Best Fishing Practices Campaign Update

Council Staff

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Advisory Panels

- Citizen Science
- Citizen Science Action Teams
- Coral
- Dolphin/Wahoo
- Golden Crab
- Habitat and Environmental Protection
- Outreach and Communications
- Mackerel Cobia
- Law Enforcement
- Deepwater Shrimp
- Snapper Grouper
- Shrimp
- Spiny Lobster
- SEDAR Pool
- Shrimp Technical Review Panel
- Spiny Lobster Review Panel
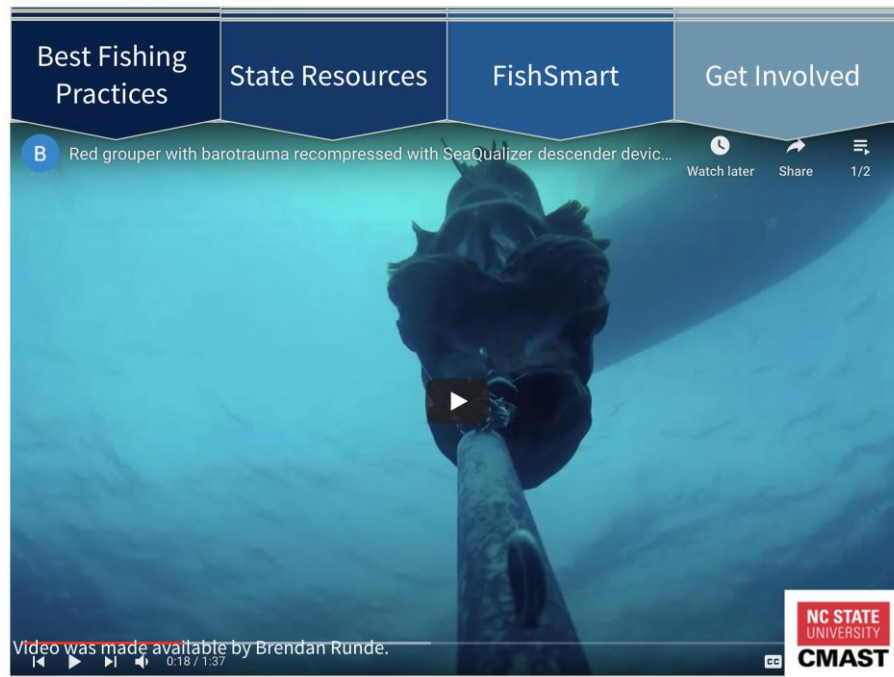- System Management Plan
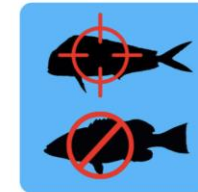
Countless Partners

Best Fishing Practices Webpage

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

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:

Use a descending device when needed

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.

Use appropriate gear

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**

Developing Partnerships

Swag
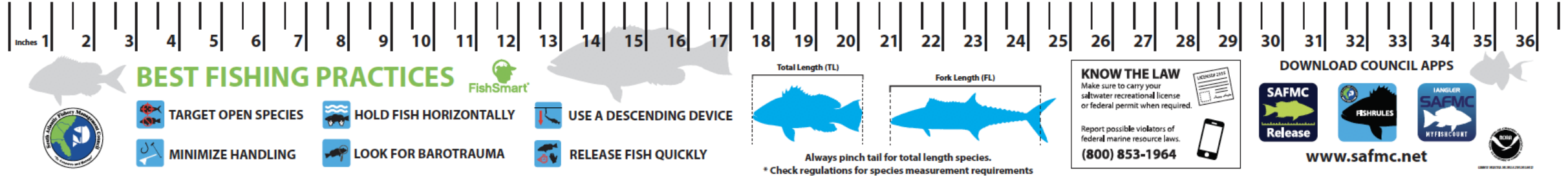
DIY: Make Your Own Descending Device

Facebook Push

2-3 Facebook posts/week in July

Many posts from other accounts

BFP in the News

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?