SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Ben Hartig, Chairman
Michelle Duval, Vice Chairman

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

October 21, 2013

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bonnie Ponwith

FROM: Ben Hartig

SUBJECT: Request for further details on catch sampling

The Council appreciated the information on catch sampling provided during the September 2013 meeting. As you are aware, that brief overview generated considerable discussion on sampling approaches and intensity, from which emerged particular concerns over the low success rate in meeting sampling targets. Less clear is whether this is due to excessive targets, inadequate sampling capabilities or problems in sampling methods. Therefore, I would like to continue these discussions during the Data Committee at our December Council meeting, and request that you provide additional details on sampling methods and targets as described below.

1. The annual number of length measurements and age samples, by species for those listed in the attachment, for the years 2003-2012 by year.
2. The annual number of trips sampled by state and major gear groupings, for the years 2003-2012 by year.
3. Sampling protocols or other documentation that indicates how trips are chosen for sampling and how individuals within trips are chosen for measurements or age structure removal.
4. The number of age structures analyzed, both in total and as a proportion of total annual age samples.

Materials and/or other information for the Council's review during the December 2013 meeting should be provided by November 8, 2013 in order for inclusion in the first briefing book or by November 22, 2013 at the latest for inclusion in the second briefing book. Please contact John Carmichael if there are any questions regarding this request.

cc: Bob Mahood, Gregg Waugh & John Carmichael
Michelle Duval & Mel Bell
Theo Brainerd & Tom Jamir

Attachment: Species for sampling intensity evaluation, based on assessment priority stocks identified by the SAFMC in September 2013.

black grouper
black sea bass
blueline tilefish
cobia
dolphin
gag grouper
goliath grouper
gray triggerfish
greater amberjack
hogfish
king mackerel

red grouper
red porgy
red snapper
scamp
snowy grouper
Spanish mackerel
spiny lobster
tilefish (*golden*)
vermilion snapper
white grunt
yellowtail snapper