



THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

# **Snapper Grouper Committee Chair Advisory Panel Update**

**April 2025**

Jessica McCawley

Snapper Grouper Committee  
Chair



# DEC 2024 & MAR 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



## Amendment 46 (Recreational Permit)

- Received feedback from Private Angler AP at the December 2024 Council Meeting
- Council had further discussions, refined language, and requested analyses for several actions and alternatives
- Next discussion in June 2025 – consideration for public hearing approval

## Amendment 56 (Black Sea Bass Assessment)

- Scoping conducted in January/February 2025
- Council decided on an initial list of actions to be addressed in the amendment
- More information/discussion later in the AP meeting

# DEC 2024 & MAR 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



## Abbreviated Framework Amendment 4 (Golden Tilefish Catch Levels)

- SEDAR 89 indicated not overfished/not overfishing
- Council initiated Abbreviated FW 4 to revise catch levels; an abbreviated framework is the Council's fastest method of revising catch levels
- Council also directed staff to include consideration of changing the recreational season start date in another amendment
- More information/discussion later in the AP meeting

## Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) Proxies

- The Council is having several discussions about MSY proxies, which are used in overfished/overfishing determinations
- Next presentation/discussion in June 2025

# DEC 2024 & MAR 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



## Commercial Management

- Commercial Management Subcommittee met in November 2024 and March 2025
- Council initiated an amendment that will address 2 main commercial issues:
  - Commercial permits
    - **May include:**
      - Revising the 2-for-1 SG1 policy
      - Limiting the number of permits that can be owned per entity
      - Establishing income requirements or “use it or lose it” provisions

# DEC 2024 & MAR 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



## Commercial Management

- Commercial Management Subcommittee met in November 2024 and March 2025
- Council initiated an amendment that will address 2 main commercial issues:
  - Commercial permits
  - Ways to increase trip efficiency
    - **May include:**
      - “Step-ups” – increasing trip limits if landings are below a threshold by a specified date in the season
      - Establishing a non-target or out-of-season allowance for species that are not overfished



# DEC 2024 & MAR 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



## Commercial Management

- Commercial Management Subcommittee met in November 2024 and March 2025
- Council initiated an amendment that will address 2 main commercial issues:
  - Commercial permits
  - Ways to increase trip efficiency
- The Subcommittee will continue to meet and report out to the Council, as necessary, at quarterly meetings
- Next meeting at the June 2025 Council Meeting

# DEC 2024 & MAR 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



## For-Hire Limited Entry Amendment

- The Council previously initiated the amendment to include Snapper Grouper, Dolphin Wahoo, and CMP
- In June 2024, the Council paused amendment development until permits data is available from the Southeast Regional Office

## For-Hire Reporting Amendment

- For-Hire AP provided recommendations to the Council in March
- Council approved for scoping
- More information/discussion later in the AP meeting

# DEC 2024 & MAR 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



## Red Snapper Management

- The Council was informed that an update to the SEDAR 73 stock assessment had been completed
- NOAA Fisheries released Amendment 59, a secretarial amendment intended to end overfishing and reduce dead discards of red snapper
  - Secretarial amendments are developed by NOAA Fisheries, outside of the Council process
- The Council discussed this amendment in March 2025 and developed a comment letter that was submitted to NOAA Fisheries
- NOAA Fisheries is required to submit a final rule to the Federal Register by June 6





**QUESTIONS?**