



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 24-26, 2023
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 24th

8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

1. Introductions

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Transcript from September meeting

2. Public Comment

3. Review of MRIP-FES Pilot Studies (3 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Richard Cody, NOAA-OST
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review the results of the MRIP-FES pilot studies and transition to cumulative estimate reporting.

(Lunch Break: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm)

1:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

4. SEDAR 76: Black Sea Bass Operational Assessment (1.5 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Matthew Vincent, SEFSC
- Public Comment

- Actions: Review the model specification modifications made to the black sea bass operational assessment requested at the previous SSC meeting, and preliminary projection results.

5. Modeling Discards and ABC determinations (2 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Erik Williams, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review an evaluation of how discards are addressed in applying sector allocations to develop ABC and ACL and discuss the implications of the publication results towards this effect.

Wednesday, October 25th

8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

6. Vermilion Snapper Interim Analysis (2 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Nikolai Klibansky, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review the interim analysis approach for vermilion snapper and discuss suitability for making ABC recommendations.

7. BSIA National Standard 2 Regional Framework (1.5 hrs)

- Presentation: John McGovern, SERO
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review the southeast regional framework for determining that fishery conservation and management measures are based on the best scientific information available.

(Lunch Break: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm)

1:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

~~8. Snapper Grouper Management Strategy Evaluation (1.5 hrs) (POSTPONED)~~

- ~~• Presentation: Dr. Tom Carruthers, Blue Matter Science~~
- ~~• Public Comment~~
- ~~• Actions: Receive update on the snapper grouper management strategy evaluation (MSE) and provide feedback on the methods and potential uncertainties.~~

9. South Atlantic Deepwater Longline Survey Review (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Kevin Craig, SEFSC and Dr. Marcel Reichert, SSC
- Public Comment

- Actions: Receive presentation on the South Atlantic Deepwater Longline Survey (SADL) and review the final report and recommendations of the SSC SADL workgroup.

10. SEDAR 94: Florida Hogfish Terms of Reference and Participants (½ hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Julie Neer, SEDAR Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review the terms of reference and schedule, and select participants for the SEDAR 94 Florida hogfish stock assessment.

11. Yellowtail Snapper OFL/ABC considerations (½ hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Judd Curtis, SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: Receive an update on the Council’s request to reconsider the overfishing limit (OFL) and acceptable biological catch (ABC) values for yellowtail snapper.

Thursday, October 26th

8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

12. Climate Change Scenario Planning Update (1 hr)

- Presentation: SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review the Climate Change Scenario Planning Summit Report and discuss potential action items for South Atlantic.

13. SCS8 Meeting Topics (½ hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Jeff Buckel, SSC Chair
- Public Comment
- Actions: Discuss potential theme topics for the 8th national workshop of the Scientific Coordination Subcommittee (SCS8)

14. Fishery Management Plan Amendment Updates (½ hr)

- Presentation: SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: Receive updates on the recent fishery management plan amendments that have been discussed by the Council.

15. MRIP-FES Data for Unassessed Species Update (½ hr)

- Presentation: SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Receive an update on the availability of the MRIP-FES data streams for the unassessed species.

16. Other Business

- EwE SSC Workgroup
- Tilefish/Blueline Tilefish assessment potential delays

17. Public Comment

18. Consensus Statement and Recommendations Review

19. 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 25th.

Verbal comment: Two opportunities for general 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)