

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council 800 North State Street, Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901 Phone: 302-674-2331 | FAX: 302-674-5399 | www.mafmc.org

Michael P. Luisi, Chairman | G. Warren Elliott, Vice Chairman

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director

October 2, 2017

Mr. Gregg Waugh Executive Director SAFMC 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201 North Charleston, SC

Dear Gregg:

Thank you for your invitation to our staff and SSC members to attend the upcoming SAFMC SSC meeting where the specification of ABC for blueline tilefish will be discussed. Council staff (2-3) and MAFMC SSC members (1-2) will attend the meeting.

In early 2018, we plan to request that our SSC provide us with an ABC recommendation for blueline tilefish for the area now under the jurisdiction of the MAFMC (i.e., north of the VA/NC border). As such, the upcoming SSC meeting in Charleston, SC offers an excellent opportunity for dialogue between staff and SSC members from both Councils. This should help ensure that the approach taken next year by the Mid-Atlantic SSC in specification of ABC for the area north of the VA/NC border is compatible with the approach taken by your Council and SSC for specification of ABC for blueline tilefish south of that area.

We look forward to working cooperatively with the South Atlantic Council on the management of this important resource. Please call me or Matt Seeley of my staff if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Christopher M. Moore, Ph.D. Executive Director

cc: M. Luisi, W. Elliott, T. Baum, M. Seeley