

DRAFT Vision Statement, Strategic Goals & Objectives for the Snapper Grouper Fishery

VISION STATEMENT

“The snapper grouper fishery is a healthy, sustainable fishery that balances and optimizes benefits for all.”

STRATEGIC GOALS & GOAL THEMES

<p>MANAGEMENT</p> <p>Goal Themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Minimal Waste</i> • <i>Healthy Ecosystem & Habitat</i> • <i>Adaptive Management</i> • <i>Stable & Resilient Fishing Communities</i> • <i>Economic Efficiency</i> 	<p>SCIENCE</p> <p>Goal Themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sound Science (Data Collection)</i> • <i>Build Partnerships</i>
<p>COMMUNICATION</p> <p>Goal Themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Public Involvement & Cooperation</i> • <i>Stakeholder Diversity</i> • <i>Enhance Partnerships</i> 	<p>GOVERNANCE</p> <p>Goal Themes:</p> <p><i>(Need to be developed)</i></p>

DRAFT STRATEGIC GOALS & OBJECTIVES

SCIENCE:

Goal 1. Obtain quality data to monitor and assess biological, economic, and social impacts of management.

(Additional objectives that need review:

Objective 1: Expand and enhance current methods of data collection in the South Atlantic region.

Goal 2. Consider localized depletion

MANAGEMENT:

Goal 3. Promote effective stewardship of the resource.

Objective 3.1. Consider mechanisms to vest fishermen in the snapper grouper fishery.

Objective 3.2. Decrease incentives for overcapitalization.

Objective 3.3. Identify regional differences in the fishery that result in user conflict.

Objective 3.4. Prevent continual dissipation of returns from fishing through open access.

(Additional objectives that need review:

- Objective 1: Utilize management strategies that result in predictable fishing seasons.
EDITING OPTIONS: Promote predictable fishing seasons.
- Objective 2: Utilize management strategies that minimize discards and waste in the fishery.
EDITING OPTIONS: Minimize waste in the fishery.
- Objective 3: Utilize management strategies that result in habitat protection.
EDITING OPTIONS: Encourage habitat protection.)

Goal 4. Provide for flexible management.

Objective 4.1. Adopt management strategies that address differences in temporal and areal distribution of the resource.

(Additional objectives that need review:

- Objective: Develop a management system that minimizes regulatory delays while retaining substantial Council and public involvement in management decisions.
- Objective: Develop a management system that adapts quickly to changes in resource abundance, new scientific information, and changes in fishing patterns among user groups. *NOTE: need to consider the part about adapting quickly to changes in resources abundance under objective 2.*
- Objective: Consider alternate management strategies for the recreational sector that allow for flexibility.)

Goal 5. Minimize habitat damage from fishing and non-fishing activities.

Note: *Habitat protection is one of the National Standards and may not be needed in the strategic plan for snapper grouper.*

(Additional objectives that need review:

- Objective: Consider strategies that reduce gear interactions with snapper grouper habitat.

- Objective: Improve the Council process for encouraging habitat protection and conservation.
- *NOTE: Need to develop objectives that address non-fishery impacts and how this can be communicated (Also include under Communication strategic goal.)*

Goal 6. Support public compliance with regulations. (Need to ensure that regulations are enforceable.)

Goal 7. Provide a management regime which promotes stability and long-range planning in all sectors.

Objective 7.1. Create opportunity for market-driven harvest and continuity in the availability of product.

(Additional objectives that need review:

- *Note: Be sure to include recreational in the objectives/strategies.*
- *Note: Ensure accessibility to the fishery for all sectors.*
- Objective: Utilize management strategies that allow for a consistent supply of fish throughout the fishing year.
- Objective: Expand management strategies that address the social and economic needs of fishing businesses for the long-term.
- Objective: - Adopt management strategies that reflect market needs and promote product continuity for commercial and for-hire businesses.

Goal 8. Consider strategies to address localized depletion.

COMMUNICATION:

Goal 9. Promote public understanding of regulations.

GOVERNANCE:

NOTE: Need to develop some goals for this strategic goal.

NOTES:

MSA (Objectives already mandated):

1. Prevent overfishing.
2. End overfishing of snapper grouper stocks undergoing overfishing.
3. Rebuild stocks declared overfished.
4. **NOTE:** Could add Habitat Protection here...