



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Jessica McCawley, Chair | Mel Bell, Vice Chair
Gregg T. Waugh, Executive Director

AGENDA **Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel**

Town & Country Inn
2008 Savannah Highway
Charleston, SC 29407

Other than the starting and ending times of the meeting, times indicated on the agenda are approximate, and the order of business may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that discussions may start earlier or later than indicated.

Public comment will be solicited at the beginning and at the end of the meeting. Those wishing to comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will then recognize individuals to provide comment.

Wednesday, October 9, 2019 – 1:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Thursday, October 10, 2019 – 8:30 A.M to 5:00 P.M.

Friday, October 11, 2019 – 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 Noon.

Approval of Agenda – Jimmy Hull

Approval of April 2019 AP minutes – Jimmy Hull

1. Status of amendments under development or under review (*Attachment 1*)
 - Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 26 (Recreational)
 - Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 27 (Commercial)
 - Abbreviated Framework 3 (Blueline Tilefish)
 - Amendment 42 (Sea Turtle Release Gear and Framework Update)
 - Amendment 46 (Recreational Permit and Reporting)
 - Regulatory Amendment 30 (Red Grouper Rebuilding)
 - Regulatory Amendment 31 (Recreational Accountability Measures)
 - For-hire Electronic Reporting Amendment
 - Regulatory Amendment 29 (Best Fishing Practices & Powerheads)
 - Wreckfish ITQ Review
 - Visioning
2. Update on Southeast Reef Fish Survey – Dr. Wally Bublely, SCDNR (*Attachment 2*)
 - a. Discussion – Jimmy Hull
3. Citizen Science Update and FISHstory Demo (*Attachment 3*)
 - a. Overview – Julia Byrd and Allie Iberle
 - b. Discussion and recommendations – Jimmy Hull

4. Fishery Performance Report – Scamp
 - a. Overview of fishery trends (<http://data.safmc.net/FPRAll/>) – Myra Brouwer
 - b. Discussion – Jimmy Hull
5. Presentation on Draft EIS to modify boundary and update regulations in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (**Attachment 4**) – Beth Dieveney, FKNMS
 - a. Discussion and Recommendations – Jimmy Hull
6. Presentation on economic performance of the commercial snapper grouper fishery (**Attachment 5**) – Dr. Christopher Liese, SEFSC
 - a. Discussion – Jimmy Hull
7. Status of Commercial Electronic Logbook Project (**Attachment 6**) – Brett Pierce, SEFSC
 - a. Discussion – Jimmy Hull
8. Regulatory Amendment 33 (Red Snapper Seasons) (**Attachments 7a and 7b**)
 - a. Overview – Myra Brouwer
 - b. Discussion and Recommendations – Jimmy Hull
9. Regulatory Amendment 34 (Special Management Zones in NC and SC) (**Attachments 8a-8c**)
 - a. Overview – Myra Brouwer
 - b. Discussion and Recommendations – Jimmy Hull
10. MyFishCount Update: Past and Future (**Attachments 9a-9c**)
 - a. Overview – Dr. Chip Collier and Myra Brouwer
 - b. Discussion and recommendations – Jimmy Hull
11. SEDAR – Kathleen Howington
12. Other Business – Jimmy Hull

Adjourn – Jimmy Hull

Advisory Panel Members:

James Hull Jr., Chair	Gary Manigault Sr.
Robert Lorenz, Vice Chair	Randy McKinley
Jim Atack	Greg Mercurio
Vincent Bonura	Jim Moring
Richen “Dick” Brame	David Moss
Randall Beardsley	Fentress “Red” Munden
Jack Cox Jr.	Kerry O’Malley-Marhefka
James Freeman	James Paskiewicz
Robert Freeman	Andy Piland
Richard Gomez	Cameron Sebastian
Lawton Howard	David Snyder
Rusty Hudson	Dr. Todd Kellison (non-voting)
Deidra Jeffcoat	

Attachments

Attachment 1: Status of Snapper Grouper FMP Amendments
Attachment 2: Update on Southeast Reef Fish Survey
Attachment 3: Citizen Science Update and FISHstory Demo
Attachment 4: Proposed Modifications to Boundary and Regulations in the FKNMS
(presentation will be available prior to the meeting)
Attachment 5: Economic Performance of the Commercial Snapper Grouper Fishery
Attachment 6: Status of Commercial Electronic Logbook Project
Attachment 7a: Regulatory Amendment 33 Summary Document
Attachment 7b: Summary of public comments on Regulatory Amendment 33
Attachment 8a: Regulatory Amendment 34 Summary Document
Attachment 8b: NCDMF request for SMZs
Attachment 8c: SCMRD request for SMZs
Attachment 9a: MyFishCount Final Report 2017-2018
Attachment 9b: MyFishCount Final Report Presentation
Attachment 9c: MyFishCount 2019 and Beyond

Staff: Myra Brouwer

OVERVIEW

Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel

The AP will approve minutes from the April 2019 meeting and the agenda for the current meeting.

1. Update on Snapper Grouper FMP Amendments (*Attachment 1*)

Description: Myra Brouwer, Council staff, will update the AP on the status of amendments under development and recently submitted for formal review.

Requested AP Action: None.

2. Update on Southeast Reef Fish Survey (*Attachment 2*)

Description: The Southeast Reef Fish Survey (SERFS) is a fishery-independent survey designed to obtain scientific information on snapper grouper species in the South Atlantic. Data from SERFS are used in stock assessments and life history studies. Dr. Wally Bubley, SCDNR, will provide an overview of results from the 2018 SERFS.

Requested AP Action: None.

3. Citizen Science Update and FISHstory Demonstration (*Attachment 3*)

Description: Julia Byrd, Council staff, will present a brief update on the Council's Citizen Science Program, highlighting activities that have occurred since the Spring 2019 Snapper Grouper AP meeting. Subsequently, Allie Iberle, Council staff, will provide an overview and demonstration of the FISHstory pilot project that will launch in early 2020. The FISHstory project will document historic catch and length estimates from the 1940s-1970s from a headboat fleet in Daytona Beach, FL. The project uses an online crowdsourcing platform, Zooniverse, to build an interface that will allow members of the public (e.g. citizens) to be trained to identify species in the photos. A team of species ID experts will help validate the species identified by citizens. Once species are verified, one key species will be selected for length analysis. A project design team - comprised of scientists, fishermen, and outreach experts - has been developing the FISHstory project interface and training materials in Zooniverse. Allie will provide a demonstration of the FISHstory test project. The AP will have an opportunity to provide feedback on the test project and be asked to help identify fishermen who may potentially be interested in serving on the project validation team.

Requested AP Action: Discuss and provide recommendations as appropriate.

4. Fishery Performance Report – Scamp

Description: With input from the AP, Fishery Performance Reports (FPRs) have been developed for several snapper grouper species. The intent of the FPRs is to assemble information from AP members' experience and observations on the water and in the marketplace to complement scientific and landings data. The FPRs will be provided to the SSC, the Socio-Economic Panel (SEP), and the Council to assist in their discussions. Using an online application <http://data.safmc.net/FPRAll/> staff will provide a brief overview of landings trends and other background information and request the AP's input to develop the FPR for scamp.

Requested AP Action: Provide requested information, as appropriate.

5. Presentation on Draft EIS to modify boundary and update regulations in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (*Attachment 4*)

Description: NOAA is releasing for public review and comment a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) - Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) Marine Zoning and Regulatory Review that analyzes a proposed action to expand the FKNMS boundary, update sanctuary-wide regulations, modify and establish new marine zones, update marine zone-specific regulations, and revise the sanctuary's non-regulatory management plan. NOAA's preferred alternative would expand the sanctuary by 741 square miles and would protect habitats through additional proposed marine zones and through proposed regulations applied in those marine zones. NOAA has requested the Council's comment on the DEIS. Beth Dieveney, FKNMS staff, will present an overview of the proposed changes via webinar.

Requested AP Action: Provide recommendations as appropriate.

6. Economic Performance of the Commercial Snapper Grouper Fishery (*Attachment 5*)

Description: In the fall of 2018, the Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) released the technical memorandum *Economics of the U.S. South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper Fishery – 2016*. The tech memo provides summary information and economic estimates for the snapper grouper fishery as a whole and for specific Segments of Interest (SOI) that consist of species or groups of species within the snapper grouper management complex. Among the results are estimates of net revenue and net cash flow that are potentially useful for better analyzing the economic effects of fishery management actions on the commercial sector. The AP will receive a summary presentation from Dr. Christopher Liese, SEFSC, on the methods and major findings from the study. A similar presentation was delivered to the Council's Snapper Grouper Committee in June 2019.

Requested AP Action: Discuss and provide recommendations, as appropriate.

7. Status of Commercial Electronic Logbook Project (*Attachment 6*)

Description: In September 2013 the Council received a presentation from the NMFS SEFSC on their commercial electronic logbook pilot study and requested regular updates on electronic logbooks. The Council encouraged the SEFSC to continue to develop electronic logbook reporting capabilities, and initially intended to work with the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council staff and NMFS staff to allow fishermen to voluntarily provide their data electronically and to plan for completion of a comprehensive amendment incorporating results from year 1 of the pilot study. The SEFSC has proceeded with the electronic reporting plans and working with ACCSP, but the Council has not resumed formal work on the amendment as they have waited for the voluntary program to be developed and evaluated. As of April 2016, voluntary reports may be provided through the ACCSP SAFIS system and available to the SEFSC. The AP will receive an update from Brett Pierce, SEFSC staff, on the status of the electronic logbook pilot project for commercial vessels.

Requested AP Action: Discuss and provide recommendations as appropriate.

8. Regulatory Amendment 33 (Red Snapper Seasons; *Attachments 7a and 7b*)

Description: Regulatory Amendment 33 proposes changes to the red snapper recreational and commercial seasons to increase access, reduce discards, and maximize fishing opportunity in the event of bad weather. The Snapper Grouper AP provided feedback early in

the development of the amendment. Subsequently, public hearings were held in August via webinar and listening stations (see Attachment 6b). The Council discussed the amendment at their September 2019 meeting and made modifications to the proposed actions. Myra Brouwer will present an overview and request the AP's feedback on the proposed actions.
Requested AP Action: Discuss and provide recommendations as appropriate.

9. Regulatory Amendment 34 (SMZs in NC and SC; Attachments 8a-8c)

Description: In March 2019, the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries (NCDMF) and the South Carolina Marine Resources Division (SCMRD) requested that the Council designate artificial reef sites in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) off those states as special management zones (SMZ). In June 2019, the Council directed staff to begin development of an amendment to address the states' requests. The process to designate SMZs around artificial reefs (permitted through the Army Corps of Engineers) was established in the Snapper Grouper FMP in 1983 with the main intent being to *increase biological production and/or create fishing opportunities that would not otherwise exist*. The Council discussed the amendment at their September 2019 meeting and directed staff to request the AP's input and hold scoping hearings this fall. Myra Brouwer will present an overview of the proposed actions and tentative timing for development.

Requested AP Action: Discuss and provide recommendations as appropriate.

10. MyFishCount Update: Past and Future (Attachments 9a-9c)

Description: MyFishCount is a pilot project initiated in 2017 to explore electronic reporting for the recreational sector. The project consists of a web portal and mobile app that allow anglers to report data on their catch and trips. Dr. Chip Collier, Council staff, will present the results of the first two years of the project. Myra Brouwer will present an overview of current outreach efforts and next steps.

Requested AP Action: Discuss and provide recommendations as appropriate.

11. SEDAR

Description: Kathleen Howington, SEDAR staff, will review the new schedules for SEDAR 59 (Greater Amberjack) and SEDAR 60 (Red Porgy). Kathleen will review the new schedule for SEDAR 66 (Golden Tilefish) and the previously appointed participants will have the opportunity to continue being involved with the assessment. Otherwise, staff will request additional participants. Kathleen will also go over the schedule for SEDAR 71 (Gag Grouper) and request participants.

Requested AP Action: Volunteer to participate in SEDAR workshops, as appropriate

12. Other Business