



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston SC 29405
Call: (843) 571-4366 | Toll-Free: (866) SAFMC-10 | Fax: (843) 769-4520 | Connect: www.safmc.net

Melvin Bell, Chair | Stephen J. Poland, Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

AGENDA Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Meeting Webinar

Other than the starting and ending times of the meeting, times indicated on the agenda are approximate, and the order of business may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that discussions may start earlier or later than indicated.

Public comment will be solicited at the beginning and at the end of the meeting. Those wishing to comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will then recognize individuals to provide comment.

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 – 1:00 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

Approval of Agenda

Approval of November 2020 Meeting minutes

Report from the Council's Mackerel Cobia Committee Chair

1. Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 34 (King mackerel catch levels and management measures) (*Attachment 1*)
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Discuss and provide recommendations, as appropriate – Ira Laks
2. Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 32 (Gulf cobia catch levels and management measures) (*Attachment 2a* and *2b*)
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Discuss and provide recommendations, as appropriate – Ira Laks
3. Structure of the Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel (*Attachment 3*)
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Discuss and provide recommendations, as appropriate – Ira Laks
4. Update Fishery Performance Reports for Coastal Migratory Pelagics (*Attachment 4*)
 - a. Overview – Christina Wiegand
 - b. Discuss and provide recommendations, as appropriate – Ira Laks

Other Business

Adjourn

Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Members

Ira Laks, Chair
Tom Roller, Vice Chair
Stephen Swann
Stephen Donalson
Steve English
Skip Feller
Ryan Howard
Keith Bowen
Robert Olsen
Greg Peralta
Gary Robinson
Rusty Hudson
Aaron Kelly
John Mallette
Brad Phillips
Thomas Newman
Charlie Locke
Paul Ruderhausen

Staff: Christina Wiegand

Attachments

Attachment 1: Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 34 Summary

Attachment 2a: Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 32 Summary

Attachment 2b: Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 32 Draft Document

Attachment 3: Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Structure Discussion Document

Attachment 4: Fishery Performance Report Discussion Questions

OVERVIEW

Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel Meeting

The Committee will approve of minutes from November 2020 meeting and the agenda.

1. **Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 34 (King mackerel catch levels and management measures) (*Attachment 1*)**

Description: An update to SEDAR 38 was completed in April 2020 and included assessments for Gulf and Atlantic king mackerel. In April 2020, the SSC reviewed the results of the updated SEDAR 38 and provided recommendations for new ABCs for Atlantic king mackerel. At their June 2020 meeting the Council received presentations from the SEFSC and the SSC chair regarding the completed assessment. The Council directed staff to begin work on an options paper that would include consideration of sector allocations and catch level adjustments based on SSC recommendations the recent stock assessment update. Considering input from public comment and the Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel, the Council approved actions and alternatives for inclusion in the amendment at their March 2021 meeting. Amendment 34 is scheduled to be approved for public hearings at the June 2021 meeting. Council staff will present a summary document with approved actions and alternatives for AP discussion.

Required Advisory Panel Action: Provide recommendations as appropriate.

2. **Coastal Migratory Pelagics Amendment 32 (Gulf cobia catch levels and management measures) (*Attachments 2a* and *2b*)**

Description: An update to SEDAR 28 assessment for Gulf cobia was completed in July 2020. The results indicate that Gulf cobia is undergoing overfishing, which puts the stock at risk of becoming overfished without management action. The Gulf SSC reviewed the results of the updated SEDAR 28 and provided recommendations for new ABCs for Gulf cobia. At their March 2021 meeting the South Atlantic Council reviewed draft actions and alternatives, selected preferred alternatives, and requested staff develop an action to address sector allocations for Florida East Coast Zone cobia. Council staff will present draft management measures to end overfishing of Gulf cobia and update the CMP framework procedures to clarify language about the responsibilities of the South Atlantic and Gulf Councils.

Required Advisory Panel Action: Provide recommendations as appropriate.

3. **Structure of the Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel (*Attachment 3*)**

Description: During its September 2020 meeting the Council reviewed appointments to the Mackerel Cobia AP and decided to further discuss the structure of the advisory panel. The Council directed staff to put together a white paper detailing how the Advisory Panel structure can be modified to better work with different regions and management organizations, such as the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. The Council reviewed the white paper at their March 2021 meeting and recommended working with the Gulf Mackerel Cobia AP chair as needed and working with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to hold joint MC AP and ASMFC Spanish Mackerel AP meetings to discuss Spanish mackerel issues as needed.

Required Advisory Panel Action: Provide input as appropriate.

4. **Update to Fishery Performance Reports for King Mackerel, Spanish Mackerel, and Florida East Coast Cobia (*Attachment 4*)**

Description: The intent of Fishery Performance Reports (FPRs) is to assemble information from Advisory Panel members' experience and observations on the water and in the marketplace to complement scientific and landings data. The FPRs are provided to the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC), the Socio-Economic Panel (SEP), and the Council to assist in their discussions. With input from the MC AP, FPRs were updated for Florida East Coast cobia, Atlantic king mackerel, and Atlantic Spanish mackerel in 2019. During this meeting Advisory Panel members will be asked to provide updates to the previously completed FPRs.

Advisory Panel Action: Discuss and provide information to update FPRs.

Other Business