



# South Atlantic Update

Published for fishermen and others interested in marine resource conservation issues Fall 2013

## Council Continues to Consider Marine Protected Areas as Management Tool

*Alternatives being developed to help reduce bycatch of speckled hind and warsaw grouper*

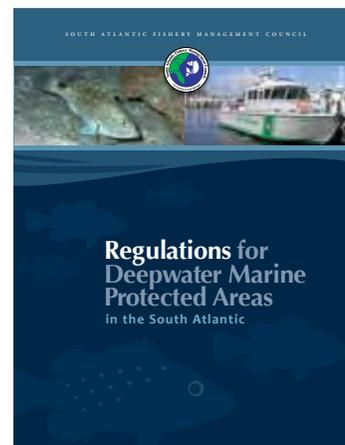
Members of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council will continue to look at options for using marine protected areas (MPAs) in federal waters to help reduce bycatch of speckled hind and warsaw grouper, two species listed as undergoing overfishing in the 2012 NOAA Fisheries Report to Congress. During its September meeting the Council decided to continue development of Regulatory Amendment 17 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan. The draft amendment includes alternatives to reconfigure eight existing deepwater MPAs, create new MPAs, or use a combination of both alternatives to reduce bycatch and address mandates to end overfishing.

The Council will only consider alternatives for “Type 2” MPAs – where fishing for or harvest of species in the snapper grouper management complex is prohibited, but fishing for pelagic species such as tuna, dolphin and billfish would be allowed. The Council modified the Purpose and Need section of Regulatory Amendment 17 to include areas “that contain evidence of occurrence and/or spawning of speckled hind or warsaw grouper”. The draft amendment includes a list of areas recommended by the Council’s MPA Expert Workgroup. The Workgroup was established by the Council in 2012 and includes research scientists, biologists, fishermen and others knowledgeable about deepwater snapper grouper species and the use of MPAs.

During its December meeting the Council will review the draft list of alternatives for MPAs in Regulatory Amendment 17 on a state-by-state basis, including an alternative for “no action”. Informal public scoping meetings for the amendment will be held in January.

In addition to the development of Regulatory Amendment 17, the Council agreed to adopt a System Management Plan outline for the eight existing deepwater MPAs. The System Management Plan will provide a framework to address research, monitoring, and evaluation needs for the eight MPAs. The Council will solicit input from its Scientific and Statistical Committee, advisory panels, NOAA Fisheries Science Center, and the public in order to craft the System Management Plan. The Plan would also be applied if any additional MPAs are implemented.

During its December meeting, the Council will receive updated reports on outreach, research, monitoring, and law enforcement activities within the existing eight deepwater MPAs and identify needs that have been met and those that are outstanding. Additional information about deepwater MPAs and draft Regulatory Amendment 17 is available from the Council’s website at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net).



Eight deepwater MPAs were established in 2009 to help protect deepwater species within the snapper grouper management complex. The Council is considering modifications to the existing MPAs and/or additional MPAs to help reduce bycatch of speckled hind and warsaw grouper. Download a copy of the *Regulations for Deepwater MPAs* at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net).

### December 2-6, 2013 Council Meeting Wilmington, NC

See page 7 for details

Informal Q&A Session

Wednesday, December 4 at 5:30 PM

Formal Public Comment

Thursday, December 5 at 5:30 PM

#### Inside This Issue:

From the Chairman.....	2
In The News.....	3
SSC Recommendations .....	3
Management Overview .....	4
Sea Turtle Release Gear Requirements .....	5
Snapper Grouper Regs Snapshot .....	5
MREP Workshops .....	6
Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.....	6
December 2013 Meeting Agenda .....	7
Calendar .....	8

# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

**Robert K. Mahood**  
Executive Director

**Gregg T. Waugh**  
Deputy Director

### VOTING MEMBERS

#### Designated State Officials

<b>Michelle Duval - Vice Chair</b> Morehead City, NC (252) 808-8011	<b>Jessica McCawley</b> Tallahassee, FL (850) 487-0580
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<b>Doug Haymans</b> Brunswick, GA (912) 264-7218	<b>Mel Bell</b> Charleston, SC (843) 953-9007
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#### Appointed Obligatory Members

<b>Ben Hartig- Chair</b> Hobe Sound, FL (772) 546-1542	<b>Jack Cox</b> Morehead City, NC (252) 728-9548
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<b>Zack Bowen</b> Savannah, GA (912) 398-3733	<b>Chris Conklin</b> Murrells Inlet, SC 843/643-3833
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#### Appointed At-Large Members

<b>John W. Jolley</b> Boyton Beach, FL (561) 346-8426	<b>Charlie Phillips</b> Townsend, GA (912) 832-3149
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<b>David Cupka</b> Charleston, SC (843) 795-8591	<b>Anna Barrios Beckwith</b> Morehead City, NC (252) 671-3474
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#### NMFS Regional Administrator

**Roy Crabtree**  
St. Petersburg, FL  
(727) 824-5301

#### Non-Voting Members

<b>ASMFC</b> Washington, DC (202) 289-6400	<b>U. S. Fish &amp; Wildlife</b> Atlanta, GA (404) 331-3588
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<b>U. S. Coast Guard</b> Miami, FL (305) 415-6778	<b>State Department</b> Washington, DC (202) 647-2883
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### *Editor's Note*

The South Atlantic Update is published by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. Its purpose is to report developments in fisheries management that would be of interest to its readers. Please credit the Council when reprinting articles used in this newsletter. Anyone wishing to submit information or articles pertaining to fishing or fisheries management, or letters to the editor on a pertinent issue, is invited and encouraged to do so. Submissions may be mailed to Kim Iverson, Editor, *South Atlantic Update*, 4055 Faber Place Dr., Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405, or may be sent via the internet; Email address: kim.iverson@safmc.net.

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## Chairman's Perspective

*Ben Hartig, Council Chair*



It is an honor and privilege to serve as your Chairman for the next two years. The original writers of the Magnuson-Stevens Act (MSA) envisioned a public participation driven process where a fisherman could become involved in the fishery management process, apply and be selected to serve on an Advisory Panel (AP), become Chairman of the AP, apply and be appointed to the Council and then be elected Chairman of the Council. This is my story - and it has happened twice during my history of serving as a member of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

As your new Chairman I thought that it would be interesting to add a Chairman's Perspective column to our quarterly newsletter. I hope to find the time each quarter to continue this endeavor as there are a number of topics we can explore in the months ahead. The views in these articles will be my own and not necessarily represent other Council member's opinions.

In this first column we'll explore a question posed to me by the Council's Deputy Director Gregg Waugh, "What do you want to accomplish during your term as chairman?" The following are eight key points I would like to pursue as your Chairman:

1) I am looking forward to our "Visioning Process" and discussions with fishermen and other stakeholders beginning in early 2014 to get their perspective on how we can better manage the snapper grouper fishery now and into the future. Also, how these stakeholder perspectives can be incorporated into future management actions.

2) I will continue to work, independently and in conjunction with the Council, to restore flexibility back into management by perusing changes in MSA or the NMFS Guidelines that resulted from the 2006 Re-authorization.

3) The 2006 MSA Reauthorization dictated that science based management was the new standard upon which all management will be based. It is the Council's responsibility to make sure that the science and data going into stock assessments is of the quantity and quality to produce robust results. We have started this review, and it will occur into the future.

4) Expand Cooperative Research! I believe this is critical for collecting the data to address data deficiencies in assessments. It also could be more cost effective using both recreational and commercial boats to collect this data.

*(Continued page 6)*

## In the News:

### Council Elects New Chair, Vice Chair

During its September meeting, members of the Council unanimously elected Ben Hartig, the Council's At-Large representative for the State of Florida to serve as its new chairman and Dr. Michelle Duval to serve as vice chair. Dr. Duval serves as the Council representative for the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries.

A full-time commercial fisherman and marine biologist, Chairman Hartig served two terms on the Council in the mid-1990s and served as chairman during his earlier appointment as well.

Dr. Duval has been the NCDMF designee on the Council since September 2011 and served as Chair of the Council's Snapper Grouper Committee before being appointed Council Vice Chair. She has been active in fisheries management for several years, having worked with Environmental Defense Fund prior to coming to work at NCDMF in 2007.

Learn more about the Council members, including specific profiles, at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net) in the "About Us" section.

### We have a new look! Check it out at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)

If you've ever navigated the Council's website you know there has always been a wealth of information available online. A new website design makes it easier than ever to follow the latest information about federal fisheries management, including rules and regulations, proposed management measures, and the latest fisheries issues.

The new website offers an easy to navigate homepage with new features designed to help the user find information within a few clicks. New features include an "Amendments Under Development" section with a list of amendments to fishery management plans being developed by the Council along with graphics to show the progress of the amendment as it moves through the development process.

The new site also includes a Google Calendar, direct links to announcements and news releases, easy to find meeting information, and the latest regulation information including a seasonal calendar for both commercial and recreational fishermen. Go to [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net) and see for yourself!



The Council's redesigned website at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net) offers new features including a Google calendar, a section highlighting amendments under development, fishing season calendars, and much more.

## Scientific and Statistical Committee Provides Recommendations

*Fishing level recommendations for Spanish mackerel and blueline tilefish; data collection top agenda items*

Fishery biologists, stock assessment scientists, economists, sociologists and others knowledgeable about federal fisheries came together as members of the South Atlantic Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) met for three days in October. Agenda items included a review of the recent benchmark stock assessment for blueline tilefish and scheduling of future assessments for various species.

In addition, the SSC reviewed completed stock projections for Spanish mackerel and revisited earlier recommendations for the Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC). The Council asked the SSC to reconsider recommendations and choose a less risk-averse approach, increasing the ABC to allow for stable landings and enable the Council to implement constant regulations to provide stability to the fishery.

The Council also asked for the SSC to provide recommendations for improving data going into stock



Members of the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee met in October in North Charleston, SC to review stock assessments, data collection protocol, and other issues. A report from the SSC will be given during the December Council meeting.

assessments in order to reduce the amount of uncertainty in the assessments attributed to inadequate biological sampling.

The SSC will provide a report to the Council during its December 2-6, 2013 meeting. A copy of the report will be included in the briefing book materials for the meeting

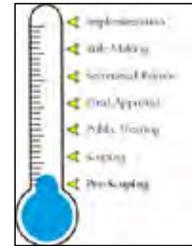
Each regional fishery management council has a SSC responsible

for reviewing the scientific basis of Council management plans and actions and developing fishing level recommendations within national fisheries management guidelines.

Learn more about the South Atlantic Council's SSC, including a detailed list of members, meeting schedules, and briefing book materials by visiting the Council's website at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net).

## At a Glance: Recently Implemented Management Measures and Proposed Changes

If you are a fisherman or follow the fishery management process, you know there have been several changes to regulations and management measures over the past year. The Council also recently approved several amendments for submission to the Secretary of Commerce for formal review and final approval, and is scheduled to approve additional amendments for submission to the Secretary, for public hearings, and for public scoping during its December 2-6, 2013 meeting. Below is a look at some of the recent changes, proposed measures, and what's on the table for early 2014. Keep up with the latest at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net). Check out the new "Amendments Under Development" section of the website to track development of proposed management measures and regulations.



### Recently Implemented

#### New Measures for Vermilion Snapper

(Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 18)

A recent stock assessment shows the stock has recovered and is not overfished or undergoing overfishing. Effective September 5, 2013:

- Annual Catch Limit increase
- Removal of annual recreational seasonal closure (November-March)
- Commercial trip limit established - 1,000-pound (gutted weight) trip limit until 75% of the commercial quota is met, then the trip limit is reduced to 500 pounds.

#### New Measures for Black Sea Bass

(Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 19)

A recent stock assessment shows the black sea bass stock has recovered and is not overfished or undergoing overfishing. Effective September 23, 2013:

- Annual Catch Limit increase (note that the recreational bag limit remains at 5 fish per person/day and 13" TL minimum size limit.)
- Closed season implemented for commercial pot gear from November through April to minimize risk of interactions with right whales.

### Recently Approved by the Council

Several amendments to fishery management plans were approved by the Council in September for submission to the Secretary of Commerce for review and final approval. *The review process, conducted by NOAA Fisheries, will include opportunities for additional public input. Visit [sero.nmfs.noaa.gov](http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov) for updates.*



Details for the proposed measures listed below are contained in the "Amendments Under Development" section of the Council's website. Measures approved by the Council in September for consideration by the Secretary include:

- Changes to the fishing year for black sea bass (Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 14)
- Changes to the commercial season and trip limit for greater amberjack (Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 14)
- Prohibition of bag limit sale for Atlantic group king

### Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 7

Public hearing via webinar

6:00 PM

Monday, November 18, 2013



The amendment addresses the issue of allowing dolphin and wahoo fillets from the Bahamas into the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone. Information on the amendment, including a video presentation, public hearing document, and how to sign up for the webinar is available at: <http://safmc.net/Meetings/PublicHearingsandScopingMeetings>.

Participants must register online prior to the webinar. Written comments may be submitted until **November 20, 2013**. Email comments to: [DWAmend7Comments@safmc.net](mailto:DWAmend7Comments@safmc.net). The Council is scheduled to approve or disapprove the amendment for submission to the Secretary of Commerce in December.

mackerel and Spanish mackerel with the exception of the sale of tournament landed fish in South Atlantic states with permitting or license systems. The sale of tournament fish would be counted against the commercial quota. (Mackerel Amendment 20A)

- New reporting requirements for federal seafood dealers including weekly online reporting (Generic Seafood Dealer Amendment)

Additional information from the Council's September meeting, including a news release, summary motions, committee reports and briefing book materials is available from the Council's website at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net).

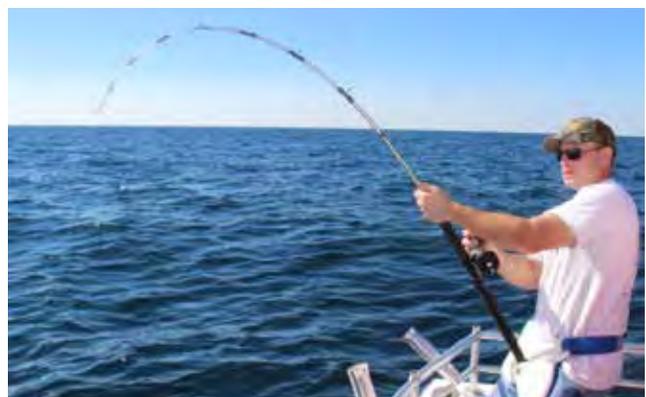
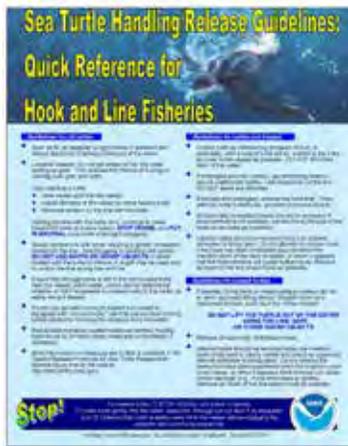


Photo courtesy of Miss Judy's Charters

## Reminder - Sea Turtle Release Gear Requirements for Vessels Fishing for Snapper Grouper Species

This summer staff from the NOAA Fisheries Pasca-goula Lab hit the docks in fishing communities throughout the South Atlantic region to provide training and outreach on required sea turtle release gear and protocols. The requirement affects all vessels in the South



Vessels with Federal Snapper Grouper permits, commercial or for-hire, must have the proper gear onboard for the safe release of sea turtles and meet all federal requirements.

The conservation measure approved by the Council was implemented on September 30, 2012 through the Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 2.

*Not sure what you need for your vessel?* For a complete list of requirements including demonstration videos of handling and release methods, visit the NMFS SERO Handling and Release Requirements page at: <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/sf/HandlingandReleaseRequirements.htm>.



### Save the Date

**Hogfish Stock Assessment  
Public Data Scoping Meeting  
Wednesday, November 20, 2013**

**6:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
Fish and Wildlife Research Institute  
2796 Overseas Hwy., Suite 119  
**Marathon, FL 33050**

FWC/FWRI will hold a public scoping meeting to solicit stakeholder input on the upcoming hogfish stock assessment. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend the meeting and provide input regarding potential data sources and other information about the hogfish fishery. Direct inquiries to [wade.cooper@myfwc.com](mailto:wade.cooper@myfwc.com).

## Snapper Grouper Regulations Snap Shot



### Shallow-Water Grouper

#### Annual Spawning Season Closure January 1st - April 30th

Both commercial and recreational fisheries • includes gag, black grouper, red grouper, scamp, rock hind, red hind, coney, graysby, yellowfin grouper, and yellowmouth grouper.

### Recreational

#### Grouper Aggregate Bag Limit

**3 grouper per person/day** includes:

black, gag, misty, red, scamp, snowy, yellowedge, yellowfin, yellowmouth grouper, and also includes blueline tilefish, golden tilefish, sand tilefish, coney, graysby, and red and rock hind.

- No more than 1 may be a gag **or** black grouper (each 24" TL)
- Snowy grouper-1 fish per vessel per day (closed until January 1, 2014)
- No more than 1 fish may be golden tilefish (closed until January 1, 2014)
- Wreckfish -1 per vessel per day. Season open July 1 - August 31.

### Snapper

- Red Snapper Closed to Harvest
- Vermilion snapper annual November 1 - March 31 seasonal closure has been removed. (effective 9/5/13)
- Aggregate bag limit of 10 snapper per person/day
- In addition to the aggregate bag limit, 5 vermilion snapper per person/day - 12" TL
- Maximum of 2 cubera snapper per person (not to exceed 2 per vessel) for fish 30" Total Length (TL) or larger off Florida. These are not included in the 10 snapper bag limit. Cubera less than 30" TL are included in the 10 fish bag limit.

#### Fishermen may also retain:

- 1 greater amberjack per person/day (in April, for-hire/charter vessels limited to 1 per person/day or 1 per person/trip)
- Limit of 5 black sea bass per person/day - 13" TL
- 5 hogfish per person/day, off east coast of Florida - 12" FL
- 3 red porgy per person/day or 3 per person/trip, whichever is more restrictive - 14" TL

An aggregate bag limit of 20 fish per person inclusive of all fish in the snapper grouper management unit currently not under the bag limit, excluding tomtates and bluerunners. You may catch your bag limits and in addition retain up to 20 other fish for which there are no individual bag limits.

### Commercial

Vermilion Snapper Trip Limit - 1,000 lbs. until 75% of ACL is caught, then reduced to 500 lbs.

Gray triggerfish - reopened from 10/29/13 - until 11/14/13

Red Porgy - annual closure January - April

#### Commercial Closures

- Red snapper - effective 10/8/13
- Gag - effective 11/13/13
- Blue Runner - effective 11/14/13
- Jacks Complex (almaco jack, banded rudderfish, and lesser amberjack) - effective 6/16/13

### Other Regulations

- Dehooking tools are required
- The sale of bag limit snapper grouper prohibited.
- The following are closed year-round to harvest or possession: Goliath grouper, Nassau grouper, speckled hind, and warsaw grouper.
- Non-stainless steel circle hooks are required for both commercial and recreational fishermen north of 28 degrees N. latitude when fishing with natural baits.

**NOTE:** Regulations are subject to change. For the latest updates, visit [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net).

## Fisheries Management Focus of Three-Day MREP Southeast Workshop

Recreational and commercial fishermen, seafood dealers, charter captains, port agents, and others involved in federal fisheries in the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic and Caribbean



**Participants in the Marine Resource Education Program Southeast Management Workshop**

came together September 24-26, 2013 for the second of two workshops held as part of the new Marine Resources Education Program Southeast. The program is designed as an educational program by fishermen for fishermen and is new to the southeast.

The three-day Management Workshop, held in Tampa, Florida, included presentations about the federal fisheries management process, legal and legislative affairs, and law enforcement as well as a hands-on “mock” council meeting for participants. Instructors included staff from the regional fishery management councils, NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office and NOAA General Counsel.

*“I am extremely appreciative of being able to have participated in both workshops; I plan on having some impromptu meetings with materials in hand to share what I’ve learned with others. I feel more empowered to be involved, believing that my input could make a difference”* 2013 MREP Southeast Participant

The majority of attendees at the Management Workshop had also completed the MREP Southeast Science Workshop held earlier this spring. The program is designed for participants to complete both workshops within a 12-month period. The program is funded through NOAA Fisheries and will continue with additional workshops planned for 2014. Information about the program, including materials and presentations from the 2013 workshops and application forms for new participants, is available at [www.gmri.org/community](http://www.gmri.org/community)

### Chairman’s Perspective (Continued from page 2)

- 5) Explore new ways to reach out and communicate with the public to better inform them of Council activities (the new website, webinars, and live video streaming of meetings have already been implemented recently). But we can do more.
- 6) Continue to broaden interactions between the Council’s Scientific and Statistical Committee and fishermen to achieve better catch estimates for data poor stocks and address other issues.

## Council Recognizes Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

Members of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council awarded the 2012 Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award to L/Cpl Henry “Huger” McClellan of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources’ Law Enforcement Division. L/Cpl McClellan was presented the prestigious award by newly-elected Council Chairman Ben Hartig during the Council’s September meeting in Charleston, South Carolina. The award, acknowledging service above and beyond duty requirements, recognizes distinctive service, professionalism and dedication to enforcing fisheries regulations in the South Atlantic region. Nominees may be submitted from each of the southeastern state law enforcement agencies, the U.S. Coast Guard, and NOAA Fisheries. The Council’s Law Enforcement Advisory Panel selected three of the five nominees for 2012 for consideration by the Council.



**L/Cpl Henry “Huger” McClellan, SC DNR**

Law enforcement is an integral component of the fishery management process. To recognize its importance, the Council initiated the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award in 2010 to recognize outstanding contributions made by law enforcement personnel. During the ceremony to honor L/Cpl McClellan, Chairman Hartig stated, “L/Cpl Huger McClellan was nominated by his peers for going above and beyond the call of duty to enforce federal marine fisheries laws and to help conserve our important marine fishery resources.” L/Cpl McClellan was accompanied by several of his fellow officers at the meeting and received a standing ovation for his service.

“This is a tremendous honor for the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources and the men and women that serve in its Law Enforcement Division,” stated the Division’s Deputy Director, Colonel Chisolm Frampton. “L/Cpl McClellan is an extremely dedicated officer and is well-respected by both his peers and the public. He is always willing to go the extra mile.”

Other nominees acknowledged by the Council’s Law Enforcement Advisory Panel for their service include: Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Investigator Bryan Fugate of Marathon, Florida and U.S. Coast Guard Lt. Christopher Ward, Sector Intelligence Officer, U.S. Coast Guard Sector North Carolina. Read the complete news release at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net).

- 7) Support the Marine Resources Educational Program and encourage all interested stakeholders to attend.
- 8) Explore mechanisms to achieve Optimum Yield through the “Visioning Process”.

*Chairman Ben Hartig is a full-time commercial fisherman and marine biologist living in Hobe Sound, Florida. Read more about Ben and other members of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net) in the “About Us” section.*



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Apple/iphone



Android



## SAFMC Meeting Dates and Locations 2014 Schedule

**March 3-7, 2014**  
Hilton Savannah DeSoto  
15 East Liberty Street  
Savannah, GA 31401  
Phone: 912/232-9000

**September 15-19, 2014**  
Charleston Marriott Hotel  
170 Lockwood Boulevard  
Charleston, SC 29403  
Phone: 1/800-968-3569

**June 9-13, 2014**  
Sawgrass Marriott  
1000 PGA Tour Blvd.  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082  
Phone: 904/285-7777

**December 1-5, 2014**  
Doubletree Riverfront  
100 Middle Street  
New Bern, NC 28560  
Phone: 252/638-3585

## South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting



### December 2-6, 2013

Hilton Wilmington Riverside  
301 North Water Street  
Wilmington, NC 28401  
Phone: 910/763-5900

For a detailed agenda contact the Council office toll free at 1-866 SAFMC-10 or 843/571-4366. The agenda is also available on the Council's web site [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)

### MEETING AGENDA

<b>Monday</b>	<b>9:00 - 12:00</b>	<b>Council Member Visioning Workshop</b>
	<b>1:30 - 5:30</b>	<b>Council Member Data Workshop</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>8:30 - 9:30</b>	<b>Joint Habitat/Ecosystem-Based Committee</b>
	<b>9:30 - 11:00</b>	<b>Protected Resources Committee</b>
	<b>11:00 - 12:00</b>	<b>SEDAR Committee Meeting (partially closed)</b>
	<b>1:30 - 2:30</b>	<b>Advisory Panel Selection Committee (closed)</b>
	<b>2:30 - 5:30</b>	<b>Snapper Grouper Committee</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>8:30 - 5:00</b>	<b>Snapper Grouper Committee (continued)</b>
	<b>5:30</b>	<b>Open informal public Q&amp;A session</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>8:30 - 10:30</b>	<b>Mackerel Committee</b>
	<b>10:30 - 11:30</b>	<b>Executive Finance Committee</b>
	<b>11:30 - 12:00</b>	<b>Personnel Committee (closed)</b>
	<b>1:30 - 2:30</b>	<b>Dolphin Wahoo Committee</b>
	<b>2:30 - 5:00</b>	<b>Data Collection Committee</b>
	<b>5:30</b>	<b>Formal Public Comment</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8:30 - 3:00</b>	<b>-- Council Session --</b>

**Note! Follow the Council meeting live online**

Watch the Council meeting via webinar from Wilmington, NC. Registration information is available from the December 2013 meeting information page at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net).



[www.facebook.com/SouthAtlanticCouncil](http://www.facebook.com/SouthAtlanticCouncil)



@SAFMC

### Acronyms

**ABC** - Allowable Biological Catch  
**ACCSP** - Atlantic Coast Cooperative Statistics Program  
**ACL** - Annual Catch Limit  
**AM** - Accountability Measure  
**ACT** - Annual Catch Target  
**AP** - Advisory Panel  
**ASMFC** - Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission  
**BRD** - Bycatch Reduction Device  
**EEZ** - Exclusive Economic Zone  
**EFH** - Essential Fish Habitat  
**EFH/HAPC** - Essential Fish Habitat/Habitat Area of Particular Concern  
**FMP** - Fishery Management Plan  
**HMS** - Highly Migratory Species  
**ITQ** - Individual Transferable Quota  
**MSA** - Magnuson-Stevens Act  
**MSY** - Maximum Sustainable Yield  
**MRIP** - Marine Recreational Information Program  
**NMFS** - National Marine Fisheries Service  
**OY** - Optimum Yield  
**SEDAR** - Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (stock assessment process)  
**SSC** - Scientific & Statistical Committee  
**TAC** - Total Allowable Catch  
**VMS** - Vessel Monitoring System

**Mark your calendar...**

- November 18**      *SAFMC Dolphin Wahoo Amend. 7 Public Hearing (webinar)*  
See page 4 for details    [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)
- November 19-20**    *SAFMC Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel Meeting*  
N. Charleston, SC    [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)
- November 20**      *FWC Hogfish Data Scoping Meeting*  
Marathon, FL    [wade.cooper@myfwc.com](mailto:wade.cooper@myfwc.com)
- December 2-6**      *South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting*  
Wilmington, NC    [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)
- December 9-13**    *SEDAR 38 Data Workshop (king mackerel assessment)*  
N. Charleston, SC    [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)
- December 10-12**    *Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting*  
Annapolis, MD    [www.mafmc.org](http://www.mafmc.org)
- January 21-30**      *SAFMC Public Hearing Series*  
[www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)
- February 3-7**      *Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Meeting*  
Houston, TX    [www.gulfcouncil.org](http://www.gulfcouncil.org)
- February 3-5**      *Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting*  
Alexandria, VA    [www.asafc.org](http://www.asafc.org)



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