



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

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

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 17, 2018 – 1:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Thursday, October 18, 2018 – 8:30 A.M to 5:00 P.M.

Friday, October 19, 2018 – 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 Noon.

Approval of Agenda – David Moss

Approval of April 2018 AP minutes – David Moss

1. Status and overview of amendments under development or under review (*Attachment 1a*).
 - Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 26 (Recreational) (*Attachment 1b*)
 - Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 27 (Commercial) (*Attachment 1c*)
 - Regulatory Amendment 28 (Golden Tilefish)
 - Abbreviated Framework 2 (Vermilion Snapper and Black Sea Bass)
 - Amendment 42 (Sea Turtle Release Gear and Framework Update)
 - Amendment 38 (Blueline Tilefish)
 - Amendment 46 (Recreational Permit and Reporting)
 - Amendment 45 (ABC Control Rule Revisions)
 - Regulatory Amendment 31 (Revisions to Recreational Accountability Measures)
 - For-hire Electronic Reporting Amendment
2. Regulatory Amendment 29 (Best Fishing Practices) (*Attachment 2*)
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Discussion and Recommendations – David Moss
3. Regulatory Amendment 30 (Red Grouper Rebuilding) (*Attachment 3*)
 - a. Overview – John Hadley
 - b. Discussion and Recommendations – David Moss

4. Regulatory Amendment 32 (Yellowtail Snapper Annual Catch Limit and Accountability Measures) (*Attachment 4*)
 - a. Overview – Myra Brouwer
 - b. Discussion and Recommendations – David Moss

5. Input for biennial evaluation of 2016-2020 Vision Blueprint (*Attachment 5*)
 - a. Overview – Myra Brouwer and Amber Von Harten
 - b. Discussion and Recommendations – David Moss

6. Fishery Performance Reports – Yellowtail Snapper and Golden Tilefish (*Attachments 6a & 6b*)
 - a. Overview of Yellowtail Snapper fishery trends (*refer to link in Overview below*) – Myra Brouwer
 - b. Discussion and recommendations – David Moss
 - c. Overview of Golden Tilefish fishery trends (*refer to link in Overview below*) – Myra Brouwer
 - d. Discussion and recommendations – David Moss

7. Citizen Science: Input on Scamp Release App (*Attachment 7*)
 - a. Presentation – Amber Von Harten
 - b. Discuss and provide recommendations – David Moss

8. Discussion to inform request for Southeast Regional Permits Office presentation in spring 2019 (*Attachment 8*)
 - a. Background – Myra Brouwer
 - b. Discussion and recommendations – David Moss

9. Other Business – David Moss

Adjourn – David Moss

Advisory Panel Members:

David Moss (Chairman)
 Jimmy Hull (Vice-Chairman)
 Robert Johnson
 Jim Atack
 Red Munden
 Rusty Hudson
 David Snyder
 James Freeman
 Kerry Marhefka
 Robert Lorenz
 Dick Brame

Deidra Jeffcoat
 Robert Freeman
 Greg Mercurio
 Jack Cox
 Gary Manigault Sr.
 Richard Gomez
 Vincent Bonura
 Jim Moring
 Ron Rozier
 James Paskiewicz
 Dr. Todd Kellison (NMFS non-voting)

Attachments

- Attachment 1a:** Summary and status of developing amendments and scheduled for formal review
- Attachment 1b:** Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 26 (Recreational) Decision Document with Council motions.
- Attachment 1c:** Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 27 (Commercial) Decision Document with Council motions.
- Attachment 2:** Regulatory Amendment 29 Decision Document with Council motions
- Attachment 3:** Regulatory Amendment 30 Decision Document with Council motions
- Attachment 4:** Regulatory Amendment 32 Decision Document with Council motions
- Attachment 5:** Presentation on Vision Blueprint Accomplishments 2016-2018
- Attachment 6a:** Discussion questions for Yellowtail Snapper Fishery Performance Report
- Attachment 6b:** Discussion questions for Golden Tilefish Fishery Performance Report
- Attachment 7:** Presentation on Citizen Science Project -- Scamp Release Application
- Attachment 8:** Snapper Grouper Committee Final Report, October 2018

Staff: Myra Brouwer

OVERVIEW

Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel

The AP will approve of minutes from April 2018 meeting and the agenda for the current meeting.

1. Update on amendments under development and scheduled for formal review (*Attachments 1a-1c*)

Description: Council staff will update the AP on the status of amendments under development and scheduled to undergo formal review.

Requested AP Action: Provide input on changes to Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 26.

2. Regulatory Amendment 29 (Best Fishing Practices) (*Attachment 2*)

Description: At the June 2018 meeting, the Council directed staff to continue to work on actions to address the use of best fishing practices and powerhead regulations in a framework amendment and approved it for public scoping. Scoping hearings were conducted on August 7 & 8, 2018 via webinar. At the September/October Council meeting, the Committee considered public comments and selected the range of actions and alternatives to conduct analyses. The amendment is scheduled to be approved for public hearings in March 2019.

Requested AP Action: Provide input (pros, cons, how would various scenarios work out for fishermen, etc.) on SG Committee discussion/considerations on Regulatory Amendment 29, including the proposed line to delineate circle hook regulations.

3. Regulatory Amendment 30 (Red Grouper Rebuilding) (*Attachment 3*)

Description: The recent red grouper assessment (SEDAR 53) indicated that the stock is undergoing overfishing and is not making adequate progress towards rebuilding, which is supposed to take place by 2020 under the current rebuilding plan. In response, the Council needs to revise the rebuilding plan for red grouper by September 2019 to meet the statutory deadline. At the June 2018 meeting, the Committee moved actions from the Vision Blueprint amendments addressing modification to the spawning season closure for red grouper to Regulatory Amendment 30 and also requested that an action be added to establish a commercial trip limit. Public comment on the amendment was accepted during the September/October Council meeting with the intent of approving the amendment for formal review at the December 2018 meeting.

Required AP Action: Discuss and provide recommendations.

4. Regulatory Amendment 32 (Yellowtail Snapper Annual Catch Limit and Accountability Measures) (*Attachment 4*)

Description: In March 2018, the Council directed staff to begin work on an amendment that would revise in-season accountability measures for yellowtail snapper. The intent is to alleviate socio-economic impacts to the commercial sector due to in-season closures. In June 2018, the Committee approved the amendment for scoping. Scoping hearings were held via webinar on August 15 and 16, 2018. At the September/October Council meeting, the

Committee selected a preferred alternative and directed staff to prepare the amendment for formal approval in December 2018.

Required AP Action: Discuss and provide recommendations.

5. Input for biennial evaluation of 2016-2020 Vision Blueprint – (Attachment 5)

Description: The 2016-2020 Vision Blueprint for the Snapper Grouper Fishery was approved in December 2015 and includes prioritized short-term objectives around broad goals addressing science, management, communication, and governance. From 2016 through 2018, the Council accomplished many of the objectives detailed in the Vision Blueprint and is scheduled to conduct a biennial evaluation in December 2018. To gather input for the evaluation, the Council requests that the Snapper Grouper AP provide input on items that have not yet been addressed, specifically in terms of priority. Council staff will deliver a presentation touching on accomplishments to date and highlighting items left to address.

Requested AP Action: Provide input as appropriate to enable the Council to evaluate objectives in the 2016-2020 Vision Blueprint.

6. Fishery Performance Reports: Yellowtail Snapper and Golden Tilefish (Attachments 6a and 6b)

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 Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), the Socio-Economic Panel (SEP), and the Council to assist in their discussions. Using an online application <https://testsafmcouncil.shinyapps.io/FPRTilefishYellowtailSnapper/> (user can toggle between the two species). Staff will provide a brief overview of landings trends and other background information and request the AP's input to develop FPRs for yellowtail snapper and golden tilefish.

Requested AP Action: Provide information based on discussion for development of FPRs.

7. Citizen Science: Scamp Release App (Attachment 7)

Description: Staff will present an update on the progress of the development of the Council's Citizen Science Program and the final work of the Action Teams and the Operations Committee. The AP will be provided a presentation about the development of the Program's pilot project that will focus on working with commercial and recreational fishermen to collect data on scamp grouper discards using a mobile application. The AP will have the opportunity to conduct a live test of the mobile application and provide feedback on the functionality and layout of the app as well as provide input on strategies to recruit volunteers and the best way to communicate with volunteers about data collection, use of the data, and project results.

Requested AP Action: Discuss and provide input as appropriate.

8. Discussion to inform request for Southeast Regional Permits Office presentation in spring 2019 (Attachment 8)

Description: At the Spring 2018 meeting, the AP requested that Permits Office staff deliver a presentation at their fall meeting. The Council discussed this request at their October 2018 meeting and directed staff to request a presentation from the Southeast Region Permits Office

to be delivered at the March 2019 Council meeting and the Spring 2019 AP meeting. The Committee requested that the AP provide specific issues/questions/concerns during their October 2018 to pass along to the SERO Permits Office to develop the presentation. The Snapper Grouper Committee provided the following items that they would like included in the presentation:

- What is done to track individuals who attempt to obtain/renew a permit when there's been a violation on a previous permit?
- If the permit were to be tied to an individual rather than the vessel, would this help in tracking violations?
- If someone has an outstanding violation and is caught fishing without a permit, is there a way to track that individual attempting to obtain a new permit and prevent them from getting one?
- It was noted that there have been customer service/training complaints from fishermen
- Could a permit be issued on a multi-year basis?
- What would happen if a permit were revoked in a limited access fishery?
- How do renewal schedules affect the number of active permits?
- How does NOAA GC know when to revoke a permit? What is the process?

Requested AP Action: Discuss and provide input as appropriate

9. Other Business

At their October meeting, the Snapper Grouper Committee requested that the AP provide input on whether to remove almaco jack from the Other Jack's Complex.