



NOAA
FISHERIES

Southeast
Regional
Office

Update on SBRM Review

August 2026 Gulf Council Meeting
8/27/2026

Standardized Bycatch Reporting Methodology

The purpose of this presentation is to:

- Remind the Council of the requirement to review your standardized bycatch reporting methodologies (SBRM)
 - Outline what should be in a SBRM review
 - Discuss progress and timing of review

What are SBRMs?

- Definition of SBRM
 - An established, consistent procedure or procedures used to collect, record, and report bycatch data in a fishery
- Purpose of SBRM
 - Collect, record, and report bycatch data that, in conjunction with other information, are used to assess the amount and type of bycatch.

The Council has SBRMs for each FMP.

Previous SBRM Review

- Final review submitted to NMFS on February 21, 2022
- Found that all SBRMs were in compliance with Federal regulations and no management action was necessary

- **Councils must review SBRMs and implement any management actions deemed necessary in the review by February 21, 2027- Statutory Deadline**
- **SBRMs must be reviewed every five years for consistency**
 - (1) Characteristics of bycatch occurring in the fishery
 - (2) Feasibility of the methodology from cost, technical and operational perspectives,
 - (3) Uncertainty of the data resulting from the methodology, and
 - (4) How the data resulting from the methodology are used to assess the amount and type of bycatch occurring in the fishery.

1. Bycatch characteristics

- Amount and type of bycatch
- Importance of bycatch in estimating fishing mortality
- The effect of bycatch on ecosystems

2. Feasibility

An SBRM must be feasible (i.e. capable of being implemented)

3. Data Uncertainty

- All SBRMs must be designed such that the uncertainty associated with the resulting data can be described, qualitatively or quantitatively.
- Councils should seek to minimize uncertainty.
- Different degrees of data uncertainty may be appropriate for different fisheries.
- Understanding data uncertainty will assist management.

4. Data Use

- A Council must address how data resulting from the SBRM are used to assess bycatch in the fishery.
- Rule requires consultation with the Councils Scientific and Statistical Committee and/or Science Center staff on design considerations such as:
 - Data elements
 - Sampling design
 - Sample size
 - Reporting frequency
- A Council must also consider methods and techniques available to improve quality of bycatch estimates..

Next Steps

Now

- IPT Develops Review

Fall
2026

- SSC Review

Oct
2026

- Council Review

Jan
2027

- Council Finalizes

After
Council
Finaliz-
ation

- NMFS Determination

FMP Amendment???



Questions?

Links:

2022 SBRM 5-year Review

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/southeast/bycatch/2022-standardized-bycatch-reporting-methodology-sbrm-five-year-review>

SBRM Regulations:

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-50/chapter-VI/part-600/subpart-R>

