South Carolina General Assembly
121st Session, 2015-2016

A166, R172, H4709

STATUS INFORMATION

General Bill
Sponsors: Reps. Hixon, Hodges, Corley, Burns, Hiott, V.S. Moss, Kirby and Newton
Document Path: l:\council\bills\gt\5042cm16.docx
Companion/Similar bill(s): 984

Introduced in the House on January 20, 2016
Introduced in the Senate on February 4, 2016
Passed by the General Assembly on April 20, 2016
Governor's Action: April 29, 2016, Signed

Summary: SC Marine Resource Act of 2000

HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS

Date	Body	Action Description with journal page number
1/20/2016	House	Introduced and read first time (House Journal-page 5)
1/20/2016	House	Referred to Committee on **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** (House Journal-page 5)
1/28/2016	House	Committee report: Favorable **Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs** (House Journal-page 3)
1/28/2016	House	Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Newton
2/3/2016	House	Read second time (House Journal-page 18)
2/3/2016	House	Roll call Yeas-101 Nays-0 (House Journal-page 18)
2/4/2016	House	Read third time and sent to Senate (House Journal-page 18)
2/4/2016	Senate	Introduced and read first time (Senate Journal-page 7)
2/4/2016	Senate	Referred to Committee on **Fish, Game and Forestry** (Senate Journal-page 7)
4/13/2016	Senate	Recalled from Committee on **Fish, Game and Forestry** (Senate Journal-page 2)
4/19/2016	Senate	Read second time (Senate Journal-page 25)
4/19/2016	Senate	Roll call Ayes-39 Nays-1 (Senate Journal-page 25)
4/19/2016	Senate	Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day (Senate Journal-page 25)
4/20/2016	Senate	Read third time and enrolled (Senate Journal-page 10)
4/26/2016		Ratified R 172
4/29/2016		Signed By Governor
5/4/2016		Effective date 04/29/16
5/6/2016		Act No. 166

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VERSIONS OF THIS BILL

1/20/2016
1/28/2016
4/13/2016

(A166, R172, H4709)

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 50-5-15, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO TERMS AND THEIR DEFINITIONS CONTAINED IN THE SOUTH CAROLINA MARINE RESOURCES ACT OF 2000, SO AS TO PROVIDE A DEFINITION FOR THE TERM "SOUTHERN COBIA MANAGEMENT ZONE"; AND TO AMEND SECTION 50-5-2730, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO CERTAIN FEDERAL FISHING REGULATIONS, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT THESE REGULATIONS DO NOT APPLY TO COBIA LOCATED IN THE SOUTHERN COBIA MANAGEMENT ZONE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

Southern Cobia Management Zone defined

SECTION 1. Section 50-5-15 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 72 of 2013, is further amended by adding the following appropriately numbered item at the end:

"( ) 'Southern Cobia Management Zone' means all waters of this State south of 032° 31.0′ N latitude, the approximate latitude of Jeremy Inlet, Edisto Island."

Federal fishing regulations

SECTION 2. Section 50-5-2730 of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 83 of 2013, is further amended to read:

"Section 50-5-2730. (A) Unless otherwise provided by law, any regulations promulgated by the federal government under the Fishery Conservation and Management Act (PL 94-265) or the Atlantic Tuna Conservation Act (PL 94-70) which establishes seasons, fishing periods, gear restrictions, sales restrictions, or bag, catch, size, or possession limits on fish are declared to be the law of this State and apply statewide including in state waters.

(B) This provision does not apply to:

(1) black sea bass (Centropristis striata) whose lawful catch limit is five fish per person per day or the same as the federal limit for black sea bass, whichever is higher. The lawful minimum size is thirteen inches

total length. Additionally, there is no closed season on the catching of black sea bass (Centropristis striata); or

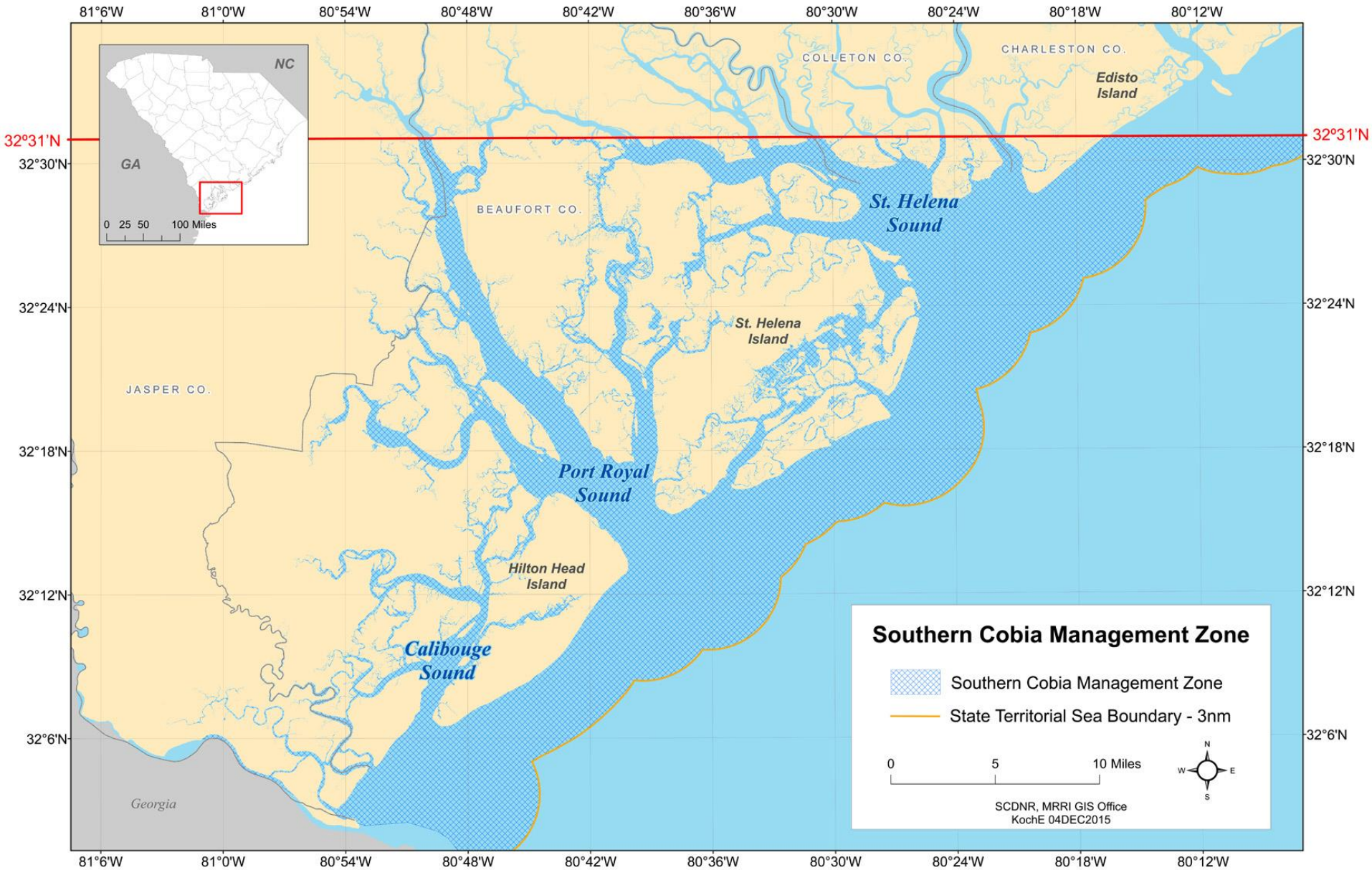
(2) cobia (Rachycentron canadum) located in the Southern Cobia Management Zone. Subject to the size limit established by federal regulation, possession of cobia caught in the Southern Cobia Management Zone is limited to one per person per day, and no more than three per boat per day, from June 1 to April 30. It is unlawful to take and possess cobia in the Southern Cobia Management Zone from May 1 to May 31, and at any time federal regulations provide for the closure of the recreational cobia season in the waters of the South Atlantic Ocean."

Time Effective

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 26th day of April, 2016.

Approved the 29th day of April, 2016.


Southern Cobia Management Zone
Southern Cobia Management Zone
State Territorial Sea Boundary - 3nm
0
5
10 Miles
N
W
E
S
SCDNR, MRRI GIS Office
KochE 04DEC2015
NC
GA
0 25 50 100 Miles
COLLETON CO.
CHARLESTON CO.
Edisto Island
BEAUFORT CO.
St. Helena Sound
St. Helena Island
JASPER CO.
Port Royal Sound
Hilton Head Island
Calibouge Sound
Georgia
32°31'N
32°30'N
32°24'N
32°18'N
32°12'N
32°6'N
81°6'W
81°0'W
80°54'W
80°48'W
80°42'W
80°36'W
80°30'W
80°24'W
80°18'W
80°12'W