



Stakeholder-Driven AIM for Wreckfish Fishery

Resilient Fisheries Project Overview

Description

This project will apply an adaptive management technique called Adaptive Implementable Management (AIM) to guide a stakeholder-driven management development process for the South Atlantic wreckfish fishery. During this process contractors will work directly with managers and stakeholders to develop management recommendations more robust to future uncertainty. Stakeholder engagement is being prioritized throughout the AIM process via interviews and stakeholder workshops planned throughout the project period. Using decision-support tools, the contractors will work directly with stakeholders to explore and compare various management measures and harvest control rules. The resulting recommendations will be presented to the Council for consideration.

Progress Updates

- The project is on track and progressing as expected. The Project Oversight Team (OT) will meet again in March 2026.
- The contractors gave the first of two presentations to the SSC during their Oct. meeting, updating and receiving feedback on identified data sources and modeling approaches. The SSC will review the completed assessment at their April 2026.
- AIM Stakeholder Workshop was held Nov. 12-14 and introduced stakeholders to the AIM process.
- Using the workshop outcomes, the contractors will continue development and customization of the AIM Harvest Control Rule Design Tool.

Project Team

Contractors: Thomas Remington (PI); Dr. Josh Nowlis, (PI), Dr. Jeremy Collie, Dr. Mateja Nenadovic, and Brian Snouffer

Oversight Team: Mike Schmidtke, Christina Curtis, Allie Iberle, Judd Curtis, Nikolai Klibansky (NOAA), Chip Collier, Lara Klibansky

Project Timeline

2024

- ✓ Dec - Request for proposals released.

2025

- ✓ Jan - Proposals reviewed and contractor selected
- ✓ Feb - Project Oversight Team formed
- ✓ Mar - Begin monthly Project Oversight Team meetings with contractors
- ✓ Oct - SSC review of draft Wreckfish Assessment
- ✓ Nov - AIM Workshop for Stakeholders

2026

- ✓ Jan - Jun - Customize AIM Harvest Control Rule Design Tool based on stakeholder feedback (**Underway**)
- Apr - SSC review of draft Wreckfish Assessment outcomes
- Jul - Stakeholder Management Design Workshops

2027

- Apr - SSC review of draft project report
- Jun - Present to Council; Submit final report
- Implementation begins with the Council reviewing and considering the approval of project outcomes and recommendations.