

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting

March 3-7, 2014
Savannah, GA

Hilton Savannah DeSoto
15 East Liberty Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Call 877-280-0751 or 912-232-9000 for hotel reservations.

Members of the public are
invited to attend all
meetings.

Briefing book materials are also
available from the website,
including the meeting agenda,
agendas and overviews for each
committee meeting, and
supporting materials.

Can't attend in person?

Watch the March 2014
Council meeting live!

Register for the video webinar
to access each meeting day.

Visit www.safmc.net for
registration details.

Agenda Highlights:

Mackerel Committee Meeting

- **Coastal Migratory Pelagics (Mackerel) Framework Amendment 1** - Updates the Annual Catch Limits for Atlantic group and Gulf group Spanish mackerel based on the recent stock assessment. The amendment is scheduled for final approval.
- **Joint SA/Gulf Mackerel Amendment 20B** - establishes regional commercial annual catch limits (Northern Zone - NC north to NY and Southern Zone - SC, GA and Eastern FL) for Atlantic group king mackerel and Spanish mackerel and allows for transfer of the quota. Also addresses trip limits, fishing seasons, and transit provisions in the Gulf of Mexico, in addition to framework procedure and catch limits for cobia. The Council is scheduled to approve the amendment for Secretarial review at this meeting.

Snapper Grouper Committee Meeting

- **Amendment 29** - (ORCS and gray triggerfish) - the amendment outlines procedures for management of stocks with limited data (only reliable catch stocks) and also includes alternatives for triggerfish management including commercial trip limits and changes to size limits. The committee will review public hearing comments and modify the actions as necessary. The Council is scheduled to approve the amendment for submission to the Secretary of Commerce in June 2014.
- **Regulatory Amendment 21** - (Minimum Stock Size Threshold) - Includes alternatives to consider changing the MSST definition for snapper grouper species with low natural mortalities. The Council is scheduled to approve the amendment for submission to the Secretary of Commerce.
- **Regulatory Amendment 16** - (Black Sea Bass Pot Closure) - The committee will review public scoping comments and choose preferred management alternatives. The Council is scheduled to approve the amendment for public hearings to be held in August 2014.

Public Input

Wednesday, March 5 at 5:30 PM - Informal Q&A Session

Led by NOAA Fisheries Regional Administrator Dr. Roy Crabtree and Council Chairman Ben Hartig.

Thursday, March 6 at 5:30 PM - Public Comment

Formal public comment accepted on: 1) Snapper Grouper Amendment 21 (MSST), 2) Joint Coastal Migratory Pelagic Amendment 20B (Gulf king mackerel trip limits and seasons, transit provision, regional quotas, framework, cobia ACL), 3) CMP Framework Amendment 1 (Spanish Mackerel ACLs) and (4) Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment 3 (Bycatch), followed by comment on other agenda items. (See briefing book materials available at www.safmc.net for details.)

SAFMC Meeting Agenda

March 3 - 7, 2014



Monday, March 3

8:30 am - 12:00 noon

1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

3:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Law Enforcement Advisory Panel Meeting

Joint Law Enforcement AP and Committee Meeting

Joint Habitat/Ecosystem Committee Meeting

Tuesday, March 4

8:30 am - 9:30 am

9:30 am - 10:30 am

10:30 am - 5:30 pm

SEDAR Committee Meeting

Protected Resources Committee Meeting

Snapper Grouper Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 5

8:30 am - 5:00 pm

5:30 pm

Snapper Grouper Committee Meeting (*continued*)

Informal Public Q & A Session

Thursday, March 6

8:30 am - 11:00 am

11:00 pm - 12:00 noon

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

5:30 pm

Mackerel Committee Meeting

Executive Finance Committee Meeting

Dolphin Wahoo Committee Meeting

Data Collection Committee Meeting

Public Comment (see front of post card for details)

Friday, March 7

8:30 am - 3:00 pm

-Council Session-

Note:

Except for public comment, the agenda items and schedules are subject to change.

Additional meeting information is available online at **www.safmc.net**

Contact the Council office at:
843/571-4366 or
toll free 866/SAFMC-10