

Discussion document for Snapper Grouper Private Recreational Permitting and Reporting

At the June 2022 meeting the Council established membership for the Snapper Grouper Private Recreational Permitting and Reporting Technical Advisory Panel (AP). In addition the Council provided the following guidance for the technical AP at its first meeting:

"Convene a meeting of the Recreational Permitting and Reporting AP before the September 2022 SAFMC meeting. Direct the AP to review the Mid-Atlantic recreational tilefish reporting program with consideration of its applicability to the South Atlantic snapper grouper complex. Present AP recommendations at the September 2022 SAFMC meeting."

This request was made in relation to the Council's intent to continue development of a potential private recreational permit and reporting requirements for the Snapper Grouper fishery through Amendment 46. Given the summary report of the AP's August 2022 meeting, the Committee will be asked for guidance on how the technical AP should proceed at its next meeting. Additionally, the Committee will be asked for feedback on the intended goals and outcomes of implementing a potential private recreational permit and reporting requirement.

Goals and intended outcomes:

- 1) In the Council's own words, what are the overall goals or desired outcomes for developing a private recreational **permit** in the Snapper Grouper fishery? Examples:
 - Better identify likely universe of potential private recreational participants (individuals or vessels)
 - Improve accuracy and timeliness of **landings** data for the private recreational component of the Snapper Grouper fishery
 - Improve accuracy and timeliness of **discard** data for the private recreational component of the Snapper Grouper fishery
 - Other?
- 2) Do these goals apply to a **reporting requirement** as well? Are there separate goals or desired outcomes for reporting?

Directive for the Fall 2022 technical AP meeting:

- 3) What is your next directive for the technical AP? What would you like them to evaluate at their next meeting? Examples:
 - How can permit without a reporting requirement potentially be integrated into the existing MRIP sampling framework to improve the accuracy of landings and discards estimates?
 - Would there be utility in implementing a permit without a reporting requirement?
 - What are the considerations for implementing a reporting requirement that can be validated?

After this Council meeting, the intended next step for Amendment 46 is for the Council to review the amendment in-depth at the December 2022 meeting. Ahead of the December meeting

the technical AP, the Snapper Grouper AP, and the amendment's IPT will convene to provide input on the amendment and topics identified by the Council. Providing guidance on the previously identified topics will greatly help guide these advisory groups in their discussions.