



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Chair | Trish Murphey, Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

Agenda

December 4-8, 2023

The Beaufort Hotel
2440 Lennoxville Road
Beaufort NC

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 (December 6, 2023, 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 at the following link: [\[LINK\]](#). Members of the public intending to provide verbal public comment in-person will be asked to sign-in at the meeting.

Written Comments:

To submit written comment on items on this agenda, visit the online public comment form: [\[LINK\]](#)

Written comments will be accepted from November 17 to December 8, 2023. 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 at: [\[LINK\]](#)

Written comments submitted by mail/fax received by close of business the Monday before the meeting (November 27, 2023) will be compiled, posted to the website as part of the meeting materials, and included in the administrative record.

From November 28 to 5 PM on December 8, written comments must be submitted electronically through the online public comment form at the link above.

Photo scanning event for FISHstory project: staff will be ready to scan historic photos contributed to the project all day on Wednesday, December 6.

Monday, December 4, 2023

COUNCIL SESSION

COUNCIL SESSION I/Belcher 8:30 am – 12:00 noon (CLOSED)

1. Litigation brief – NOAA General Counsel
2. Appointments

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

COUNCIL SESSION I/Belcher 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm (OPEN)

- Approve agenda

- Approve minutes (September 2023)
- 1. Reports:
 - a. NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
 - b. US Coast Guard
 - c. Council liaisons
 - d. State agencies
 - e. Congressional Activities – David Whaley, Legislative Liaison
 - f. Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Report – Jeff Buckel, Chair
 - g. Outreach and Communications Advisory Panel (AP) – Scott Baker, Chair
- 2. Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) presentation – Michelle Masi, SEFHIER Program Manager
- 3. Update on the reliability of commercial discard estimates – Dave Gloeckner, Fisheries Statistics Division Director, SEFSC

Tuesday, December 5, 2023

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Mackerel Cobia Committee/Roller 8:30 am – 10:00 am

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (September 2023)
- 1. Advisory panel report – Ira Laks, Chair
- 2. CMP Framework Amendment 13 (Spanish Mackerel) – review scoping comments
- 3. Port meetings update

Dolphin Wahoo Committee/Marhefka 10:00 am – 11:00 am

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (June 2023)
- 1. Advisory panel report – Chris Burrows, Chair
- 2. Update on Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) for Dolphin – Cassidy Peterson, SEFSC

Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 11:00 am – 12:00 noon

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (September 2023)
- Update on Red Snapper Notice of Funding Opportunity/EFPs – NMFS SERO
- Update on amendments undergoing rulemaking – NMFS SERO

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm

1. System Management Plan Workgroup update – TBD
2. Wreckfish (Amendment 48)

- a. Wreckfish Advisory Group and Sub-Committee report
- 3. Private Recreational Permit (Amendment 46)
 - a. AP recommendations – Bob Lorenz, Chair
 - b. Overview and approve for public hearings

4:30 - 5:00 PM Tuesday, December 5, 2023

Comments from Janet Coit, Assistant Administrator for NOAA Fisheries

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

- 4. Gag and Black Grouper Vessel Limit and On-Demand Gear for Black Sea Bass (Regulatory Amendment 36)
 - a. AP recommendations
 - b. Overview and approve for scoping
- 5. Scamp/Yellowmouth Grouper (Amendment 55)
 - a. AP recommendations
 - b. Overview
- 6. Yellowtail Snapper (Amendment 44)
 - a. Guidance on development

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

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

- 7. Red Snapper (Regulatory Amendment 35)
 - a. Overview and re-consider submittal
- 8. Best Fishing Practices Outreach Update
 - b. Outreach Activities Update – Ashley Oliver, David Hugo
- 9. AP recommendations on topics not on agenda – Bob Lorenz, Chair

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

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: [\[LINK\]](#)

- Gag and Black Grouper Vessel Limit and On-Demand Gear for Black Sea Bass (SG Regulatory Amendment 36) – approval for scoping
- Private Recreational Permit (SG Amendment 46) – approval for public hearings

Thursday, December 7, 2023

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Citizen Science Committee/Marhefka 8:30 am – 10:30 am

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (June 2023)
- 1. Updated citizen science research priorities – consider approval
- 2. SciFish update and platform demonstration
- 3. Citizen Science Program update

Habitat & Ecosystem Committee/Murphey 10:30 am – 12:00 noon

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (September 2023)
- 1. Advisory panel report – TBD
- 2. EFH 5-year review
- 3. Habitat Blueprint
 - a. Review draft workplan
 - b. Review draft annual report outline
- 4. Coral management
 - a. Guidance on utilization of deepwater coral modeling for management
 - b. Coral Amendment 10 – guidance on resubmission

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

SEDAR Committee/Belcher 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (September 2023)
- 1. SEDAR Steering Committee Report
- 2. SEDAR 94 Terms of Reference
- 3. Review Schedule
- 4. Species for 2027 assessments slots

Thursday, December 7, 2023

COUNCIL SESSION

COUNCIL SESSION II/Belcher 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

- Litigation Brief (if needed)
- 1. Staff Report

2. Council Coordination Committee Report
3. Allocations Review Guidelines – consider approval
4. Stakeholder meetings planning
5. Presentation on offshore wind activities (Kitty Hawk Project and Carolina Long Bay) – Jen Banks (TotalEnergies), Lela Shlenker (Avangrid), and Nathan Craig (Duke Energy)
6. Approve topics for Law Enforcement AP
7. Agency reports
 - a. NMFS Southeast Regional Office Report – NMFS SERO
 - b. NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center Report – NMFS SEFSC

Friday, December 8, 2023

COUNCIL SESSION

COUNCIL SESSION II/Belcher 8:00 am – 12:00 noon

- Executive Director Review (**CLOSED**)
- Committee reports
- 8. Council workplan
- 9. Upcoming meetings

Other business

Adjourn