



Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting

October 30, 2023

Terms of Reference

The SSC will review their preliminary 2024-2025 Atlantic Mackerel acceptable biological catch (ABC) recommendations developed during the July 24-26, 2023 meeting (see [July 2023 SSC Meeting Report](#)). The SSC will also review and consider the ABC's associated with the alternative projection options reviewed by the SSC in September ([Atlantic Mackerel Projections Memo](#)).

For Atlantic Mackerel, the SSC will provide a written report that identifies the following for the 2024-2025 fishing years:

- 1) The level of total catch (in weight) for each requested fishing year that is consistent with the updated F_{rebuild} mortality rate associated with achieving a 61% rebuilding probability for Atlantic Mackerel by 2032. The SSC shall provide both varying and constant ABC's for projection option selected;
- 2) Interim metrics that can be examined to determine if multi-year specifications need reconsideration prior to their expiration;
- 3) The most significant sources of scientific uncertainty associated with determination of the ABC recommendation;
- 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.