Scientific and Statistical Committee
Report of July 21-23, 2021 Meeting

to

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
August 12, 2021

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Primary Topics (Word Count %)

- Golden Tilefish
- Atlantic Mackerel
- Scup
- Summer Flounder
- Black Sea Bass
- Bluefish
- Econ Working Group
- Other Business
- Boilerplate
SSC Report: Some Common Themes

- Effects of missing 2020 data not fully known; expect future surprises
  - Surveys
  - Discard estimation
  - MRIP imputation effects
- OFL CV matrices for all species except Atlantic Mackerel
- Concerns about reduced biological sampling of landings
- Ecosystem Considerations for several stocks
  - Declining Recruitment
  - Declining Weights at age
  - Delay maturation
  - Changes in Natural mortality
- Multi-year average catch quotas under Council Risk Policy—Tweaking necessary
- Rebuilding Strategies—Torqueing necessary
  - Bluefish
  - Atlantic Mackerel
SSC Report: Wrap Up

• All Species Topics have been covered
• All Special Topics have been covered {Econ, Ecosys, Rebuild}
• Process Improvements
  • More timely TOR for SSC
  • Strike balance between transparency and efficiency
  • Need refinements of Management Track Assessment process
• Public Comments
  • Effects of noise from wind tower construction
  • Pollutant effects: terrestrial and atmospheric on recruitment of some species