

Planning for Port Meetings

To receive input from stakeholders, the SAFMC will conduct region-wide port meetings in 2014. Stakeholders are encouraged to participate by helping organize, host, and promote the meetings and as active participants in the discussions. Meeting outcomes would be:

- Input on the revised draft goals/objectives for the snapper grouper fishery. Note: *These are framed around four strategic goals – Science, Management, Communication, and Governance.*
- Recommendations on strategies for implementing the four strategic goals and objectives.
- Dialogue with fisheries stakeholders to improve communication about management of the snapper grouper fishery.

Port Meeting Organization

- **Facilitation:** *Meetings facilitated by staff using an interactive focused conversation method centered around the four strategic goals. Each meeting would start with a general overview of the Council's jurisdiction and the purpose of visioning.*
- **Locations:** *Conduct meetings in 3 - 4, key coastal communities in each state. Also consider having stakeholders host meetings at informal locations (docks, fish houses, town halls, etc.).*
- **Format:** *Meetings could be organized by fishery sector (commercial, recreational/for-hire) or be all-inclusive.*
 - Option 1: Large all-inclusive meeting; 3 hours in length (per community).*
 - Option 2: Individual sector meetings; 2 hours in length/sector (per community); 3 meetings/community;*
 - Sectors could include:*
 - *Meeting 1 – Commercial*
 - *Meeting 2 – Recreational/For-Hire*
 - *Meeting 3 – General Fisheries Interest (tourism, hospitality, chefs, restaurants, etc.*
 - *Need to consider timing of these sessions; Start in the late afternoon and end early evening?*
- **Webinars:** *Host webinar meetings for conservation NGO groups.*

Port Meeting Plan of Work

- **Timing:** *Consider timing of the port meetings relative to fishing seasons and scheduled public hearings.*
- **Outreach Pre-Port Meetings:**
 - *Finalize outreach and port meeting materials – flyer, visioning overview, fact sheet, paper form for comments, and website materials. Also include a sign-up sheet to post at each meeting for stakeholders that want to participate in follow-up webinars.*
 - *Solicit comments through the existing comment e-mail – safmcvision@safmc.net*
 - *SAFMC staff would develop and mail/e-mail a flyer to all federal snapper grouper permit holders promoting the meetings (see draft flyer).*
 - *Staff would host a kick-off webinar to explain the purpose of visioning and structure of port meetings.*
 - *Utilize the snapper grouper advisory panel, Council members and others to promote the port meetings and recruit hosts and/or participants.*
 - *Set up registration links for people to register for attending a port meeting.*
- **Post-Port Meeting:**
 - *Host follow-up webinars on each of the four strategic goals to collect more specific strategies.*
 - *Compile notes recorded into a summary report for each meeting and organize by strategic goal.*