

Dear Council,

I'd like to acknowledge a motion approved by the Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel during our Spring 2025 meeting. This motion read: RECOMMEND THE COUNCIL ALLOW MULTI-DAY COMMERCIAL TRIPS TO POSSESS MULTIPLE DAYS' WORTH OF SNAPPER GROUPEL COMMERCIAL TRIP LIMITS. APPROVED BY AP.

I believe the motion was made with the idea of slower, older, larger, multi-day commercial vessels in mind.

Despite not actively participating in commercial fishing regularly, I own and operate a slow, old, large charter headboat. On a smaller scale, I can empathize with the challenges it brings, particularly fuel consumption and weather windows.

It is my belief that this motion is worthy of further discussion. It may have the potential to maximize efficiency while providing relief and flexibility for the few snapper grouper commercial fishermen that remain.

Ultimately, I'd like to offer my support to fellow watermen and waterwomen who are willing to risk their lives on multiple-day commercial trips on the open seas.

Thank you.

Haley Stephens

Owner/Operator - Sea Spirit Fishing

Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel Member