



**Dec 2024  
Council  
Meeting**

THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

# **Upcoming Assessment Review and Response Planning**



# Atlantic Blueline Tilefish

## Assessment Review Plan



# Atlantic Blueline Tilefish

- Last assessment: SEDAR 50, 2017.
  - Stock ID, Data, Assessment, and Review Workshops
  - Combined two-model approach:
    - S of Cape Hatteras: Production model
    - N of Cape Hatteras: Data-limited model
- SEDAR 92: Atlantic Blueline Tilefish
  - Operational Assessment – update S50 models with recent data
  - Topical Working Groups
    - Catch and landings north of Cape Hatteras
    - Life history
  - Scheduled to be completed Spring 2025





# Assessment Review

- Review by MAFMC and SAFMC SSC's
  - Single stock spanning jurisdictional boundary (Mid-Atlantic and north of Cape Hatteras, NC)
- Procedural differences in SSC responsibilities:
  - MAFMC SSC does not review stock assessments
    - Technical review panel approach
    - SSC applies ABC-CR and sets catch level recommendations
  - SAFMC SSC does review stock assessments
    - Responsible for stock assessment review
    - SSC applies ABC-CR and sets catch level recommendations



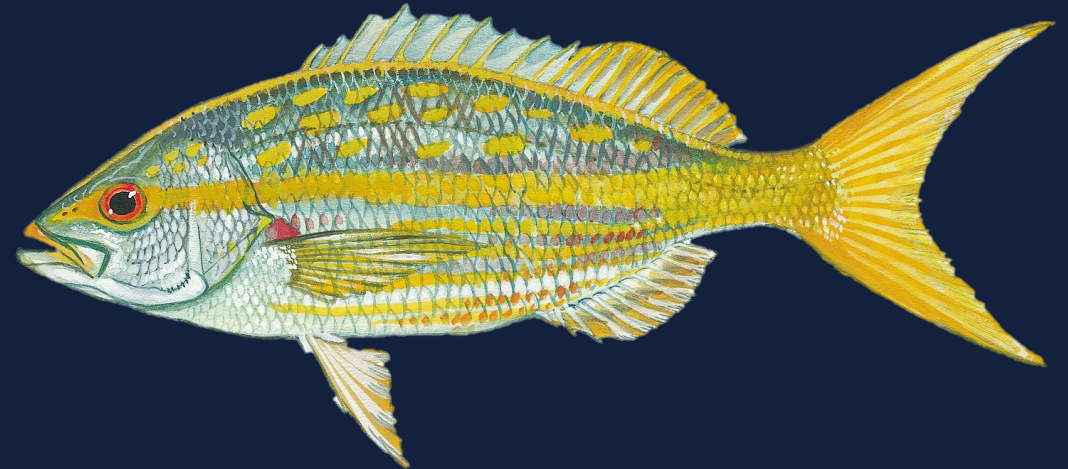
# Assessment Review

- Joint review by MAFMC and SAFMC SSC's
  - Form review panel of MAFMC and SAFMC SSC members (~3 from each Council)
  - Review Panel similar to SEDAR review panel format, procedure, and terms of reference
  - Logistics for review still TBD
- SAFMC SSC to review assessment at subsequent meeting
  - Consider recommendations of review panel
  - Apply ABC-CR and set catch level recommendations



# Mutton and Yellowtail Snapper

## Assessment Review



# Mutton and Yellowtail Snapper



- **SEDAR 79: Southeastern US Mutton Snapper**
  - Last assessment: SEDAR15A Update, 2015.
  - Data Workshop, Aug. 2023
  - Assessment webinars, Aug. 2024
  - Review Workshop, Sep. 2024
  - Final Assessment Report submitted to cooperators, Oct. 8
  
- **SEDAR 96: Southeastern US Yellowtail Snapper**
  - Last assessment, SEDAR 64 completed 2020. Interim analysis in 2022.
  - Recreational Landings topical working group – Consider incorporating Florida State Reef Fish Survey for private recreational estimates
  - Final Assessment Report submitted to cooperators, Dec. 2024



# Logistics



- Joint South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico SSC Review
  - Single stock spanning SA and GOM Council jurisdictions.
  - Form sub-group representing both SA and GOM regions.
- GMFMC will host in-person meeting at Council office in Tampa, FL
- Scheduled: Feb 25 and Feb 26, 2025
- Each Council to coordinate travel authorization with their representatives





# Sub-Group Composition

- Sub-Group of SA-SSC and GOM-SSC members
  - 10-11 SSC members from each Council
  - 2 Council staff
  - 2 Council members
- Joint Sub-Group Chair
  - GOM-SSC Chair Mike Allen



# Procedure

- Use South Atlantic ABC-CR
  - Will provide documentation for briefing book
  - May need to consider 75%MSY for ABC for adequate scientific uncertainty buffer. SSCs will have leeway to discuss.
- Operate under consensus
  - Consensus does not mean unanimous agreement. Minority reports can be drafted.
  - This sub-group body will represent their respective SSCs and its final decision-making. Review of decisions can be presented to respective full SSCs at subsequent meeting, but no changes to the recommendations will be considered.



# Procedure

- Need to ensure transparent recruitment of the SSC members participating in the sub-panel to avoid perception of “cherry-picking” for the review. Any standing SSC member is welcome to volunteer.
- If more than 11 SSC members volunteer, the Council Chair and Executive Director for that Council will make the final selection.
- Procedure and Sub-Group Membership will be presented to respective Councils at next Council meeting.



# Action Items

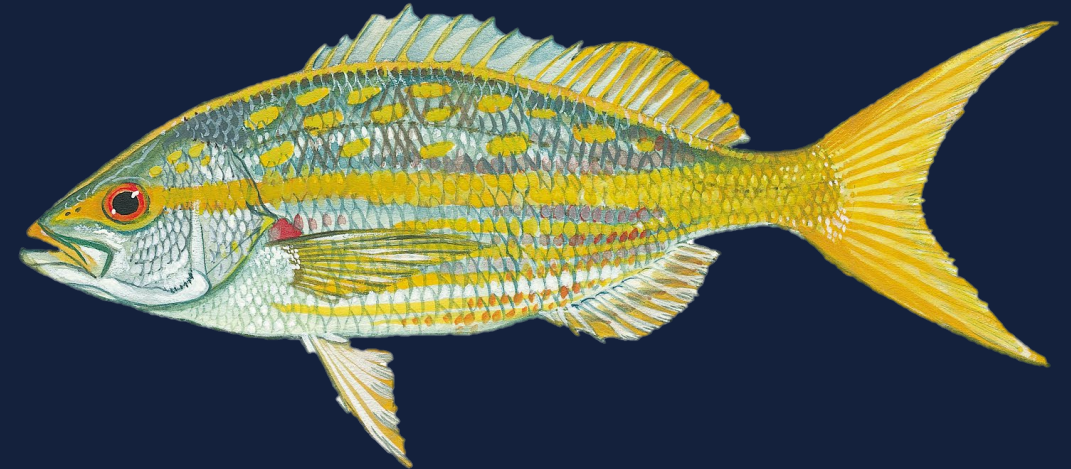
- Approve plan and process for review of Mutton Snapper and Yellowtail Snapper assessments.
- Approve 10-11 SA-SSC members to participate in the Sub-Group.
  1. Fred Serchuk
  2. Alexei Sharov
  3. Amy Schueller
  4. Marcel Reichert
  5. Dustin Addis
  6. Fred Scharf
  7. Jim Gartland
  8. Steve Turner
  9. Jeff Buckel





# Mutton and Yellowtail Snapper

## Management Response



# Amendment Actions Needed

## Joint SAFMC/GMFMC Amendment

- Establish OFL and ABC for single stock of Mutton Snapper and single stock of Yellowtail Snapper.
- Review jurisdictional allocation for both species and modify, if necessary



# Amendment Actions Needed

## Separate SAFMC and GMFMC Amendments

- Amendment to SA SG FMP:
  - Establish the SA ABC and total ACL for mutton and yellowtail.
  - Establish the SA sector allocations and sector ACLs for mutton and yellowtail.
  - Management and accountability measures.
- Amendment to GOM Reef Fish FMP
  - Any actions the GMFMC wishes to consider for mutton and yellowtail.



