

Summary of Scoping Comments Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 23

September 2015

Scoping for Regulatory Amendment 23 was conducted via webinar on August 10, 2015. Comments were received from July 27 until August 14, 2015. One written comment (attached) was received during the comment period and one person (same commenter) provided comment during the webinar (question log attached).

Reg Am 23 Scoping

Golden Tilefish

I would not like to see the Golden Tilefish opening date changed! By changing this date you are going to cause a lot of **dead discards** and or **release mortality**. All Other deep water species such as Snowy Grouper, Blue Line Tilefish, and Deep Water Complex must be aligned to open at the same time to prevent dead discards.

I Own and operate a commercial bandit boat out of South Florida if you are thinking of changing the opening date for Golden Tilefish to help the hook and liners with any sort of slight advantage over the long liners. I would like to see the opening date changed to October, November, or December to give us a head start, but like I said before all deep water species must open at the same time,

Another reason not to change the opening date which is a big concern to me is we bandit fish for deep water species all winter. In the spring and summer we mostly fish Amberjack, Groupers, and Snappers. If the Golden Tilefish opening date changes to near the spring, what are we suppose to do all winter long to feed our families?? This would severely hurt our yearly income. I guess we could go bandit fishing for Snowy Groupers and Yellow Edge Groupers and have to throw back the Golden Tiles dead or alive, Doesn't sound like a good idea to me!

Jacks Complex

On another note. Jacks Complex! **I don't really think a trip limit is needed for Almaco Jacks**. If you were going to have a trip limit at 300 to 500 lb trip limit like the AP suggested is far to small. These fish are only worth a little over a dollar a lb. as it is. With this sort of trip limit it doesn't really make it commercially viable to target this species. Especially with the distances we must go and the amount of money trips cost these days. I would say you would at least have to make the trip limit comparable to Amberjack with a 1200 lb. trip limit. Honestly though I would really like to see the Amberjack trip

limit upped to 2000 lbs. If a trip limit is considered necessary, my suggestion will be 2000 lb trip limit for both Almaco Jacks and Amberjacks.

A good suggestion I have is to figure out what the average lbs. per trip of jacks complex species are based on log books and catch history. This data would come from the boats that are actually out fishing for a living to feed there families (not part-timers) and go with that information.

In addition, having no size limit on Almaco Jacks is good because then there is ZERO dead discards.

Tight

Lines,

Vincent Bonura

Subject: Fwd: Reg Am 23 Scoping

Date: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 at 8:09:29 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Vincent Bonura

To: Myra Brouwer

-----Original Message-----

From: Vincent Bonura <sailraiser25c@aol.com>

To: Mike.Collins <Mike.Collins@safmc.net>

Sent: Tue, Aug 11, 2015 8:02 pm

Subject: Reg Am 23 Scoping

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Tight Lines,
Vincent

Bonura

Question Log from Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 23 Scoping Webinar – August 10, 2015

Audience Question:

Q: Thank you for the hogfish presentation[Johnoly Conley]
[thcjohn100@yahoo.com] [Q: 6:37 PM] [A: 6:39 PM]

A: you are welcome

Q: Are these comments for on record today?[Vincent Bonura]
[SailRaiser25C@aol.com] [Q: 6:39 PM] [A: 6:39 PM]

A: yes

Q: nothing on the screen??[michelle duval] [michelle.duval@ncdenr.gov] [Q: 6:42 PM] [A: 6:43 PM]

A: I think it is on your end, as our parallel computer is getting audio and visual

Q: I would not like to see Golden Tilefish opening date changed! By changing this date you are going to cause a lot of dead discards and or release mortality. All other deep water species such as snowy grouper and deepwater complex must be aligned together to open at the same time so that there is no discards.[Vincent Bonura] [SailRaiser25C@aol.com] [Q: 6:47 PM] [A: 6:48 PM]

A: will address

Q: I own and operate a bandit boat out of south florida if you are only thinking of changing the opening for golden tile to help the hook and liners[Vincent Bonura]
[SailRaiser25C@aol.com] [Q: 6:49 PM] [A: 6:49 PM]

A: ok

Q: I'm still typing[Vincent Bonura] [SailRaiser25C@aol.com] [Q: 6:49 PM] [A: 6:49 PM]

A: ok

Q: good job Myra[Mark Brown] [capt.markbrown@comcast.net] [Q: 6:50 PM] [A: 6:50 PM]

A: yep

Q: with any sort of advantage over the long liners. I would like to see the opening dates changed to November or December but like I said before all deepwater species must open at the same time.[Vincent Bonura] [SailRaiser25C@aol.com] [Q: 6:51 PM] [A: 6:51 PM]

A: ok

Q: I got another I would like to type in as well.[Vincent Bonura]
[SailRaiser25C@aol.com] [Q: 6:51 PM] [A: 6:52 PM]

A: sure

Q: Another reason not to change the opening date which is a big concern to me. We bandit fish for deepwater species all winter and then in the spring and summer we mostly fish amberjack, grouper, and snapper. If this opening date changes to near the spring what am I suppose to do to feed my family in the winter. this would severely hurt my yearly income.[Vincent Bonura]

[SailRaiser25C@aol.com] [Q: 6:54 PM] [A: 6:54 PM]

A: ok