

Fishery Performance Report Questionnaire

Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel

October 2019

The Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel (AP) is being asked to provide information for fishery performance reports (FPR) for Coastal Migratory Pelagic (CMP) species. The purpose of FPRs is to assemble information from AP members' experience and observations on the water and in the marketplace to complement scientific and landings data. FPRs are provided to the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) and the Socio-Economic Panel (SEP) to complement material being used in assessments and to inform future South Atlantic Council management.

FPRs for Atlantic king mackerel, Atlantic Spanish mackerel, and Florida east coast cobia were completed at past AP meetings (April 2018 for mackerels, April 2017 for cobia). The AP is being asked to review the FPRs and provide updates. Current information on landing trends can be found [HERE](#).

During past FPR discussions, the AP was asked to provide the following information about CMP species based on their expertise, as appropriate:

1. Catch levels over the past 5 years:
 - When/where are the fish available, and has this changed?
 - Has the size of the fish changed?
 - Have there been effort shifts to/from king mackerel/Spanish mackerel/cobia?
2. Current management measures:
 - Is the minimum size limit for the commercial and recreational sectors appropriate?
 - Are the current ACLs for each sector appropriate? If not, why?
 - Are the quotas for each zone appropriate? If not, why?
 - Are there new management measures that the Council should consider?
 - Are there existing management measures that should be changed?
3. Environmental conditions and ecology:
 - Have you noticed any unique effects of environmental conditions?
 - What are your observations concerning the timing and length of the spawning season in your area?
 - Have you noticed a change in abundance over the past 5 years?
 - What do you see now in terms of recruitment? Where are the small fish?
4. Social and economic influences:
 - For the commercial sector, how has price and demand changed?
 - How has demand for charter/headboat trips targeting king mackerel/Spanish mackerel/cobia changed?
 - What communities are dependent on the king mackerel/Spanish mackerel/cobia fishery?
 - Have changes in infrastructure (docks, marinas, fish houses) affected fishing opportunities?
 - How have fishermen and communities adapted to changes in the fishery?
5. Other:
 - What else is important for the Council to know about king mackerel/Spanish mackerel/cobia?