



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Updates on New Bycatch Estimates and Other Analyses for Smalltooth Sawfish and/or Giant Manta Ray

March 4, 2025

Southeast Fisheries Science Center

Presentation Overview

- Products
- Timeline
- Status update



Products

- Shrimp trawl bycatch estimates for smalltooth sawfish and giant manta through 2023
- Population viability analysis for giant manta ray (new) and smalltooth sawfish (revised to include recent “spinning” mortality event)



Tentative Timeline for Products

THE NEED - Present bycatch estimates and PVAs to SSC at their May 6-8 and then the Council , if requested, at their June Meeting

THE PLAN - Work collaboratively

- Step 1. - Obtained smalltooth sawfish (SS) mortality data from FWRI on Feb 21
- Step 2.- SEFSC complete bycatch estimates for giant manta ray (GMR) and SS by March 1
- Step 3. - SEFSC GMR PVA completion and SS PVA reanalysis by March 14
- Step 4 - Collaborative review by SERO and FWRI on Sawfish PVA by April 4
- Step 5. - Address comments, edit, and finalize SS PVA by April 18
- Step 6. - SERO/SEFSC draft presentation Week of April 21
- Step 7. - Final presentation and reports due to SSC for briefing book (hard deadline)



Status update

Bycatch estimates for smalltooth sawfish and giant manta are in SEFSC review

Completion of giant manta ray PVA and sawfish PVA revisions starting once final bycatch estimates are in hand

