

## South Atlantic Council's Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) Control Rule

<b>Level 1 – Assessed Stocks</b>	
<b>Dimension</b>	<b>Tier Classification and Methodology to Compute ABC</b>
<b><i>I. Assessment Information (10%)</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Quantitative assessment provides estimates of exploitation and biomass; includes MSY-derived benchmarks. (0%)</li> <li>2. Reliable measures of exploitation or biomass; no MSY benchmarks, proxy reference points. (2.5%)</li> <li>3. Relative measures of exploitation or biomass, absolute measures of status unavailable. Proxy reference points. (5%)</li> <li>4. Reliable catch history. (7.5%)</li> <li>5. Scarce or unreliable catch records. (10%)</li> </ol>
<b><i>II. Uncertainty Characterization (10%)</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Complete. Key Determinant – uncertainty in both assessment inputs and environmental conditions are included. (0%)</li> <li>2. High. Key Determinant – reflects more than just uncertainty in future recruitment. (2.5%)</li> <li>3. Medium. Uncertainties are addressed via statistical techniques and sensitivities, but full uncertainty is not carried forward in projections. (5%)</li> <li>4. Low. Distributions of FMSY and MSY are lacking. (7.5%)</li> <li>5. None. Only single point estimates; no sensitivities or uncertainty evaluations. (10%)</li> </ol>
<b><i>III. Stock Status (10%)</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Neither overfished nor overfishing. Stock is at high biomass and low exploitation relative to benchmark values. (0%)</li> <li>2. Neither overfished nor overfishing. Stock may be in close proximity to benchmark values. (2.5%)</li> <li>3. Stock is either overfished or overfishing. (5%)</li> <li>4. Stock is both overfished and overfishing. (7.5%)</li> <li>5. Either status criterion is unknown. (10%)</li> </ol>
<b><i>IV. Productivity and Susceptibility – Risk Analysis (10%)</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Low risk. High productivity, low vulnerability, low susceptibility. (0%)</li> <li>2. Medium risk. Moderate productivity, moderate vulnerability, moderate susceptibility. (5%)</li> <li>3. High risk. Low productivity, high vulnerability, high susceptibility. (10%)</li> </ol>