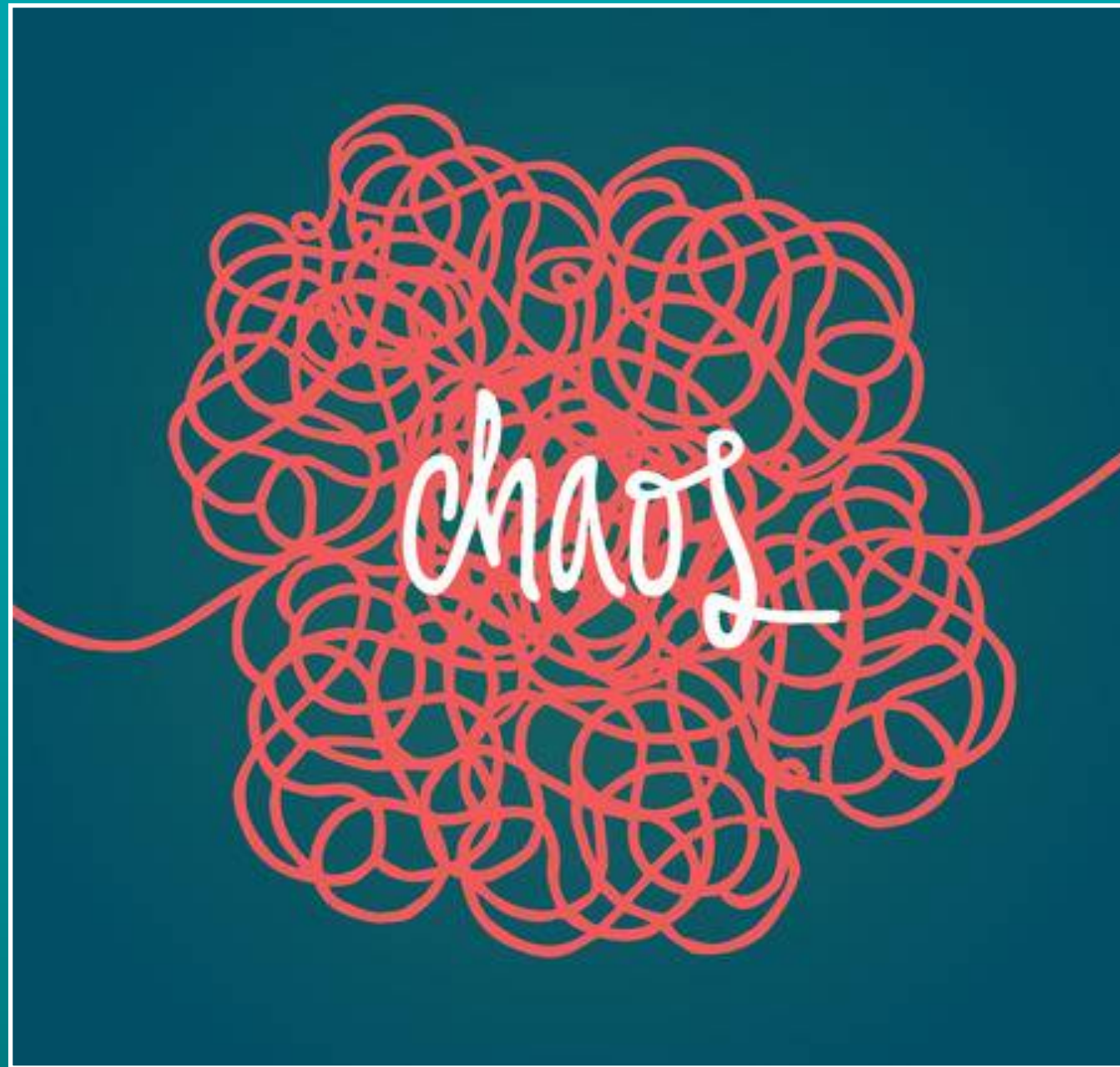


# Long-term planning (if you dare...)

**SAFMC Snapper Grouper Vision Blueprint**

October 16, 2018



**Context & Purpose**

# Process

- **Timeline**
  - 2013: Council review
  - 2014: Stakeholder outreach
  - 2015: Blueprint development
- **Council workshops**
- **Informal port meetings**



## WE NEED YOU ...

**Participate in Community Port Meetings**





**SCIENCE**



**MANAGEMENT**



**COMMUNICATION**



**GOVERNANCE**

*Please attend and help make a difference in future management of the snapper grouper fishery!*

**NOW IS THE CHANCE TO...**

**Have your IDEAS HEARD at COMMUNITY PORT MEETINGS!**

### BACKGROUND

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council is developing a long-term "vision" for managing the snapper grouper fishery. The Council wants to hear from everyone who has an opinion and an interest in the fishery. All stakeholders should be involved in developing this long-term plan in partnership with the Council.

### PURPOSE of PORT MEETINGS

The Council is looking for fresh ideas and strategies to reach the goals for the fishery. No one knows the fishery better than those that interact with it regularly. The Council needs you to let them know what is working, what is not, and what they can do to improve management.

### QUESTIONS to CONSIDER FOR DISCUSSIONS

The Council wants to know:

*What new strategies should be considered to collect better science? Manage the fishery better? Improve communication with stakeholders?*

*What strategies have you thought about that could fix an issue that the Council has not considered before?*

### GET INVOLVED

To participate in one of these meetings, or possibly host one in your community, please contact:

**Amber Von Harten**  
[amber.vonharten@safmc.net](mailto:amber.vonharten@safmc.net)  
 843-571-4366

**\*\*RSVP for a port meeting at the Visioning Project page at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)**

**Can't attend a port meeting?** A web-comment form for submitting comments as well as web-based meetings (webinars) will be available. Webinar dates and times will be posted on the Council's website or use the e-mail above to request an e-mail notification about the webinars.

You can also share your ideas about visioning anytime by sending written comments via:

- E-mail: [safmcvision@safmc.net](mailto:safmcvision@safmc.net)
- Mail: SAFMC - Visioning Project  
 4055, Faber Place Drive, Suite 201,  
 Charleston, SC 29405

**PORT MEETINGS - Structure**

The Council will hold port meetings throughout the region to interact one-on-one and listen to ideas.

**Please DO YOUR PART and GET INVOLVED!**

The meetings will be a series of facilitated discussions with different sectors including:

1. Commercial
2. Recreational/For-Hire
3. General Fisheries Interests (chefs, restaurants, tourism, hospitality, etc.)

**Meetings will be held from February through April 2014 and will run about 2-hours in length.**

For more information and port meeting schedule visit: <http://safmc.net/resource-library/council-visioning-project>



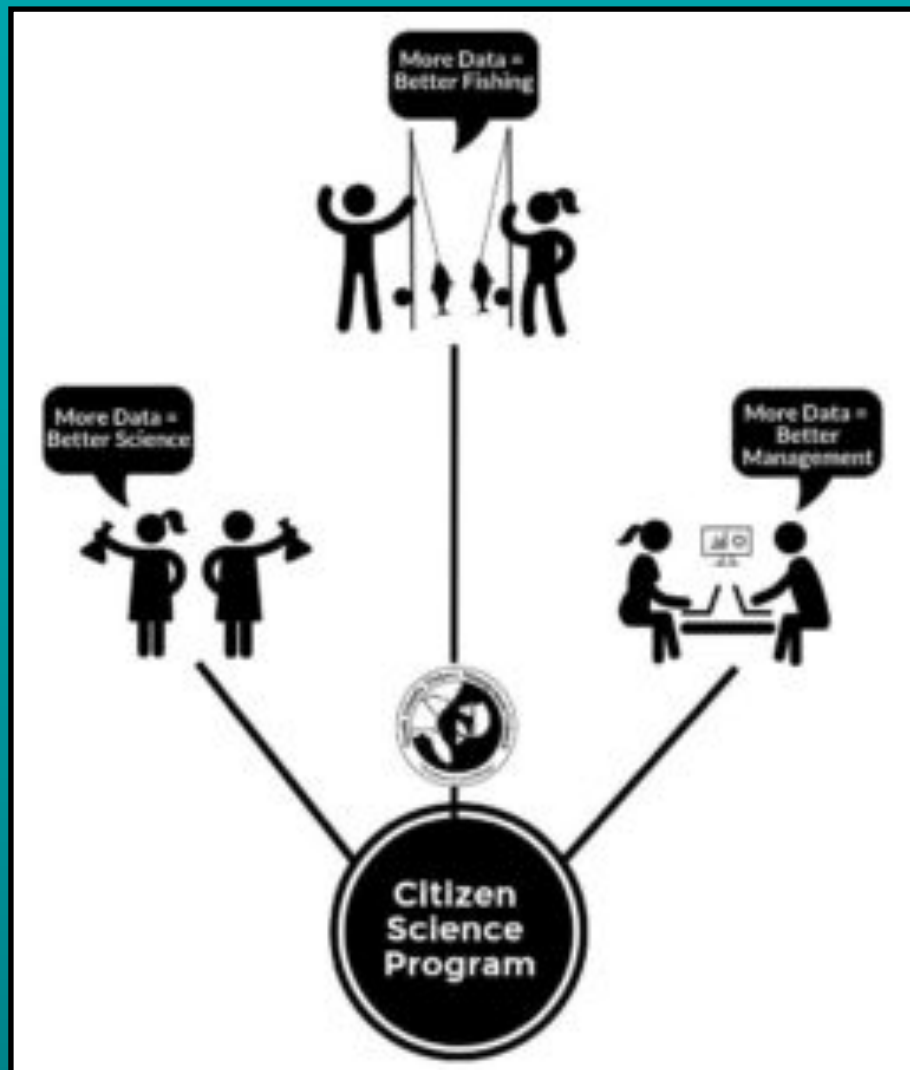
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# Outcomes



# Implementation



## How do best fishing practices help reduce number of released fish and improve survivorship for released fish?

### Venting Devices and Descending Devices

Standard practice to improve survivorship of released fish is to reduce handling and the amount of time a fish is out of the water. However, fish experiencing barotrauma (floaters) may not survive without some assistance. There are two types of tools that can be used to treat barotrauma: venting devices (Figure 2) and descending devices (Figure 3). Note: not all fish will require venting or descending, it is important to look for the signs of barotrauma described above.

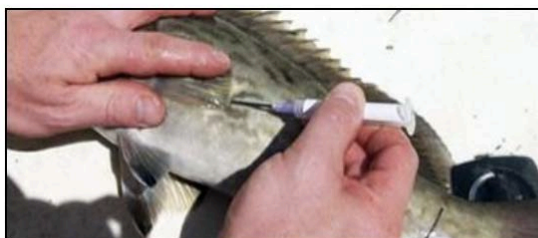


Figure 2. Venting a fish experiencing barotrauma.  
Photo: Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

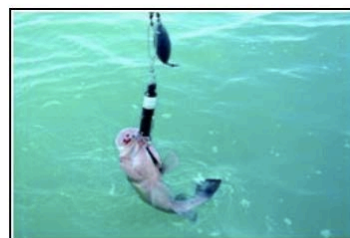


Figure 3. Descending device.  
Photo: Florida SeaGrant

## How Does This Amendment Match the Council's 2016-2020 Vision Blueprint for the Snapper Grouper Fishery?

The 2016-2020 Vision Blueprint for the Snapper Grouper Fishery (Vision Blueprint) was approved in December 2015 and is intended to inform management of the snapper grouper fishery through 2020. As such, the Vision Blueprint serves as a "living document" to help guide future management, builds on stakeholder input and how the South Atlantic Council envisions future management of the fishery, guides the development of new amendments that address priority objectives and strategies, and illustrates actions that could be developed through the regular amendment process. The Vision Blueprint is organized into four strategic goal areas: (1) Science, (2) Management, (3) Communication, and (4) Governance. Each goal area has a set of objectives, strategies, and actions. The actions in Amendment 46 correspond to different objectives and strategies in the Vision Blueprint.

During Vision Meetings and scoping of Amendment 43, several fishermen expressed concern with the estimates of catch from the Marine Recreational Information Program. Some fishermen requested a recreational stamp/permit for snapper grouper fishing, Action 1, and to improve recreational estimates by requiring recreational fishermen to report their catch, Action 2. Permits and reporting requirements have been developed for federal recreational fisheries to improve estimates of effort or catch in the South Atlantic region; however, they have not been fully implemented. Currently, a coastal recreational fishing license issued through states is required for private recreational anglers as part of the 2007 Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act reauthorization to improve estimates of catch and effort. Federal permits are also required for charter vessel and headboat components (for-hire) of the

South Atlantic Snapper Grouper  
AMENDMENT 46

Options Paper  
June 2018

3

## Vision Blueprint *Commercial* Regulatory Amendment 27

- **Split seasons for deepwater species** and "small-mouthed" species.
- **Trip limits and step-downs** –
  - as they pertain to "traditional bandit boats"?
  - lower vermilion trip limit in second season?
  - trip limits by time-period (i.e., week or month)?
- Re-evaluate **shallow water grouper closure**
- **Fishing year changes** (i.e., golden tilefish hook-and-line)



South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

## Objectives of the Evaluation & Review

1. Ensure management actions are achieving the Vision for the snapper grouper fishery.
2. Allow flexibility to adapt management to changes in the fishery.
3. Continue stakeholder engagement with the Vision Blueprint process.
4. Allow new Council members to become familiar with the Vision Blueprint.

## 2016 Progress Summary

### Science Goal

- *Initiated 9 of 13 priority items; progress ongoing*

### Management Goal

- *Initiated 3 Amendments addressing several actions; progress ongoing*

### Communication Goal

- *Initiated 10 of 13 priority items; progress ongoing*

### Governance Goal

- *Initiated 3 of 4 priority items; progress ongoing*

**\*\*Several priority items need additional guidance from the Council for 2017 and beyond action**

## Progress through 2018 - Management

- ✓ Management boundaries for hogfish in Amendment 37
- ✓ Vision Blueprint amendments 26 & 27: recreational season for deep-water species, commercial split seasons, trip and bag limit adjustments, etc.
- ✓ Amendment 46 (recreational permit/stamp)
- ✓ Socio-economic Characterization of the Commercial Snapper Grouper Fishery
- ✓ Regulatory Amendment 29 (best fishing practices)
- ✓ Citizen Science Program
- ✓ MyFishCount

- Annual
- Biennial
- Comprehensive

# Evaluation



# Reflections

