



SEDAR 78 Spanish Mackerel Operational Assessment

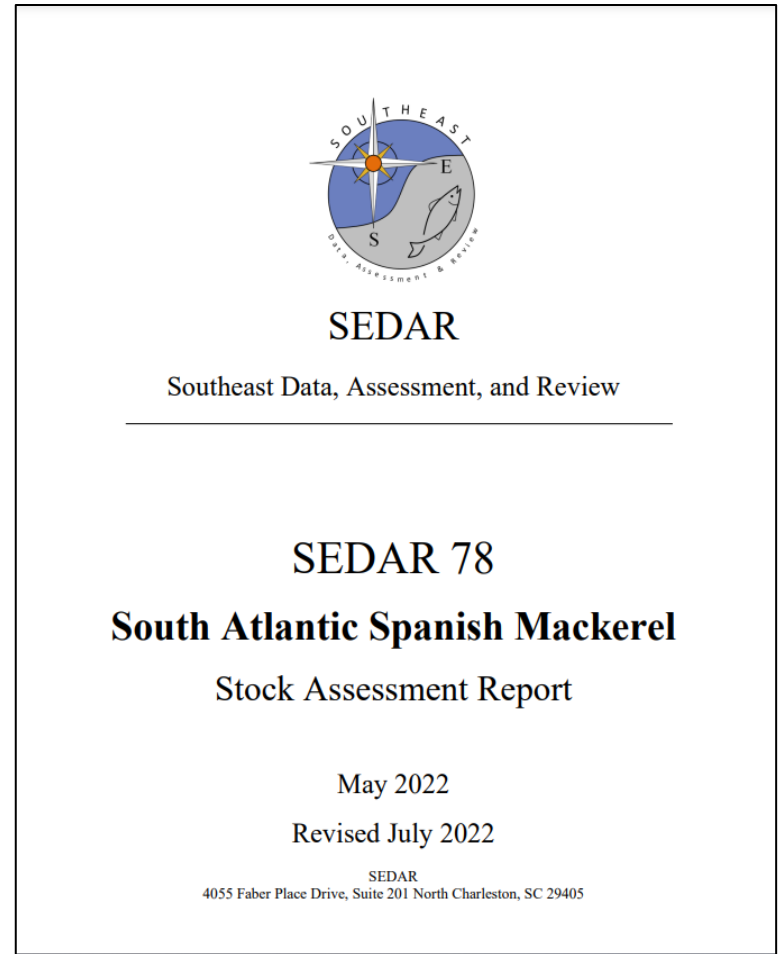
Timeline and Summary of Actions

Provided to:

South Atlantic Fishery Management Council's
Scientific and Statistical Committee
January 2023 Meeting

SEDAR 78 Operational Assessment

- Revised assessment completed July 2022
- Methods guided by SEDAR 28 (2012)
- Assmt Period: 1986-2020
- Not overfished:
 $SSB_{2020}/MSST = 1.4$
- Not undergoing overfishing:
 $F_{2018-2020}/F_{msy} = 0.74$



SEDAR 78 – SSC Review

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE



Joint South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico SSC

August 04, 2022

MEETING REPORT

FINAL

VERSION
FINAL
8/25/22

- Reviewed by SSC in August 2022 meeting
- Several concerns with assessment:
 - Rec landings, M, MCBE distributions and likelihood profiles, growth models, steepness
- Recommendation to Council:
 - Not suitable for providing management advice until resolved



Updated MRIP estimates – Oct 2022

- At Sept Council meeting: SEFSC agreed to review rec landings estimates
- MRIP estimates updated for two waves
- Base SEDAR 78 Spanish Mackerel model re-run and presented at Oct SSC mtg
- Due to time constraints, unable to re-run the MCBE and projection analyses, nor generate a new report.



Time series of general recreational (GR) removals (landings and dead discards).

Base Model:

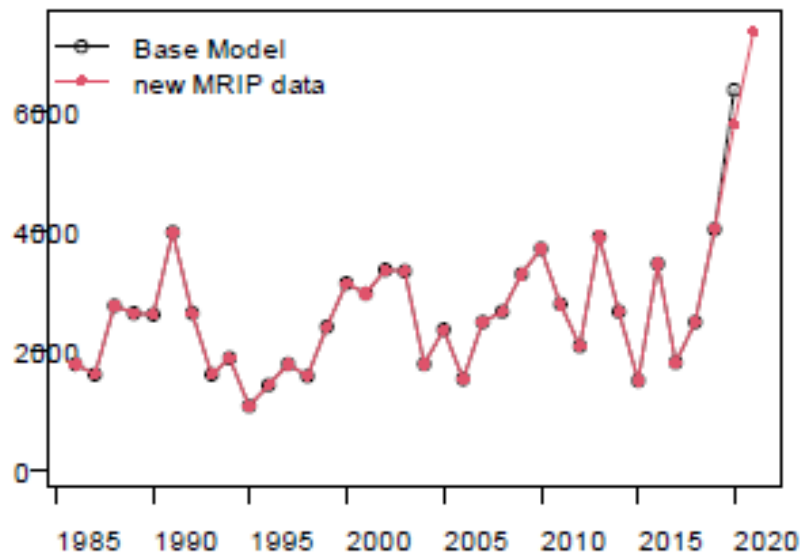
SEDAR 78 Spanish Mackerel base stock assessment model input with old 2020 MRIP data

new MRIP data:

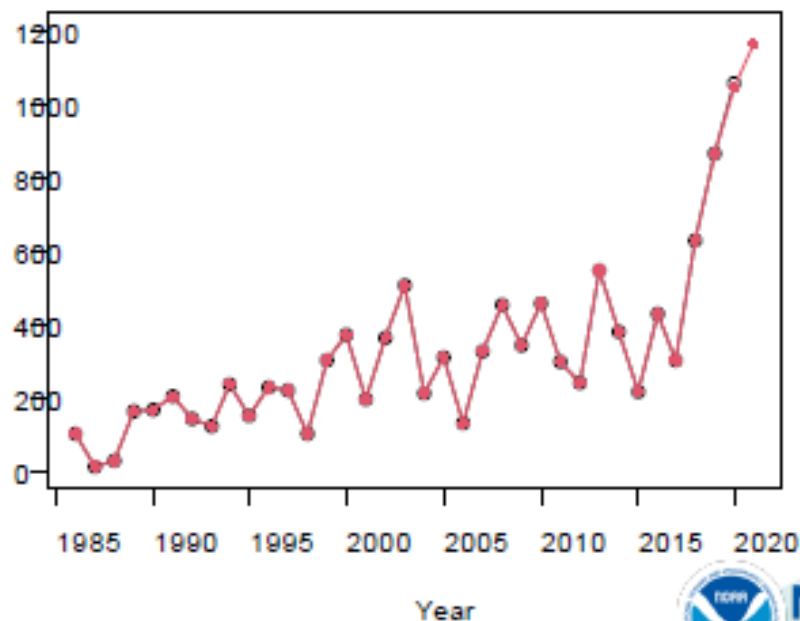
SEDAR 78 Spanish Mackerel base stock assessment model input with new updated 2020. 2021 data shown for comparison purposes – not included in updated model run.

**note that 2021 GR data includes a 3 year average from 2018-2020 from the Headboat sector, which accounts for about 0.1% of total GR removals.*

GR landings (1000's)



GR dead discards (1000's)



Time series of stock status indicators.

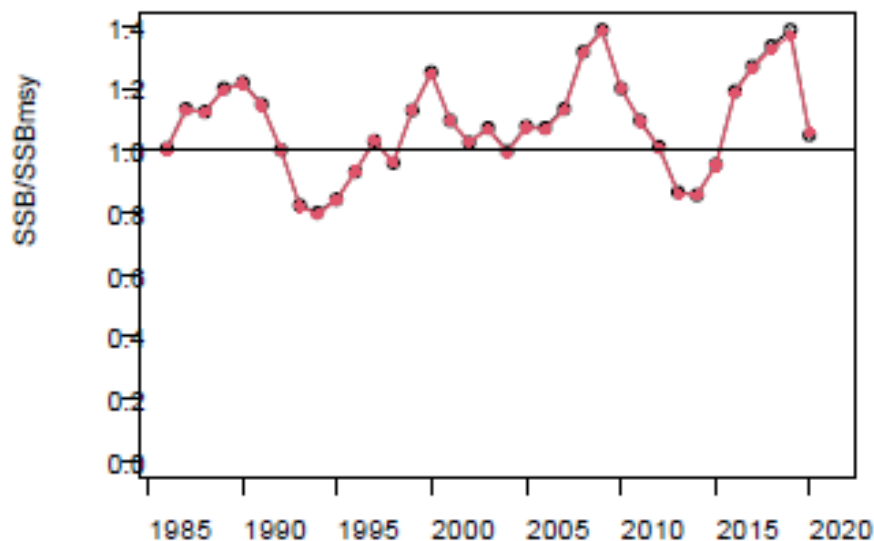
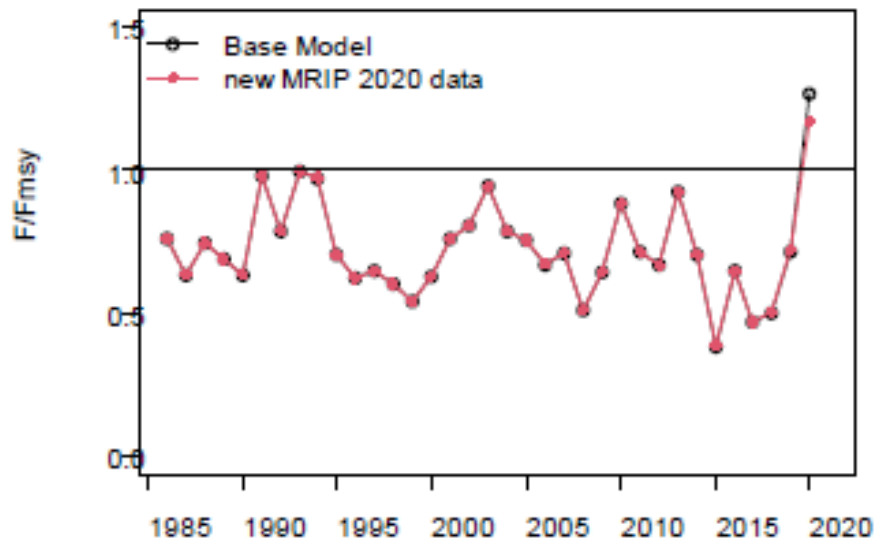
Base Model:

SEDAR 78 Spanish Mackerel base stock assessment model with old 2020 MRIP data.

new MRIP data:

SEDAR 78 Spanish Mackerel base stock assessment model with new updated 2020 data.

Quantity	Units	Base Model	new MRIP data
R_0	1000's	21939	21898
F _{MSY}	1/y	0.5161	0.5165
F _{30%}	1/y	0.6076	0.6100
B _{MSY}	metric tons	19588.3	19586.5
SSB _{MSY}	metric tons	6405.9	6411.8
MSST	metric tons	4804.4	4808.8
MSY	1000 lb	8210.2	8180.4
$F_{(2018-2020)}/F_{MSY}$	-	0.768	0.752
SSB/MSST	-	1.400	1.408



SSC Review – Oct 2022

- Updated MRIP estimates had little impact on assessment results
- Remaining concerns still need to be addressed
 - M, MCBE distributions and likelihood profiles, growth models, steepness
- Workgroup convened and tasked with exploration and elaboration of requested changes
- Drafted TORs for review at Jan 2023 SSC meeting



Council Request – Dec 2022

- The Council has expressed their frustration with the Atlantic Spanish mackerel assessment (SEDAR 78) and the importance of having accurate catch level recommendations to move forward with needed management discussions.
- **MOTION: DIRECT THE SSC TO PROVIDE CATCH LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ATLANTIC SPANISH MACKEREL AT THEIR APRIL 2023 MEETING, EITHER FROM THE UPDATED ASSESSMENT OR USING A DATA-LIMITED APPROACH. APPROVED BY COUNCIL.**



SSC Meeting – Jan 2023

4.5 Action

- Finalize Terms of Reference
 - Review workgroup notes
 - Discuss feasibility of these modifications in terms of workload and timing.
- Discuss alternate methods of setting ABCs (if not derived from assessment projections)

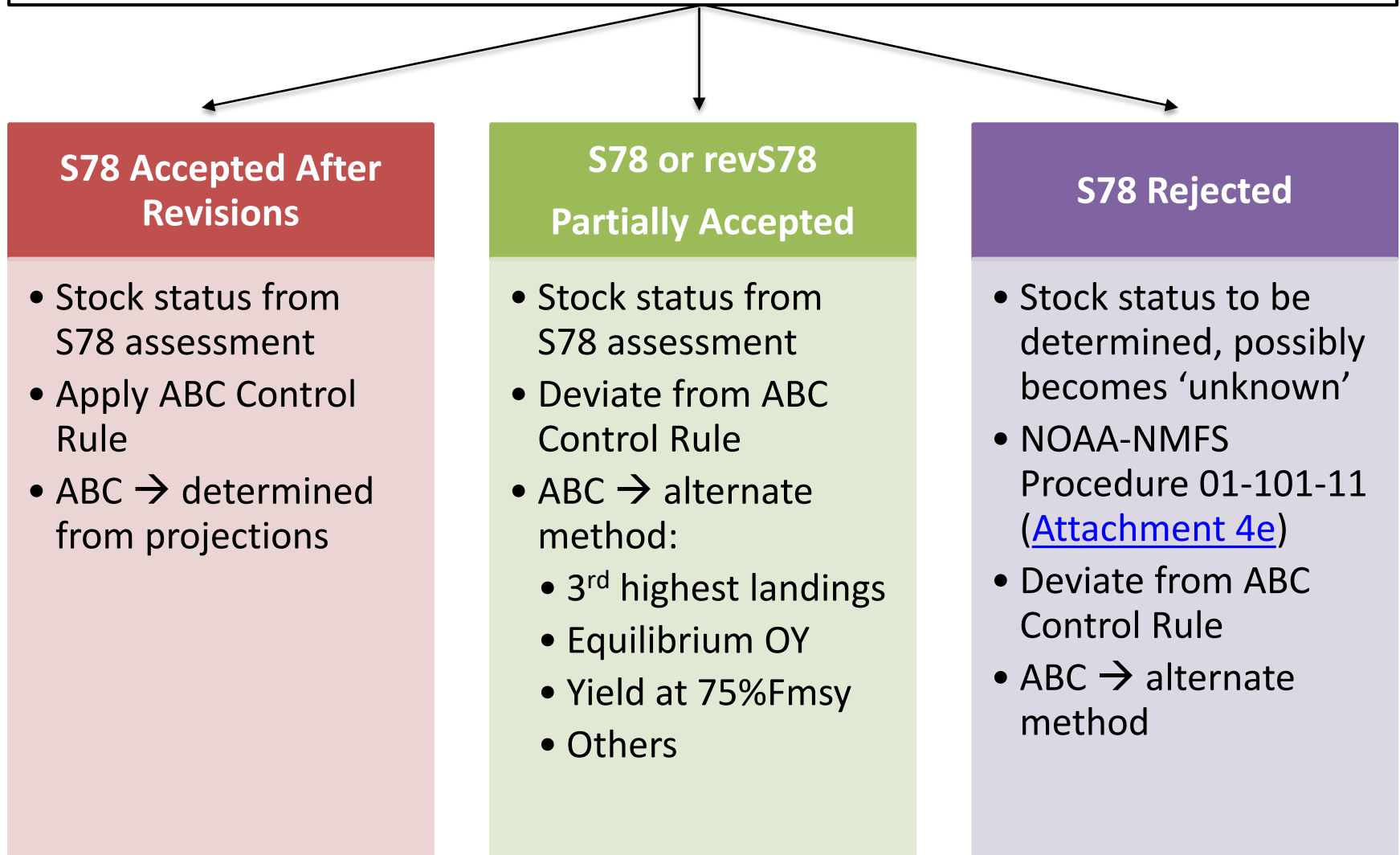


Setting ABCs for Spanish Mackerel

- Setting ABCs when stock status changes ([Attachment 4f](#))
- ABC-CR for Coastal Migratory Pelagics:
 - CMP Amendment 18 (2011)
 - Spanish Mackerel (2012): the SSC deviated from the ABC-CR and recommended using the third highest landings from 1999 to 2008 as the ABC (NOTE: Spanish Mackerel current ABC is based on SEDAR 28)



Setting ABCs for Spanish Mackerel



Spanish Mackerel Amendment Timeline

April 2023	SSC reviews modifications to SEDAR 78 and provides catch level recommendations.
June 2023	South Atlantic Council reviews SSC recommendations and directs staff to begin work on an amendment.
Fall 2023	Mackerel Cobia AP discusses amendment.
September 2023	South Atlantic Council reviews AP comments and directs staff on actions and alternatives to develop.
December 2023	South Atlantic Council reviews options paper and scoping comments, approves range of actions and alternatives to be analyzed.
March 2024	South Atlantic Council reviews draft document, provides direction to staff.
June 2024	South Atlantic Council reviews draft document, selects preferred alternatives, and approves for public hearings.
September 2024	South Atlantic Council reviews public comments.
December 2024	South Atlantic Council considers amendment for formal review.

