



SEDAR

SouthEast Data, Assessment, and Review

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SEDAR Steering Committee

Projects Report

October 2014

Recently Completed Projects

SEDAR 37 FL Hogfish Benchmark

Coordinator: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Completed. FL FWCC was the lead on this assessment. Due to a few issues compiling the data and finalizing the assessment, it went out for CIE desk review a bit later than originally scheduled (July 2014 vs. April 2014)

The final stock assessment report, along with the CIE reports, was distributed on 11 September 2014. The Gulf Council SSC will review the report at its early October meeting, and the South Atlantic SSC will review it at their late October meeting.

South Atlantic Update – Gag Grouper

SEDAR Contact: Julia Byrd

Progress summary: Complete. The assessment was reviewed and accepted by the SAFMC SSC in April 2014.

SEDAR Procedural Workshop 6: South Atlantic Shrimp Data Evaluation

SEDAR Contact: Julia Byrd

Progress summary: Complete. The SEDAR Shrimp Procedural Workshop was held July 22-24, 2014 in North Charleston, SC. The final report will be available mid-September 2014.



Projects in Progress

SEDAR 35 CFMC Red Hind Benchmark

Coordinator: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Underway. The SEDAR 35 Caribbean red hind Data Workshop was originally scheduled for October 9-11, 2013 but due to the government shutdown, was not held. The entire project timeline was shifted to accommodate this issue, with the Data Workshop rescheduled for March 11-13, 2014, and the assessment webinars being held between May-July 2014.

During the assessment webinar process the SEFSC, in conjunction with the Caribbean Council, requested that a CIE desk review be conducted in lieu of the Review Workshop originally scheduled. SEDAR and the CIE were able to accommodate this request and the CIE desk review of the assessment is currently underway. It is scheduled for completion on 30 September 2014, and it is anticipated that the final Stock Assessment Report will be available in October 2014.

SEDAR 38 King Mackerel Benchmark

Coordinator: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Complete. The Review Workshop was held August 11-15, 2014, and the Review Workshop report was received on 8 September. The final Stock assessment report is currently being compiled and will be disseminated shortly. The South Atlantic Council SSC will review the assessment at its late October meeting. The Gulf Council SSC had planned on reviewing the assessment at its early October meeting but due to a conflict with ICCAT responsibilities, the lead analyst would not be available. The Gulf Council SSC will be reviewing the assessment at its January 2015 meeting.

SEDAR 39 HMS Smoothhound Sharks

Coordinator: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Underway. The Data Workshop was held May 19-23, 2014 in Charleston, SC. During the workshop, it was determined that two assessments would be conducted: one for smooth dogfish (*Mustelus canis*) in the Atlantic, and one for the smoothhound complex that exists in the Gulf of Mexico.

The assessment webinars are currently underway. The Review workshop is scheduled for February 10-12, 2015 in Panama City, FL.

SEDAR 40 ASMFC Menhaden (Review Only)

Coordinator: Julia Byrd

Progress summary: Planning. The SEDAR 40 Atlantic Menhaden Review Workshop will be held December 9-11, 2014 in Atlantic Beach, NC. The final Stock Assessment Report will be available to the Commission in January 2015.

SEDAR 41 South Atlantic Red Snapper and Gray Triggerfish

Coordinator: Julia Byrd

Progress summary: Underway. At its June 2014 meeting, the SAFMC approved a compressed timeline for SEDAR 41. The Data Workshop was scheduled for August 4-8, 2014; assessment process was scheduled as a combination of webinars and an in-person Assessment Workshop to be held November 18-21, 2014 in Morehead City, NC; and the Review Workshop was scheduled for March 17-20, 2015 in Atlantic Beach, NC.

The Data Workshop (DW) was held August 4-8, 2014 in Charleston, SC. Two Post DW webinars were held (August 15 and September 11, 2014) to finalize remaining data issues from the workshop. At the second Post DW webinar, the panel discussed an issue, accuracy in the early years of headboat data, which was raised in a working paper submitted after the DW (SEDAR 41-DW40; submitted 8/27/14). The Data Workshop panel noted the reports of inaccuracies in the headboat logbook program would potentially impact all species caught by the headboat fishery, not just red snapper and gray triggerfish, and could have impacts on all future snapper grouper assessments. The panel agreed that this was a serious issue that warranted further investigation and had a lengthy discussion on how this issue could be addressed for this assessment. The panel discussed many options but recommended stopping the SEDAR 41 assessments for both species to investigate the headboat misreporting issues, and delay both assessments until these issues are resolved. The length of the delay is unknown and will be dependent on the process used to resolve these issues. The DW panel also recommended that high priority be given to a workshop (or other means) to address this issue (could be a SEDAR Procedural Workshop).

SEDAR 42 Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper

Coordinator: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Underway. The Data Webinar for this project is scheduled for 22 October 2014, and the Data Workshop is scheduled for 17-21, 2014 in St. Petersburg, FL. The assessment webinars will be held between March and June 2015. The Review Workshop is scheduled for July 14-16, 2015.

Gulf of Mexico Update – Red Snapper

SEDAR Contact: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Underway. The data deadline of this update assessment was originally agreed to be 31 August 2014 by the SEFSC during the 2014 SEDAR Project Scheduling call. There is hope that revised MRIP numbers will be available by October 1 for inclusion in the update, however, that will depend on how quickly calibration methods can be developed and applied.

MRIP Calibration Workshop II

SEDAR Contact: John Carmichael

Progress summary: Underway.

SEDAR assisted NOAA Fisheries MRIP staff in conducting the second MRIP calibration workshop, devoted to addressing changes in the Access Point Angler Intercept Survey (APAIS). The workshop was held September 8 – 10, 2014 in North Charleston, SC. Several calibration alternatives were identified for evaluation and application, with a goal of having preliminary calibration options available for inclusion in the upcoming assessments of Gulf red snapper and red grouper.

Upcoming Projects – Planning Underway

SEDAR 43 Gulf of Mexico Gray Triggerfish Assessment (standard-track)

SEDAR Contact: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Planning. The Terms of Reference and Project schedule have been provided to the Gulf Council for review and approval. The in-person workshop is tentatively scheduled for March 17-19, 2015 in Miami.

Florida Black Grouper Update

SEDAR Contact: Julie Neer

Progress summary: Planning.

Little discussion has occurred at this point regarding this update assessment, other than the data deadline of 22 September 2014 has been agreed to by the SEFSC during the 2014 SEDAR Project Scheduling call. Since that call, FWC has had some staffing issues and as such, has pushed the data deadline back to late October 2014.

South Atlantic Red Grouper Update

SEDAR Contact: Julia Byrd

Progress summary: Planning.

A data deadline of 22 September 2014 was agreed to by the SEFSC during the 2015 SEDAR Project Scheduling call. In June 2014 the Council was notified that staff turnover at SEFSC put this project on hold. While resolution was expected by the September 2014 SAFMC meeting, the delay of SEDAR 41 due to issues with the headboat data have again put this project on hold. The data deadline will have to be reestablished, although it is unlikely a new data can be set until after the headboat data issue is resolved.

Data Methods Procedural Workshop

SEDAR Contact: Julia Byrd

Progress summary: Planning.

This procedural workshop is requested by the analytical participants to develop best practices for data workshops. It will also consider creation of an expert working group on data which may serve as a standing committee to assist in developing consistent and technically sound resolution of data issues. The Steering Committee needs to approve goals and objectives and an organizing workgroup for the workshop.