



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting

March 15, 2022

Terms of Reference

For Atlantic Mackerel, the SSC will provide a written statement that identifies the following for the 2023 – 2024 fishing years:

- 1) Provide acceptable biological catch (ABC) recommendations, in weight, for the Council's rebuilding alternatives. The rebuilding alternatives include either P* based calculations or a target probability of rebuilding (e.g., 50% or 60%) specified by the Council. The alternatives use one of the two recruitment assumptions previously recommended by the SSC – the most recent recruits (2009 onwards) or a two-phase approach that only incorporates the longer time series (1975 onwards) once biomass is over half of the rebuilding target. The SSC also previously recommended a 150% CV for the P* based calculations.
- 2) Provide any guidance regarding the relative risks associated with the different rebuilding alternatives and identify the most significant sources of scientific uncertainty associated with rebuilding;
- 3) Provide any data and/or assessment considerations for the 2023 Atlantic Mackerel management track assessment;
- 4) The materials considered by the SSC in reaching its recommendations;
- 5) A conclusion that the recommendations provided by the SSC are based on scientific information the SSC believes meets the applicable National Standard guidelines for best scientific information available.