



## SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston SC 29405  
Call: (843) 571-4366 | Toll-Free: (866) SAFMC-10 | Fax: (843) 769-4520 | Connect: [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)

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

March 26, 2019  
LN#201910

Dr. Thomas Frazer, Chair  
Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council  
4107 West Spruce Street, Suite 200  
Tampa, FL 33607

Dear Tom:

The South Atlantic Council, like the Gulf Council, is working on its Allocation Review Trigger Policy. The South Atlantic Council discussed their policy at the March 2019 meeting in Jekyll Island. Dr. Greg Stunz attended that meeting as the Gulf Council Liaison.

There are three species in the South Atlantic Snapper Grouper Complex that are allocated between the Gulf Council and the South Atlantic Council before the South Atlantic portion of the overall allocation is split between commercial and recreational sectors. Those three species are mutton snapper, yellowtail snapper, and black grouper.

Dr. Stunz confirmed that the Gulf Council is currently recommending a time-based allocation between the two council be set at 10 years. In their deliberations, the South Atlantic Council decided that seven years between allocation reviews would be more appropriate for the South Atlantic Council given the importance of these species to South Atlantic fishermen.

Because these three species are jointly managed, the two Councils need to be in agreement on the between-Council allocation review timeframe. Therefore, the South Atlantic Council is requesting that the Gulf Council consider a seven-year between-Council allocation review trigger for these three species.

The South Atlantic Council is hoping to complete their Allocation Review Trigger Policy at their June 2019 meeting. We would appreciate the Gulf Council considering our request at your upcoming April meeting.

Thank you for your consideration and we look forward to hearing back from you. Please contact Dr. Brian Chevront or Gregg Waugh if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "J. McCawley".

Jessica McCawley, Chair  
South Atlantic Fishery Management Council

cc: Council Members and Staff  
Carrie Simmons  
Sam Rauch and Alan Risenhoover  
John McGovern, Andy Strelcheck, and Rick DeVictor  
Monica Smit-Brunello  
Clay Porch, Theo Brainerd, and Erik Williams