

Visioning and strategic planning discussion

At the September 2013 meeting, the Council discussed draft strategic goals and objectives for the snapper grouper fishery. Based on Council guidance and recommendations from the Visioning and Strategic Planning Workgroup¹, the Council will revise the draft goals and objectives at the December 2013 meeting. Port meetings are planned for spring 2014 to engage stakeholders in the discussions and obtain their input. During the port meetings, Council staff will facilitate discussions around 4 broad strategic goals: Science, Management, Communication, and Governance. Below are a series of questions intended to obtain input from port meeting participants on the four strategic goals. The Snapper Grouper AP did a focused conversation exercise with Council staff at the November 2013 meeting. Staff used the questions below to help guide the conversation and as a way to rehearse techniques they will use during the port meetings in 2014.

Management:

1. What are the components/unique characteristics of the snapper grouper fishery?
2. What could happen if the snapper grouper fishery wasn't managed? How would that affect you?
3. What do you think is working with current management of the snapper grouper fishery?
4. What do you think has is not working with current management of the snapper grouper fishery?
5. What management strategies (current or new) could the Council use to address your needs as a stakeholder?
6. How would changes to management strategies affect your goals as a stakeholder in the fishery?

Science:

1. What do you know about science-based fisheries management?
2. What are some benefits of science-based management?
3. What are some challenges?
4. What are ways to improve existing scientific programs (i.e., MARMAP)?
5. What are ways to complement existing scientific programs in the SA region?
6. What are ways to directly involve fishery stakeholders in improving science programs?

Communication

1. How do you receive information about what the Council is working on now?

¹ The Workgroup consists of four Council staffs and four Council members

2. Which of the different types of communication do you think are the best way to get information out to commercial fishermen? Recreational fishermen? For-Hire fishermen? Crew? NGOs?
3. What was one effective communication tool that you think really worked to get information out about a Council management measure or topic?
4. What communication tools are working and would you like to see continue?
5. How would you like to see communication efforts change?
6. How will enhanced communication efforts help you become involved in the management process?

Governance

1. What is your definition of governance?
2. Describe an experience you've had when a decision-making process worked well? What about an experience when it didn't work? How did that impact you?
3. What are some ways that could help improve how the Council handles the decision-making process?
4. How will changes to governance help you as a stakeholder?