



## SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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

# AGENDA

## Snapper Grouper Committee

Hotel Ballast  
 301 N. Water St.  
 Wilmington, NC

**Thursday, December 5, 2019, 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 NOON (Times subject to change)**

Approval of Agenda – Jessica McCawley

Approval of September 2019 Committee minutes – Jessica McCawley

1. Status of Commercial and Recreational Catches versus Quotas for Species under ACLs – NMFS SERO
2. Status of Amendments under Formal Review (*Attachments 1a and 1b*) – NMFS SERO
  - Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendments 26 – sent to NMFS 4/17/19
  - Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 27 – sent to NMFS 1/24/19
  - Snapper Grouper Amendment 42 – sent to NMFS 4/24/19
  - Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 30 – sent to NMFS on 9/10/19
  - Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 29 – sent to NMFS on \_\_\_\_\_
3. SSC Report (items related to Snapper Grouper; *Attachment 2*)
  - a. Overview – Dr. George Sedberry
  - b. Committee Action: Action as needed – Jessica McCawley
4. Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel Report (*Attachment 3*) – Robert Lorenz, Vice-Chair
5. Abbreviated Framework 3 (Blueline Tilefish; *Attachments 4a and 4b*)
  - a. Overview – Roger Pugliese
  - b. Committee Action: recommend for final approval – Jessica McCawley
6. Update of SERFS Chevron trap CPUE for Red Snapper including 2019 data (*Attachment 5*)
  - a. Presentation – Dr. Marcel Reichert
  - b. Committee Action: Action as needed – Jessica McCawley

7. Regulatory Amendment 33 (Red Snapper Season Modifications; *Attachments 6a-6c*)
  - a. Overview – Myra Brouwer
  - b. Committee Action: Consider for final approval – Jessica McCawley
  
8. Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 31 (Recreational Accountability Measures; *Attachment 7*)
  - a. Overview – Dr. Brian Chevront
  - b. Committee Action: Provide guidance to staff – Jessica McCawley
  
9. Summary of Best Practices Outreach (*Attachment 8*)
  - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand and Cameron Rhodes
  - b. Committee Action: Action as needed – Jessica McCawley
  
10. System Management Plan Workgroup Update (*Attachment 9*)
  - a. Overview – Dr. Chip Collier
  - b. Committee Action: Action as needed – Jessica McCawley
  
11. Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary AP Input – Myra Brouwer

Other Business – Jessica McCawley

Adjourn – Jessica McCawley

**Committee Members**

Jessica McCawley, Chair  
Mel Bell, Vice-chair  
Anna Beckwith  
Chester Brewer  
Kyle Christiansen  
Chris Conklin  
Roy Crabtree  
Tim Griner  
Carolyn Belcher  
LCDR Jeremy Montes  
Steve Poland  
Art Sapp  
David Whitaker  
Spud Woodward  
Mid-Atlantic Liaison: Tony DiLernia, Dewey Hemilright

**Attachments:**

**Attachment 1a:** Status of Commercial Catches vs. ACLs

**Attachment 1b:** Status of Recreational Catches vs. ACLs (*updated version in Late Materials of at the meeting*)

**Attachment 2:** Scientific and Statistical Committee Report

**Attachment 3:** Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel Report

**Attachment 4a:** Draft Abbreviated Framework 3

**Attachment 4b:** Abbreviated Framework 3 Codified Text

**Attachment 5:** Update of SERFS Chevron trap CPUE for Red Snapper including 2019 data (*available in Late Materials or at the meeting*)

**Attachment 6a:** Regulatory Amendment 33 Decision Document

**Attachment 6b:** Draft Regulatory Amendment 33

**Attachment 6c:** Regulatory Amendment 33 Codified Text (*available in Late Materials or at the meeting*)

**Attachment 7:** Regulatory Amendment 31 Decision Document

**Attachment 8:** Summary of Best Practices Outreach

**Attachment 9:** System Management Plan Workgroup Meeting Minutes

**Staff:** Myra Brouwer

# OVERVIEW

## Snapper Grouper Committee

The Committee will approve minutes from the September 2019 meeting and the agenda for the December 2019 Committee meeting.

- 1. Status of Commercial and Recreational Catches for Species under ACLs**  
*(Attachments 1a and 1b)*

**Description:** National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Regional Office (NMFS SERO) staff will update the Committee on the status of commercial and recreational landings of snapper grouper species and species complexes relative to their respective ACLs.

**Required Committee Action:** None.
- 2. Status of Amendments under Formal Review**

**Description:** NMFS SERO staff will update the Committee on the status of amendments under review or recently submitted.

**Required Committee Action:** None.
- 3. Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) Report** *(Attachment 2)*

**Description:** The SSC met in Charleston, SC, on October 15-17, 2019 to discuss items of interest to the Committee including recommendations for acceptable biological catch levels for unassessed species and clarification on the overfishing level and acceptable biological catch for blueline tilefish. Dr. George Sedberry, SSC Chair, will brief the Committee on SSC discussions and recommendations.

**Required Committee Action:** Action as needed.
- 4. Advisory Panel (AP) Report** *(Attachment 3)*

**Description:** The Snapper Grouper AP met in Charleston, SC, on October 9-11, 2019 to discuss items pertaining to the snapper grouper fishery. The AP received updates on developing amendments, other pertinent projects and upcoming Council actions. In addition, the AP provided input for a Fishery Performance Report on scamp and provided their recommendation on proposed regulations in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary.

**Required Committee Action:** Action as needed.
- 5. Abbreviated Framework 3 (Blueline Tilefish; Attachments 4a-4b)**

**Description:** The amendment would adjust the ABC and ACL for blueline tilefish in the South Atlantic Council's jurisdiction, including the area north of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina. At their October 2019 meeting, the SSC clarified their intent of adding the OFLs and ABCs from the areas north and south of Cape Hatteras to produce a single OFL and ABC for the blueline tilefish stock in the South Atlantic. Council staff will provide an overview of modifications to the amendment based on guidance at the September 2019 meeting.

**Status of Amendment:** The draft amendment was completed reviewed by the SEFSC and NOAA General Counsel

**Required Committee Action:** Consider public comment and consider recommending approval for formal review.

**6. Update of SERFS Chevron trap CPUE for Red Snapper including 2019 data (Attachment 5)**

**Description:** Dr. Marcel Reichert will present an update of the Southeast Reef Fish Survey catch per unit effort data collected in 2019 for red snapper. The presentation will be delivered via webinar.

**Required Committee Action:** Action as needed.

**7. Regulatory Amendment 33 (Red Snapper Seasons Modifications; Attachments 6a-6c)**

**Description:** The amendment includes actions to remove the minimum number of days required to allow recreational or commercial harvest of red snapper and change the start date of the commercial season. Council staff will present an overview of analyses and Council rationale provided at the September 2019 meeting.

**Status of Amendment:** The draft amendment was completed and has been sent to the SEFSC for review.

**Required Committee Action:** Consider recommendation for formal review.

**8. Regulatory Amendment 31 (Modifications to Recreational Accountability Measures; Attachment 7)**

**Description:** The Committee last worked on this amendment at the March 2019 meeting. Many substantial changes were to the actions and alternatives. Additionally, all of the actions related to dolphin and wahoo were moved to Dolphin Wahoo Amendment 10. Council staff will present a decision document with a revised purpose and need for the amendment, along with revised actions and alternatives.

**Required Committee Action:** Make modifications as needed.

**9. Summary of Best Practices Outreach (Attachment 8)**

**Description:** At the September 2019 meeting, the Committee finalized Regulatory Amendment 29 and approved it for formal review. The Committee also discussed an outreach plan for best fishing practices and prioritized the following:

- A brochure on best fishing practices and the requirements contained in Regulatory Amendment 29.
- Working with influencers to promote best fishing practices.
- Beginning discussions on incentivizing fishermen to use best fishing practices.

The Committee also requested a summary of current and past outreach efforts on best fishing practices in the South Atlantic and their results. Council staff will present a summary of current and past outreach efforts in the region and update the Council on plans for future outreach efforts.

**Required Committee Action:** Provide guidance to staff.

**10. System Management Plan Workgroup Update (Attachment 9)**

**Description:** The System Management Plan Workgroup met in October 8-9, 2019 to go over the Spawning Special Management webpage and begin an outline for evaluation of

the Oculina Experimental Closed Area. Council staff will brief the Committee on the meeting and the evaluation plan.

**Required Committee Action:** Provide guidance to staff.

**11. Snapper Grouper AP input on Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary (FKNMS) Draft Environmental Impact Statement**

At their meeting on October 9-11, 2019, the AP received a presentation from FKNMS staff on proposed changes to sanctuary regulations. Council staff will review the AP's recommendations.

**Required Committee Action:** None.

**Other Business**