



THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Snapper Grouper Amendment 46 (Private Recreational Permitting)

Public Scoping Presentation





What we'll cover tonight

- What is scoping?
- Snapper Grouper Amendment 46
 - Private recreational permit
 - Education component
- Questions for you to ponder
- Your clarifying questions on the amendment
- Your comments!

A banner image showing the view from the deck of a boat looking out at the ocean with fishing rods in the foreground. The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council logo is in the top left corner.

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Snapper Grouper Amendment 46

Private Recreational Permitting Scoping Document

Scoping Session Date and Time
January 30th and February 6th, 2023 at 6:00pm

Registration Link and More Details
<https://safmc.net/public-hearings-and-scoping/>

Visit Our Website
<https://safmc.net/>

Check Out Our Socials



What is scoping?

Council Process – *FMP/Plan Amendment*



Why is the Council considering taking action?



- Data uncertainty for the recreational sector often leads to notable challenges in managing the fisheries for several Snapper Grouper species.
- Many Snapper Grouper species are also experiencing high mortality due to fish that are caught but do not survive being released.
- Some of the ways to address these issues includes the creation of a private recreational permit and improving education on best fishing practices.



What is the intended outcome?



Vision Statement: A permit for the private recreational sector of the South Atlantic Snapper Grouper fishery will facilitate the collection, validation, and analysis of harvest and discard data to improve the catch and effort estimates used for fisheries science and management decision-making.

What are the Council's ideas right now for implementing a private recreational permit?

- The Council is considering establishing a private recreational permit to fish for, harvest, or possess Snapper Grouper species in the South Atlantic Region.
- Permit issued to a vessel or to an individual angler?
- If issued to a vessel then all anglers fishing onboard that vessel would be covered.
- If issued to an individual angler, then would need to decide who should get the permit?
 - All Snapper Grouper anglers?
 - All Snapper Grouper anglers fishing from a private vessel?
 - At least one angler onboard a private vessel would need a permit?



What species would be covered by a private recreational permit?

- Currently the Council is considering the following groups of species:
 - All 55 species within the Snapper Grouper complex.
 - The 15 species within the Snapper Grouper complex that have a peer-reviewed stock assessment in the South Atlantic.
 - The 13 species that are covered by the Florida State Reef Fish Angler Designation.



What are the Council's ideas right now for establishing an education component?



- An education component would provide an opportunity to educate anglers on several measures:
 - Best fishing practices,
 - Species that make up the Snapper Grouper complex,
 - Species identification, and
 - Helpful tools for remembering fishing regulations.
- This component could be implemented:
 - Immediately when the permit is developed, or
 - Possibly at a later date.
- The Council may also specify whether the education component would be:
 - Mandatory to obtain a permit, or
 - Would be voluntary.

What your thoughts? The Council wants to hear from you!



Private Recreational Permit

1) **Type of Permit:** Should the permit be vessel-based or angler-based?

- **If Angler-Based:** Who should need to get the permit?
 - All anglers regardless of the platform from which they are fishing?
 - All anglers fishing from a private vessel only?
 - At least one angler onboard a private vessel would need to obtain a permit?

2) **Species Covered:** What species should be covered by the permit?

- All Snapper Grouper species?
- Only the species with a peer-reviewed stock assessment?
- Only the species that fall within Florida's State Reef Fish Angler designation.
- Other?

What your thoughts? The Council wants to hear from you!

Education Component

- 1) **Timing of implementation:** Should it be established immediately with implementation of a permit or delayed until a future date?
- 2) **Mandatory or Voluntary:** If implemented, should it be mandatory or voluntary in regard to allowing private recreational anglers to participate in the Snapper Grouper fishery?



Amendment Timing



- This amendment will continue to be developed throughout 2023 and into 2024.
- Measures that are chosen for implementation would likely become effective sometime in 2025 or thereafter.
- The public will have opportunity to comment again during public hearings in fall 2023 and at any Council meeting.



How Do I Comment?

Verbal comments taken during live webinars:

- Monday, January 30, 2023 at 6 PM
- Monday, February 6, 2023 at 6 PM

Written comments: using the online form available from the Public Hearings and Scoping Meetings page on the Council's website ([CLICK HERE](#)). **Submit comments by 5:00 PM on February 10, 2023.**

Comments by mail: Send comments to John Carmichael, Executive Director, SAFMC, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405

Comments by fax: 843-769-4520



Contact Information

Staff Contact: John Hadley

Email: john.hadley@safmc.net

Office Phone Number: 843-302-8432

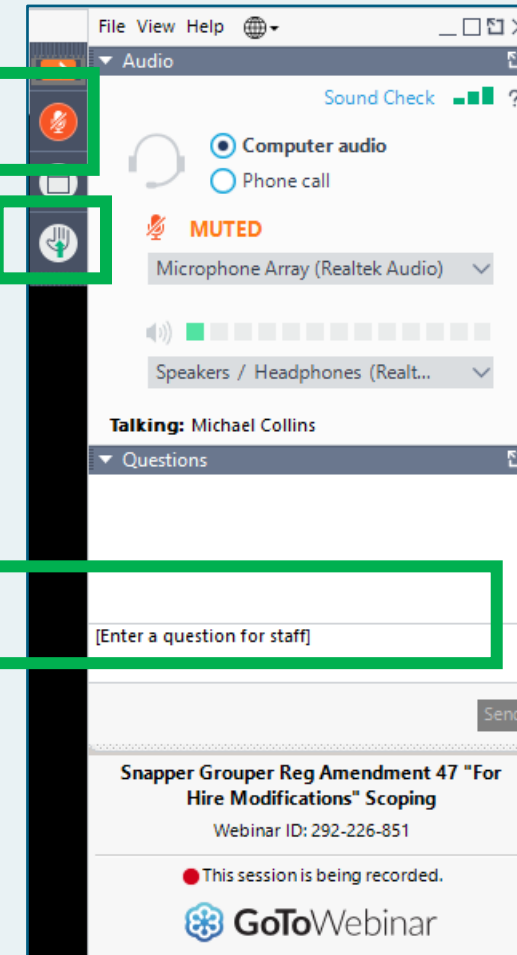
**Question & Answer are next followed by
your comments**

How do I work the webinar?

To unmute (or mute) your microphone, click the microphone icon.

If you would like to ask a question or make a comment click on the hand icon and we will unmute you.

You can type a question into the text box.

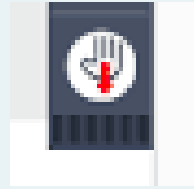




Clarifying Questions???

(Note: Comments up next!)

Public Comments



Please offer your input
to the Council

Comments will be taken in
order of raised hands