



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Melvin Bell, Chair | Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

AGENDA

Mackerel Cobia Committee

Town and Country
2008 Savannah Hwy
Charleston, SC 29407

Thursday, September 15, 2022 – 10:30 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. (Times subject to change)

Approval of Agenda

Approval of transcript (June 2022)

1. Update on amendments recently submitted to NMFS – Rick DeVictor
CMP Amendment 32 (Gulf cobia catch levels and management)
CMP Amendment 34 (Atlantic king mackerel catch levels and management)
2. CMP Amendment 33 – Updates to Gulf king mackerel management based on SEDAR 38 Update 2020 (*Attachments 1a* and *1b*).
Overview – Matt Freeman, GMFMC Staff
Committee Action: review draft document and provide guidance to staff.
3. Spanish Mackerel Management Overview (*Attachment 2*).
Overview – Christina Wiegand
Committee Action: review document and provide guidance to staff.
4. SEDAR 78: Atlantic Spanish Mackerel Assessment (*Attachments 3a* and *3b*).
Assessment Presentation – Shannon Cass-Calay, NMFS
SSC Recommendations – Jeff Buckel, SSC Chair
Spanish Mackerel Fishery Overview – Dr. Chip Collier
Committee Action: review documents and provide guidance to staff.
5. Topics for the Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel
6. Other Business

Adjourn

Committee Members

Spud Woodward, Chair

Tom Roller, Vice Chair

Tim Griner

Trish Murphey

Mel Bell

Kerry Marhefka

Gary Borland

Carolyn Belcher

Judy Helmey

Jessica McCawley

Chester Brewer

Laurilee Thompson

Andy Strelcheck

Robert Beal

Lt. Cameron Box

Mid-Atlantic Members: Dewey Hemilright and Joe Cimino

Attachments

Attachment 1a: CMP Amendment 33 Presentation **Attachment 1b:** CMP Amendment 33 Draft

Attachment 2: Spanish Mackerel Management Overview

Attachment 3a: SEDAR 78 Stock Assessment Presentation (*will be posted by 9/7*)

Attachment 3b: SEDAR 78 Stock Assessment Report

Staff Lead: Christina Wiegand (christina.wiegand@safmc.net)

OVERVIEW

Mackerel and Cobia Committee

The Committee will approve the transcript from the June 2022 meeting and the agenda for the September 2022 Committee meeting.

1. Update on amendments recently submitted to NMFS

Description: At the December 2021 meeting, the Council approved CMP Amendment 32 (Gulf cobia catch levels and management measures) for formal review. The Gulf Council approved CMP Amendment 32 for final action at their October 2021 meeting. The document was transmitted to NMFS on February 18, 2022, and the proposed rule published on July 7, 2022. At the March 2022 meeting the Council approved CMP Amendment 34 (Atlantic king mackerel catch levels and management measures) for formal review. The document was transmitted to NMFS on August 5, 2022.

Committee Action: none.

2. CMP Amendment 33 – Updates to Gulf king mackerel management based on SEDAR 38 Update 2020 – (*Attachments 1a* and *1b*)

Description: Gulf Council staff will present draft Amendment 33, which would modify sector allocations for Gulf king mackerel. The Committee should review and discuss the Purpose and Need statements and draft alternatives. Additionally, at their June meeting, the Gulf Council recommended modifications to CMP Fishery Management Plan Objectives. Both councils must concur on the goals and objectives of the CMP FMP before any modifications can be adopted. The Gulf Council will review a draft of Amendment 33 at their October meeting and consider approval for public hearings.

Committee Action: review draft document and provide feedback on alternatives and FMP objectives.

3. Spanish Mackerel Management Overview – (*Attachment 2*).

Description: In September 2019, the Council began discussing measures to address participation in the commercial Atlantic Spanish mackerel fishery and early closures in the Atlantic northern zone (NY through NC) and southern zone (SC to the Miami-Dade/Monroe County line, FL). However, in December 2019, the Council decided to hold off on modifying management of Spanish mackerel until the upcoming stock assessment has been completed. Staff will present an overview of management concerns in the Spanish mackerel fishery for context when the Council is discussing the now completed stock assessment.

Committee Action: none.

4. SEDAR 78: Atlantic Spanish Mackerel Assessment – (*Attachments 3a* and *3b*).

Description: SEDAR 78 was completed in July 2022 and included an assessment for Atlantic Spanish mackerel. In August 2022, the SSC reviewed the results of the updated SEDAR 78 and recommended additional work completed. Shannon Cass-Calay will present the SEFSC report and SSC Chair, Jeff Buckel, will present the SSC recommendations to the Committee. The fishery overview for Atlantic Spanish mackerel can be found here: https://safmc-shinyapps.shinyapps.io/SA_FisheryDataSpanishMackerel/

Committee Action: Consider the SSC's recommendations and provide guidance to staff.

5. Topics for the Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel

The Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel is scheduled to convene on October 5th and 6th, 2022 in Charleston, South Carolina. Below is a list of proposed topics to develop the AP's agenda:

- Update on amendments recently submitted.
- SEDAR 78: Atlantic Spanish Mackerel Stock Assessment?
- Review of CMP FMP Goals and Objectives
- Commercial electronic logbook
- NOAA North Atlantic Right Whales Proposed Vessel Speed Regulations
- Hudson Canyon National Marine Sanctuary Proposal
- Update Fishery Performance Reports for Atlantic king mackerel and FLEC cobia.
- Other Updates: Citizen Science, SEDAR, Climate Change Scenario Planning

6. Other Business