SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201
North Charleston, SC 29405
TEL 843/571-4366 FAX 843/769-4520
Toll Free: 1-866-SAFMC-10
email: safmc@safmc.net Web site: www.safmc.net

Duane Harris, Chairman
Director
David Cupka, Vice Chairman
Director

Robert K. Mahood, Executive
Director
Gregg Waugh, Deputy Executive

January 19, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bonnie Ponwith

FROM: Bob Mahood RKM

SUBJECT: Request for updated Atlantic king mackerel projections

This memorandum requests information and analyses for actions being considered in Amendment 18 to the Coastal Migratory Pelagic FMP. I request the information below be provided by March 15, 2010, for consideration by the SSC at their April 2010 meeting.

The South Atlantic Council Scientific and Statistical Committee reviewed the information available to support OFL and ABC recommendations for king mackerel in December 2009. The Committee determined that additional projections are required to develop OFL and ABC recommendations for Atlantic king mackerel in accordance with the ABC control rule developed after the king mackerel assessment was completed. These projections should carry uncertainty forward and be based upon a 27.5% probability of overfishing occurring over each of a range of projection periods. Because additional projections are required, the SSC further requests that these projections incorporate observed catch for the 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 fishing years. Finally, the committee requested additional supporting information to help evaluate stock trends since the terminal year of the assessment.

Details for the requested projections are as follows:

1. Provide updated catch for the 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 fishing years for Atlantic king mackerel.

2. Provide available measures of recruitment, such as survey CPUE, for Atlantic king mackerel.
3. Provide updated projections for Atlantic king mackerel that account for cumulative uncertainty over time and are based upon a 27.5% probability of overfishing occurring.
    - Include both the fixed catch and associated annual F's, and fixed F with associated annual catches, that achieve the target 27.5% probability of overfishing occurring.
    - ABC changes should begin with the 2011/2012 fishing years; assume the current TAC is reached in the interim years.
    - Provide projections for 1 year (2011/2012), 3 years (2013/2014), 7 years (2018/2019), and 10 years (2021/2022).
    - Provide associated updated estimates of the OFL (yield at the Fmsy proxy) over the same periods as the ABC values.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please contact me.

cc: SAFMC Members
Gregg Waugh
John Carmichael
Carolyn Belcher
Luiz Barbieri