



**Oct 2024
SSC
Meeting**

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Mutton and Yellowtail Snapper Assessment Review Plan



Background



- **SEDAR 79: Southeastern US Mutton Snapper**
 - Last assessment: SEDAR15A Update, 2015.
 - Data Workshop, Aug. 2023
 - Assessment webinars, Aug. 2024
 - Review Workshop, Sep. 2024
 - Review Panel with 3 SSC and 3 CIE reviewers.
 - Final Assessment Report submitted to cooperators, Oct. 8
- **SEDAR 96: Southeastern US Yellowtail Snapper**
 - Last assessment, SEDAR64: DW/AW/RW completed 2020. Interim analysis in 2022.
 - Recreational Landings TWG – FL SRFS data
 - Final Assessment Report submitted to cooperators, Dec. 2024



Logistics



- Joint South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico SSC Review
 - Single stock spanning SA and GOM Council jurisdictions.
 - Form sub-group representing both SA and GOM regions.
- GMFMC will host in-person meeting at Council office in Tampa, FL
- Scheduled: Tue, Feb 25 (all-day) and Wed, Feb 26 (am)
- Each Council to coordinate travel authorization with their SSC members.



Sub-Group Composition

- Sub-Group of SA-SSC and GOM-SSC members
 - 10-11 SSC members from each Council
 - 2 Council staff
 - 2 Council members
- Joint Sub-Group Chair
 - GOM-SSC Chair Mike Allen



Procedure

- Use South Atlantic ABC-CR
 - Will provide documentation for briefing book
 - May need to consider 75%MSY for ABC for adequate scientific uncertainty buffer. SSCs will have leeway to discuss.
- Operate under consensus
 - Consensus does not mean unanimous agreement. Minority reports can be drafted.
 - This sub-group body will represent their respective SSCs and its final decision-making. Review of decisions can be presented to respective full SSCs at subsequent meeting, but no changes to the recommendations will be considered.



Procedure

- Need to ensure transparent recruitment of the SSC members participating in the sub-panel to avoid perception of “cherry-picking” for the review. Any standing SSC member is welcome to volunteer.
- If more than 11 SSC members volunteer, the Council Chair and Executive Director for that Council will make the final selection.
- Procedure and Sub-Group Membership will be presented to respective Councils at next Council meeting.



Action Items

- Approve plan and process for review of Mutton Snapper and Yellowtail Snapper assessments.
- Enlist 10-11 SA-SSC members to participate in the Sub-Group



