



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Jessica McCawley, Chair | Mel Bell, Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

Joint Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Scientific and Statistical Committees

October 30, 2020
Meeting via webinar

AGENDA/OVERVIEW

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.

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Revision: The date and time of the meeting was updated. The webinar registration link was updated. A new Item 4 was added.

VERSION
FINAL, Revised
10/5/2020

WEBINAR ACCESS

Registration is required to access the webinar. Registration is available through this link:

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4081618469837497100>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

SAFMC PUBLIC COMMENT PROCESS

Written comment:

Written comment on SSC agenda topics is to be distributed to the Committee through the Council office, similar to all other Council briefing materials. Written comment to be considered by the SSC shall be provided to the Council office no later than one week prior to an SSC meeting. For this meeting, the deadline for submission of written comment is 12:00 pm Friday, October 23, 2020. Submit written comments to:

SAFMC – SSC Comments
4055 Faber Place Drive
Suite 201
North Charleston, SC 29405

Verbal comment:

Two opportunities for comment on agenda items will be provided at set times during this SSC meeting. The first will be at the beginning of the meeting, and the second near the conclusion. Those wishing to comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will then recognize individuals to provide comment.

An opportunity for comment on specific agenda items will also be provided as each item comes up for discussion. Comments will be taken after all the initial presentations are given and before the SSC starts the discussion of the agenda topic. As before, those wishing to comment should indicate such in the manner requested by the Chair, who will then recognize individuals to provide comment. All comments are part of the record of the meeting.

Friday, October 30, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Documents

Agenda

Attachment 1. Minutes from July 2020 Joint Meeting

1.2. Action

- Introductions
- Review and Approve Agenda
- Approve Minutes

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. DETERMINE FISHING LEVEL RECOMMENDATIONS FROM SEDAR 64 FOR YELLOWTAIL SNAPPER

3.1. Documents

Attachment 2. SEDAR 64 Projections Presentation

Attachment 3. SA P* Analysis and Results for Yellowtail Snapper

Attachment 4. SA ABC Control Rule

Attachment 5. Background Materials

3.2. Presentation

Assessment and Projections Presentation: Shanae Allen & Chris Swanson, FL FWRI

3.3. Overview

The South Atlantic and Gulf SSCs jointly met on July 21-22, 2020 to review the SEDAR 64 Yellowtail Snapper assessment and recommend fishing levels for this stock. The SSCs deemed the assessment best scientific information available and useful for management. The stock was found to be not overfished and not undergoing overfishing, with the biomass indicator being well above its reference point ($SSB/SSB_{F30\%SPR} = 1.69$) and the fishing mortality level indicator being well below its reference point ($F/F_{30\%SPR} = 0.67$).

However, the SSCs did identify issues with the assessment that made it difficult to recommend fishing levels for the stock. One issue was the fact that the resulting projected yields from the assessment were similar or lower than the projected yields from the previous assessment even though the catch levels input into the model were significantly higher than previous assessments due to revised MRIP estimates. The main difference described by the analysts was the ability to estimate weight at age more explicitly for the catch by fleet. The SSCs requested the opportunity

to discuss the implications of these issues as well as other concerns (e.g., the buffer between OFL and ABC resulting from projections using the ABC Control Rule in relation to the uncertainty) in more detail before making fishing level recommendations for the stock.

3.4. Public Comment

3.5. Action

- Provide fishing level recommendations and discuss uncertainties.

4. SEDAR 79 MUTTON SNAPPER ASSESSMENT TORs, SCHEDULE, AND APPOINTMENTS

4.1. Documents

Attachment 6. SEDAR 79 Mutton Snapper ToRs and Schedule

4.2. Overview

The SEDAR 79 Mutton Snapper assessment is being conducted by the state of Florida, starting in the summer of 2021 and completing in the winter of 2023. The South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico SSCs are being asked to review and approve the terms of reference (ToRs) and schedule for this assessment and make appointments to the various SEDAR 79 workshops in advance of the start of the assessment.

4.3. Public Comment

4.4. Action

- Review, modify as necessary, and approve the ToRs for the SEDAR 79 Mutton Snapper assessment.
- Appoint members to the SEDAR 79 Mutton Snapper assessment panels.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

6. OTHER BUSINESS

7. CONSENSUS STATEMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REVIEW

Adjourn