

## ***Meeting Reminder!***

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council is holding a series of 5 scoping meetings across the southeast to receive public comment on current management issues. **The meeting series begins Monday, March 3.**

**Please see the attached meeting poster and news release for details.**

The meetings will be held from **2:00 PM – 5:00 PM and from 6:00 PM until 8:00 PM.** Members of the public are invited to attend at any time during those hours.

**These meetings offer a unique opportunity for the fishing public and those interested in fisheries resources.** This is the first time that the majority of the Council's technical staff, including the SEDAR Stock Assessment Coordinator, will be on hand to answer questions and discuss the scoping issues and other topics. There will be no "formal" presentations – but ample opportunity to ask questions, learn more about upcoming fisheries issues, discuss concerns, and provide comment. **Staff and area Council members will be available throughout the meeting hours.** Members of the public can provide recorded comments. All recorded comments will be distributed to the Council to consider at their March 3-7, 2008 meeting in Jekyll Island, GA.

Copies of the scoping meeting documents are available online at [www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net) or by calling the Council office. **Written comments can also be submitted until February 22, 2008 – details are in the scoping documents.**

Topics for public scoping include:

- **A Comprehensive Allocation Amendment** – dealing with possible methods of allocations between recreational and commercial fishermen (and within each sector);
- **Amendment 17 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan** – addressing Annual Catch Limits (ACLs) as mandated by the reauthorized Magnuson-Stevens Act, possible further reductions in snowy grouper landings, bycatch assessment/reduction, etc.;
- **Limited Access Privilege Programs** – being considered for the commercial snapper grouper fishery;
- **Allocation of the South Atlantic commercial king mackerel quota**

Plan now to attend a meeting in your area. Your assistance in publicizing these meetings is appreciated!

Kim

kim.iverson@safmc.net  
[www.safmc.net](http://www.safmc.net)