



## **Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Scientific and Statistical Committee Meeting**

July 26, 2023

### **Terms of Reference**

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  $F_{\text{rebuild}}$  mortality rate associated with achieving a 61% rebuilding probability for Atlantic Mackerel by 2032 (note: given the Council's Atlantic Mackerel rebuilding plan and risk policy this constitutes the ABC for Atlantic Mackerel);
- 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) Ecosystem considerations accounted for in the stock assessment, as appropriate, and any additional ecosystem considerations that the SSC considered in selecting the ABC, including the basis for those additional considerations;
- 5) Research or monitoring recommendations that would reduce the scientific uncertainty in the ABC recommendation and/or improve the assessment level in future years;
- 6) The materials considered by the SSC in reaching its recommendations;
- 7) 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.