Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger
703.842.0740

Assessment Workshop Scheduled for Cobia Stock Assessment



Arlington, VA – The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Cobia Stock Assessment Subcommittee (SAS) will be meeting December 14 - 17, 2026 at the Surfside Beach Oceanfront Hotel. 15 S. Ocean Blvd., Surfside Beach, South Carolina, to continue work on the development of the benchmark stock assessment. The Stock Assessment Workshop will focus on evaluation of models and analyses developed to estimate stock status, as well as addressing the stock assessment terms of reference. The terms of reference cover multiple aspects of the stock assessment, including developing models to estimate population parameters, analyzing model performance, characterizing uncertainty of the model, developing biological reference points, recommending stock status, and comparing stock status from past assessments.

The Peer Review workshop has been scheduled for May 2027 through the SouthEast Data Assessment Review (SEDAR) process. The dates and times of those meeting can be found on the SEDAR website at https://sedarweb.org/events/.

All Commission assessment workshops are open to the public, except for specified times when confidential data are being discussed within the assessment. Each state and federal agency is responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of its data and deciding who has access to its confidential data. In the case of our stock assessments and peer reviews, all analysts and, if necessary, reviewers, have been granted permission by the appropriate agency to use and view confidential data. When the assessment team needs to show and discuss these data, observers of our stock assessment process are asked to leave the room to preserve confidentiality. Time may be allotted for public comment at the discretion of the Stock Assessment Subcommittee Chair but may also be limited to keep the workshop on schedule. Additional information on the workshop will be posted on the Commission's website calendar.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission was formed by the 15 Atlantic coastal states in 1942 for the promotion and protection of coastal fishery resources. The Commission serves as a deliberative body of the Atlantic coastal states, coordinating the conservation and management of nearshore fishery resources, including marine, shell and diadromous species.

1050 N. Highland Street • Suite 200A-N • Arlington, VA 22201
703.842.0740 (phone) asmfc.org

For more information about the assessment or attending the workshop, please contact Emilie Franke, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, at efranke@asmfc.org or 703.842.0716, or CJ Schlick, Stock Assessment Coordinator, at schlickc@dnr.sc.gov or 843.735.9090.

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