



# 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

Trish Murphey, Chair | Jessica McCawley, Vice Chair  
John Carmichael, Executive Director

## Agenda

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

March 2-6, 2026

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 4, 2026, 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 comments in-person will be asked to sign in at the meeting.

### Written Comments:

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

Written comments will be accepted from February 13 to March 6, 2026. 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 (February 23, 2026) will be compiled, posted to the website as part of the meeting materials, and included in the administrative record.

From February 24 to 5 PM on March 6, written comments must be submitted electronically through the online public comment form at the link above.

### **Monday, March 2, 2026**

### **COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **Snapper Grouper Commercial Sub-Committee/McCawley 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm**

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (December 2025)
- 1. Commercial Management Measures (Amendment 60)
  - a. Law Enforcement Advisory Panel (LE AP) recommendations – Maj. Michael Paul Thomas, SCDNR, Chair
  - b. Overview of developing amendment and presentations

### **Tuesday, March 3, 2026**

### **COUNCIL SESSION**

### **COUNCIL SESSION I/Murphey 8:30 am – 12:00 noon**

- Welcome and Introductions

- Approve agenda
  - Approve minutes (December 2025 and January 2026)
  - Litigation brief (if needed)
1. Reports
    - a. State agencies
    - b. Council liaisons – Sonny Gwinn (MAFMC), Johnny Marquez (GFMC)
    - c. Staff
    - d. LE AP report – Maj. Michael Paul Thomas, SCDNR, Chair
    - e. Resilient Fisheries Projects – Lara Klibansky
    - f. Habitat and Ecosystem Advisory Panel – Stacie Crowe, SCDNR, Chair

-- Lunch --

**COUNCIL SESSION I/Murphey 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm**

Reports (cont'd)

- g. Lines of Communication update – Christina Curtis
  - h. Shrimp Workgroup – Allie Iberle
  - i. NMFS
    - i. Southeast Regional Office (SERO) – Andy Strelcheck
    - ii. Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) – Clay Porch
2. Update on NMFS' Value/Risk Matrix for Managed Stocks – Clay Porch, SEFSC
  3. Review SAFMC comments on Proposed Rule for Commercial Atlantic Blacknose Shark and Recreational Atlantic Shark Fisheries

**Tuesday, March 3, 2026**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Snapper Grouper/McCawley 3:15 pm – 5:00 pm**

- Approve agenda
- Approve minutes (December 2025)
- Update on submitted amendments – NMFS SERO
- New Exempted Fishing Permit (EFP) applications brief – NMFS SERO
- Update on submitted EFP applications – NMFS SERO

**Wednesday, March 4, 2026**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

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

1. Commercial Sub-Committee Report
2. Spawning Special management Zones
  - a. Consider LE AP recommendations

- b. Guidance on amendment development
- 3. Headboat Vessel Limits
  - a. Overview of requested information
  - b. Consider LE AP recommendations
  - c. Guidance on amendment development
- 4. Allocation review: vermilion snapper

-- Lunch --

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

- 5. Amendment 61 (Revisions to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Unit)
  - a. Overview of requested information
  - b. Consider LE AP recommendations
  - c. Guidance on amendment development
- 6. Black sea bass follow up
  - a. Amendment 56 and effects of timing of revised Marine Recreational Information Program Fishing Effort Survey estimates

**Wednesday, March 4, 2026**

**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:

[\[LINK\]](#)

**Thursday, March 5, 2026**

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

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

- 7. Snapper Grouper Management Strategy Evaluation
  - a. Recreational Angler Attitudes and Preferences in the South Atlantic Snapper Grouper Fishery – Kai Lorenzen, University of Florida
- 8. Amendment 44 (Yellowtail Snapper & Mutton Snapper)
  - a. Update
- 9. Snapper Grouper Innovation Plan
  - a. Finalize goalposts and principles
- 10. Topics for Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel

-- Lunch --

**SEDAR/Murphey 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm**

- Approve agenda
  - Approve minutes (September 2025)
1. SEDAR Steering Committee report
  2. SEDAR process updates
  3. Statements of work for upcoming assessments
  4. Terms of reference for upcoming assessments
  5. SEDAR Committee scope and name change

**Thursday, March 5, 2026**

**COUNCIL SESSION**

**COUNCIL SESSION II/Murphey 3:45 pm – 5:00 pm**

1. Dolphin Management Strategy Evaluation Update – TBD, NMFS SEFSC
2. Review SAFMC plan submitted in response to Executive Order 14276 (Seafood Competitiveness)
3. Topics for Outreach and Communication Advisory Panel

**Friday, March 6, 2026**

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

4. SAFMC Workplan

Committee Reports

- Full Council 1
- SEDAR
- Snapper Grouper

5. Upcoming Meetings

**Other business**

**Adjourn**