



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Trish Murphey, Chair | Jessica McCawley, Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

Scientific and Statistical Committee

May 28, 2025

Via Webinar

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/888123267692734039>

AGENDA

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 for lunch and during each morning and afternoon session at the discretion of the Chair.

Wednesday, May 28th

8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

1. Introductions

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Minutes from April 2025 Meeting
- Approval of Final Report from April 2025 Meeting

2. Public Comment

3. SEDAR 92: Atlantic Blueline Tilefish Stock Assessment Review – Northern Region Model (2.5 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Nikolai Klibansky, SEFSC; Dr. Kevin Craig, SEFSC; Dr. Paul Nitschke, NEFSC; Dr. Jim Gartland, SA-SSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: *Review the SEDAR 92: Atlantic Blueline Tilefish stock assessment model for the northern region (Cape Hatteras north through Mid-Atlantic), and supplementary information. Review recommendations from the joint SSC sub-group panel, and discuss data inputs, modeling approach, and scientific uncertainties. Make catch level recommendations to Council.*

4. SEDAR 92: Atlantic Blueline Tilefish Stock Assessment Review – Southern Region Model (2.5 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Nikolai Klibansky, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: *Review the SEDAR 92: Atlantic Blueline Tilefish stock assessment model for the southern region (Cape Hatteras south to FL Keys), and discuss data inputs, modeling approach, and scientific uncertainties. Make catch level recommendations to Council.*

5. SEDAR 76U: Black Sea Bass Stock Assessment Update (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Matt Vincent, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: *SEDAR 76 Update: Review new projections and discuss any additional uncertainties. Make catch level recommendations to Council.*

6. SEDAR Process Update (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Julie Neer, SEDAR Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: *Receive an update on the changes to the SEDAR process and new role for SSC members during the assessment phase of the process.*

7. SEDAR Terms of Reference for Gag Grouper (0.5 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Judd Curtis, SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: *Review the terms of reference for the 2026 stock assessment for Gag Grouper.*

8. Other Business

9. Public Comment

10. Consensus Statement and Recommendations Review

11. 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 10:00 a.m., May 28th.

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)