



SEDAR

SouthEast Data, Assessment, and Review

4055 Faber Place Drive #201
North Charleston SC 29405

Phone (843) 571-4366
Fax (843) 769-4520
www.sedarweb.org

SEDAR 46 U.S. Caribbean Data-Limited Species

Assessment* Terms of Reference

July 2015

Data/Assessment Workshop Terms of Reference

1. Review the results of the Data Triage conducted by the SEFSC, documenting available data sources for U.S. Caribbean species managed by the Caribbean Fishery Management Council.
2. Discuss and recommend which species have data suitable for evaluation using data-limited stock assessment modeling techniques.
3. Apply various data-limited modeling techniques, as appropriate, to the recommended species in order to provide management advice.
4. Prepare Workshop report providing complete documentation of workshop actions and decisions in accordance with project schedule deadlines.

* This assessment will follow a modified Benchmark approach.



Review Workshop Terms of Reference

1. Evaluate the data used in the assessment, including discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of data sources and decisions, and consider the following:
 - a) Are data decisions made by the DW and AW sound and robust?
 - b) Are data uncertainties acknowledged, reported, and within normal or expected levels?
 - c) Are data applied properly within the assessment model?
 - d) Are input data series reliable and sufficient to support the assessment approach and findings?
2. Evaluate and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the methods used to assess the stock, taking into account the available data, and considering the following:
 - a) Are the data-limited methods scientifically sound and robust?
 - b) Are the methods appropriate given the available data?
 - c) Are the data-limited models configured properly and used in a manner consistent with standard practices?
 - d) Are the quantitative estimates produced reliable? Does the method produce management metrics (e.g. MSY, ABC, ACL) or other indicators (e.g. trends in F or Z, probability of overfishing) that may be used to inform managers about stock trends and conditions?
3. Consider how uncertainties in the assessment, and their potential consequences, are addressed.
 - Comment on the degree to which methods used to evaluate uncertainty reflect and capture the significant sources of uncertainty in the population, data sources, and assessment methods.
 - Ensure that the implications of uncertainty in technical conclusions are clearly stated.
4. Consider the research recommendations provided by the Data and Assessment workshops and make any additional recommendations or prioritizations warranted.
 - Clearly denote research and monitoring that could improve the reliability of future assessments.
 - Provide recommendations on possible ways to improve the SEDAR process.
4. Consider whether the stock assessment constitutes the best scientific information available using the following criteria as appropriate: relevance, inclusiveness, objectivity, transparency, timeliness, verification, validation, and peer review of fishery management information.
6. Provide guidance on key improvements in data or modeling approaches that should be considered when scheduling the next assessment.
7. Prepare a Peer Review Summary summarizing the Panel's evaluation of the stock assessment and addressing each Term of Reference.