



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Chair | Trish Murphey, Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

Scientific and Statistical Committee

October 25-27, 2022
Town and Country Inn
Charleston, SC 29401

AGENDA - REVISED

Other than the starting and ending time of the meeting, times indicated on the agenda are approximate, and the order of business may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that discussions may start earlier or later than indicated. Periodic breaks will be taken during each morning and afternoon session at the discretion of the Chair.

Tuesday, October 25th

8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

1. Introductions

- Approval of Revised Agenda
- Approval of Transcript from August meeting

2. Public Comment

3. SEFSC Interim Analysis Strategy (3 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Nikolai Klubansky and Dr. Cassidy Peterson, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review, discuss, and provide feedback on the interim analysis strategy for stock assessments developed by the SEFSC.

(Lunch Break: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm)

1:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

4. Snapper Grouper MSE Model (2 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Adrian Hordyk, Blue Matter Science
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review and provide feedback on the MSE model framework for the snapper grouper fishery, discuss uncertainties in model structure and potential data inputs.

5. SEFSC MSE Strategic Plan (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Cassidy Peterson and Dr. John Walter, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review and comment on the Southeast Fishery Science Center's Management Strategy Evaluation strategic plan.

Wednesday, October 26th

8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

6. Spanish Mackerel Revised Operational Assessment Review (2 hrs)

- Presentation: Southeast Fishery Science Center
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review any additional data provided since the SEDAR 78 Spanish Mackerel operational assessment. Discuss and recommend procedure for stock status determination and acceptable biological catch.

7. Release Mortality Reduction Framework Amendment 35 (1½ hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Heather Christiansen, FWC and SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review analyses on single vs double hook rigs for reducing fishing effort and encounter rates in the snapper grouper fishery.

(Lunch Break: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm)

1:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

8. Red Snapper Recruitment Patterns (1½ hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Mandy Karnauskas, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review paper on red snapper source-sink recruitment and discuss implications for the red snapper operational assessment and fishing level recommendations.

9. SEFSC: Minimizing Discards in Snapper Grouper Fishery (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Scott Crosson and Dr. Kyle Shertzer, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Receive update on the SEFSC project that explores strategies to minimize discards for the reef fish fishery in the U.S. South Atlantic.

10. Greater Amberjack Project Update (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Mark Albins and Dr. Sean Powers, University of South Alabama
- Public Comment
- Actions: Provide feedback on the methods and potential uncertainties for the Greater Amberjack project.

Thursday, October 27th

8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

11. SEDAR: Golden Tilefish, Blueline Tilefish, SADL survey (½ hr)

- Presentation: Kathleen Howington, SEDAR Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review terms of reference, schedule, and recruit participants for Golden Tilefish operational assessment. Review schedule and recruit participants for Blueline Tilefish operational assessment. Appoint 4-5 SSC members to workgroup for review of the South Atlantic Deepwater Longline (SADL) survey.

12. National SSC Meeting Summary (½ hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Scott Crosson and Dr. Amy Schueller, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Receive summary on the National SSC meeting that convened in August and discuss how overarching themes and case studies relate to the South Atlantic.

13. SAFE Reports Review (½ hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Chip Collier, SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review the SAFE report template and provide feedback on existing content and other potential content to include.

14. Fishery Management Plan Amendment Updates (½ hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Mike Schmidtke, SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: Provide updates on the fishery management plan amendments related to Snowy Grouper, Greater Amberjack, Golden Tilefish, Gag Grouper, Yellowtail Snapper, and the ABC Control Rule.

15. Other Business

16. Public Comment

17. Consensus Statement and Recommendations Review

18. Next Meetings

Public Comment Process

Written comment: Written comment on SSC agenda topics is provided to the Committee through an online form, similar to all other Council briefing materials. Written comment can be submitted at [this link](#). For this meeting, the deadline for submission of written comment is 5:00 p.m., October 26, 2022.

Verbal comment: Two opportunities for comment on agenda items will be provided at set times during SSC meetings. The first will be at the beginning of the meeting, and the second near the conclusion. Those wishing to comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will then recognize individuals to provide comment.

An opportunity for comment on specific agenda items will also be provided as each item come up for discussion. This opportunity for comment will happen after all the initial presentations are given and before the SSC starts the discussion of the agenda topic. As before, those wishing to comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will then recognize individuals to provide comment. All comments are part of the record of the meeting.

Staff Lead: Judd Curtis (judd.curtis@safmc.net)