



Best Fishing Practices Campaign Update

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Countless Partners

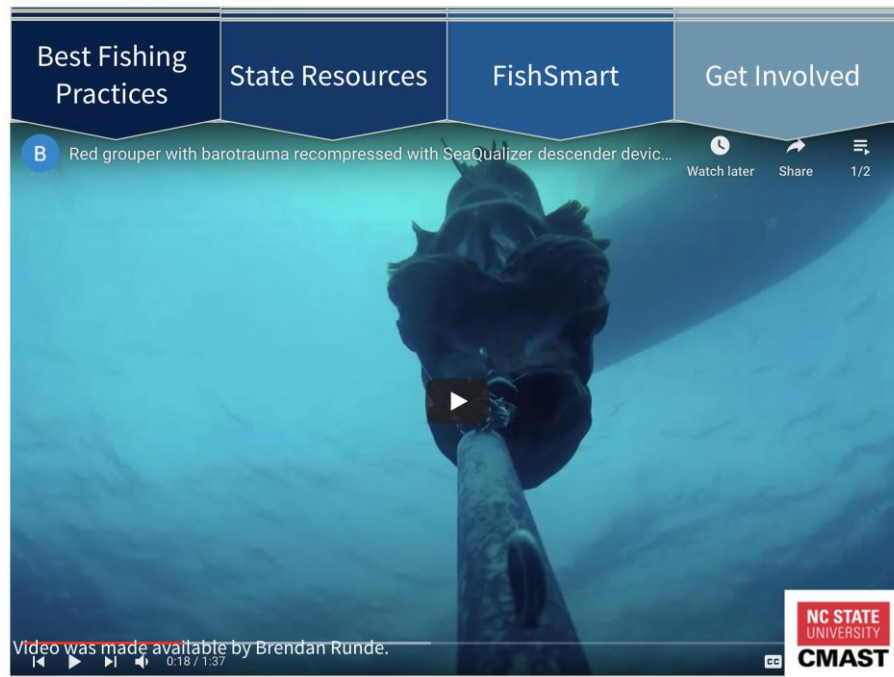


NOAA
FISHERIES



Best Fishing Practices Webpage

<https://safmc.net/best-fishing-practices/>

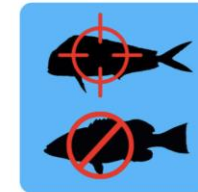


Best fishing practices are courtesy of FishSmart.



Plan Ahead:

Expect to release fish on any given trip and prepare the equipment necessary to do so quickly, including any camera or phone you will be using to take pictures of your catch.



Avoidance:

Develop the skills to target the size and species you desire



Appropriate Gear:

Use gear suited to the size of fish that you are trying to catch. Use circle hooks where recommended and be aware that fishing techniques are different from "J" style hooks.

Best Practices Wallet Card

Distributed to:

- 60 tackle shops/marinas
- All four state agencies
- United States Coast Guard
- NOAA OLE



Best Fishing Practices Begin With You

When targeting snapper grouper species in the South Atlantic:



Have a descending device on board and readily available for use (attached to at least 16 ounces of weight and at least 60 feet of line) as required in federal waters off the coasts of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and East Florida.



When fishing with natural baits in federal waters, **non-offset, non-stainless steel circle hooks** north of 28°N latitude and **non-stainless steel hooks** south of 28°N latitude are required.

Additional details regarding best fishing practices and descending device requirements available at: safmc.net/bfp

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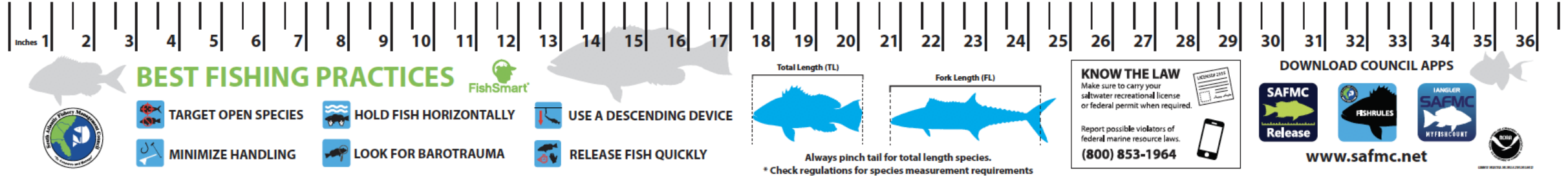


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DIY: Make
Your Own
Descending
Device

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
July 16 · 🌐

Tomorrow, July 17, brings another opportunity for anglers to harvest red snapper in South Atlantic waters (one fish bag limit).

If you fish offshore for snapper or grouper species, a new federal requirement means that you need to use non-offset circle hooks and have a descending device on board to help these fish survive catch and release.





WATCH this easy DIY descending device how-to:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ocdxj-wLK2w&feature=youtu.be>



YOUTUBE.COM

How to Rig Your Own Descending Device
Beginning July 15, 2020, all vessels fishing for or possessing snapper a...

Keep Florida Fishing
July 29 · 🌐

<p>Best Fishing Practices Releasing Deep Water Species</p>  <p>Assess Condition Look for signs of barotrauma:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sluggish swimming Bulging eyes Stomach protruding from the mouth Bloated mid-section Bubbling scales <p>www.safmc.net/bfp</p>	<p>Best Fishing Practices Releasing Deep Water Species</p>  <p>Recompression</p> <p>If a fish shows signs of barotrauma, return it to depth to recompress the gases in the fish's body. To return a fish to depth, use a descending device. There are a variety of descending devices available to purchase, or you can make your own. Make sure the descending device is attached to at least 16 ounces of weight and at least 60 ft of line.</p> <p>www.safmc.net/bfp</p>
<p>Best Fishing Practices Releasing Deep Water Species</p>  <p>Return to Depth</p> <p>When using a descending device to release a fish showing signs of barotrauma, return the fish to the depth at which it was caught.</p> <p>If catching fish at very deep depths, return the fish as deep as possible to improve survival.</p> <p>www.safmc.net/bfp</p>	<p>Best Fishing Practices Releasing Deep Water Species</p>  <p>Venting</p> <p>Use established guidelines when choosing to vent fish. Learn more here: http://catchandrelease.org/.</p> <p>Note: the fish's stomach may protrude from its mouth. Do NOT puncture the stomach.</p> <p>www.safmc.net/bfp</p>

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
July 29 · 🌐

When releasing deep water species, consider the best fishing practices illustrated here. These best fishing practices were developed by FishSmart, a program fostered by the sport fishing community, with the cooperation of state and local government fisheries agencies. FishSmart takes a science-based approach to improving the survival of released fish.

Learn more about best fishing practices: <https://safmc.net/best-fishing-practices/>


South Carolina Department of Natural Resources MyFWC Florida Fish and Wildlife NC Dept of Environmental Quality Coastal Resources Division - Georgia DNR NOAA Fisheries Service

Mustad Fishing
6d · 🌐

Did you know, the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council has updated their recommendations for releasing fish, including new gear requirements for anglers targeting and possessing snapper and grouper species in federal waters of the South Atlantic? Visit the link below for more info, and always check your local regulations before heading out.

Stock up on new circle hooks that meet the regulations at mustad-fishing.com.

<https://safmc.net/best-fishing-practices>



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Sport Fishing Magazine
July 15 · 🌐

New rules in the snapper/grouper fishery in the South Atlantic go into effect today. This Friday signals the final day in this year's Atlantic red snapper season. Be prepared.



SAFMC.NET

Best Fishing Practices
Since we are all invested in the future of fisheries in the South Atlantic,...

Facebook Push

2-3 Facebook posts/week in July
Many posts from other accounts

BFP in the News

FLORIDA SPORTSMAN

REPORTS REGIONS FORECAST PHOTOS BOATING HOW-TO SPORTFISH GEAR VIDEOS SHOP ABOUT

Forums Panel TV Podcast/Radio Subscribe Conservation Recipes Tournaments Tides and Weather

LEARN HOW TO EARN UP TO \$35 IN CLUB POINTS

July 10th, 2020

EAST CENTRAL KEYS NORTHEAST OFFSHORE FISHING
RED SNAPPER SOUTH SOUTHEAST

Atlantic Red Snapper Season Kicks Off

Florida Sportsman Editor
More From Florida Sportsman Editor

Tideline
Lowcountry Land & Sea

86° PARTLY CLOUDY

ROPER ST. FRANCIS WEATHERCAST

BY TOMMY BRASWELL SPECIAL TO THE POST AND COURIER
JUL 12, 2020

New fishing requirements for snapper, grouper go into effect next week

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What you need to know before snapper mini season opens Friday

Here's how you can legally fish for red snapper this year

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NEWS TICKER CANDIDATE PROFILE: Retired U.S. Air Force Col. Bob Harvey Seeks To Be City of Cocoa's

BOOT BARN

Atlantic Red Snapper Season to Begin on Friday, Anglers Can Help Florida Fish and Wildlife Gather Data

By Space Coast Daily // July 9, 2020

THE 2020 RECREATIONAL SEASON IN ATLANTIC FEDERAL WATERS IS JULY 10-12 AND JULY 17

ACCIDENT INJURY TREATMENT 321-952-9993

INJURY

Coastal Review Online
A Daily News Service Covering North Carolina's Coast

Front Page News & Features Our Coast Science Commentary Special Reports Photos Videos

NEWS BRIEFS

DMF Asks for Red Snapper Carcasses

07/02/2020 by Staff Report


The state Division of Marine Fisheries is readying for the 2020 red snapper season and asking recreational fishers to donate red snapper carcasses.

Additionally, there are new gear requirements for the snapper-grouper fishery that will go into effect shortly after the red snapper season opens.

Recreational season will be open July 10 to July 12 and July 17. The commercial red snapper season will open July 13 with a 75-pound gutted weight trip limit and will close Dec. 31 or when the commercial quota is met, whichever comes first.

The DMF will collect red snapper carcasses from recreational fishermen during the red snapper season. Those who donate will receive a citation, or certificate, from the N.C. Saltwater Fishing Tournament.

Division biologists will measure the fish, determine the sex and remove the ear bones to determine the



Red snapper. Image: DMF

PEW

TOPICS PROJECTS FEATURES ABOUT GET INVOLVED SEARCH

New Rule Will Help Fish Survive Catch and

Just carry tool to help snapper and grouper return to cover from rapid pressure changes


Linda Cunningham & Lora Clarke Topics: Ocean Conservation Projects: Conserving Marine Life in the United States Tags: Fisheries management Read time: 2 min

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FISHINGWIRE **Ranger**

JULY 6, 2020

Descending Devices, Non-Offset Hooks to be Required for S.C. Snapper-Grouper Fishing



Descending devices (two varieties of which are shown at center) will soon become a required part of snapper-grouper anglers' tackle boxes. (Photo: E. Weeks/SCDNR)

CHARLESTON COUNTY, S.C. — To encourage best fishing practices and improve fish survival, NOAA Fisheries recently announced new gear requirements that will apply to offshore anglers from North Carolina through the Florida East Coast.

Beginning July 15, 2020, anglers targeting snapper or grouper species will be required to have a descending device on board and readily available for use. Additionally, the new rule



BFP in the News: Live Shows

- Kelly Kelly Show
- Fly Navarro No BS Tour
- Fox 24 Charleston

Next Steps

- Foster relationships with tackle shops/marinas
- Foster relationships with manufacturers
- Distribute wallet cards where needed
- Seek opportunities with podcasts, magazines, agencies, radio shows, etc.
- Speak at club meetings and other outreach events



Discussion Questions

- Are the Council's Best Fishing Practices efforts, as well as efforts underway by other agencies, reaching fishermen?
- Are you seeing an increase in the use of descending devices in your area?
- Are you seeing a difference in the availability of descending devices at tackle shops in your area?
- Is there any confusion among fishermen regarding the new descending device requirements?