



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Attachment 2a

2026 BUDGET OVERVIEW

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Presented to Executive Committee
November 17, 2025





SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

2025 BUDGET RECAP

ATTACHMENT 2B

- Budget = \$5.2 million; Funding = \$4.10 million, .96% decrease
- Included Extension Activity
- 59% Total Expended through September
 - State Liaison Payments Pending
- Variable Costs Driven by Activity Schedule





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2025 BUDGET RECAP

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- Healthcare Renewal at 3% Rate Increase, Negotiated from 10%
 - Actual spend rate flat with 2024
- IRS Mileage Rate Increased 4.5%
- Separate Grant Activity
- 2025 Per Diem Increases
 - 16% SC; 16% NC; 16% FL; 9% GA





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- Working Budget = \$4.5 million
- Key Updates:
 - 1% COLA Included for All Staff and Eligible Council Members
 - Pending Final Action
 - 2026 Per Diems Flat





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- Reduction in Subcontracted Labor Work
 - Pertains to the primary administrative grant
 - Contracting activity continues through supplemental grants
- Continuing to Budget for Both In-Person and Virtual Meetings
- Federal Register Notice Trend (Excludes SEDAR)
 - 2018 = 43; 2019 = 28; 2020 = 45; 2021 = 42; 2022 = 35; 2023 = 34; 2024 = 41; 2025 = 21 YTD





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- Finalize Budget Once 2026 Grant Allocation is Known
 - Budgeting Based Upon Flat Allocation Amount
- Handbook and SOPPs Updates
- Ongoing Monitoring and Adjustments Throughout 2026
 - Annual Audit Process





SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

HANDBOOK & STATEMENT OF ORGANIZATION PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES (SOPP)

- Administrative Handbook
 - Majority of updates based on enhanced site visit feedback
- SOPP
 - Updates to reflect procedural evolution
 - Reduce redundancy with handbook
 - Align consistency with handbook





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INFLATION REDUCTION ACT

- Submitted Requests for \$3,489,204
- Received Funding of \$2,620,062
- Resilient Fisheries Projects Underway
 - Fishery Management Process & Ecosystem Information Review and Strategy Development
 - Stakeholder-Driven Adaptive Implementable Management (AIM) for Wreckfish Fishery
 - Modeling Distributions and Essential Fish Habitat for Snapper Grouper, Coastal Migratory Pelagics, and Dolphin Wahoo
 - Resilient Fisheries Project Coordination and Ecosystem Data Workshop
- Project Under Review
 - Multi-Phase Communities Project
 - \$980,285





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Questions and Discussion

