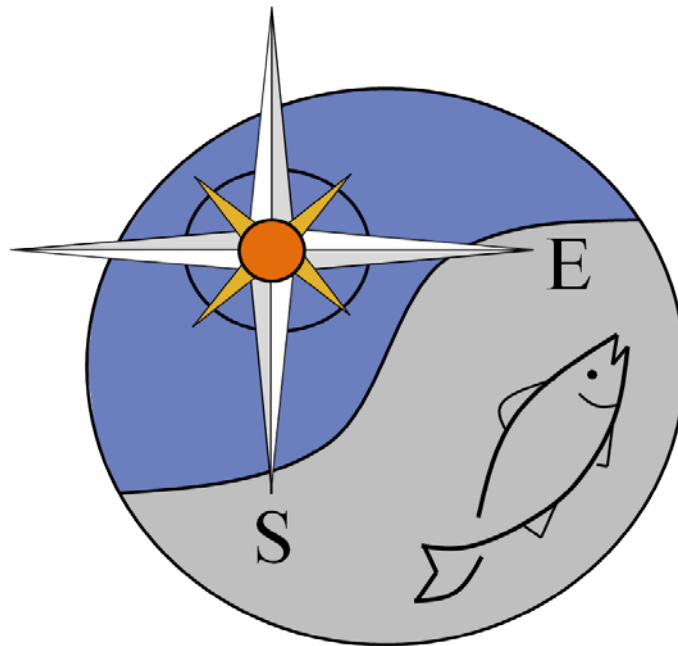


SEDAR



SEDAR Steering Committee

Meeting Summary

February 25, 2013

FINAL

Meeting Via Webinar

PURPOSE

This meeting is convened to:

- Finalize 2014 work plan

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Coordinator: Julie Neer..... 6

Progress summary: Planning: General workshop schedule has been discussed: Data workshop will be held in Charleston, SC December 9-13, 2013. The Assessment workshop will be held in late March 2014 in Miami, and the Review Workshop will be held in July 2014..... 6

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Documents

- Attachment 1. October 2012 Meeting Summary
- Attachment 2. SEDAR Assessment Schedule
- Attachment 3. 2013 Project Schedule

ACCESS:

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Attendance

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bonnie Ponwith, SEFSC, Chair
Bob Beal, ASMFC
Steve Bortone, GMFMC
Douglass Boyd, GMFMC
Karyl Brewster-Geisz, HMS
Roy Crabtree, SERO
David Cupka, SAFMC
Carlos Farchette, CFMC
Bob Mahood, SAFMC
Miguel Rolon, CFMC
Larry Simpson, GSMFC

SEDAR STAFF

Julia Byrd
John Carmichael
Andrea Grabman
Julie Neer
Ryan Rindone

OBSERVERS

Patrick Campfield
Kyle Shertzer
Mark Brown
Steve VanderKooy
Lew Coggins
Shaun Gehan
Erik Williams
Chad Hanson
Russell Hudson
Peter Barile
Claudia Friess
Amy Schueller
Mark Stratton

1. Introduction

1.1. Documents

Agenda
Attachment 1. October 2012 Meeting Summary

1.2. Action

Introductions
Review and Approve Agenda
Approve October 2012 Meeting Summary

Outcome

The Committee approved the agenda and the summary from the October 2012 meeting.

2. Activities Update

2.1. Documents

Attachment 2. SEDAR Assessment Schedule
Attachment 3. 2013 Project Schedule

2.2. 2011 Projects

2.2.1. Yellowtail Snapper Review

Stocks: Southeast Yellowtail snapper

Coordinator: Julie A. Neer

Progress Summary: Completed: The CIE review of the yellowtail snapper has been concluded. The assessment was reviewed by the Gulf and South Atlantic SSCs in October 2012.

2.3. 2012 Projects

2.3.1. SEDAR 28 Benchmark

Stocks: Gulf and South Atlantic Spanish mackerel and cobia

Coordinator: Ryan Rindone

Progress Summary: Atlantic stocks assessments are completed and will be reviewed by the SAFMC SSC in April 2013. A desk review of the Gulf stocks assessments is in progress, with review by the Gulf SSC in March 2013.

2.3.2. SEDAR 30 Benchmark

Stocks: Caribbean blue tang and queen triggerfish

Coordinator: Julie Neer

Progress Summary: Underway. Data scoping was conducted in July and the AW in October. A desk review is underway. CIE reviewers are expected to be received mid-March.

2.3.3. SEDAR 31 Benchmark

Stocks: Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper

Coordinator: Ryan Rindone

Progress Summary: Underway. The Data Workshop was held August 2012 and the Assessment Workshop January 2013. The assessment process will be completed through webinars. The Review Workshop will be held in Gulfport, MS April 29th to May 3rd, 2013.

2.3.4. South Atlantic Updates

Stocks: South Atlantic vermilion snapper and red porgy

SEDAR Contact: Julia Byrd

Progress Summary: Completed. The assessments were reviewed and accepted by the SAFMC SSC review in October 2012.

2.3.5. FL FWCC Updates

2.3.6. Episodic Events Workshop

Coordinator: Ryan Rindone

Progress summary: Completed. The workshop was held November 2012. The final report is complete and available on the SEDAR website.

2.4. **2013 Projects**

2.4.1. SEDAR 32 SA Gray Triggerfish and Blueline Tilefish benchmark

Coordinator: Julia Byrd

Progress summary: Underway: The Data Workshop will be held February 11-15, 2013 in Charleston, SC, the assessment webinars will be held between May and July, and the RW will take place in Morehead City, NC August 27-30, 2013. The assessment will be available to the SSC in October and to the Council at its December 2013 meeting.

2.4.2. SEDAR 32A Gulf Menhaden Review

Coordinator: Julie Neer/Julia Byrd

Progress summary: Planning: The SEDAR 32A Gulf Menhaden Review will be held in conjunction with the SEDAR 32 RW, August 27 – 30, 2013 in Morehead City, NC.

2.4.3. SEDAR 33 GMFMC Gag and Greater Amberjack Benchmark

Coordinator: Ryan Rindone

Progress summary: Planning: The Data Workshop will be held May 20-24, 2013 in Tampa FL. The Assessment Workshop will be conducted through a series of webinars from July through October 2013. The Review Workshop will be held November 18-22 in a location to be determined.

2.4.4. SEDAR 34 HMS Bonnethead and Atlantic sharpnose Standard

Coordinator: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Planning: A Standard Assessment Workshop will be held June 25-27 in Panama City, Florida. Several webinars will be held after the workshop to finalize the assessment. The Report should be available to HMS November 2013.

2.4.5. SEDAR 35 CFMC Red Hind and White Grunt Benchmark

Coordinator: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Planning: The preliminary schedule begins with a data workshop in October 2013 followed by assessment webinars then a review in April 2014.

2.4.6. SEDAR 36 SAFMC Snowy Grouper Standard

Coordinator: Julia Byrd

Progress summary: Underway: The assessment will take place via a series of webinars between July and September 2013. The assessment will be available for SSC review in October 2013.

2.4.7. SEDAR 37 FL Hogfish Benchmark

Coordinator: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Planning: FL FWCC is the lead on this assessment. Data scoping meetings are planned for Fall 2013. A series of webinars during December through February will be held to produce the assessment. A CIE desk review is requested in May of 2014.

2.4.8. SEDAR 38 King Mackerel Benchmark

Coordinator: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Planning: General workshop schedule has been discussed: Data workshop will be held in Charleston, SC December 9-13, 2013. The Assessment

workshop will be held in late March 2014 in Miami, and the Review Workshop will be held in July 2014.

2.4.9. SAFMC updates, Black Sea Bass

Coordinator: Julia Byrd

Progress summary: Underway: An update of the South Atlantic black sea bass stock is in progress, and will be provided to the SAFMC SSC for consideration in April 2013.

2.4.10. FL FWCC updates

Stock: Mutton Snapper

SEDAR Contact: Julie Neer

Progress Summary: Underway: FL FWCC is proceeding with an Update assessment for Florida Mutton Snapper. The update assessment is scheduled to be available to the Councils by June 2013.

Stock: Yellowtail Snapper

SEDAR Contact: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Underway: FL FWCC expressed willingness to update the yellowtail snapper benchmark ASAP to incorporate revised MRIP estimates. Final report availability is not yet determined.

ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY

NO ACTIONS ARE REQUIRED AT THIS TIME

3. SEDAR Assessment Schedule

3.1. **Documents**

3.2. **Overview**

The Steering Committee left a few scheduling items for 2013 open following its last meeting in October 2012. Additional action was required by the Gulf and Caribbean Councils before finalizing the SEDAR project schedule. In addition, two issues were raised during the October SAFMC SSC meeting and December SAFMC meeting that are offered for consideration. Specific items to consider are detailed in the following sections. Current projects with potential changes highlighted are summarized in Table 1.

3.3. **ACTIONS**

A. Gulf of Mexico 2014: Data poor stocks or benchmarks?

Two assessment slots for the Gulf were left undecided at the last meeting, with the choices being (1) assess several data poor stocks, or (2) assess 2 of scamp, gray trigger, or red snapper. The Gulf Council intended to discuss this topic at their next meeting and develop recommendations for consideration by the Steering Committee. The Gulf Council will discuss the 2014 SEDAR assessment schedule under "Other Business" at their February 2013 meeting in Mobile, AL.

The Gulf Council is asked to report to the Steering Committee on this issue for consideration and resolution.

ACTION: Approve 2014 Gulf assessment projects

If the data poor option is chosen, several follow-up questions will need to be addressed.

- 1) Stocks to assess
- 2) Expected outputs
- 3) General approach, including workshops to hold and type of review

If the benchmark option is chosen, the committee should identify the stocks:

- 1) _____
- 2) _____

B. Caribbean benchmark stocks in 2013

The committee supported the Caribbean Council's request to consider conducting a benchmark of red hind in 2013 if feasible given the Bi-op on parrotfish. The Caribbean Council is asked to report back to the Steering Committee on this issue so the Committee can finalize the schedule for 2013.

ACTION: Approve 2013 Caribbean assessment projects

C. South Atlantic Wreckfish

There is a lawsuit associated with this topic.

A wreckfish assessment is tentatively scheduled for 2016.

Two exploratory assessments of wreckfish were submitted to the SAFMC SSC for consideration in October 2012. These assessments were conducted outside of the Council and SEDAR process. The SSC recommended that a process similar to the SEDAR standard assessment approach could be used to refine and review these assessments, and that guidelines should be developed for handling outside or unsolicited assessments. The South Atlantic Council was provided the SSC recommendations in December 2013, and is awaiting the recommendations of the SSC on a process for addressing outside assessments. A report from the SSC is expected at the June Council meeting.

No specific action is required on this topic.

ACTION: Provide guidance as necessary**D. Procedures Workshop: South Atlantic Shrimp Data**

The SAFMC SSC requested that a SEDAR procedures workshop be convened to review and evaluate data availability from the South Atlantic shrimp fishery. The objective is to explore datasets for bycatch, for use in finfish assessments, and directed shrimp fisheries, for use in future shrimp assessments. The SSC supports pursuing quantitative assessments of South Atlantic shrimp if data are available. This workshop is proposed as the first step in determining if the necessary data are available.

Action: Approve Procedures Workshop V: South Atlantic shrimp data evaluation**Outcome**

- 1) Chairman Ponwith expressed concerns that future budget reductions may impact assessment productivity. Additional concerns were raised regarding the number of stocks proposed for consideration in 2014, especially since several addressed in 2013 and 2014 are known to require extra effort, such as red snapper and king mackerel.
- 2) The Committee declined to pursue the data poor stocks workshop for the Gulf of Mexico in 2014. Due to workload concerns raised by the SEFSC, the Committee agreed to move the assessment of Gulf gray triggerfish to 2015, to be conducted after red snapper is complete. Stocks to assess for the Gulf of Mexico in 2014 include king mackerel, red snapper, and red grouper.
- 3) The Committee supported benchmark assessments of Caribbean red hind and white grunt in 2013, and queen conch and spiny lobster in 2014.
- 4) The Committee supported convening a South Atlantic shrimp data workshop as a first step in pursuing stock assessments of South Atlantic shrimp. The workshop should be held in late 2014 or in 2015, if feasible given future budgets. Due to workload concerns, the Committee identified South Atlantic greater amberjack as a stock to potentially delay.

NOTE: Greater amberjack was dropped from the 2014 schedule in March 2013, following this meeting, per SEFSC insistence, during planning for 2014 projects.

4. Other Business**5. Next Meetings**

1. October 2013 in person
 - Finalize 2015 assessment work plan
 - Discuss SEDAR procedures and workload

6. Adjourn

Table 1. SEDAR Assessment Projects for 2013 and 2014, following actions of this meeting.

YEAR	SAFMC/Commission (Beaufort)		GMFMC/CFMC (Miami)		HMS (SEFSC/PC)	FL FWC	Procedures
	SAFMC	Commissions	GMFMC	CFMC			
2013 FINAL	1. Gray trigger B 2. Blueline Tile B 3. Snowy STD 4. Black Sea U	5. GOM Menhaden (Review)	1. & 2 Red Snapper 3. Gag B 4. GAJ B 5. King mackerel B	6. Red hind B 7. white grunt B	1. ATL Sharpnose STD 2. Bonnethead STD	1. Hogfish B 2. Yellowtail Snapper U	
2014 FINAL	1, 2. Red Snapper B 3. Red pogy B 4. Gag U	5. ATL menhaden (Review)	1, 2. King Mack B 3, 4. Red Snapper U 5. Red Grouper B	6. Queen conch 7. Spiny lobster	1. Smoothhound B 2. Finetooth B	1. Black Grouper U	