



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

Crowne Plaza Hotel Charleston

4831 Tanger Outlet Blvd

North Charleston, SC 29418

April 20-21, 2026

Public comment will be solicited at the beginning of the meeting. Those wishing to comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will recognize individuals to provide comment in-person or on the webinar.

After this meeting, Amendment 60 will be developed by the Council's Snapper Grouper Committee, beginning with consideration of approving the amendment for public hearings at the June 2026 Council meeting.

Monday, April 20, 2026, 1:00 P.M. – 4:30 P.M.

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes (March 2026) ([March 2026 Snapper Grouper Committee Report and Snapper Grouper Commercial Sub-Committee Report](#))
- Public Comment

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

1:10 pm – 3:00 pm

- a. Purpose and Need
- b. Action 1. Removal of the 2-for-1 Policy
 - i. Overview – Michael Schmidtke
 - ii. Leasing Information Update/Presentation (*Attachment 1b*) – Jessica Stephen, NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office (SERO)
 - iii. **Sub-Committee Discussion:** Provide direction to staff on any necessary revisions to include in the public hearing draft.
- c. Action 2. Revision of Longline Species Limitation and Stowage Requirements
 - i. Overview – Michael Schmidtke
 - ii. Gear Change Example Presentation (*Attachment 1b*) – Jessica Stephen
 - iii. **Sub-Committee Discussion:** Provide direction to staff on any necessary revisions to include in the public hearing draft.

--- Break ---

3:15 pm – 4:30 pm

- d. Actions 3-10. Revision of Trip Limits for Greater Amberjack, Vermilion Snapper, Red Porgy, Hogfish (GA-NC), Red Grouper, Gray Triggerfish, Golden Tilefish (Hook and Line), Gag
 - i. Overview – Michael Schmidtke
 - ii. Discussion About Trip Limit Adjustment Process

Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

8:30 am – 10:30 am

- d. Actions 3-10 (continued). Revision of Trip Limits for Greater Amberjack, Vermilion Snapper, Red Porgy, Hogfish (GA-NC), Red Grouper, Gray Triggerfish, Golden Tilefish (Hook and Line), Gag
 - iii. Trip Limit Analyses Presentation (*Attachment 1c*) – Dominique Lazarre, SERO
 - iv. Trip Limit Alternatives Discussion
 - v. **Sub-Committee Discussion:** Review trip limit alternatives and language for temporary trip limit adjustments.

--- Break ---

10:45 am – 12:00 pm

- e. Action 11. Modify Commercial Trip Limit and Possession Requirements
 - vi. Overview – Michael Schmidtke
 - vii. **Sub-Committee Discussion:** Review alternatives and provide direction for any revisions to include in the public hearing draft.

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:

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

Attachment 1b: SERO Permits and Gear Change Presentation (*available on 4/13*)

Attachment 1c: Trip Limit Analyses Presentation (*available on 4/13*)

OVERVIEW

Snapper Grouper Commercial Sub-Committee

- 1. Amendment 60 (Commercial Permits and Trip Efficiency) (*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 March 2026, the Sub-Committee provided directions for amendment development and directed staff to organize an additional Sub-Committee meeting prior to consideration of the amendment for public hearing approval in June 2026. Council staff will present a discussion document outlining drafted actions and alternatives. SERO staff will present information on leasing of commercially-permitted vessels, an example of how gear changes to or from bottom longlines and associated notifications could be considered, and trip limit analyses exploring trip limit changes for several snapper grouper species.

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**