



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston SC 29405
Call: (843) 571-4366 | Toll-Free: (866) SAFMC-10 | Fax: (843) 769-4520 | Connect: www.safmc.net

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

Agenda

Villas by the Sea Resort
1175 N. Beachview Drive
Jekyll Island, GA 31527

March 4-8, 2024

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 (March 6, 2024, 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 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](#).

Written comments will be accepted from February 16 to March 8, 2024. 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 (February 25, 2024) will be compiled, posted to the website as part of the meeting materials, and included in the administrative record.

From February 26 to 5 PM on March 8, written comments must be submitted electronically through the online public comment form at the link above.

Monday, March 4, 2024

COUNCIL SESSION

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

- Approve agenda
 - Approve minutes (December 2023)
1. Reports:
 - a. NOAA Office of Law Enforcement
 - b. Law Enforcement Advisory Panel (AP) – Capt. Scott Pearce, Chair
 - c. US Coast Guard
 - d. Council liaisons
 - e. State agencies
 2. Best Fishing Practices and 2024 Outreach Update – Ashley Oliver
 - a. Best Fishing Practices Initiative Update

- b. 2024 SAFMC and Sea Grant Outreach Efforts
- 3. Potential Modifications to the Southeast For-Hire Integrated Electronic Reporting (SEFHIER) Program
 - a. Law Enforcement AP recommendations – Capt. Scott Pearce
 - b. Compliance with Charter Vessel Reporting in South Carolina – Amy Dukes, SCDNR
 - c. Compliance with Southeast Region Headboat Survey Reporting – Ken Brennan, NMFS SEFSC
 - d. SEFHIER program update – Michelle Masi, NMFS SERO
- 4. Consideration of Limited-Entry in South Atlantic For-Hire Fisheries
 - a. Overview of available information and preliminary data – Council staff

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (December 2023)
- 1. Law Enforcement AP recommendations – Capt. Scott Pearce
- 2. Mackerel Port meetings
 - a. Approve plan for 2024 meetings

SEDAR Committee/Belcher 10:00 am – 12:00 noon (PARTIALLY CLOSED)

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (December 2023)
- Update on SEDAR 89 (Tilefish) and 92 (Blueline Tilefish)
- 1. Terms of Reference for SEDAR 90 (Red Snapper) and SEDAR 96 (Yellowtail Snapper)
- 2. SEDAR Projects Update
- 3. Review of Statements of Work for 2026 Species
- 4. Review of 2027 Species for SEDAR Assessment Slots
- 5. System Management Plan Workgroup and SEDAR appointments **(CLOSED)**

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

Snapper Grouper Committee/McCawley 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

- Approve agenda
 - Approve minutes (December 2023)
 - Briefing on exempted fishing permit (EFP) applications – NMFS SERO
 - Presentation on projections for 2024 recreational seasons for red snapper and gag – NMFS SERO
1. Wreckfish (Amendment 48)
 - a. Law Enforcement AP recommendations – Capt. Scott Pearce
 - b. Wreckfish Sub-Committee report
 - c. Approve for public hearings
 2. Scamp/Yellowmouth Grouper (Amendment 55)
 - a. Review preliminary analyses
 3. Gag and Black Grouper Vessel Limit and On-Demand Gear for Black Sea Bass (Regulatory Amendment 36)
 - a. Law Enforcement AP recommendations – Capt. Scott Pearce
 - b. Review scoping comments

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

4. Black Sea Bass (Amendment 56)
 - a. Assessment presentation – NMFS SEFSC
 - b. Scientific and Statistical Committee recommendations – Dr. Jeff Buckel, Chair
 - c. Management response options – Council staff
5. Private Recreational Permit and Education Requirement (Amendment 46)
 - a. Law Enforcement AP recommendations – Capt. Scott Pearce
 - b. Consider modifications to actions

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

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

6. Red Snapper (Regulatory Amendment 35)
 - a. Law Enforcement AP recommendations – Capt. Scott Pearce
 - b. Consider modifications, additional actions

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

PUBLIC COMMENTS

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](#).

- Exempted Fishing Permit applications

Thursday, March 7, 2024

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

7. Management Strategy Evaluation Update – Blue Matter Science
 - a. SSC recommendations – Dr. Jeff Buckel
8. Overview of Commercial Permits
9. Agenda topics for March 2024 Advisory Panel Meeting

12:00 noon to 1:30 pm

Lunch

Thursday, March 7, 2024

COUNCIL SESSION

COUNCIL SESSION II/Belcher 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm

- Litigation Brief
1. Staff Report
 2. NMFS Presentation on Equity and Environmental Justice – NMFS HQ
 3. Agency reports
 - a. NMFS Southeast Regional Office Report – NMFS SERO
 - b. NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center Report – NMFS SEFSC
 4. Council workplan
 5. Upcoming meetings

Friday, March 8, 2024

COUNCIL SESSION

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

- Committee reports

Other business

Adjourn