

# **SEDAR Steering Committee**

## **Projects Report**

April 2018

### **Completed Projects, September 2017 –April 2018**

#### **7 projects assessing 7 stocks**

##### **SEDAR 50 Atlantic Blueline Tilefish, Benchmark**

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:** A benchmark assessment began in mid-2016. Significant events during the project included a recommendation from the August 2016 Age Workshop that age determinations are not reliable and should not be used in the assessment; and a recommendation from the June 2016 Stock ID workshop that the biological stock extends from the Mid-Atlantic through the Gulf of Mexico. Following discussion of the stock ID recommendation, the SEDAR Steering Committee recommended a joint SSC review of the stock ID findings; this review was held October 28, 2016. The Steering Committee recommended a regional science and management leadership level review of the joint SSC findings to provide TOR guidance, conducted during a conference call on November 14, 2016. The Council-Agency leadership group recommended conducting the SEDAR 50 assessment with a Gulf-South Atlantic stock dividing line at the Gulf-South Atlantic Council boundary. The SAFMC passed a motion in December 2016 to modify the TORs in accordance with this recommendation. The Data Workshop was held January 23-27, 2017, the Assessment Process consisted of a combination of an in-person workshop on May 23-26, 2017 and a series of webinars held between April and July 2017, and the Review Workshop was held August 29-31, 2017. The final Stock Assessment Report was distributed in October 2017. The assessment was reviewed by the South Atlantic SSC in October 2017 and recommendations for South of Cape Hatteras were provided to the SAFMC in December 2017. A sub-panel of SSC members from the MAFMC and SAFMC SSCs was convened to develop recommendations for North of Hatteras. These recommendations will be reviewed by both SSCs and provided to both Councils once available.

##### **SEDAR 51 Gulf of Mexico Gray Snapper, Benchmark**

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** The Stock ID process for gray snapper was conducted via webinars in late 2016. A data scoping call was held in January 2017, and a Data Webinar in February 2017. The Data Workshop was held 24-28 April 2017 in Tampa, Florida. Assessment webinars were held June 2017 through January 2018, and the Review Workshop was held March 20-22, 2018 in Tampa. The final SAR was disseminated on 23 April 2018. The Gulf Council SSC will review the assessment at its late May 2018 meeting, and the results of that review should be provided to the Council at its June 2018 meeting.

### SEDAR 52 Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper, Standard

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** The Terms of Reference and Project Schedule for this assessment were approved in April 2017. The Data deadline was August 1, 2017 and an in-person workshop was held November 29-December 1, 2017 in Miami, FL. An Assessment Scoping webinar is scheduled for September 2017. Assessment webinars were held in February and March 2018. The final stock assessment report was disseminated in April 2018. The Gulf Council SSC will review the assessment at its late May 2018 meeting, and the results of that review should be provided to the Council at its June 2018 meeting.

### 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. The Project Schedule and the Terms of Reference were finalized in December 2016. A data scoping call was held February 2017, and a data webinar was held in March 2017. Assessment webinars were conducted May-August 2017, and a CIE desk review was conducted in October 2017. The final assessment report was released in October 2017.

### SEDAR 55 South Atlantic Vermilion Snapper, Standard

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:** A standard assessment was requested to allow consideration of new video index data and to reconsider error distributions for fitting age and length composition data. The Project Schedule and Terms of Reference were approved, and appointments made, in June 2017. The terminal year of the assessment is 2016. A data scoping call was held in August 2017. The SEDAR 55 data deadline was September 18, 2017. There were several delays in data submissions due to impacts from Hurricane Irma and a revised schedule extending the assessment timeline approximately one month was approved. Assessment Scoping webinars were held in October and November 2017 and a series of Assessment Webinars were held from January 2018 through March 2018. The final Stock Assessment Report was disseminated in April 2018. The South Atlantic SSC will consider this assessment at their Spring 2018 meeting and recommendations will be provided to the Council in June 2018.

### SEDAR 56 South Atlantic Black Seabass, Standard

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:** A standard assessment was requested to allow consideration of new video data, to reconsider the use of length and age data, and consider new studies and data available on discard mortality. The assessment originally had a terminal year of 2015 and was scheduled to occur over a series of webinars between February and August 2017. On May 1, 2017, the analytical team requested a six-week delay in the assessment due to late data submissions. The request was reviewed by the SEDAR Steering Committee and the SAFMC, and the extension was granted along with an expansion of the terminal year to 2016. The schedule was revised, extending the series of webinars through March 2018. The final Stock Assessment Report was disseminated in April 2018. The South Atlantic SSC will consider this assessment at their Spring 2018 meeting and recommendations will be provided to the Council in June 2018.

#### SEDAR 37 Gulf Hogfish, 2017 Update

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie A Neer

**Summary:** FWC/FMRI conducted an update of SEDAR 37 for the Gulf of Mexico stock of hogfish using data through 2016. The final report was released in April 2018. The Gulf Council SSC will review the assessment at its late May 2018 meeting, and the results of that review should be provided to the Council at its June 2018 meeting.

### Projects in Progress

#### **7 projects addressing 7 stocks**

#### SEDAR 57: Caribbean Spiny Lobster, Benchmark

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** The Terms of Reference and Project Schedule for this assessment were originally approved in July 2017, with the Data Workshop scheduled for January 23-25, 2018 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Unfortunately, the damage from the hurricanes in September 2017 required that the assessment be put on hold until conditions improved. The updated Project schedule now has the Data Workshop scheduled for June 20-22, 2018 in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Assessment webinars September – November 2018, and the Review Workshop in Miami, FL January 29-31, 2019. The assessment should be completed March 2019.

#### SEDAR 58 Atlantic Cobia, Benchmark

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:** Atlantic Cobia was originally scheduled as a Research Track assessment. However, at their May 2017 meeting, the SEDAR Steering Committee recommended conducting cobia as a Benchmark assessment, including a Stock ID evaluation based on the process developed by the Steering Committee in

September 2016. Cooperators made workshop appointments for the Stock ID process in December 2018. The Stock ID Workshop was held April 10-12, 2018; the Stock ID Review Workshop will be held June 5-7, 2018; the Joint Cooperator Technical Review will be held via webinar in late July/August 2018; and the Science and Management Leadership Call will be held in August 2018. The final Stock ID resolution will be complete by the end of August 2018.

Planning for the remaining stages of this assessment (Data, Assessment and Review) is underway now. The SAFMC and ASMFC will be asked to make appointments and approvals in the upcoming months. The preliminary schedule includes a Data Workshop the week of November 27<sup>th</sup>, a series of Assessment webinars from March – June 2019, and a Review Workshop July 30-August 1, 2019.

#### SEDAR 59 South Atlantic Greater Amberjack, Standard

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:** A standard assessment was requested to allow consideration of video and headboat at-sea indices, to reconsider the use of age and length composition data, and to incorporate the latest BAM model configurations and updates to data calculation methodologies. The terminal year of the assessment is 2016. The Council made appointments and approved the schedule and terms of reference in December 2017. A Data Scoping webinar was held on March 30, 2018. An Assessment Scoping webinar is scheduled for late June and a series of Assessment webinars are scheduled from August 2018 – October 2018. An in-person workshop may potentially be added to the project schedule in late September 2018 if the SEDAR 59 Panel feels it is needed to complete the assessment. The assessment is scheduled for completion in December 2018, and review by the SSC in Spring 2019.

On the Data Scoping webinar, there was discussion on the inclusion of the fully calibrated MRIP estimates into SEDAR 59. MRIP will release calibrated data on July 1 and the SEFSC will need time to do an additional adjustment to account for the For-Hire Survey method change. SEFSC indicated the fully calibrated MRIP data for SEDAR 59 could be provided August 17, 2018 which mean final recreational data would be available ~ 2 weeks later (methods to estimate headboat discards, recreational historic catch, and recreational composition data are typically dependent on MRIP estimates). Including the fully calibrated MRIP data may cause a delay in the assessment completion. SEDAR staff are following up with the SEFSC and SAFMC regarding these latest developments.

#### SEDAR 60 South Atlantic Red Porgy, Standard

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:** A standard assessment was requested to allow consideration of new video index data, reconsider the use of age and length composition data, and to incorporate the latest BAM model configurations and updates to data calculation methodologies. The terminal year of the assessment is 2017. The Council made appointments and approved the schedule and terms of reference in December 2017. The assessment will get underway with a Data Scoping webinar in late June 2018. An Assessment Scoping webinar is scheduled for October 2018. Assessment webinars are scheduled for November 2018 and January 2019 and an in-person workshop is scheduled for December 10-12, 2018. The assessment is scheduled to be complete in March 2019 and reviewed by the SSC in Spring 2019.

MRIP will release calibrated data on July 1 and in late March 2018, the SEFSC notified SEDAR more time would be needed to do an additional adjustment to account for the For-Hire Survey method change. SEFSC indicated the fully calibrated MRIP data for SEDAR 60 could be provided October 5, 2018 (original data deadline = August 10, 2018). Similar to SEDAR 59, including the fully calibrated MRIP data may cause a delay in the assessment completion. SEDAR staff will be following up with the SEFSC and SAFMC regarding these latest developments.

#### SEDAR 61 Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper, Standard

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** An assessment following a Standard approach is underway for Gulf of Mexico red grouper, last assessed as a benchmark in SEDAR 42. The terminal year of this assessment is 2016. The Terms of Reference and Project Schedule for this assessment were approved in December 2017. The Data deadline for updated data is scheduled for June 1, 2018 and an in-person workshop has been scheduled for September 11-13, 2018 in St. Petersburg, FL. Assessment webinars are scheduled for October and November 2018, and the assessment should be completed February 2019.

MRIP will release calibrated data on July 1 and in late March 2018, the SEFSC notified SEDAR more time would be needed to do an additional adjustment to account for the For-Hire Survey method change. SEFSC indicated the fully calibrated MRIP data for SEDAR 61 could be provided August 31, 2018, 3 months after the original data deadline (original data deadline = June 1, 2018). Including the fully calibrated MRIP data may cause a delay in the assessment completion. SEDAR staff will be following up with the SEFSC and GMFMC regarding these latest developments.

#### SEDAR 62 Gulf of Mexico Gray Triggerfish, Standard

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** An assessment following a Standard approach is underway for Gulf of Mexico gray triggerfish, last assessed as a Standard in SEDAR 43. The terminal year of this assessment is 2016. The Terms of Reference and Project Schedule for

this assessment were approved in January 2018. The Data deadline for updated data is scheduled for July 13, 2018 and an in-person workshop has been scheduled for October 16-18, 2018 in Miami, FL. Assessment webinars are scheduled for December 2018 and January 2019, and the assessment should be completed March 2019.

MRIP will release calibrated data on July 1 and in late March 2018, the SEFSC notified SEDAR more time would be needed to do an additional adjustment to account for the For-Hire Survey method change. SEFSC indicated the fully calibrated MRIP data for SEDAR 62 could be provided September 21, 2018, 2.5 months after the original data deadline (original data deadline = July 13, 2018). Including the fully calibrated MRIP data may cause a delay in the assessment completion. SEDAR staff will be following up with the SEFSC and GMFMC regarding these latest developments.

#### HMS Gulf Blacktip Shark, Update

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** The Gulf of Mexico blacktip shark update to SEDAR 29 is underway, with a terminal year of 2016. The data deadline was April 8<sup>th</sup>, and the assessment should be completed by August 2018.

### **Upcoming Projects – Planning Underway**

#### **2 projects addressing 2 stocks**

#### SEDAR 63 Gulf of Mexico Menhaden, Review

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:** Planning is underway for the Gulf of Mexico Menhaden Review Workshop. The workshop will be held November 6-7, 2018 in New Orleans, LA. SEDAR staff will work with GSMFC in the upcoming months to develop Review Workshop Terms of Reference and a Project Schedule.

#### SEDAR 64: Southeastern US Yellowtail Snapper, Benchmark

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** The State of Florida will be taking the lead on the assessment of Southeastern US Yellowtail Snapper. SEDAR Staff has worked with FWRI to produce a Project Schedule and Terms of Reference. These have been provided to the Councils for their review and approval at the June meetings. The draft Project Schedule has the assessment getting underway late 2018, with a raw data deadline in December 2018.

## **Postponed Projects**

### **MRIP Revision Assessments**

**Species:** South Atlantic: Red Snapper, Red Grouper, Blueline Tilefish, Black Seabass Gulf of Mexico: Greater Amberjack, Gag, Vermilion Snapper, Spanish Mackerel

**SEDAR Contact:** South Atlantic: Julia Byrd; Gulf of Mexico: Julie Neer

**Summary:** Revision assessments will include an update of the MRIP data, based on calibrations applied to address the effort survey change. No additional changes or data will be considered, and the terminal year of the assessment will not be advanced. Revision assessments were initially scheduled for development in late 2017 for SSC review in April 2018. The MRIP Transition Team recommended delaying assessment revisions until 2018, due to delays in the calibration processes and to include the full 3 years of side by side survey information (2015-2017). Revised data, addressing calibrations for both the effort and access point survey changes, are expected to be available July 1, 2018. The SEFSC will need more time to do an additional adjustment to account for the For-Hire Survey method change.

Revision assessments are planned for 2018, although specific timing depends on when the revised, fully calibrated MRIP data are available and can be provided to the analytical team.

### **Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Scamp, Research Track (1 or 2 stocks)**

**SEDAR Contact:** Julia Byrd

**Summary:** A Scamp Research Track assessment was preliminarily scheduled to start the first quarter of 2018. At their May 2017 meeting, the SEDAR Steering Committee delayed the start of the Scamp Research Track assessment until 2019 due to the Research Track process not being adequately described. Because the project statement of work, addressing the research track approach, has not yet been provided by the SEFSC, the timing of this project is currently unknown.

**Summary of SEDAR Project Schedules for 2018 assessments  
(28 February 2018)**

*SEDAR 51 – Gulf of Mexico Gray Snapper (Benchmark)*

Gray Snapper Stock ID Webinars – November 2016

Raw Life History and Length Comp Data Deadline: 30 January 2017

Landings Data Deadline: 3 April 2017

DW: April 24-28, 2017 - Tampa

Assessment webinars: June – January 2018

RW: March 20-22-15, 2018 – Tampa, FL

Terminal Year of Data: 2015

Report Available to Council: May 2018

Coordinator: Julie

*SEDAR 52 – Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper (Standard)*

Data Deadline: 1 August 2017

In-person workshop: November 29- December 1, 2017– Miami, FL

Assessment webinars: February – March 2018

Terminal Year of Data: 2016

Report Available to Council: April 2018

Coordinator: Julie

*SEDAR 55 – SA Vermilion Snapper (Standard)*

Data Deadlines: 30 June 2017 (landings); 18 September 2017 (other data sets)

Assessment webinars: August 2017 – March 2018

Terminal Year of Data: 2016

Report Available to Council: April 2018

Coordinator: Julia

*SEDAR 56 – SA Black Sea Bass (Standard)*

Data Deadline: October 13, 2017

Assessment Webinars: November 2017 – February 2018

Terminal Year of Data: 2016

Report Available to Cooperator: April 2018

Coordinator: Julia

*SEDAR 57 – Caribbean Spiny Lobster*

Unprocessed Data Deadline (including QA/QCed length and life history data): 11 May 2018

Processed data due: 1 June 2018

DW: June 19-21, 2018 – San Juan

Assessment webinars: September – November 2018

RW: January 29- 31, 2019 – Miami, FL

Terminal Year of Data: 2016

Report Available to Council: March 2019

**Summary of SEDAR Project Schedules for 2018 assessments  
(28 February 2018)**

Coordinator: Julie

*SEDAR 58 Atlantic Cobia (Benchmark)*

Stock ID Data Deadline (some datasets may be preliminary): 2 March 2018

Stock ID Work Group Meeting: April 10-12, 2018 – Charleston, SC

Stock ID Review Workshop: June 5-7, 2018 - TBD

Raw Life History and Length Comp Data Deadline: 14 September 2018

Landings Data Deadline: 13 November 2018

DW: November 27-30, 2018 – Charleston

AW: ???

Assessment webinars: ???

RW: ??? – Beaufort, NC

Terminal Year of Data: 2017

Report Available to Council: late 2019

Coordinator: Julia

*SEDAR 59 – SA Greater Amberjack (Standard)*

SFD Deadline (Recreational landings, discards, size comps, etc.): 23 March 2018

Main Data Deadline: 25 May 2018

Assessment webinars: March – October 2018

Terminal Year of Data: 2016 (Council requested 2017)

Report Available to Council: December 2018

Coordinator: Julia

*SEDAR 60 – SA Red Porgy (Standard)*

Data Deadlines: 10 August 2018

In-person workshop: December 10-12, 2018

Assessment webinars: June 2018 – January 2019

Terminal Year of Data: 2017

Report Available to Council: March 2019

Coordinator: Julia

*SEDAR 61 – Gulf Red Grouper (Standard)*

Data Deadlines: 1 June 2018

DW/Assessment Workshop: September 11-13, 2018 – Miami, FL

Assessment webinars: October-November 2018

Terminal Year of Data: 2016

Report Available to Council: February 2019

Coordinator: Julie

**Summary of SEDAR Project Schedules for 2018 assessments  
(28 February 2018)**

*SEDAR 62 – Gulf Gray Triggerfish (Standard)*

Data Deadlines: 13 July 2018

DW/Assessment Workshop: October 16-18, 2018 – Miami, FL

Assessment webinars: December 2018 – January 2019

Terminal Year of Data: 2016

Report Available to Council: March 2019

Coordinator: Julie

*SEDAR 63 – Gulf of Mexico Menhaden (Review Only)*

RW: November 6 - 8, 2018 – New Orleans

Report Available to Commission: December 2018

Coordinator: Julia

*SEDAR 64 – Southeastern Yellowtail Snapper*

Unprocessed Data (includes raw age, length, and reproduction data): 7 December 2018

Processed Data Deadline: 8 February 2019

DW: February 25 – March 1, 2019 – St. Pete, FL (?)

Assessment webinars: April – July 2019

RW: September 10-12, 2019 – St. Pete, FL

Terminal Year of Data: 2017

Report Available to Council: October 2019

Coordinator: Julie

Other Assessments/data needs scheduled for 2018:

HMS Gulf of Mexico Blacktip Shark Update:

Data Deadline: 6 April 2018

Terminal Year of Data: 2016

Report Available to Council: August 2018

Coordinator: Julie

MRIP Catch Revisions – South Atlantic:

Species: Red grouper, blueline tilefish, black seabass

MRIP Catch Revisions – Gulf of Mexico:

Species: Greater amberjack, gag, cobia, Spanish mackerel

**Summary of SEDAR Project Schedules for 2018 assessments  
(28 February 2018)**

*Data Deadlines Summary Table (arranged in chronological order by data deadline)*

<b>SEDAR Project</b>	<b>Data Deadline</b>	<b>Assessment Approach</b>
SEDAR 58 – Atlantic Cobia	2 March 2018 (Stock ID Data)	Benchmark
SEDAR 59 – SA Greater Amberjack	23 March 2018 (SFD data deadline)	Standard
HMS Gulf Blacktip Shark	6 April 2018	Update
SEDAR 57 Caribbean Spiny Lobster	11 May 2018 (unprocessed data)	Benchmark
SEDAR 59 – SA Greater Amberjack	25 May 2018 (All other data)	Standard
SEDAR 61 – Gulf Red Grouper	1 June 2018	Standard
SEDAR 57 Caribbean Spiny Lobster	1 June 2018 (all other data)	Benchmark
SEDAR 62 – Gulf Gray Triggerfish	13 July 2018	Standard
SEDAR 60 – SA Red Porgy	10 August 2018	Standard
SEDAR 58 – Atlantic Cobia	14 September (raw LH and Length data)	Benchmark
SEDAR 58 – Atlantic Cobia	13 November 2018 (landings data)	Benchmark
SEDAR 64 – SE Yellowtail Snapper	7 December 2018 (unprocessed data)	Benchmark

Note: Please refer to the individual SEDAR Project Schedules to determine if more specific data deadlines exist.

# 2018

## SEDAR Master Project Schedule

### January

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### February

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

### March

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### April

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### May

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### June

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### July

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

### August

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

### September

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### October

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### November

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

### December

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**SEDAR 51** - GoM Gray Snapper (RW)

*Designed by Anny, [www.annystudio.com](http://www.annystudio.com)*

**SEDAR 58** - Atlantic Cobia

**SEDAR 60** - SA Red porgy (STD)

**SEDAR 62** - Gulf Gray Triggerfish (STD)

**SEDAR 64** - SE Yellowtail Snapper (Data Deadline)

**HMS Gulf Blacktip** - Data Deadline only (U)

**SEDAR 57** - Caribbean Spiny Lobster

**SEDAR 59** - SA Greater Amberjack (STD)

**SEDAR 61** - Gulf Red Grouper (STD)

**SEDAR 63** - Gulf Menhaden (Review Only)

SA and GoM MRIP Catch Revisions

**Council Meetings**

**Federal Holidays**

*(Current as of 28 February 2018)*