

## 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. The AP is being asked to provide updates to the FPRs.

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 trends:**

- When/where are the fish available in your area, and how has this changed?
- Has the size of the fish changed? If so, could you briefly describe the trend?
- Have there been effort shifts to/from king mackerel/Spanish mackerel/cobia? If so, please describe.

**2. Current management measures:**

- Are there new management measures the Council should consider? Or current management measures that should be modified?

**3. Environmental conditions and ecology:**

- Have you noticed any unique effects of environmental conditions? If so, please describe.
- What are your observations concerning the timing and length of the spawning season in your area?
- What do you see now in terms of recruitment? Where are the small fish? Are large and small fish found in the same location or not?
- Has there been any shift in catch inshore/offshore or north/south? If so, please describe.
- How have sea conditions (monthly seasonally) affected fishable days?
- Have you observed changed in catch depth or apparent bottom type fished on?
- Have you noticed any changes in the species caught with king mackerel/Spanish mackerel/cobia over the years?

**4. Social and economic influences:**

- Among the species you target, how important are king mackerel/Spanish mackerel/cobia to your overall business (charter or commercial)?
- 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? Do these fisheries have historic or cultural importance?
- Have changes in infrastructure (docks, marinas, fish houses) affected fishing opportunities?
- How have fishermen and communities adapted to changes in the fishery?

5. **Other:**

- Is there anything else not already discussed that is important for the Council to know about king mackerel/Spanish mackerel/cobia?