



# **SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

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Trish Murphey, Chair | Jessica McCawley, Vice Chair  
John Carmichael, Executive Director

## **Agenda**

North Charleston Marriott  
4770 Goer Drive  
North Charleston, SC  
September 15-19, 2025

Except for advertised (scheduled) public hearings and public comment sessions, the times indicated on the agenda may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that meetings may start earlier or later than indicated.

### Hybrid Public Comment Session:

The public comment session for the meeting (September 17, 2025, at 4 PM), will allow for both in-person and remote (via webinar) verbal public comment. Individuals intending to provide verbal public comment remotely are asked to sign-up [HERE](#). Members of the public intending to provide comments in-person will be asked to sign in at the meeting.

### Written Comments:

To submit written comments on items on this agenda, visit the online public comment form [HERE](#).

Written comments will be accepted from August 29 to September 19, 2025. These comments are accessible to the public, part of the Administrative Record of the meeting, and immediately available for Council consideration.

View submitted written comments [HERE](#).

Written comments submitted by mail/fax received by close of business the Monday before the meeting (September 8, 2025) will be compiled, posted to the website as part of the meeting materials, and included in the administrative record.

From September 9 to 5 PM on September 19, written comments must be submitted electronically through the online public comment form at the link above.

### **Monday, September 15, 2025**

### **COMMITTEE MEETING**

#### **Snapper Grouper Commercial Sub-Committee/McCawley 8:30 am – 10:30 am**

Lead staff: Dr. Mike Schmidtke

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (June 2025)
- 1. Commercial Management Measures (Amendment 60)
  - a. Review scoping comments
  - b. Overview

### **Monday, September 15, 2025**

### **COUNCIL SESSION**

#### **COUNCIL SESSION I /Murphey 10:45 am – 12:00 noon**

Lead staff: John Carmichael

- Oath for new Council members

- Law Enforcement of the Year 2024 Award presentation
  - Approve agenda
  - Approve minutes (June 2025)
  - Introductions
  - Litigation brief
1. Reports:
    - a. State agencies
    - b. Staff (written report only)
    - c. Best Fishing Practices (written report, recorded presentation, and survey)
    - d. Council liaisons
    - e. SERO
      - i. Protected Resources (written report only)
    - f. SEFSC

### **Lunch**

#### **COUNCIL SESSION I/Murphey 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm**

2. Executive Order 14276 Response – Council staff
  - a. Summary of public and advisory panel comments
  - b. Review draft response
3. Review SAFMC Research and Monitoring Priorities – Council staff
  - a. Priorities by FMP/Program
  - b. Approve revised 2025-2029 Research and Monitoring Plan
4. Update on South Atlantic Fishery Independent Surveys – Dr. Tracey Smart, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
5. Dolphin Management
  - a. Management Strategy Evaluation presentation – Dr. Cassidy Peterson, SEFSC
  - b. Summary of recent journal articles on dolphin – Council staff

**Tuesday, September 16, 2025**

**COUNCIL SESSION**

**COUNCIL SESSION I /Murphey 8:30 am – 12:00 noon**

*Remarks from Eugenio Pineiro Soler, Assistant Administrator for NOAA Fisheries Service and Acting Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere/Deputy NOAA Administrator*

6. Informational Session on State Management
  - a. Presentations:
    - NMFS Southeast Regional Office – Andy Strelcheck

- Gulf Fishery Management Council – Dr. Carrie Simmons
  - Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission – Jessica McCawley
  - Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission – Robert Beal
- b. Council Discussion

### **Lunch**

**Tuesday, September 16, 2025**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 1:30 pm – 5:30 pm**

Lead staff: Dr. Mike Schmidtke

- Approve agenda
  - Approve minutes (June 2025)
  - Update on rulemaking for submitted amendments
  - Update on EFP applications
1. Commercial Sub-Committee Report (from Monday's meeting)
  2. Yellowtail Snapper and Mutton Snapper ABCs and Jurisdictional Allocations (Amendment 44/Gulf Reef Fish Amendment 55)
  3. Updates:
    - Recreational aggregate
    - Blueline tilefish jurisdictional ABCs
    - Golden tilefish landings discrepancy
    - Vessel limits for headboats
  4. Snapper Grouper Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)
    - a. Presentation – Dr. Adrian Hordyk and Dr. Chip Collier
    - b. Discussion – Council staff

**Wednesday, September 17, 2025**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 8:30 am – 12:00 noon**

5. Innovative Management Approach for the Snapper Grouper Fishery
  - a. Review FAQ on SAFMC's and NMFS' management and rulemaking processes
  - b. Discuss goalposts, basic principles, and actions

### **Lunch**

**Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 1:30 pm – 3:45 pm**

6. Black Sea Bass Management Measures (Regulatory Amendment 37)

- a. Overview
- b. Review draft amendment, select initial preferred alternatives, and approve for public hearings.

**Wednesday, September 17, 2025**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**4:00 pm**

Public comment will be accepted from individuals attending the meeting (in-person and remotely) regarding any of the items on the Council agenda. The Council Chair, based on the number of individuals wishing to comment, will determine the amount of time provided to each commenter. Those intending to provide verbal public comment via webinar can sign-up [HERE](#).

Approval for public hearings:

- Black Sea Bass Management Measures (SG Regulatory Amendment 37)

Approval for scoping:

- Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Unit Revision (SG Amendment 61)

**Thursday, September 18, 2025**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 8:30 am – 10:30 am**

7. Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Unit Revision (Amendment 61)
  - a. Overview of amendment and approve for scoping
8. Topics for Fall AP meeting

**Shrimp Committee/Belcher 10:45 am – 12:00 noon**

Lead staff: Allie Iberle

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (June 2024)
  1. Shrimp Biological Opinion Update Presentation – NMFS SERO

**Lunch**

**Joint Habitat & Ecosystem and Shrimp/Murphey & Belcher 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

Lead staff: Kathleen Howington (Habitat & Ecosystem) and Allie Iberle (Shrimp)

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (June 2025)
  1. Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel report – Stacie Crowe, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
  2. Habitat and Ecosystem Workplan
  3. Coral Amendment 11/Shrimp Amendment 12

- a. Review public hearing comments
- b. Review draft amendment and approve all actions

**SEDAR Committee/Murphey 3:45 pm – 5:30 pm**

Lead staff: Dr. Chip Collier

- Approve agenda
  - Approve minutes (March 2025)
1. Steering Committee meeting reports
  2. SEDAR process changes
  3. Statements of work for upcoming assessments (Spanish Mackerel, Greater Amberjack, Red Porgy)
  4. Review species selected for 2025-2029 assessments

**Friday, September 19, 2025**

**COUNCIL SESSION**

**COUNCIL SESSION II/Murphey 8:30 am – 12:00 noon**

Lead staff: John Carmichael

- Chair and Vice Chair Elections
- Committee Reports
  - Full Council 1
  - Habitat & Ecosystem and Shrimp
  - Shrimp
  - SEDAR
  - Snapper Grouper
- Best Fishing Practices Survey discussion
  1. SAFMC Workplan
  2. Upcoming SAFMC Meetings

Other business

Adjourn