



THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

**Introductory Presentation**  
**Snapper Grouper Private Angler Advisory Panel**  
**May 2024**



# What are we going over at this meeting?

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- What's an advisory panel and what to expect.
- What is Snapper Grouper Amendment 46 and what's in it.
- Input and guidance that the Council has received so far.





# What is an advisory panel (AP)?

- A group of individuals from the fishing community that advise the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council on fishery management topics, trends, and observations.
- The Council has 13 APs that provide guidance on specific fisheries (ex. Dolphin Wahoo), aspects of fisheries management (ex. Law Enforcement), and specific topics (ex. this AP!).



# What's the role of the Snapper Grouper Private Angler AP?

- Provide guidance to the Council to help guide their decision making for Amendment 46 from the private angler perspective.
- An ad hoc AP, like this one, is created to advise the Council on a specific topic.
  - Provides important feedback to the Council but may be disbanded after the management topic is no longer being actively discussed.





# What's in Amendment 46?

- Establish a private recreational permit in the Snapper Grouper fishery.
- Establish an education requirement geared specifically towards the private recreational portion of the fishery.
- Establish an exemption to federal permit and education requirements if a state implements equivalent measures.
- Not currently considering reporting.

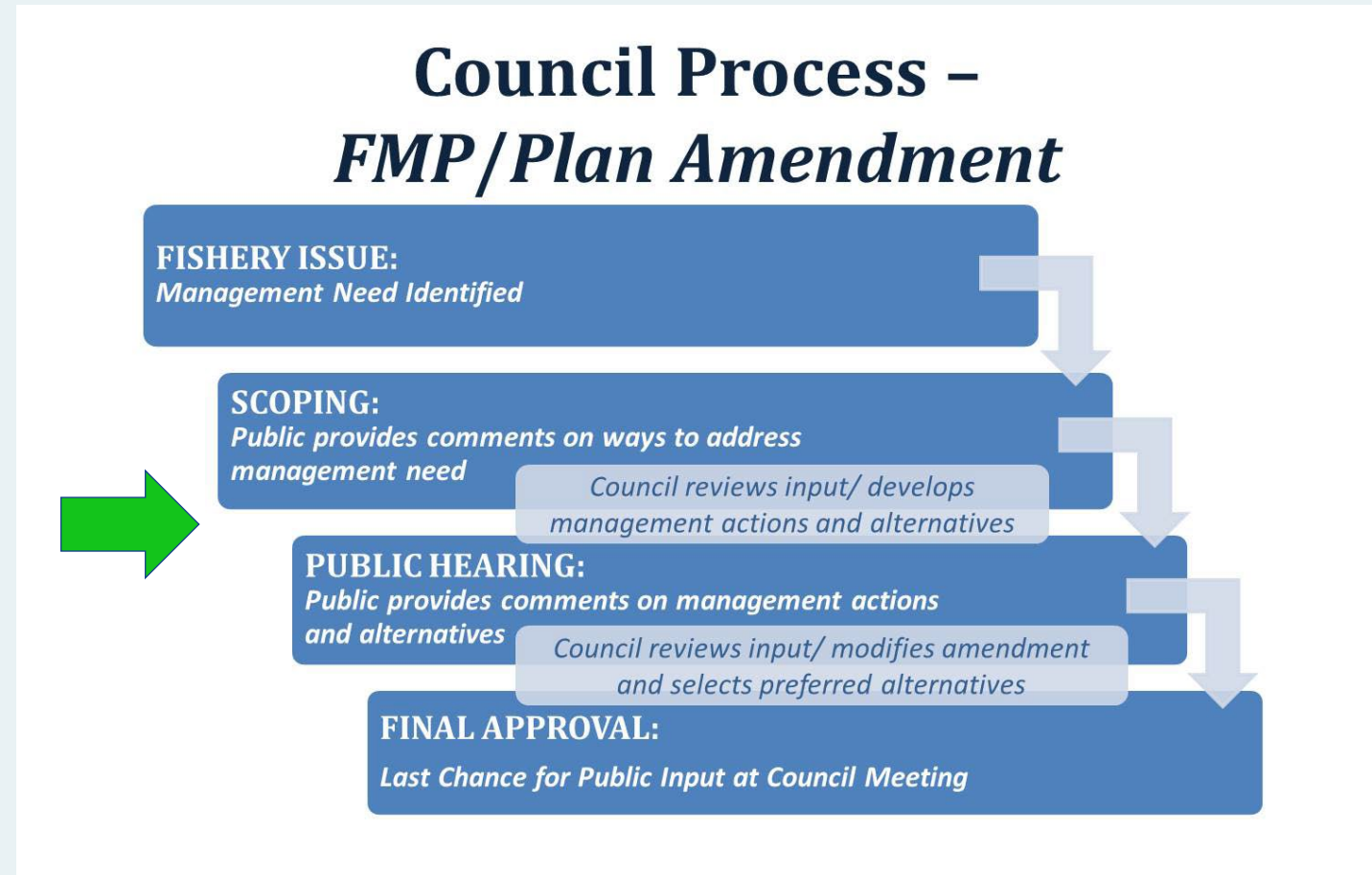


# What's the intent of Amendment 46?

- Why is the Council considering taking action?
  - Uncertain and imprecise estimates of private recreational effort (number of trips) and catch (harvested or discarded fish) is often leading to notable management challenges.
  - Many Snapper Grouper species are also experiencing high mortality due to fish that are caught but do not survive being released.
- What is the purpose?
  - Identify the universe of private anglers or vessels targeting South Atlantic snapper grouper species and enhance the ability to collect recreational effort and catch data.
    - Improve the precision and accuracy of effort and catch estimates.
  - Promote best recreational fishing practices through education.

# Where is Amendment 46 in the development process?

- Has gone through scoping and initial development.
- Up for approval of public hearings in September 2024.
- Potential final approval in early to mid 2025.





# What input has the Council received so far?

- Public comments during scoping and at all Council meetings.
- Multiple Advisory Panels:
  - Snapper Grouper Permitting and Reporting AP
    - An Ad Hoc AP intended to provide technical guidance on permitting for AM 46
  - Snapper Grouper AP
  - Law Enforcement AP
  - Outreach and Communications AP
- Interdisciplinary Plan Development Team (IPT)
  - Made up of NMFS and Council staff to provide legal, regulatory, and technical guidance for Amendment 46.



# What's expected from AP members this afternoon?



- Provide your observations and input relevant to Amendment 46.
  - Do you have recommendations for the Council?
  - Do you have topics or subjects that you think the Council needs to consider when making a decision?
  - What are your observations?
- Elect a Chair and Vice-Chair at the end of the meeting.
  - Who is interested?



## What's next?

- Up next we're going to get into the details of Amendment 46 and ask for your input.
  - Specific discussion questions for the AP on each action covering potential permitting and education requirements.
- But first.....

# Questions?

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- What's generally expected of you as an AP member?
- How are things expected to go today?
- Any lingering questions on the AP process?

