical guidance document
2: Develop guidelines for maintaining status quo measures

- Develop a process for considering harvest and multiple stock status metrics (biomass, fishing mortality, recruitment) when determining if measures should remain unchanged.

- *Technical guidance document or framework/addendum, depending on details.*
Recreational Reform Initiative Potential Topics

3: Develop a process for setting multi-year measures

- **Set measures for 2 years at a time** with a commitment to making no changes in the interim year.
- Don’t react to new data that would otherwise allow for liberalizations or require restrictions in the interim year.
- Synchronize changes with stock assessment updates.
- Further consideration of MSA requirements for annual ACL evaluation needed.
- *Framework/addendum.*
Recreational Reform Initiative Potential Topics

4: Improvements to process used to make changes to state and federal mgmt. measures

- Could include topics such as:
  - State by state vs. regional measures
  - Conservation equivalency process (state and federal)
  - Guidelines for using MRIP data at granular levels
  - Considerations for using data other than MRIP

- *Technical guidance document or framework/addendum, depending on details.*
Recreational Reform Initiative Potential Topics

5: Timing of federal waters measures recommendation

August
- Set or review next year’s recreational catch and harvest limits

Mid-October to Mid-November
- Use MRIP current year data through Wave 4 (Jan-Aug) to project full year’s recreational harvest
- Compare projection to next year’s harvest limit
- Staff and Monitoring Committee make recommendations to Council and ASMFC Board

Mid-December
- Council and ASMFC Board approve federal rec. measures
- Agree on overall level of reduction or liberalization to be achieved by combined federal + state measures

January-April
- States develop, ASMFC reviews and approves state recreational measures

Spring/Early Summer
- Any changes to federal and state measures implemented

Technical guidance document or framework/addendum, depending on details.
Recreational Reform Initiative Potential Topics

#6: Recreational Sector Separation

- Should the for-hire sector be managed separately from the private/rental and shore modes?
  - Separate allocations of catch/landings limits?
  - Separate management measures without separate allocations?
  - Data considerations: higher PSEs when MRIP data split by mode, only federally permitted vessels submit VTRs.

- Stakeholder interest (e.g., perception that for-hire MRIP data more certain than private/shore).

- FMP amendment.
Recreational Reform Initiative Potential Topics

#7: Recreational catch accounting

- Stakeholder suggestions: private angler reporting, manage harvest with tags, tournament reporting, enhanced VTR reporting.
- Consider for all recreational species?
- Lessons learned from initiatives and other regions.
- *FMP amendment for most options, framework/addendum for others.*
Recreational Reform Initiative Potential Topics

#9: Harvest Control Rule

- Proposed by 6 recreational organizations.
- Conceptual idea:
  - Range of pre-defined mgmt. measures.
  - Step used in any given year based on biomass.
  - Upper and lower bounds informed by stakeholder input.
    - Step A: most liberal set of measures preferred by anglers when biomass is high.
    - Step B: most restrictive set of measures that could be tolerated without major loss of businesses.
- Framework/addendum.
Example sector separation structures for SFSBSB

A: Current
- ABC
  - Rec ACL
  - Com ACL
  - RHL
  - Com quota

B: ACL Level
- ABC
  - Private Rec ACL
  - For-Hire Rec ACL
  - Com ACL

C: Sub-ACL Level
- ABC
  - Rec ACL
    - Private rec Sub-ACL
    - For-Hire Sub-ACL
  - Com ACL
    - Com quota

D: RHL Level
- ABC
  - RHL
    - Private RHL
    - For-hire RHL
  - Com quota
### Table 1: Example approaches for calculating separate sub-allocations to private and for-hire sectors, based on harvest in numbers of fish.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Years</th>
<th>Private</th>
<th>For-Hire</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer Flounder</strong></td>
<td>2014-2018 (5 years)</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2009-2018 (10 years)</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2004-2018 (15 years)</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Scup</strong></td>
<td>2014-2018 (5 years)</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2009-2018 (10 years)</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2004-2018 (15 years)</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Black Sea Bass</strong></td>
<td>2014-2018 (5 years)</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2009-2018 (10 years)</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>13%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2004-2018 (15 years)</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bluefish</strong></td>
<td>2014-2018 (5 years)</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2009-2018 (10 years)</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2004-2018 (15 years)</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
a) Summer Flounder: Party/Charter Boat Landings
- VTR P/C Boat
- MRIP For Hire P/C Boat

b) Scup: Party/Charter Boat Landings
- VTR P/C Boat
- MRIP For Hire P/C Boat

c) Black Sea Bass: Party/Charter Boat Landings
- VTR P/C Boat
- MRIP For Hire P/C Boat

d) Bluefish: Party/Charter Boat Landings
- VTR P/C Boat
- MRIP For Hire P/C Boat
## MRIP PSEs for total catch in numbers of fish, (ME-VA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Summer Flounder</th>
<th>Scup</th>
<th>Black Sea Bass</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>For-Hire</td>
<td>Private/Shore</td>
<td>All modes</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>7.4</td>
<td>7.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>16.8</td>
<td>8.0</td>
<td>7.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>6.4</td>
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<td>10.1</td>
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<td>2016</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>8.0</td>
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<td>10.7</td>
<td>10.4</td>
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<td>2018</td>
<td>8.7</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>6.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>12.6</td>
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<td>8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVG</td>
<td>11.9</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>7.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend**

- **Lowest**
- **Second Lowest**
- **Higher**
- **Highest**
Amended motion become main motion:
Move that the Council and Board accept all the FMAT’s recommendations for this amendment.
The Council and Board will consider initiating an action by the end of 2020 to develop a
recreational accountability and accounting joint action.
Council: 16/2/0
Board: 10/1/0/0
Motion carries