



# South Atlantic Update

Published for fishermen and others interested in federal marine resource conservation issues

Fall 2018

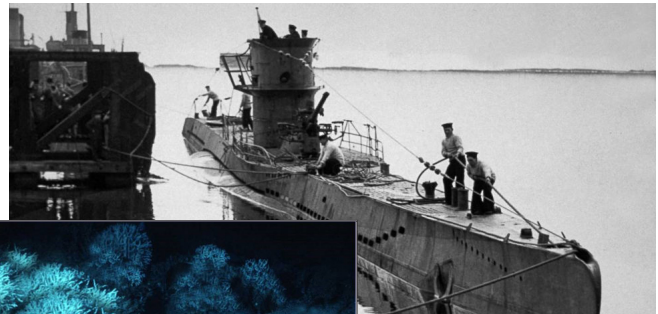
## Designated Managed Areas Help Protect Marine Habitat and Fisheries

*New System Management Plan Workgroup will aid in management and evaluation of areas*

Mention federal fisheries management to most fishermen and the first thoughts that come to mind may be rules and regulations – size limits, bag limits, seasonal closures, etc. These are all tools used to manage fisheries, but equally important are measures used to protect habitat and ecosystems essential to healthy fish stocks. Managed areas such as marine protected areas, special management zones, and other managed area designations are used to limit impacts to habitat from fishing activities, help provide protection for spawning aggregations, and provide additional layers of protection to sensitive bottom habitat areas from disruptive activities such as oil and gas exploration.

The Council has adopted system management plans for its Deepwater Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) implemented in 2009, and most recently, areas designated as Spawning Special Management Zones (SMZs) in 2016. The system management plans are designed to include three different phases: designing and planning, adequacy and appropriateness, and outputs and outcomes. For the MPAs and Spawning SMZs, most of the designing and planning was addressed as the Council developed amendments to create the managed areas. In 2015, the Council also approved an Evaluation Plan for the Oculina Experimental Closed Area.

Additional system management plans are being developed for other managed areas. The Council recently appointed a new System Management Plan (SMP) Workgroup, composed of ecologists, coral scientists, acoustic and mapping specialists, researchers, law enforcement and outreach representatives, and commercial and recreational fishermen. The Workgroup will help guide the Council by developing recommendations for size, configuration, and regulations for managed areas; discussing research, outreach, and enforcement efforts; potential funding opportunities; and commenting on research priorities for all managed areas. Ultimately, the Council's goal is to have a single System Management Plan that includes sections for each managed area, with a target date for completion in 2025.



During WWII, anti-submarine patrols used explosives against lurking German U-boats that may have used large deepwater coral pinnacles off the east coast of Florida to help disguise their location. Years later, commercial

trawling and concentrated fishing would take their toll on the Oculina Bank, named for the *Oculina varicosa* coral found there. The Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern was designated in 1984, establishing the first deepwater coral protection in the U.S.

The SMP Workgroup met for the first time in October and again in November via webinar, focusing on the Council's Spawning SMZs for its first report.

To better understand the tasks of the SMP Workgroup and how a single System Management Plan may be developed, it is helpful to look at the Council's history in creating these managed areas.

### The Oculina Bank - First Deepwater Coral Protected Area

Protection of deepwater coral habitats by the Council dates back more than three decades. The Oculina Bank, named after the slow-growing ivory tree coral, *Oculina varicosa*, is a narrow strip of coral reefs located off the central east coast of Florida. Although Oculina coral can be found at a variety of depths, the species forms massive thickets at depths ranging from

(Continued page 4)



**December 3-7, 2018**  
**Council Meeting**  
**Kitty Hawk, NC**  
See page 7 for details

**For-Hire Electronic**  
**Reporting Training**  
Wednesday, December 5  
Thursday, December 6  
**6:00 PM**  
(See page 7 for details)

**Formal Public Comment**  
Wednesday, December 5  
**4:00 PM**

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## SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

**Gregg T. Waugh**  
Executive Director

**Dr. Brian Cheuvront, Deputy**  
**John Carmichael, Deputy**

### VOTING MEMBERS

#### Designated State Officials

<b>Stephen Poland</b> Morehead City, NC (252) 808-8011	<b>Jessica McCawley, Chair</b> Tallahassee, FL (850) 487-0554
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<b>Doug Haymans</b> Brunswick, GA (912) 264-7218	<b>Mel Bell, Vice Chair</b> Charleston, SC (843) 953-9007
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#### Appointed Obligatory Members

<b>Art Sapp</b> Lighthouse Point, FL (954) 444-0820	<b>Tim Griner</b> Charlotte, NC (252) 728-9548
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<b>Kyle Christiansen</b> Richmond Hill, GA (912) 756-7560	<b>Chris Conklin</b> Murrells Inlet, SC (843) 543-3833
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#### Appointed At-Large Members

<b>W. Chester Brewer</b> West Palm Beach, FL (561) 655-4777	<b>Spud Woodward</b> Brunswick, GA (912) 258-8970
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<b>David Whitaker</b> Charleston, SC (843) 953-9392	<b>Anna Barrios Beckwith</b> Morehead City, NC (252) 671-3474
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#### NMFS Regional Administrator

**Dr. Roy Crabtree**  
St. Petersburg, FL  
(727) 824-5301

#### Non-Voting Members

<b>Robert Beal</b> ASMFC Washington, DC (202) 289-6400	<b>Dr. Wilson Laney</b> U. S. Fish & Wildlife Raleigh, NC (919) 515-5019
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<b>LCDR Jeremy Montes</b> U. S. Coast Guard Miami, FL (305) 415-6778	<b>Deirdre Warner-Kramer</b> State Department Washington, DC (202) 647-2883
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### Editor's Note

The *South Atlantic Update* is published by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. Its purpose is to report developments in fisheries management that would be of interest to its readers. Please credit the Council when reprinting articles used in this newsletter. Submissions may be mailed to Kim Iverson, Editor, *South Atlantic Update*, 4055 Faber Place Dr., Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405, or may be sent via the internet; Email address: kim.iverson@safmc.net.

A publication of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Pursuant to National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Award No. NFA15NMF4410010.



## David Whitaker Appointed to At-Large Council Member Seat

The Secretary of Commerce recently announced the appointment of David Whitaker of Charleston, SC to fill a vacant at-large regional seat on the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council. Whitaker replaces Captain Mark Brown, a charter captain from Mt. Pleasant, SC that resigned in July. The Secretary selects members from nominations submitted by the Governors of fishing states, territories and tribal governments. Council members are appointed to both obligatory (state-specific) and at-large (regional) seats. Council members are appointed to serve a three-year term and may be reappointed to serve three consecutive terms.



**David Whitaker**

Whitaker recently retired from the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources after 41 years of service. At retirement, he served as the Assistant Deputy Director at DNR in Charleston.

With an entire career spent with SC DNR, Whitaker started work as a field biologist with the

Marine Resources Division, focusing on shrimp and blue crab assessment, migration, and population dynamics. As his career progressed, he was promoted to Director of the Division's Environmental Office, Director of the Office of Fisheries Management and then Assistant Deputy Director of DNR.

Whitaker has a long history of working collaboratively in federal fisheries management, serving on the Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee as well as the Habitat and Ecosystem-Based Management Advisory Panel. As far back as 1981, Whitaker wrote the biology and habitat sections for the Council's Profile of the Penaeid Shrimp Fishery in the South Atlantic.

"Contrary to what was generally believed 30 or 40 years ago, ocean fishery resources are finite and can be overharvested, which can result in cascading impacts on other marine resources," explained Whitaker. "Not only can overharvesting be a problem, but also changing environmental conditions in the ocean can influence productivity and distribution of marine resources, and all of these factors should be considered when trying to understand population trends."

Whitaker was an adjunct faculty member for the College of Charleston for 29 years, serving on 25 thesis advisory committees. In retirement, he continues to work on personal research projects, and also enjoys gardening, fishing and wood working.





## In the News:

### Series Focuses on Impacts of Ocean Warming and Wanchese, NC

The small fishing village of Wanchese, NC was highlighted as part of “Ocean Shock”, a Reuters series exploring climate change’s impact on sea creatures and the people who depend on them.

Featured on Voice of America, the story highlights the changes to the fishing community as almost 85 percent of the nearly 70 federally tracked species in the North Atlantic have shifted north or deeper, or both when compared to the norm over the past half-century. The story focuses on the summer flounder fishery and provides a personal and insightful look at how the shifting fishery has impacted the people of Wanchese and how they are adapting. <https://www.voanews.com/a/ocean-shock-fish-flee-for-cooler-waters-upending-lives-in-us-south/4647887.html>



## South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Seize Catch

*Officers seize an estimated 1,500 pounds of fish from vessel*

On October 27, 2018, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (SCDNR) officers seized more than 1,000 pounds of fish from a vessel operating without proper licenses and permits at docks in Little River, South Carolina.

Officers asked both men on board, neither of whom were the owner of the boat, to produce a federal snapper/grouper permit, coastal migratory pelagics permit and others, but they were unable to do so. One man told officers that he believed there was an estimated 1,800 to 2,000 pounds of fish on board.

Officers determined approximately 25 percent of the fish had already been unloaded and iced for sale and about 240 pounds had been delivered to a local restaurant — where staff took possession of the illegal catch unknowingly.

Once officers seized the fish, they advised the men that because the amount seized was so large, they would attempt to sell them to a wholesale buyer instead of holding them until after the trial, a common practice in cases involving amounts of fish



this large. After several failed attempts to sell the seized fish at fair market value to other wholesalers, the fish were eventually sold to the owner of the vessel, who possessed a wholesale dealers license and Horry County business license.

The owner of the restaurant was also able to buy the fish that were delivered to it from the SCDNR at fair market value instead of seizing it. The money paid to the SCDNR will be held until after the trial and be forfeited to the agency if the men are found guilty. One man was issued two citations and the other man was issued three citations and one warning. The combined fines totaled \$3,000.

## Law Enforcement Officer of the Year - SCDNR Officer Randy Hering

*Officer Hering takes break from assisting in areas flooded by Hurricane Florence to accept award*



Officer Randy Hering accepts the Council’s Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award from Council Chair Jessica McCawley and Vice-Chair Mel Bell.

South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Officer Randy Hering was given a brief reprieve from working areas flooded by Hurricane Florence in October as he received the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council’s Law Enforcement Officer of the Year award during the Council meeting in Charleston, SC. The award, established by the Council in 2010, recognizes distinctive service, professionalism, and dedication to enforcing fisheries regulations in the South Atlantic. Nominees for the annual award may be submitted from each of the

southeastern state law enforcement agencies, the U.S. Coast Guard, and NOAA Fisheries.

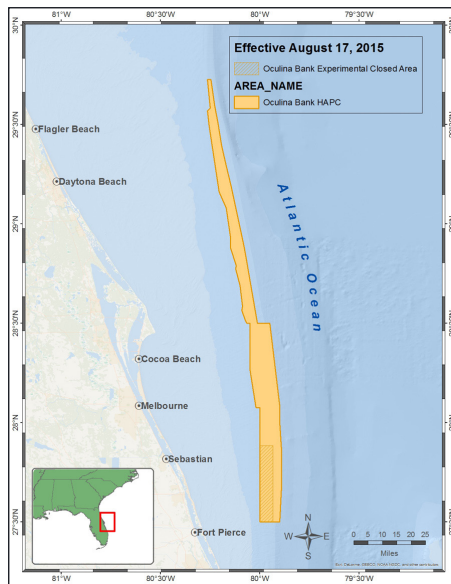
“This year’s award is especially timely,” said Council Chair Jessica McCawley. “It is truly an honor to present this award to Officer Hering during our meeting here in South Carolina, and to have the opportunity to reflect on the work and dedication of enforcement personnel throughout the region during times of natural disasters.”

In addition to his willingness to work long hours when needed, Officer Hering is known for his positive working relationship with the commercial fishing industry and knowledge of federal fishing regulations. He works closely with federal enforcement efforts through the Joint Enforcement Agreement and has assisted in joint investigations resulting in 11 Federal Fisheries cases. One such case involved a commercial offload in Georgetown, SC where Officer Hering discovered the fisherman was over his legal limit of Cobia and operating without a commercial license, result-

ing in \$3,243 of product being seized. Other cases have involved illegal possession of undersized sharks, possession of grouper during the spawning season closure, and a dockside patrol that resulted in a federal charge for an undersize blue marlin, and failure to possess a recreational permit for Highly Migratory Species.

“Officer Hering shows compassion and understanding while enforcing fisheries regulations,” said Kevin Mitchell, Field Officer with NOAA Fisheries Enforcement. “He has developed a rapport with fishermen in the area, is extremely knowledgeable about federal fisheries regulations, and is proficient at enforcing these regulations, often driving long hours to assist when needed, and collecting evidence such as fish fillets for DNA testing for successful prosecution.”

Upon receiving the recognition, Officer Hering explained, “I love my job. And this award means more to me than I can put into words, but I couldn’t do my job without the help and guidance of my fellow officers. We all share in this honor.”



The Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern now stretches along the east coast of Florida. Anchoring and the use of bottom tending fishing gear is prohibited in the HAPC. A 92-square nautical mile area within the southwest quadrant is designated as the Oculina Experimental Closed Area, where fishing for snapper grouper species is prohibited to provide further protection for reef fishes and associated deepwater coral habitats.

the Oculina coral reef in 1975. After discovering the reef and observing the importance of the reef habitat, scientists requested that the Oculina reefs be protected from the developing roller rig fishery (trawl), as well as fish trap and longline fisheries. As a result, the unique coral reef ecosystem was designated as the Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern (HAPC) in 1984. The original section was 23 nautical miles long and 4 nautical miles wide (92 square nautical miles) and located about 15 miles off the Fort Pierce coast in Florida.

Upon the discovery of additional *Oculina* coral mounds, the area was expanded in 2000 and again in 2015. The Oculina Bank HAPC is now over 130 nautical miles long, stretching from Fort Pierce northward to almost St. Augustine, Florida. Bottom-tending fishing gear (which includes trawling, fish traps, and dredging) and anchoring by fishing vessels are prohibited in the area.

In 1994, managers established additional regulations for the original 92-square mile stretch of reef by creating the Oculina Experimental Closed Area to protect critical habitat for juvenile and spawning groupers, including snowy grouper, speckled hind, gag, and scamp. The possession and fishing for snapper grouper species is prohibited and, much like regulations set for the larger Oculina Bank HAPC, the use of bottom-tending fishing gear and anchoring by fishing vessels are both prohibited.

The Oculina Bank HAPC and the Oculina Experimental Closed Area are rich in biological diversity and cultural history. The regulatory measures that are currently in place should aid in the protection of these important and fragile Oculina corals, as well as the myriad of species that rely on these corals for habitat.

### Deepwater Coral Habitat Areas of Particular Concern

To safeguard the importance and uniqueness of deep water coral habitats in the South Atlantic, in 2010 the Council

75-90 meters (200-350 feet). These thickets support diverse communities of finfish and invertebrates, and consequently have been designated as essential habitat for many species of fish. Once plagued by World War II-era bombings to destroy German U-boats, fishing impacts, and episodic die-offs, this important ecosystem is now protected in federal waters of the U.S. South Atlantic Bight.

Scientists first discovered

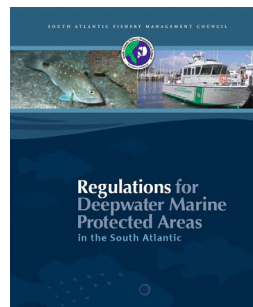
designated five areas as Coral Habitat Areas of Particular Concern. The Coral HAPCs encompass more than 23,000 square miles, an area roughly the size of the state of West Virginia, and include diverse deepwater coral habitats ranging in location from the Cape Lookout Lophelia Banks off the coast of North Carolina to the Pourtales Terrace located east of the Florida Keys.

Management measures to help protect these sensitive habitats include a prohibition on the use of fishing gear (bottom longline, bottom and mid-water trawl, dredge, pot, and trap), anchoring by fishing vessels, and possession of deep water coral. Maps and videos highlighting these unique areas are available from the Council's website at: <http://safmc.net/safmc-managed-areas/deepwater-coral-hapcs/>.

To allow fishermen to continue operating within traditional fishing grounds, the Council also designated Shrimp Access Areas within the Stetson-Miami Terrace, the largest of the Coral HAPCs. The designation allows limited access for permitted commercial rock shrimp vessels that operate using Vessel Monitoring Systems to track vessel locations. Similarly, access areas have been designated for the commercial golden crab fishery.

### Deepwater Marine Protected Areas

It took nearly 16 years with a great deal of input from the public, but eventually eight Deepwater Marine Protected Areas



Maps, coordinates, and additional information about Deepwater MPAs are available from the Council's website.

(MPAs) would be established in the South Atlantic region in 2009 through Amendment 14 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan. The MPAs are designed to protect a portion of the long-lived, "deep water" snapper grouper species such as snowy grouper, speckled hind, and blueline tilefish.

The MPAs range in size from 2 by 4 nautical miles to 10 by 15 nautical miles. In addition to the seven areas that encompass natural habitat, one area off Charleston, South Carolina was established to create a deep water artificial reef. Fishing for, or possession of species within the snapper grouper management complex is prohibited within the Deepwater MPAs. Fishing for pelagic species such as dolphin and wahoo is allowed.

### Spawning Special Management Zones

The Council's latest designated managed areas are five Spawning Special Management Zones (SMZs) that became effective on July 31, 2017. The five Spawning SMZs are designed to help protect areas important for spawning, such as areas where spawning has been observed or likely to occur, including areas with favorable ocean currents and habitats. The unique Spawning SMZs include portions of an elbow-shaped ledge off the coast of South Carolina, two experimental artificial reef areas, and a deep sinkhole in the ocean floor just off the Florida Keys.

Some of these important spawning areas were identified using cooperative research with fishermen and through input from fishery scientists, members of the Council's advisory panels, and public input. These areas are home to a mix of





Cooperative research with commercial fishermen helped to identify potential spawning areas for species such as speckled hind, a highly threatened species currently protected from harvest. This juvenile sample was taken from the Devil's Hole (Georgetown Hole) area off the coast of South Carolina.

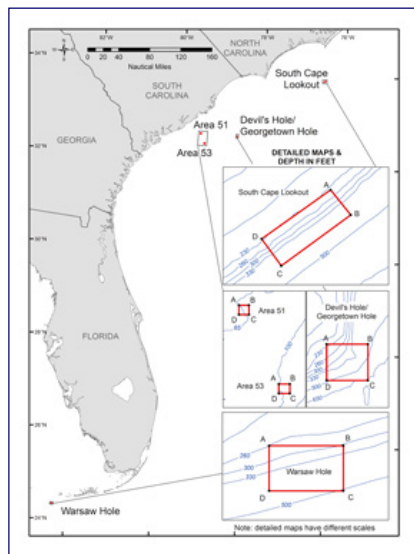
shallow water and deepwater species, including black sea bass, triggerfish, speckled hind, vermilion snapper, warsaw grouper, gag and snowy grouper. Fishing for snapper grouper species is prohibited within the areas.

By protecting the spawning area, spawning could increase and lead to increased recruitment of many snapper grouper species.

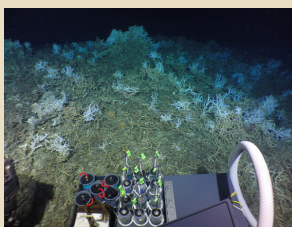
An additional goal for designating the spawning SMZs is to reduce bycatch and bycatch mortality of snapper grouper species, including speckled hind and warsaw grouper, two species currently restricted from harvest.

The Spawning SMZs were established through Amendment 36 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan. In addition to designating the Spawning SMZs, the amendment also includes a sunset provision that requires the areas to be reauthorized within 10 years. A System Management Plan for the Spawning SMZs was approved in conjunction with the amendment, outlining research and monitoring, law enforcement, and outreach needs.

The Council's System Management Plan Workgroup will assist the Council in evaluation of the Spawning SMZs and determine if management changes are needed to meet their goals, as well as other managed areas in the future.



Spawning Special Management Zones



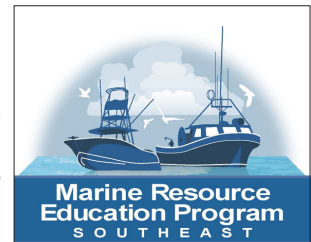
What kind of research and monitoring efforts have taken place within designated managed areas? How do we know if they are working? We'll take a look at the science behind the management areas in the next issue of the *South Atlantic Update* newsletter as we

highlight the latest deepwater coral research, monitoring efforts within MPAs, and more. For complete maps of current managed areas visit: <https://safmc.net/safmc-managed-areas/>.

## Marine Resource Education Program

*Bridging the gap between science and management for fishermen and other participants*

Navigating the marine science and management process for federally-managed species is not easy - and there is a lot at stake. At the same time, profound changes are happening in our waters across many regions, some due to natural variations and others due to man-made disasters. It is clear that we are seeing economic impacts to our fisheries and tensions rise as discussions ensue about who has the right to fish and about how much can be taken from the sea. It is more important than ever to understand how the process works and how to effectively get involved!



Apply now for 2019!  
[www.gmri.org](http://www.gmri.org)

The Marine Resource Education Program (MREP) is designed to do just that. MREP Southeast was created by fishermen, for fishermen. It specifically runs through the science and management processes, demystifying acronyms and vocabulary, and equips attendees with the tools to engage in tough issues.

The program is offered as a series of workshops that build on each other: a three-day Fishery Science Workshop in the spring followed by a three-day Management Workshop in the fall. Presenters include staff from NOAA Fisheries Regional Office and Science Center, the councils, research institutions and more. The workshops are collaborative and offer a unique opportunity for those selected to participate.

Over 30 participants completed the 2018 program, with participants from Texas to North Carolina representing charter captains, commercial fishermen, bait and tackle dealers, private recreational fishermen, manufacturing representatives, and regional seafood dealers. The informal workshops provide a format for an exchange of ideas and information between participants and instructors. Applications are reviewed each year by the program's Steering Committee and a limited number of participants are selected. The workshops are held in the Tampa/St. Petersburg, FL area and travel costs are covered for selected participants. Apply now for the 2019 MREP Southeast workshops! <http://www.gmri.org/our-work/fisheries-convening/mrep-southeast>.



Fishermen and other 2018 MREP Science Workshop participants listen as a commercial fisherman explains his involvement in cooperative research during a break-out session at the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office in St. Petersburg, Florida.

## Council Elects New Chair and Vice-Chair

*Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission's Jessica McCawley elected Chair*



Newly elected Council Chair Jessica McCawley and Vice-Chair Mel Bell

Jessica McCawley, director of Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission's Marine Fisheries Management Division, was elected chair of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council during its October meeting

in Charleston, South Carolina. She currently serves as the FWC representative on the Council.

"It is a great honor to have been selected to chair the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council for the next two years, and I look forward to working with members and stakeholders on the successful management of our Atlantic federal fisheries," said McCawley, who has represented the FWC on the Council for seven years.

"We are so proud of Jessica for being nominated and elected the next chair of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council," said FWC's executive director Eric Sutton. "Jessica has always shown excellent leadership and is tirelessly dedicated to the successful management of Florida's marine fisheries. I'm looking forward to seeing her bring the same enthusiasm and creativity in her role with the Council."

McCawley has been the director of the FWC's Marine Fisheries Management Division since 2011. She also currently serves on the Council Coordinating Committee's Legislative Committee and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies' Ocean Resource Policy Committee.

Mel Bell, Director of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources' Office of Fisheries Management, was elected to serve as Vice Chair. With 30 years of service as an active duty and reserve officer in the U.S. Navy, Bell also has over 16 years experience serving as manager of the SC Marine Artificial Reef Program. He has served as the SC state agency representative since June 2012.

## From The Executive Director's Desk

### Marine Protected Areas, Spawning Special Management Zones, and Coral Protected Areas

*How/When will the Council/fishermen get some credit for protection?*



Gregg Waugh

When the idea of Marine Protected Areas or MPAs first surfaced many years ago, the suggestion from scientists was to "close

a certain percentage of the area and obtain an equivalent percentage towards Spawning Potential Ratio or SPR". SPR was the way stock status was measured back in the day and has now been replaced with stock biomass. The specific definitions of these terms are not important. What's important is the original concept of protecting some area and obtaining an equivalent "credit" towards management.

The Council has worked with fishermen, advisory panels, scientists, and NOAA Fisheries to identify and protect a large amount of bottom habitat from fishing for species in the snapper grouper fishery

management plan. Articles in this issue of the newsletter talk about efforts to develop a comprehensive System Management Plan (SMP) to monitor and document the effects of our closed areas.

The next step is to develop a working paper for the SEDAR stock assessment process that will make the case for some "credit" towards ending overfishing and rebuilding overfished stocks. Information is becoming available that documents improvements in the numbers/size of fish within closed areas established by the Council and NOAA Fisheries. We'll take a closer look at research and monitoring efforts within the Council's managed areas in the next issue of the newsletter. It is time that the Council and fishermen receive some return on their investment from closed areas.

The Council's new System Management Plan Workgroup will help guide this effort. Meeting information is available from the Council's website, and

workgroup meetings are available via webinar as they occur. Stay tuned as the Council works through this process and attend meetings to hear about progress.

Get Involved! Let your voice be heard!

*Gregg*





## Next SAFMC Meeting December 3-7, 2018

 Hilton Garden Inn/Outer Banks  
5353 N. Virginia Dare Avenue  
Kitty Hawk, NC  
Phone: 252/261-1290

### *Note!*

### Follow the Council meeting live online

Webinar registration information, plus meeting agendas, briefing book materials, public comment form, and other information is available:

[www.safmc.net/safmc-meetings/](http://www.safmc.net/safmc-meetings/)



## December Council Meeting Highlights

The Council is scheduled to review and approve two amendments for review by the Secretary of Commerce during its December meeting:

### **Snapper Grouper Regulatory Amendment 32** (Yellowtail Snapper)

The amendment would revise in-season accountability measures for yellowtail snapper with the intent to alleviate socio-economic impacts due to commercial in-season closures.

### **Vision Blueprint Regulatory Amendment 26** (Recreational Measures)

The amendment includes several measures for the recreational snapper grouper fishery to address issues identified in the Council's Vision Blueprint. These include a recreational season for deepwater species, revising aggregate bag limits for deepwater species and the 20-fish aggregate, reducing the minimum size limit for gray triggerfish in federal waters to meet state regulations, and other measures.

Public comment on these amendments and other proposed management measures may be submitted now using the Council's online comment form and provided in person during the Council meeting. Access the online comment form and the meeting agenda at: <http://safmc.net/december-2018-council-meeting-details/>

## SAFMC Meeting Dates and Locations 2019 Schedule

### **March 4-8, 2019**

Westin Jekyll Island  
110 Ocean Way  
Jekyll Island, GA  
Phone: 912/635-4545

### **September 17-21, 2019**

Town & Country Inn  
2008 Savannah Hwy.  
Charleston, SC  
Phone: 843/571-1000

### **June 10-14, 2019**

Hutchinson Island Marriott  
555 NE Ocean Blvd.  
Stuart, FL  
Phone: 772/225-3700

### **December 3-7, 2019**

Hilton Wilmington Riverside  
301 North Water Street  
Wilmington, NC  
Phone: 910/763-5900



## For-Hire Electronic Reporting Training Sessions

**6:00 PM**

**Wednesday, December 5, 2018**

NCDMF Central District Office  
5285 Hwy 70 West  
**Morehead City, NC**

**6:00 PM**

**Thursday, December 6, 2018**

Hilton Garden Inn/Outer Banks  
5353 N. Virginia Dare Avenue  
**Kitty Hawk, NC**

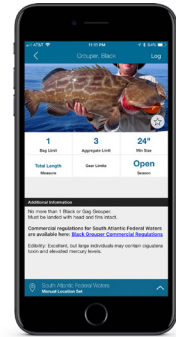
Join Council staff for a hands-on training session to learn about upcoming electronic reporting requirements for federally permitted for-hire captains and practice using tools that will be available to meet the reporting requirements.

Learn more about these upcoming new requirements for weekly electronic reporting by charter vessels with federal for-hire permits for snapper grouper, dolphin wahoo, and coastal migratory pelagics (mackerels) by visiting the Council's website at:  
<http://safmc.net/satl-federal-for-hire-electronic-reporting-outreach/>

## Mark your calendar...

- December 5** *For-Hire Electronic Reporting Training Session*  
Morehead City, NC (see page 7 for details)
- December 6** *For-Hire Electronic Reporting Training Session*  
Kitty Hawk, NC (see page 7 for details)
- December 10-13** *Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting*  
Annapolis, MD [www.mafmc.org](http://www.mafmc.org)
- January 14-18** *SEDAR 58 Atlantic Cobia Data Workshop*  
Charleston, SC [sedarweb.org](http://sedarweb.org)
- January 28-31** *Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Meeting*  
Orange Beach, AL [www.gulfcouncil.org](http://www.gulfcouncil.org)
- February 5-7** *Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting*  
Arlington, VA [www.asmfc.org](http://www.asmfc.org)
- February 25-27** *SEDAR 64 SE Yellowtail Snapper Data Workshop*  
St. Petersburg, FL [sedarweb.org](http://sedarweb.org)
- March 4-8** *South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting*  
Jekyll Island, GA [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)

South Atlantic Fishery  
Management Council  
Meeting  
**December 3-7, 2018**  
Kitty Hawk, NC



Download the FREE Fish  
Rules mobile app today!

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
National Oceanic And Atmospheric Administration

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