

Public Reporting

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

Public Comment Form



Meeting

March 2024 Snapper Grouper AP Meeting

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold meetings of its Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. on March 26th, from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. on March 27th, and from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. on March 28th.

Submit Date	Submitted By	Location	Affiliation	Comment
3/26/2024	First Name: Last Name: McCreddie Email: mikemccreadie2@yahoo.com	City: Jacksonville State: Florida	For-Hire, Other	There needs to be separate vessel limits for charter headboats. The proposed limits will completely destroy any ability to run our businesses. If we are limited to the number of people that would be able to keep fish under the proposed limits we would be unable to cover the operating cost of the boat for the day, let alone be able to buy parts to do the required maintenance and repairs associated with such operations. Please reconsider the proposals with considerations for head posts licensed to carry over 50 passengers.
3/26/2024	First Name: Allen Last Name: Bryant Email: Ajbryant72@gmail.com	City: Sanford State: North Carolina	Private Recreational, Other	If the season, and or limits should be changed it should be changed for commercial fisherman and not the recreational angler. Myself only get to go offshore for grouper 1-2 times a year. And many time is it on head boats. Changing it to where a head boat can only carry 2 grouper per boat with 50ish people on board that's not great odds for someone like myself or the others on the boats.
3/26/2024	First Name: Ryan Last Name: Flaherty Email: Ryanpflaherty@yahoo.com	City: Richmond hill State: Georgia	Private Recreational	Your data on the state of the Red snapper population in the south east Atlantic is obviously flawed. There is an over abundance of red snapper at every single reef and it does not take a scientist to see it.
3/26/2024	First Name: Thomas Last Name: French Email: tmfrenchsr@gmail.com	City: Ormond Beach State: Florida	Private Recreational	Red Snapper are way over populated in the volusia county and Flagler waters offshore. I fish this area frequently and have no problem catching them, they are eating all of the other fish on the reefs. I would like to see the season opened up year round with limits like 1 per person per day. There is no reason we can't do this and sustain the snapper population. Please please consider this
3/26/2024	First Name: Jim Last Name: Neuenfeldt Email: Blitz139@gmail.com	City: St., Augustine State: Florida	Private Recreational, For- Hire, Non-Govt Org (NGO), Other	Party or Head boats need limits set per passenger not per vessel. Many of the customers of these business's can not afford to own their own private vessel capable of going 40+ miles off into the ocean and the vessel limits adversely affects them who may not otherwise ever get the chance to catch certain fish. Common Sense needs to start enacting and enforcing the rule.
3/26/2024	First Name: Steven Last Name: Parsell Email: steve@premier-elevator.com	City: Port Orange State: Florida	Other	Increase headboat limits
3/26/2024	First Name: William Last Name: Hughes Email: williamhugheswh@gmail.com	City: Daytona Beach State: Florida	Private Recreational	This government department has constantly been abusing the head boats that carry more than eight people per trip. These vessels and the hard working taxpayers money that comes from them should not be hindered. As a private citizen of Florida I have always depended on these types of vessels to get off shore and have a chance of catching my fish. I've seen the problem we face when it comes to the aggregate count per vessel and it's ridiculous to give a head boat the same count as a vessel that has six people as opposed to the ones with fifty. Smaller vessels charge four times the amount per person and you don't see it as a problem. Change the laws on how many fish species to be able to be harvested per vessel and allow people to actually have a choice and a chance to take home some much needed fish to feed their families.
3/26/2024	First Name: Tim Last Name: Ellixson Email: Tellixson@gmail.com	City: Port Orange State: North Carolina	Private Recreational	Please adjust the red snapper season to allow for more fish to be harvested. There delicious!
3/26/2024	First Name: Bill Last Name: Foust Email: Wfoust1969@gmail.com	City: Dallas State: North Carolina	Private Recreational	We the People, of the United States do NOT NEED MORE OF YOUR GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS put on our fisheries on the eastern coast. Your regulations have taken away Flounder, and now you want to take away grouper, snapper from the small recreational fisherman that only get to fish the coast a couple time a year at best. We the People know how to manage the environment better than you people that don't even fish. Leave our HEADBOATS and small anglers alone.
3/26/2024	First Name: Robert Last Name: Kaiser Email: Kaiserrobert1997@gmail.com	City: Havelock State: North Carolina	Private Recreational	Please increase the limits currently allowed for headboats. Holding them to the same limits as private charters while they carry 10x as many passengers simply does not make sense. There are small business owners that will be greatly affected by this. Anglers will not want to go out with the possibility of not being able to keep their catch just because a few other people managed to catch something before them.
3/26/2024	First Name: Robin Last Name: Chiriboga Email: Rlchiriboga@gmail.com	City: Ormond Beach State: Florida	Other	recognize headboats regulations and limits separately moving forward!
3/26/2024	First Name: Kyle Last Name: Warren Email: Kmwarren277@gmail.com	City: Hatteras State: North Carolina	Private Recreational	Do not agree with this proposal.
3/26/2024	First Name: Kendall Last Name: Lamm Email: Kendallmlamm@gmail.com	City: Newport State: North Carolina	Private Recreational, For- Hire	I currently work as a mate on the Capt. Stacy IV which is a headboat out of Atlantic Beach, NC. I don't feel it's fair to categorize headboats in the same category as 6pk/charter boats. We carry any where from 20 to 80 people out at a time. Economically our services offer the cheapest way for people of all socioeconomic classes to be able to afford a day on the water to fish, enjoy the ocean, and see the beauty of our great ocean. From a green standpoint we burn less fuel per person. My Captain submits a catch log after every trip. Every morning after I go over safety procedures and life jackets with the customers, I go over fish regulations and quantity limits with the customers. I go over the per person catch limits as well as the per vessel catch limits. On a few occasions over the years ive had to tell a customer that though they have caught a legal fish the boat has caught its limit. Someone happened to catch one before them. The best i can do is let them take a picture with it before i throw it back. It definitely puts a damper on there experience when catching a beautiful fish. We don't target or catch many grouper (3 to 5 on a great day with a lot of days at 0 or 1-2) but i know if we have to be held to 2 per vessel catch limits ill be disappointing and upsetting quite a few customers this year. Mainly our regulars because they actually know how to fish for them. It's just not fair to hold a boat that takes 20 to 80 people out to the same catch standard as boat that takes at most 6. Thank you for your time.

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