



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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

AGENDA

Snapper Grouper Commercial Sub-Committee

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

Monday, March 3, 2026, 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

2:00 pm – 2:20 pm

- Approval of Agenda
 - Approval of Minutes (December 2025) ([December 2025 Sub-Committee Report](#); [December 2025 Snapper Grouper Committee Report](#))
 - Law Enforcement Advisory Panel (LE AP) Recommendations (*LE AP Report*)
1. Amendment 60 (Commercial Permits and Trip Efficiency) (*Attachments 1a-1c*)

2:20 pm – 2:45 pm

- a. Action 1. Removal of the 2-for-1 Policy
 - i. Overview – Michael Schmidtke
 - ii. Permits Information Update/Presentation (*Attachment 1b*) – Jessica Stephen, NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office (SERO)
 - iii. Sub-Committee Discussion

2:45 pm – 3:30 pm

- b. Actions 2-4. Revision of Snapper Grouper Trip Limits (Trip Limits, Step-Ups, Step-Downs)
 - i. Overview – Michael Schmidtke
 - ii. Trip Limit Analyses Presentation (*Attachment 1c*) – Dominique Lazarre, SERO

--- Break ---

3:45 pm – 4:15 pm

- iii. Sub-Committee Discussion: Consider which types of trip limit changes should be considered for which species.

4:15 pm – 4:55 pm

- c. Action 5. Revision of Longline Species Limitation and Stowage Requirements
 - i. Overview – Michael Schmidtke
 - ii. Call-In/Notification System Set-Up Presentation (*Attachment 1b*) – Jessica Stephen, SERO
 - iii. Sub-Committee Discussion
- d. **Sub-Committee Action:** Review draft actions, alternatives, and analyses and provide direction to staff for further development of the amendment. Review amendment timeline and revise as necessary.

4:55 pm – 5:00 pm

- 2. Other Business

Adjourn

Sub-Committee Members:

Jessica McCawley, Chair
Kerry Marhefka, Vice-chair
Amy Dukes
Jimmy Hull
Trish Murphey
Charlie Phillips
Andy Strelcheck
Dewey Hemilright

Staff Lead: Mike Schmidtke (mike.schmidtke@safmc.net)

Attachments:

LE AP Report: Law Enforcement Advisory Panel Meeting, January 2026

Attachment 1a: Amendment 60 (Commercial Permits and Trip Efficiency) Decision Document

Attachment 1b: SERO Permits and Call-in System Presentation

Attachment 1c: Trip Limit Analyses Presentation

OVERVIEW

Snapper Grouper Commercial Sub-Committee

1. Amendment 60 (Commercial Permits and Trip Efficiency) (LE AP Report; *Attachments 1a-1c*)

Amendment 60 considers revisions to the commercial snapper grouper unlimited (SG 1) permit and changes to management measures intended to increase commercial trip efficiency. In December 2025, the Sub-Committee provided direction for amendment development and revised the amendment timeline. Council staff will present a discussion document outlining drafted actions and alternatives. SERO staff will present information on commercial snapper grouper permits, trip limit analyses exploring year-long trip limit changes, step-ups, and step-downs, and information about establishing a call-in or notification system to inform law enforcement of trips with multiple gear types.

Sub-Committee Action: Review drafted action and alternative language. Review presented analyses and information. Provide direction to staff for further development of the amendment. Review amendment timeline and revise as necessary.

2. Other Business