

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

July 18, 2018
Terms of Reference

For Bluefish, the SSC will provide a written report that identifies the following for the 2019 fishing year:

- 1) The level of uncertainty that the SSC deems most appropriate for the information content of the most recent stock assessment, based on criteria listed in the Omnibus Amendment;
- 2) If possible, the level of catch (in weight) associated with the overfishing limit (OFL) based on the maximum fishing mortality rate threshold or, if appropriate, an OFL proxy;
- 3) The level of catch (in weight) and the probability of overfishing associated with the acceptable biological catch (ABC) for the stock;
- 4) The most significant sources of scientific uncertainty associated with determination of OFL and ABC;
- 5) Ecosystem considerations accounted for in the stock assessment, and any additional ecosystem considerations that the SSC took into account in selecting the ABC, including the basis for those additional considerations;
- 6) Prioritized research or monitoring recommendations that would reduce the scientific uncertainty in the ABC recommendation and/or improve the assessment level;
- 7) The materials considered in reaching its recommendations;
- 8) A certification that the recommendations provided by the SSC represent the best scientific information available.