

“Finding a Way Forward: Shared
Vision and Strategic Planning for the
Snapper Grouper Fishery”

**DECISION DOCUMENT FOR
VISION STATEMENT**



JUNE 2013

Development of a Draft Vision Statement

Per the Council's approved plan for the process, the June workshop would include formulating a draft vision statement for the snapper grouper fishery. To this end, the Council could consider the following:

- (1) Within the mandates of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, how would the Council prioritize the following outcomes of managing the snapper grouper fishery?
 - Achieving the maximum economic yield from the fishery
 - Maintaining the long-term sustainability of stocks
 - Maintaining the integrity of fishing communities
 - Achieving the most equitable allocation of the resource
- (2) How far into the future would the Council's vision extend?
- (3) Are the outcomes measurable?

Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel Input

At the 2013 Snapper Grouper AP meeting, Council staff presented an overview of the elements of the visioning and strategic planning process. At the conclusion of the discussion that ensued, Council staff requested that individual AP members submit a "vision statement" that would capture their individual perception of the fishery and the changes that are needed. Below are the statements that were submitted:

- For the commercial fishery, allow permit reductions as the 2 for 1, eliminate the corporate status that voids the 2 for 1 clause -- the reason the quotas have been lowered and seasons have shortened. So let's professionalize the fishery so fishermen stay in and are productive for years to come.
- Improve data collection for all groups to better manage the fishery, especially the recreational sector. Keep both sectors fishing.
- Increase the TACs to where it is feasible for fishermen to make a good living.
- Healthy, balanced fish stocks with no fishery taking heavy pressure. (2) Properly managed MPAs.
- Have a flexible management system where in-season bag limits and trip limits can be adjusted up or down based on current landings vs. ACLs to achieve OY and MSY.
- (1) To help manage and promote the commerce of fishing at a sustainable level for the future; (2) realize economic value of each sector on the overall scale as it applies to fisheries (i.e., hotels, restaurants, gas, tackle, tourism, etc.) and factor that into management decisions; (3) address need for regional management on a smaller scale than the entire South Atlantic.