

# South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

## Outreach Overview

- **Information and Education Advisory Panel and Committee**
  - AP Members - Provide input and direction for outreach efforts and use of outreach tools



NATIONAL MARINE  
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GRAY'S REEF



**South Carolina Marine Association**

*Providing economic, environmental, legislative and educational support to the recreational boating industry of South Carolina*

# Web Site [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)



- Currently Includes:
  - Homepage: Announcements, News Releases, Quick Links,
  - List of all FMPs and Amendments + FRNs
  - Regulations by Species + ID
  - Separate Ecosystem-Based Management Section
- Undergoing Upgrade:
  - Redesign: more user-friendly, adding list-serve, social media
  - RFPs solicited for software upgrade and design

# Publications

- SA Update
  - Quarterly Newsletter
- Regulations
  - Topic specific
- News Releases
- Fact Sheets
- Post Cards
- Electronic and Hard Copy

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's  
**South Atlantic Update**  
 Winter 2010  
 Published for fishermen and others interested in marine resource conservation issues

**Snapper Grouper Amendment 17B Approved by Council**  
 Amendment addresses 9 species listed as undergoing overfishing, will create deepwater closed areas

After reviewing input from its Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and public comments received during a series of eight public hearings, the Council approved a series of eight public hearings, the Council approved Amendment 17B to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan for submission to the Secretary of Commerce during its December meeting in Atlantic Beach, NC. The amendment includes measures to end overfishing and establish Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) and Accountability Measures (AMs) for 9 species currently listed as undergoing overfishing: golden tilefish, snowy grouper, winter flounder, black sea sheepshead, queen snapper, black snapper, black drum, pinfish, and vermilion snapper. The measures are mandated by the reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Act for all species undergoing overfishing by 2011 and the Act for all species managed by the Council by 2011. Overfishing of red snapper is being addressed through separate regulations proposed in Amendment 17A (see page 4).

Annual Catch Limits (in pounds or number of fish) are regulations that prevent overfishing and do not exceed specified levels that prevent overfishing. Accountability Measures are levels that prevent overfishing and do not exceed specified levels that prevent overfishing. Accountability Measures also be established to make sure that ACLs are not exceeded, such as in-season monitoring programs, and provide corrective measures if they do.

**Deepwater Area Closure**  
 Perhaps one of the more controversial measures in Amendment 17B involves the proposed closure of waters 240 feet seaward to the harvest of deepwater species (snowy grouper, bluntnose tilefish, yellowedge grouper, misty grouper, queen snapper, and silk snapper) by both commercial and recreational fishermen. The year-round closure is being proposed in order to help end overfishing of speckled hind and winter flounder, two species highly susceptible to overfishing. Both species are long-lived, have complex life cycles, and few survive the trauma of being released when caught from deep waters.

The Council's SSC recommended the Allowable Biological Catch (ABC) for both speckled hind and winter flounder be set at 0 (harvesting only), given the current stock status and the uncertainty of data currently available for these species. Current regulations for winter and speckled hind restrict one fish per vessel per trip as part of the 3-grouper aggregate bag limit, and prohibit any sale or purchase. With Amendment 17B implemented...

**Inside This Issue:**  
 Amendment 15B Implemented...  
 In The News...  
 Shrimp Fishery Survey Begins...  
 Red Snapper & Proposed Area...  
 Chairman Harris' Testimony to Congress...  
 Coral Restoration: An Interim...  
 March 2010 Meeting Agenda...  
 Calendar...

March 1-5, 2010 Council Meeting  
 Jekyll Island, GA  
 Informal Question & Answer Session  
 Plus  
 Open Public Comment Session  
 Wednesday, March 3 beginning at 9:30 PM

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4655 Fisher Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29418  
 Telephone: (843) 571-4366 or Toll Free 866-SAFMC-18; FAX: (843) 566-4520; E-mail: safmcc@safo.com

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

**Regulations for Deepwater Marine Protected Areas in the South Atlantic**

**FISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE OCULINA BANK**

- Oculina Bank Habitat Area of Particular Concern
- Oculina Experimental Closed Area

Fishing Ecology...  
 • The Council's...  
 • The FFP does...  
 • Comprehensive...  
 • The amendment...  
 • Comprehensive...  
 • Florida is well known for its shallow coral reefs, but is also home to the lesser-known but equally spectacular deepwater coral reefs of the Oculina Bank. Restrictions are in place along Florida's east coast from Cape Canaveral to Ft. Pierce to help protect the coral and associated fish in the area.

**Save the Date**  
 Mark Your 2009 Calendars Now

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's  
**2009 Public Hearing & Scoping Meeting Schedule**

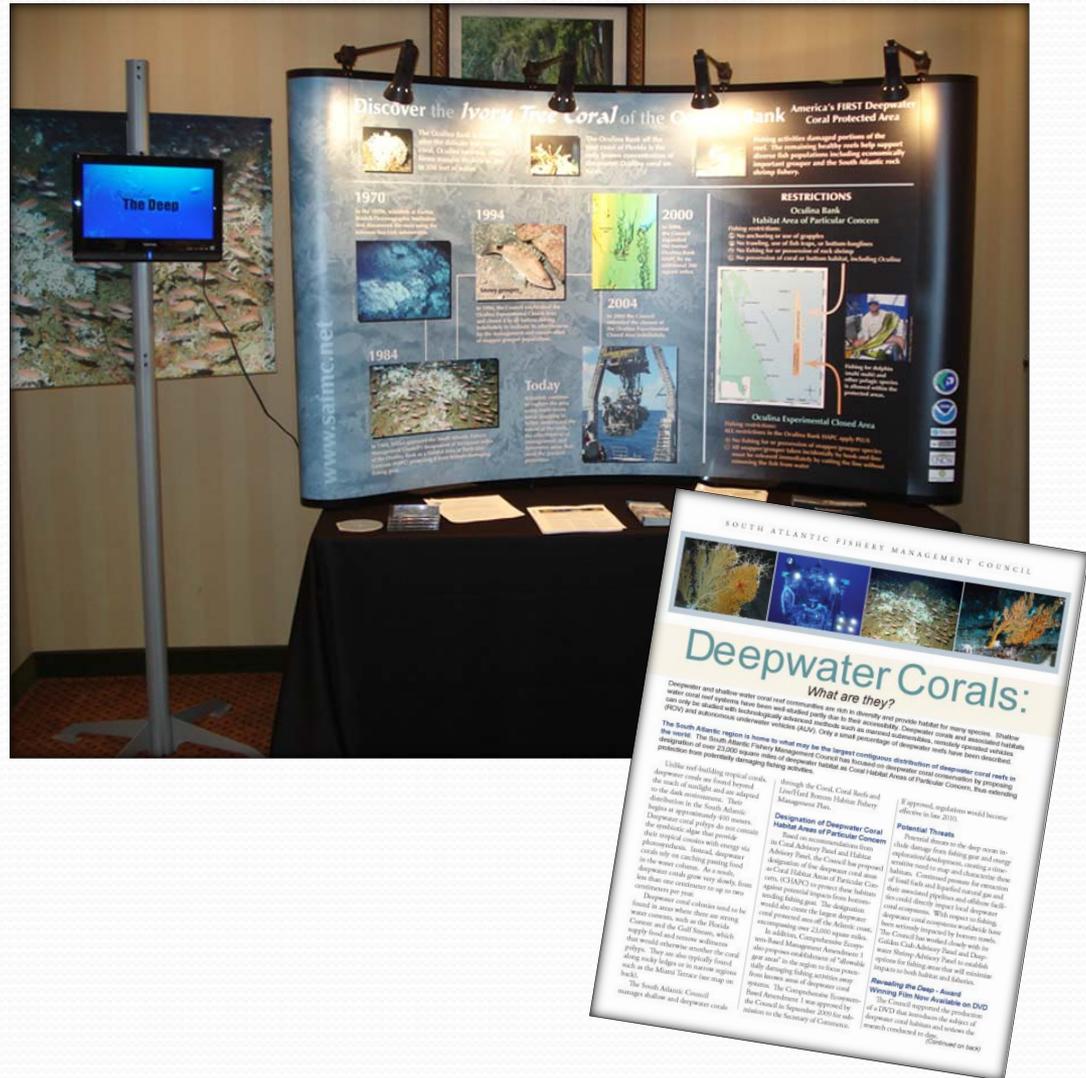
- January 26 - North Charleston, South Carolina  
 Hilton Garden Inn, 5265 International Blvd., N. Charleston, SC 29418
- January 27 - New Bern, North Carolina  
 Bridge Pointe Hotel, 101 Howell Road, New Bern, NC 28582
- February 3 - Key Largo, Florida  
 Key Largo Grande, 97000 S. Overseas Hwy., Key Largo, FL 33037
- February 4 - Cocoa Beach, Florida  
 Doubletree Hotel, 2080 N. Atlantic Ave., Cocoa Beach, FL 32931
- February 5 - Pooler, Georgia  
 Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum, 175 Bourne Ave., Pooler, GA 31322

Join Council staff and local representatives of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council as we travel throughout the southeast to bring you the latest information about fisheries issues and discuss your concerns. Then, go on record officially to let Council members know your opinions and recommendations. This is a unique opportunity - don't miss your chance to participate! (additional information on back)

**Comprehensive Ecosystem-Based Amendment II**  
 • Address issues pertaining to octocoral and Sargassum harvest.

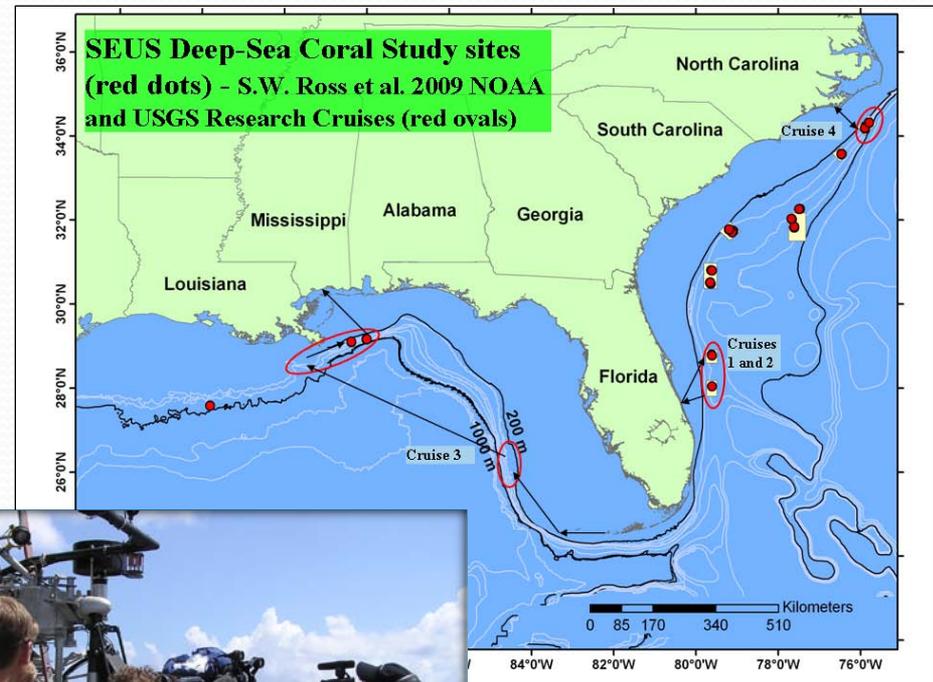
# Portable Displays

- General SAFMC used at Council meetings and hearings
- New – Oculina Bank Deepwater Coral Display + DVD *Revealing the Deep*



# Deepwater Coral Research Partnership Outreach

- Media/VIP shuttles in conjunction with cruises
- Teacher Workshops
  - HBOI
  - NC Museum of Natural Sciences



# Informal Meetings, Q&A and Video Streaming

- Format for public hearings/scoping includes informational sessions with staff
- Informal Q&A held at each SAFMC meeting with NMFS and Council Chair plus staff available to answer questions.
- Live video streaming of meetings available



# Partnerships and the Future

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- Partnering with Sea Grant on outreach efforts for Catch Shares
- Increasing document readability
- NOAA Literacy Grant Proposal
  - SC Aquarium & Sea Grant - *Simplifying the Science of Sustainability*

