

Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC)

Virtual Meeting

April 8-9, 2026

*Scan to see the
meeting agenda*



SSC Chair welcome presentation
Vance P. Vicente



RULES FOR SSC MEETINGS

1 Roll Call Procedures

SSC Roll Call: Await your name and confirm attendance.

General Roll Call: CFMC panel members, CFMC headquarters, followed by all others.



2 Keep all microphones off

Virtual attendees: Ensure you are muted.



In-person: Mute your laptop. Use the tabletop mic only when called upon (Red = Muted, Green = Active).



3

Requesting the floor to speak

Use the “Raise Hand” icon to be granted a turn.

You will be notified by the Chair when it is your turn.



4

Audio quality

Speak loudly and clearly for the record.



5

Documents/presentations

Send all materials presented at the meeting to Kiara or Liajay



6

Recording & Conduct

This meeting is being recorded. To ensure clear audio and professional decorum, please refrain from chewing gum or eating during the session.



7

Speaker identification

Please state your full name before speaking to ensure accurate transcription.



Call to order and Meeting Roll call

- SSC members
- Other CFMC panel members (DAP chairs, EBFM TAP chair and OEAP chair, other chairs)
- Conference Room attendees
- All participants

SSC Members	Attendance		
	April 8	April 9	April 10
Vance P. Vicente (Chair)	✓	✓	
Richard S. Appeldoorn	✓	✓	
Jason Cope	✓	✓	
Juan Cruz Motta	✓	✓	
Tarsila Seara	✓	✓	
Jorge García Sais			
Todd Gedamke	✓	✓	
Walter Keithly	✓	✓	
Michelle T. Scharer Umpierre			
Elizabeth Kadison	✓	✓	
Skyler R. Sagarese	✓	✓	

Agenda* and SSC expected input

Day	Time (AST=EST)	Agenda item	Expected SSC Input
April 8, 2026 (Day 1)	1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Call to order and Roll call	--
		Consideration of SSC Verbatim transcription April 2024 and September 2025 minutes	Revision and approval via motion
		Adoption of the agenda	Revision and approval via motion
	1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	SEDAR 84 Caribbean Stoplight Parrotfish (St. Croix): Final Review – Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	-Discussion on the models presented by SEFSC. -Provide recommendations either via motion, document, and/or verbal for (e.g. ABC, BSIA, OFL only as they have to vote).
	3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Break	--
April 9, 2026 (Day 2)	3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper (St. Thomas/St. John) – Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	
	1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper (St. Thomas/St. John) (Cont.) - Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	Provide comments/recommendations to the analysts; recommendations via motion to the CFMC - vote required.
	1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper (Puerto Rico) - Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	--
	3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Break	--
	3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Final Recommendations to CFMC on SEDAR 84	Provide comments, recommendations via motion as needed.

*The order of business may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that discussions may start earlier or later than indicated, at the discretion of the Chair. In addition, the meeting may be completed prior to the date established in this notice.

Agenda* and SSC expected input

Day	Time (AST=EST)	Agenda item	Expected SSC Input
Friday April 10, 2026 (Day 3)	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	SEDAR 91 U. S. Caribbean Spiny Lobster Puerto Rico Assessment - Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	Revision and approval via motion
	3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Break	--
	3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	SSC Final Recommendations to the CFMC on SEDAR 91 Spiny Lobster Puerto Rico	Provide recommendations either via motion, document, and/or verbal.
	4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	SEDAR 103 update – Liajay Rivera, CFMC	Provide comments, questions if needed
		Other Business	
		Next Meeting	
		-- Adjourn --	

Action item

SSC members input: Comments and/or motion on agenda approval as
written

*The order of business may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that discussions may start earlier or later than indicated, at the discretion of the Chair. In addition, the meeting may be completed prior to the date established in this notice.

Agenda* and SSC expected input (amended)

Day	Time (AST=EST)	Agenda item	Expected SSC Input
Wednesday April 8, 2026 (Day 1)	1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Call to order and Roll call	--
		Consideration of SSC Verbatim transcription April 2024 and September 2025 minutes	Approved
		Adoption of the agenda	Approved
	1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	SEDAR 91 U. S. Caribbean Spiny Lobster Puerto Rico Assessment - Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	BSIA approved; Research recommendations developed
	3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Break	--
	3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	(cont'd) SEDAR 91 U. S. Caribbean Spiny Lobster Puerto Rico Assessment - Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	Revision and approval via motion
Thursday April 9, 2026 (Day 2)	1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	(cont'd) SEDAR 91 U. S. Caribbean Spiny Lobster Puerto Rico Assessment - Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper (Puerto Rico) -Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	Revision and approval via motion
	1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper (Puerto Rico) - Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	Recommendations on SEDAR 84
	3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Break	--
	3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Final Recommendations to CFMC on SEDAR 84 PR	Provide comments, recommendations via motion as needed.

*The order of business may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that discussions may start earlier or later than indicated, at the discretion of the Chair. In addition, the meeting may be completed prior to the date established in this notice.

Agenda* and SSC expected input (amended)

Day	Time (AST=EST)	Agenda item	Expected SSC Input
Friday April 10, 2026 (Day 3)	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	SEDAR 84 Caribbean Stoplight Parrotfish (St. Croix): Final Review — Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	-Discussion on the models presented by SEFSC. -Provide recommendations either via motion, document, and/or verbal for (e.g. ABC, BSIA, OFL only as they have to vote).
	3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Break	--
	3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper (St. Thomas/St. John) — Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	Provide comments/recommendations to the analysts; recommendations via motion to the CFMC - vote required.
	4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	SEDAR 103 update — Liajay Rivera, CFMC	Provide comments, questions if needed
		Other Business	
		Next Meeting	
		-- Adjourn --	

Action item

SSC members input: Comments and/or motion on agenda approval as written (Moved by Jason/Second by Todd)

*The order of business may be adjusted as necessary to accommodate the completion of agenda items. Interested parties should be aware that discussions may start earlier or later than indicated, at the discretion of the Chair. In addition, the meeting may be completed prior to the date established in this notice.

Approval of April 9-11, 2024 DRAFT minutes

- Also available at CFMC-ISSUU webpage

Scan for full document



CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
SCIENTIFIC AND STATISTICAL COMMITTEE
HYBRID MEETING
COURTYARD MARRIOTT
ISLA VERDE, PUERTO RICO

APRIL 9-11, 2024

The Caribbean Fishery Management Council's Scientific and Statistical Committee convened at the Courtyard in Isla Verde on Tuesday morning, April 9th, 2024, and was called to order at 10:00 A.M. by Chairman Vance Vicente.

Call to Order

VANCE VICENTE: Well, good morning, all. The SSC on April 9 to April 11, 2024, meeting is taking place now, here, at the Courtyard by Marriott Isla Verde Resort in Boca de Cangrejos, Carolina, Puerto Rico. It's beginning today, April 9, 2024, exactly at 10:00 A.M. Atlantic Standard Time. This is a three-day public hybrid meeting. Day one is April 9, 2024, from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Day two, April 10, 2024, from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. And day three, April 11, 2024, from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., Atlantic Standard Time.

First of all, I want to welcome everybody, in particular, the District Advisory Panel members, or if they're not members, the Chairs, which are Nelson Crespo, which is the Puerto Rico District Advisory Panel Chairman, Julian Magras, which is the Saint Thomas/Saint John District Advisory Panel Chair, Gerson Martinez, who is the Chair of the Saint Croix District Advisory Panel. I also want to welcome, well, the SSC members that will be participating today. We will find out who's going to be missing when we make the roll call.

I also want to welcome and thank the Council staff for their continued support in solving logistical problems of all the SSC meetings. So, thank you very much. And to the Southeast Fisheries Science Center scientists, particularly, to those speakers that will be lecturing us with various topics. These are Adyan Rios, Kyle Shertzer, Sarah Stephenson, and maybe somebody else depending on whether we find out whether there will be an additional speaker today.

Before we begin the roll call, I have been asked to read out the rules for this meeting, which were kindly prepared by Kiara Matias, which is the administrative assistance of the Caribbean Fishery Management Council. So let me go through this protocol

3

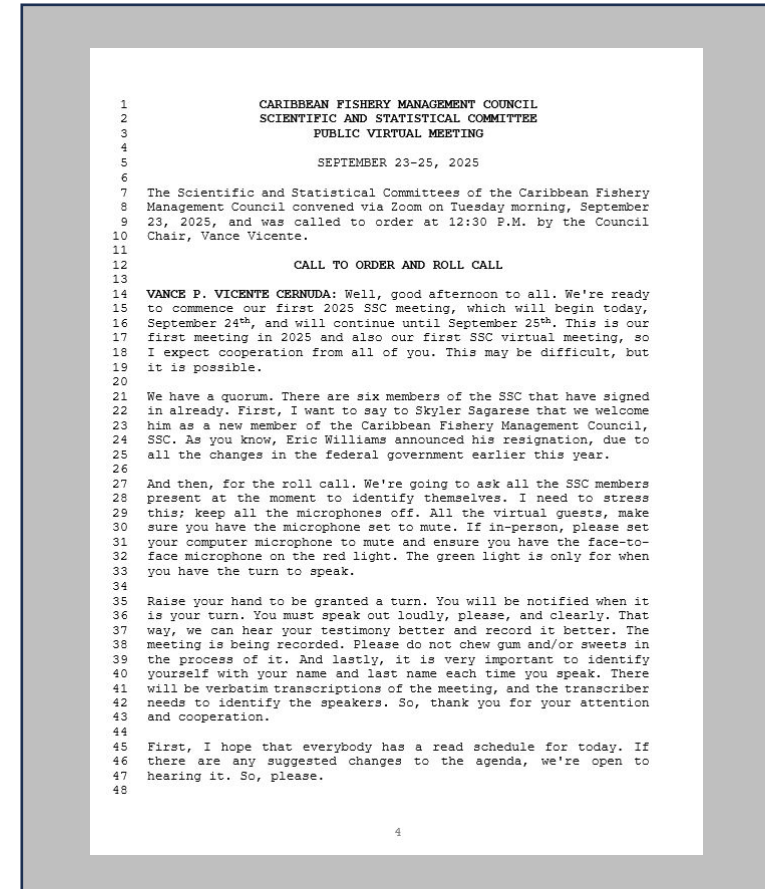
Action item

SSC input: Comments and/or motion on 2024 & 2025 minutes
(Moved by JJ/ second by Tarsila)

Approval of September 2025 DRAFT minutes

- Also available at CFMC-ISSUU webpage

Scan for full document



Action item

SSC input: Comments and/or motion on 2024 & 2025 minutes
(Moved by JJ/ second by Tarsila)

SEDAR 91 U.S. Caribbean Spiny Lobster Puerto Rico Assessment



- Last meeting highlights
 - ~~The assessment was conducted by the SEFSC.~~
 - ~~SEFSC would explore bringing additional data for the analysis needed to be looked at for SEDAR 91 assessment Puerto Rico.~~
 - ~~SEFSC will present SEDAR 91 Puerto Rico assessment results to the SSC for final review.~~

Today:

- Continuation of discussions on new model runs

Action item SSC input needed
Review SEDAR 91 assessment results by SEFSC
1. Determination of assessment (BSIA) ✓
2. Useful for providing management advice ✓
3. Recommendations on annual landings ✓
4. ABC, OFL for CFMC ✓
5. Decision on model runs or previous runs ✓

SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper Puerto Rico



- Last meeting highlights
 - The SSC and the SEFSC Caribbean Branch discussed additional model runs for the full review of SEDAR 84.
- SEFSC analysts will explore SSC recommendations for SEDAR 84 and present the stock assessment results to the SSC at their next meeting.

Today:

- The SEFSC will bring the results of model runs for SEDAR 84 PR

Action item SSC input needed
1. Review the additional model runs to be presented today by the SEFSC
2. Provide recommendations as final assessment review for SEDAR 84 Puerto Rico a. Determination of assessment (BSIA) b. Useful for providing management advice c. Recommendations on annual landings d. ABC, OFL for CFMC e. Decision on model runs or previous runs

SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper St. Thomas/ St. John



- Last meeting highlights
 - The SSC and the SEFSC Caribbean Branch discussed additional model runs for the full review of SEDAR 84.
- SEFSC analysts will explore SSC recommendations for SEDAR 84 and present the stock assessment results to the SSC at their next meeting.

Tomorrow:

- The SEFSC will bring the results of model runs for SEDAR 84 STT/STJ.

Action item SSC input needed
1. Review the additional model runs to be presented today by the SEFSC 2. Provide recommendations as final assessment review for SEDAR 84 St. Thomas/ St. John a. Determination of assessment (BSIA) b. Useful for providing management advice c. Recommendations on annual landings d. ABC, OFL for CFMC e. Decision on model runs or previous runs

SEDAR 84 Caribbean Stoplight Parrotfish

St. Croix: Final Review



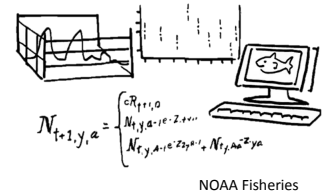
- Previous meeting highlights
 - The SSC and the SEFSC Caribbean Branch discussed additional model runs for the full review of SEDAR 84.
- SEFSC analysts will explore SSC recommendations for SEDAR 84 and present the stock assessment results to the SSC at their next meeting.

Tomorrow:

- The SEFSC will bring the results of model runs for SEDAR 84 STX.

Action item SSC input needed
1. Review the additional model runs to be presented today by the SEFSC. 2. Provide recommendations as final assessment review for SEDAR 84 St. Croix. a. Determination of assessment (BSIA) b. Useful for providing management advice c. Recommendations on annual landings d. ABC, OFL for CFMC e. Decision on model runs or previous runs

SEDAR 103 U.S. Caribbean Application of Alternate Assessment Methods -Update



- Last meeting highlights
 - Presented Terms of Reference (TORs)
 - Method Development TORs
 - Methods Application TORs
 - SEDAR 103 previewed participants
 - Tentative schedule
 - CFMC/SEFSC to provide status updates for next SSC meeting (today)

Action item SSC input needed
Comments/questions

Meeting Recap

Day	Time (AST=EST)	Agenda item	Final SSC Input
April 8, 2026 (Day 1)	1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Call to order and Roll call	--
		Consideration of SSC Verbatim transcription April 2024 and September 2025 minutes	Revision and approval via motion
		Adoption of agenda	Revision and approval via motion
	1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	SEDAR 84 Caribbean Stoplight Parrotfish (St. Croix): Final Review – Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	Determine/suggest...
	3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Break	--
	3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	SSC Final Recommendations SEDAR 84	Provide recommendations either via motion or a drafted document
April 9, 2026 (Day 2)	1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper (St. Thomas/St. John) (Cont.) - Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	Provide comments or recommendations to the analysts; recommendations via motion to the CFMC - vote required.
	1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper (Puerto Rico) - Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	--
	3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Break	--
	3:15 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Final Recommendations to CFMC on SEDAR 84	Provide comments, recommendations via motion as needed.

Meeting Recap

Day	Time (AST=EST)	Agenda item	Expected SSC Input
April 10, 2026 (Day 3)	1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	SEDAR 91 U. S. Caribbean Spiny Lobster Puerto Rico Assessment - Adyan Ríos, Caribbean Branch SEFSC, NOAA Fisheries	Revision and approval via motion
	3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.	Break	--
	3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	SSC Final Recommendations to the CFMC on SEDAR 91 Spiny Lobster Puerto Rico	Provide recommendations either via motion, document, and/or verbal.
	4:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	SEDAR 103 update – Liajay Rivera, CFMC	Provide comments, questions if needed?
		Other Business	
		Next Meeting	
		-- Adjourn --	

Next steps

- SSC meeting report to be presented at the next CFMC meeting
 - April 21-22 2026, St. Croix 189th
 - CFMC will present recommendations for ABC and OFL for SEDAR 84 and SEDAR 91 Puerto Rico
 - Other topics discussed during the meeting
- Pending items for follow-up:
 - SEDAR 103 progress updates:
<https://sedarweb.org/assessments/sedar-103-us-caribbean-application-of-alternate-assessment-methods/>
- SSC documents available at ISSUU, CFMC web page