

Public Reporting

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

Public Comment Form



Meeting

March 2025 Council Meeting

The Council will convene in Jekyll Island, GA for its' March Council Meeting on March 3-7, 2025.

Submit Date	Submitted By	Location	Affiliation	Comment
3/3/2025	First Name: Chris Last Name: McCaffity Email: freefish7@hotmail.com	City: Morehead City State: North Carolina	Commercial	<p>March 2025 SAFMC Meeting Public Comments</p> <p>These comments are intended for everyone in the public and government. Please read the first few sentences and continue if you want to learn more about how we can enrich and empower ourselves through wise management of our Public Employees and Public Resources. Our Public Waters contain unfathomable wealth that belongs to every American. Government employees working in agencies like this council and NOAA can help us unlock that wealth as we secure civilization-sustaining resources with a portion of the profits paid directly to us. With all the changes in government and advances in technology, now is the time for us to think about how we can make the best of our situation.</p> <p>There are many fishermen with a long list of legitimate grievances that make them want to see the entire federal fishery management system disbanded and everyone working in it fired. It is very tempting for me to feel that way after fighting so long for quotas to be responsibly managed and against the privatization of our Public Resources through Catch Share schemes. Fishermen know firsthand how it feels to be treated as just another number in questionable equations. We need to remember that fishery managers are individuals who deserve to be treated with the same respect we expect even if we have been treated disrespectfully in the past. Most of those working in fishery management are good people who are just doing their job as directed by politicians. The reality is that our fisheries need management to keep them healthy. I urge everyone to support giving fishery managers a chance to work with us to make America's fisheries great again. This council could do another Visioning Project to come up with a management plan that most reasonable people can support. Hopefully most fishermen will put aside our petty differences and finally agree we should focus more on enhancing our fisheries and food supply than restricting the public's freedom to access our Public Resources. Wise use of hatcheries and habitat enhancements can be the perfect blend of Public Water aquaculture and wild-caught seafood that lives free and self-sufficient until harvested sustainably by independent fishermen. This is a wonderful alternative to putting fish and fishermen in corporate cages.</p> <p>Our vision for the future of fishery management should be a model for how other Public Resources can be responsibly utilized in ways that maximize the positives while minimizing any negative impacts. We should consider solutions like desalinization that can produce an endless stream of fresh water we need to live. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration could work with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management to map our offshore oil, gas, and mineral deposits once using the safest technology available with results made public. This would help us make informed decisions about whether extracting our Public Resources is worth the risk. We could also do things like tapping geothermal power on Public Land. We should negotiate profit sharing deals with direct payments to citizens based on a percentage of revenue from new Public Resource economic opportunities. Existing deals should be honored.</p> <p>We could set an example for helping Public Employees in other government agencies use their talents and our treasure to do good things that help us live better lives. Some staff could be reassigned to help every citizen patent a few of our best ideas. The patent process is prohibitively complicated and expensive for most people. This would unleash American ingenuity that promotes individual and collective prosperity locally across the nation.</p> <p>We are at a crossroads in human history where advances in technology could free or enslave us. I believe we should stop rushing to dismantle the federal workforce and think about how we can guide our employees to help us transition toward automation in ways that promote freedom and financial security for all of us. Managing Public Resources We the People already own to produce public profits that secure basic financial freedom for everyone could help people see this new technology that can replace most workers as liberating rather than threatening. We could usher in the Golden Age of America as we are free to follow our dreams and choose meaningful work we enjoy. The workforce could transition from selling the best of our time in the prime of our lives toward freelance work by independent contractors with more control of our time. We have an unprecedented opportunity to secure the kind of financial freedom that allows us to have more time to make memories that matter. Isn't freedom basically the ability to spend our time pursuing happiness as we wish?</p> <p>I propose a hiring and firing freeze for Federal Employees as we conduct a National Visioning Project (NVP) to decide what we want our future to look like. We could set up an official website to share information, facilitate discussions, conduct polls, and accept Public Comments for the NVP. We could discuss options for delegating most governing powers back to state and local governments with an emphasis on promoting the individual liberties that collectively make us free people. Our Federal Employees would have a financial incentive to help us find ways of generating income from our Public Resources that fund direct payments to every citizen. This new income would help anyone who loses a job for any reason avoid bankruptcy or having to depend on social welfare programs. Many of those welfare programs could be replaced with Public Resource Paychecks so tax rates could be lower. We should also consider using a portion of profits from Public Resources to start paying off our unsustainable National Debt before it bankrupts us.</p> <p>Please think about whether you want to be self-sufficient or completely dependent on politicians and corporations for almost everything. Would you rather just keep selling your precious time or invest a little of it thinking about how we can free ourselves and future generations from being exploited for labor and taxes by making wise use of Public Resources we already own? We wouldn't need busy work for the masses if everyone already had enough income to meet basic needs. We have a chance to change the course of history away from collective corporate/political servitude toward freedom of the individual to practice self-determination.</p> <p>These comments will not make much difference unless you and others publicly support them by sending a copy to politicians, friends, and family. The more people we get thinking about and publicly supporting the ideas in these comments, the better chance we have of seeing them become a reality. Keep in mind that silence passively supports the status quo.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Chris McCaffity</p>

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