



SEDAR Committee
SAFMC Meeting
March 2026

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Scopes of Work and Terms of Reference for Upcoming Assessments



South Atlantic SEDAR Schedule

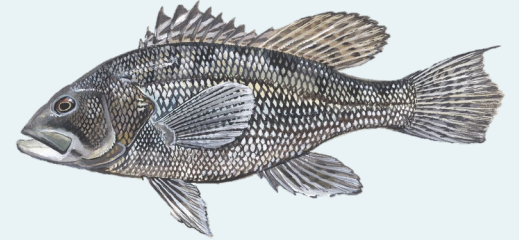
- “Scopes of Work”
 - Black Sea Bass
 - Vermilion Snapper
- Terms of Reference
 - Atlantic Spanish Mackerel
 - South Atlantic King Mackerel
 - Dolphin MSE



Steering Committee Approved and SEFSC Scheduled Projects				
Steering Committee Approved, PENDING SEFSC SCHEDULING				
FUTURE Requests				
No SEDAR Involvement				
Year	South Atlantic Branch			
	1	2	3	4
2026	S90 Red Snapper Benchmark	BSB RW?		
		S104 Dolphin MSE RW		SATL - King Mackerel (Gulf Analyst)
2027	Spanish Mack (TWG)	S106 Gag Grouper		
	Red Grouper (DW/Stock ID)		Vermilion Update	
2028		Snowy Update /TWG		
	Red Porgy (TWG)	GAJ (TWG)		
2029				
	Tilefishes	Scamp		
2030				



Black Sea Bass Next Assessment



- Type: Conducted internally by SEFSC
- Review Workshop: SSC subgroup and full SSC



Preliminary Schedule:

Apr	- Draft Terms of Reference to SSC
May	- Council Terms of Reference Approval (Expedited)
Jun-Aug	- Aggregate available data - Assessment model development
<u>Aug 31</u>	- <u>MRIP-FES Calibration completed</u> - All data finalized
Oct 15 (4-6 weeks)	- Integrate new MRIP-FES into assessment model
Nov 1 (6-8 weeks)	- Final assessment report submitted
Dec 1 (10-12 weeks)	- Convene Review Workshop
Jan 2027 (14-16 weeks)	- Special SSC Meeting: Final assessment review and setting of catch level recommendations
Mar 2027	- Recommendations to Council

Uncertainties identified during SSC review of SEDAR76 Update:



- MRIP-FES recreational catch timeseries
- Direct estimate of MSY vs. Proxy
 - Mean Recruitment vs. B-H stock recruit relationship (steepness)
 - Nonstationarity and Recent Low Recruitment/Biomass
- Magnitude of Selectivity of Discards
 - Discard selectivity of the general recreational fleet
 - Inshore v. Offshore discard trends
 - Commercial logbooks
- Terminal year fishing mortality potential bias
 - Relationship between high F and low biomass
 - Impacts on Projections

Vermilion Update Assessment

- Type: Conducted internally by SEFSC
- Review: Full SSC
- Preliminary Schedule:



Sep 2026	- Council Terms of Reference Approval
Fall 2027	- Assessment start
April 2028	- Full SSC Review
June 2028	- Recommendations to Council

Uncertainties identified during SSC review of SEDAR 55, 83



- MRIP-FES recreational catch timeseries
- Poor Index fits:
 - SERFS fishery-independent index (not tracking abundance)
 - Fishery-dependent indices
 - Index-based interim analysis (S83): *not recommended*
- Steepness profiling (fixed vs. estimated)
- Potential changes in selectivity due to management actions



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