

INNOVATIVE RECREATIONAL MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Snapper Grouper Vision Blueprint and Regulatory Amendment 26 Overview

September 16- 17, 2018
Charleston, SC

Kari MacLauchlin Buck, Facilitator

Snapper Grouper Visioning

- Development started in 2012 for a long-term strategic plan for the Snapper Grouper fishery
- Port meetings held in 2014 to get stakeholder input on problems and potential solutions
- Council workshop to develop the Snapper Grouper Vision Blueprint for 2016-2020
- 4 Goal Areas: Science, Management, Communication, and Governance

Snapper Grouper Vision Blueprint

Several objectives, strategies and actions apply to the recreational sector and align with the discussion today

- Improved data collection and stakeholder engagement
- Innovative approaches to increase retention and incorporate seasonality
- Reduced bycatch

Snapper Grouper Vision Blueprint

Goal: Science

Specific Objectives/Strategies/Actions to keep in mind for this workshop

Obj2: Encourage development of mechanisms to effectively engage and collaborate with stakeholders on cooperative research, data collection and analysis.

Obj4: Support improved and expanded monitoring and reporting programs for the Snapper Grouper fishery

Strategy 4.2: Support further development of reporting mechanisms for all sectors in the SG fishery

Actions: Electronic reporting, incentives, bycatch/discard reporting

Snapper Grouper Vision Blueprint

Goal: Management

Specific Objectives/Strategies/Actions to keep in mind for this workshop

Obj2: Develop innovative management measures that allow consistent access to the fishery for all sectors.

Strategy 2.1: Support development of management approaches that address retention of snapper grouper species.

Actions: Bag limit adjustment, aggregates, area-based management

Strategy 2.3: Support development of management approaches that account for the seasonality of the snapper grouper fishery

Actions: Deepwater aggregate, 'time-out' period for rec fishing, seasons for co-occurring species using depth as criteria

Strategy 2.5: Consider development of alternative management approaches to expand access to the fishery.

Actions: Harvest tags, use depth to set zones of rec harvest, simplify regulations

Snapper Grouper Vision Blueprint

Goal: Management

Specific Objectives/Strategies/Actions to keep in mind for this workshop

Obj3: Ensure that management decisions help maximize social and economic opportunity for all sectors.

Strategy 3.2: Consider development of management approaches that support recreational fishing and allow increased opportunity for trip satisfaction.

Actions: Seasons with post-season adjustments, in-season adjustments instead of in-season closures, seasons for co-occurring species, aggregate bag limits, mechanisms based on abundance and availability

Obj4: Develop management measures that reduce and mitigate discards.

Strategy 4.1: Consider management approaches that consider catch limits, seasons, and the biology of the fishery in order to minimize bycatch of SG species.

Actions: Time-area closures, set fishing season, deepwater season, shallow-water season

Strategy 4.2: Consider management approaches that address the impact of depth on bycatch of SG species.

Actions: deepwater season, retention for deepwater species, zone-based management based on depth

Strategy 4.5: Develop management approaches that support “best fishing practices” to help avoid bycatch and reduce discard mortality.

Actions: research on bycatch reduction methods, gear requirements, incentive program

Regulatory Amendment 26

SAFMC decided to prioritize *retention* and *seasonality* in the Recreational Visioning Amendment

- Deepwater Aggregate
 - Select species to include in the aggregate
 - Season
 - Bag limit

Other aggregates with seasons were considered but were removed from the amendment

Regulatory Amendment 26

- Remove minimum size limit for queen, silk and blackfin snapper
- Reduce the minimum size limit for gray triggerfish in the EEZ off Florida (14" to 12")
- Revise the 20-fish aggregate bag limit
 - Options: no action, 10-fish limit for gray triggerfish, 10-fish limit for Atlantic spadefish, 10-fish limit for any one species

Regulatory Amendment 26

- Public hearings held in Spring 2018
- SAFMC will review the amendment
September 2018
- Final approval for formal review in
December 2018