



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Chair | Trish Murphey, Vice Chair

John Carmichael, Executive Director

Scientific and Statistical Committee

April 18-20, 2023

Town and Country Inn

Charleston, SC 29401

AGENDA

Other than the starting and ending time 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. Periodic breaks will be taken during each morning and afternoon session at the discretion of the Chair.

Tuesday, April 18th

1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

1. Introductions

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Transcript from January meeting

2. Public Comment

3. Review of Population Projections (1 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Erik Williams, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review population projections being used assessments for projecting landings and discards.

4. SEDAR 76: Black Sea Bass Operational Assessment (3 hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Matthew Vincent, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review, discuss, and provide feedback on the operational assessment for South Atlantic Black Sea Bass. Apply ABC control rule to determine catch level recommendations.

Wednesday, April 19th

8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

5. SEDAR 68OA: Atlantic Scamp Operational Assessment (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Kyle Shertzer, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review rebuilding timelines and projections. Make catch level recommendations.

6. SEDAR 78: South Atlantic Spanish Mackerel Operational Assessment (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Erik Williams, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Determine whether the current SEDAR 78 stock assessment is sufficient for providing management advice and make catch level recommendations.

7. Deep Water Coral Distribution Model (1½ hrs)

- Presentation: Matthew Poti and Dr. Heather Coleman, NOAA
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review the South Atlantic deep sea coral distribution modeling effort. Discuss utility of modeling approach to describe habitat probability.

(Lunch Break: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm)

1:30 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.

8. Greater Amberjack Project Update (1½ hrs)

- Presentation: Dr. Sean Powers, University of South Alabama and Dr. John Hoenig, VIMS
- Public Comment
- Actions: Provide feedback on the methods and potential uncertainties for the Greater Amberjack project.

9. Update on the Approach for the Vermilion Snapper Interim Analysis (½ hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Erik Williams, SEFSC
- Public Comment
- Actions: Briefing on approach for upcoming interim analysis for vermilion snapper.

10. SSC Workgroups (½ hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Judd Curtis, SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment

- Actions: Review SSC rosters of workgroups. Form SSC workgroups for: (1) Regime Shifts, (2) Standing Scope of Work review body, (3) Ecopath with Ecosim.

11. SEP Report Summary (½ hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Scott Crosson, SEP Chair
- Public Comment
- Actions: Summary of pertinent agenda items covered at the SEP meeting. No actions required.

Thursday, April 20th

8:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

12. Using Portfolio Theory to Improve Management of Living Marine Resources (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Jason Link, NOAA and Dr. Steve Cadrin, Lauren Brewster, and Fiona Edwards, UMASS
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review presentation and provide feedback.

13. SERFS 2022 Trends Report (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Tracey Smart, SCDNR
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review the 2022 trends report from the Southeast Reef Fish Survey and SEAMAP surveys.

14. SAFE Reports Update for Snapper Grouper (1 hr)

- Presentation: Dr. Chip Collier, SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review and comment on the content for the snapper grouper SAFE report.

15. FWC Gear Type Analysis (½ hr)

- Presentation: SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment
- Actions: Review analysis of FWC 1 hook vs 2 hook gear

(Lunch Break: 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm)

1:30 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

16. South Atlantic Research and Monitoring Plan (1 hr)

- Presentation: SAFMC Staff
- Public Comment

- Actions: Review and comment on the 2023-2027 South Atlantic Research and Monitoring plan.

17. Other Business

18. Public Comment

19. Consensus Statement and Recommendations Review

20. Next Meetings

Public Comment Process

Written comment: Written comment on SSC agenda topics is provided to the Committee through an online form, similar to all other Council briefing materials. Written comment can be submitted at [this link](#). For this meeting, the deadline for submission of written comment is 12:00 p.m., April 20th.

Verbal comment: Two opportunities for comment on agenda items will be provided at set times during SSC meetings. 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 come up for discussion. This opportunity for comment will happen 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.

Staff Lead: Judd Curtis (judd.curtis@safmc.net)