

Excerpt from SAFMC SOPPS, June 2011 version.

2.5 Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)

As required by the Act at Sec. 302(g)(1), the Council has established an SSC to assist in the development, collection, evaluation, and peer review of such statistical, biological, economic, social, and other scientific information as is relevant to the Council's development and amendment of its fishery management plans.

2.5.1 Objectives and Duties

The SSC shall provide the Council ongoing scientific advice for fishery management decisions, including recommendations for acceptable biological catch, preventing overfishing, maximum sustainable yield, and achieving rebuilding targets, and reports on stock status and health, bycatch, habitat status, social and economic impacts of management measures, and sustainability of fishing practices. [Specific details regarding the duties of members of the SSC are found in the Administrative Handbook.]

2.5.2 Members and Chair

Members appointed by the Council to the SSCs shall be Federal employees, State employees, academician, or independent experts and shall have strong scientific or technical credentials and experience.

Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, members of the SSC are eligible to receive stipends provided they are not employed by the Federal Government or a state marine fisheries agency, as defined at 50 CFR 600.133(b).

2.5.3 Administrative Provisions

The SSC shall hold its meetings in conjunction with the meetings of the Council, to the extent practicable. Notice of meetings of the SSC shall comply with the applicable notice requirements specified for Council meetings.