SEDAR Steering Committee

Projects Report

September 2016

**Completed Projects, May 2016 –August 2016.**

**2 projects assessing 2 stocks**

SEDAR 47 Florida Goliath Grouper, Benchmark Review

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:**  Florida FWC was the lead assessment team for this assessment, with SEDAR managing the Review portion of the assessment. The Review Workshop (RW) was held May 17-19, 2016. The final Stock Assessment Report was disseminated on 14 June 2016.

HMS Dusky Shark, Update

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:**  An update to SEDAR 21 – HMS Dusky Shark was conducted in 2016. The final update report was received and disseminated by SEDAR in July 2016

**Projects in Progress**

**6 projects addressing 13 stocks**

SEDAR 49 Gulf of Mexico Data-limited Species, Benchmark of 8 stocks

Species to consider: Red Drum, Lane Snapper, Wenchman, Yellowmouth Grouper, Speckled Hind, Snowy Grouper, Almaco Jack, Lesser Amberjack

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** A data scoping call was held in March 2016, and a Data Webinar was held in April 2016. The Data Workshop was held 2-6 May 2016 in New Orleans. Assessment webinars will be held June through September 2016, and the Review Workshop is to be held November 1-3, 2016 in Miami.

SEDAR 50 South Atlantic Blueline Tilefish, Benchmark

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:** SEDAR 50 will be a joint assessment with the Mid-Atlantic, South Atlantic, and Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Councils with SEDAR/SEFSC/SAFMC having lead. In late June 2016, a Blueline Tilefish ageing issue was identified. The Life History and Analytical teams determined that an Ageing Workshop was necessary to resolve the issue and many age samples may need to be re-examined. An Ageing Workshop was scheduled for late July 2016 and the SEDAR 50 schedule was delayed ~3 months to accommodate this issue with the Data Workshop rescheduled for January 2017; the Assessment workshop for May 2017; and the Review Workshop for August 2017.

A Stock ID work group meeting was held June 28-30, 2016 in Raleigh, NC. The Work Group recommended that Blueline Tilefish from the Gulf of Mexico and along the entire Atlantic seaboard be considered a single biological population unit and should be included in the SEDAR 50 assessment. With the addition of Gulf of Mexico data, the SEDAR 50 schedule will be delayed further. The Ageing Workshop was rescheduled for August 29-31, 2015 in Beaufort, NC. SEDAR staff and key data and assessment personnel will hold a call after the Ageing Workshop to further discuss the SEDAR 50 schedule and its potential impact on the 2017 SEDAR schedule. An update will be provided at the SEDAR Steering Committee meeting.

SEDAR 51 Gulf of Mexico Gray Snapper, Benchmark

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** The Stock ID Process for gray snapper will be conducted via webinars in late 2016. A data scoping call will be held in January 2017, and a Data Webinar in February 2017. The Data Workshop will be held 24-28 April 2017 in a location to be determined. Assessment webinars will be held June through September 2017, and the Review Workshop is to be held November 14-16, 2017 in Miami.

SEDAR 53 South Atlantic Red Grouper, Standard

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:**  The South Atlantic Red Grouper Assessment was changed to a Standard in order to consider inclusion of the SERFS video index. A Data Scoping webinar was held in August 2016 and the Assessment will take place over a series of webinars from October 2016 through January 2017. The assessment is scheduled to be complete at the end of February 2017.

Gulf of Mexico Greater Amberjack, Update

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:**  The Terms of Reference are to be reviewed by the Gulf SSC at their June 2016 meeting. The data deadline is set for 31 August 2016, and the assessment is scheduled to be completed by February 2017.

Gulf of Mexico Gag, Update

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:**  The Terms of Reference are to be reviewed by the Gulf SSC at their June 2016 meeting. The data deadline was set for 15 July 2016, and the assessment is scheduled to be completed by January 2017.

**Upcoming Projects – Planning Underway**

**5 projects addressing 5 stocks and 1 special topics workshop**

SEDAR 48 Florida Black Grouper, Benchmark Review

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:**  Florida FWC will be the lead assessment team for this assessment, with SEDAR managing the Review portion of the assessment. The Review Workshop (RW) was originally scheduled for November 2016, however due to staffing issues at FWC, they have indicated that the assessment needs to be postponed. They now plan to have the assessment complete in Spring 2017. The South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Councils will need to review the revised schedule and RW Terms of Reference and make appointments for SSC participation once they are available.

SEDAR 52 Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper, Standard

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:**  Detailed planning for this project has not yet begun but the Data deadline has been scheduled for August 1, 2017 and an in-person workshop has been scheduled for November 29-December 1, 2017 in Miami, FL. The Terms of Reference, Project Schedule and a Request for Appointments will be sent to the Cooperator in early 2017.

SEDAR 54 HMS Sandbar Shark, Standard

**Coordinator:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** An assessment following a Standard-track approach for HMS Sandbar Shark will be conducted in 2017. Staff is currently working with SEFSC personnel to finalize the Project Schedule and the Terms of Reference.

South Atlantic Vermilion Snapper, Update

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:**  Data deadlines have been scheduled for June 30, 2017 (landings) and September 18, 2017 (all other datasets). The assessment is scheduled to be complete in April 2018. Staff will work with SEFSC personnel and the SAFMC to finalize the Terms of Reference in spring 2017.

HMS Blacktip Shark, Update

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:**  Detailed planning for this project has not yet begun but the Data deadline has been scheduled for September 15, 2017. The assessment is scheduled to be complete in April 2018. The Terms of Reference will be sent to the Cooperator in early 2017 for approval.

Stock ID and Meristics Procedural Workshop

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:** Planning is underway for the Stock ID & Meristics Procedural Workshop. The workshop will be held in Atlanta, GA in late 2017 (exact date TBD). The Organizing Committee has met via webinar twice to develop Terms of Reference and recommendations on species to include in this workshop. More details can be found in the Stock ID & Meristics Overview document (attachment XX).