



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Trish Murphey, Chair | Jessica McCawley, Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

AGENDA

Mackerel Cobia Committee

Radisson Resort at the Port
8701 Astronaut Blvd.
Cape Canaveral, FL

Tuesday, June 10, 2025 –1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M. (Times subject to change)

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes (March 2025)

1:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.

1. Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Report
 - a. Presentation (*Attachments 1a* and *1b*) – Thomas Newman, AP Chair

1:50 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.

2. Gulf Council Coastal Migratory Pelagics (CMP) Stakeholder Engagement Effort
 - a. Presentation (*Attachment 2*) – Emily Muehlstein, Gulf Council

2:10 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

3. Mackerel Port Meetings Next Steps
 - a. Overview (*Attachment 3a* and *3b*) – Christina Wiegand
 - b. **Committee Action:** Review port meetings report and provide recommendations for amendment development and timing.

Other Business

Adjourn

Committee Members

Tom Roller, Chair

Carolyn Belcher, Vice Chair

Robert Beal

Gary Borland

Amy Dukes

Tim Griner

Judy Helmey

Jimmy Hull

Kerry Marhefka

Jessica McCawley

Trish Murphey

Lt. Tom Pease

Charlie Phillips
Robert Spottswood, Jr.
Andy Strelcheck

Attachments

Attachment 1a: Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Report

Attachment 1b: Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Report Presentation

Attachment 2: Gulf Council CMP Stakeholder Engagement Effort Report

Attachment 3a: Summary of Mackerel Port Meetings Management Discussions

Attachment 3b: Mackerel Port Meetings Final Report

Staff Lead: Christina Wiegand (christina.wiegand@safmc.net)

OVERVIEW

Mackerel and Cobia Committee

The Committee will approve the minutes from the March 2025 meeting and the agenda for the June 2025 Committee meeting.

1. Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Report (*Attachments 1a and 1b*)

Description: The Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel met in Charleston, South Carolina, on March 31 and April 1, 2025. Advisory Panel Chair, Thomas Newman, will provide a summary of meeting discussions and recommendations.

Committee Action: Review Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel recommendations and discuss, as needed.

2. Gulf Council CMP Stakeholder Engagement Effort (*Attachment 2*)

Description: The Gulf Council held three public virtual seminars in the fall of 2024 which specifically addressed issues related to Spanish mackerel, king mackerel, and cobia. The engagement questions asked during the virtual seminars were also asked during the February 2024 CMP and December 2024 Reef Fish advisory panel meetings. The purpose of these engagement sessions was to gather feedback from industry stakeholders on the health status of CMP stocks. Questions posed to participants during the seminars ranged from possible biological, environmental, economic, and social drivers of observed recent declines in CMP landings. Gulf Council staff will provide a summary report of the stakeholder feedback collected during these sessions.

Committee Action: none

3. Mackerel Port Meetings Next Steps (*Attachments 3a and 3b*)

Description: In 2024, at the urging of their Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel, the Council hosted a series of 16 in-person and six virtual port meetings along the Atlantic coast. Port meetings attendees discussed their perspectives with other fishery participants and local Council members. In March 2025, Council staff reviewed the draft report and high-level themes from this effort. The Council requested detailed information from port meetings on a suite of management options to be brought to the June 2025 meeting. Council staff will present this information in addition to a refresher on the results of SEDAR 78 (Atlantic Spanish mackerel).

Committee Action: Review port meetings report and provide recommendations for amendment development and timing.

Other Business