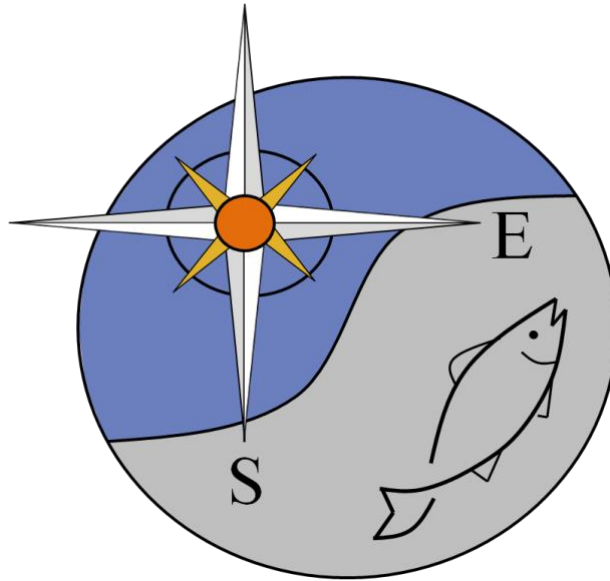


SEDAR



SEDAR Steering Committee Meeting Summary

May 13, 2021

Meeting via Webinar

Report Content Note:

To provide context for recommendations and maintain the full record, this document combines the briefing summary provided to the Committee for consideration during the meeting as well as summary Committee discussion points and recommendations.

Outcomes from the meeting are found under the section headers “Meeting Outcome”.

Version: FINAL

10/13/2021

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DOCUMENTS

Attachment 1: October 2020 Draft Meeting Summary and Follow Up Document

Attachment 2: SEDAR Projects Update April 2021

Attachment 3: Research Track/Operational Assessment/Topical Working Group Guidance
Document

Attachment 4: SEDAR Projects List

Attachment 5: Modifications to the Project Planning Grid from the October 2020 Steering
Committee Summary and Follow-Up

Attendance

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Clay Porch, Chair, SEFSC
 John Carmichael, SAFMC
 Mel Bell, SAFMC
 Carrie Simmons, GMFMC
 Tom Frazer, GMFMC
 Miguel Rolón, CFMC

Marcos Hanke, CFMC
 Andy Strelcheck, SERO
 Dave Donaldson, GSMFC
 Pat Campfield, ASMFC
 Karyl Brewster-Geisz, HMS

SEDAR STAFF

Julie A. Neer

Kathleen Howington

WEBINAR OBSERVERS

Craig Brown, SEFSC
 Shannon Cass-Calay, SEFSC
 Scott Crosson, SEFSC
 Nancie Cummings, SEFSC
 Chip Collier, SAFMC Staff
 Dale Diaz, GMFMC
 John Froeschke, GMFMC Staff
 Graciela Garcia-Moliner, CFMC Staff
 Eric Gigli, MSDMR
 Bob Gill
 Rusty Hudson, DSF
 Kevin McCarthy, SEFSC

Matthew Nuttall, SEFSC
 Steve Poland, SAFMC
 Ryan Rindone, GMFMC Staff
 Skyler Sagarese, SEFSC
 Michael Schirripa, SEFSC
 Virginia Shervette, USC
 Katie Seigfried, SEFSC
 Matt Smith, SEFSC
 Matheus Souza Ferreira de Barros
 Steve Vanderkooy, GSMFC
 John Walter, SEFSC

Meeting Outcomes Summary

This Meeting Outcomes Summary highlights the major decisions of the Committee during the meeting. Additional details can be found under Meeting Outcome for the relevant sections of this report and are italicized throughout the report.

SEDAR Process Review and Discussion

The Committee reviewed Attachment 3 (Research Track/Operational Assessment/Topical Working Group Guidance Document) and discussed the following topics:

- *Need for a Public Webinar for an Operational Assessment (OA) which has no Topical Working Groups (TWGs): The Committee agreed that there was no need for any public webinars for OAs which had no TWGs. Public comment opportunities will be available when the assessment is reviewed by the Cooperator's technical bodies, and while it is being considered for management action.*

- Potential Additional Workload and Financial Cost of TWGs: The Gulf Council Cooperator expressed concern about the potential additional workload and financial cost of the TWG approach, primarily if multiple TWGs are needed for an OA.
- Difficulty in Identifying Chairs for Research Track Assessments (RT): While the lead agency is responsible for appointing a Chair, it will be necessary for all parties involved to work together to find appropriate individuals to serve. This remains an ongoing issue that everyone will need to continue to work on resolving.
- Timing of OAs Following a RT: Discussion regarding the timing of an OA which immediately follows a RT and clarified that the OA should be completed within 4-6 months of the Cooperator's technical body review.

Assessment Schedule Review

Chair Porch provided an update on the process of the Shrimp Working Groups. Five groups have been convened. Several are well underway or nearing completion.

South Atlantic Cooperators noted that the assessment schedule for 2021 and 2022 appears light. They requested that time be allocated to make progress on an Interim Analysis approach for the South Atlantic region, similar to what has been done in the Gulf of Mexico.

SEDAR 75 Gulf of Mexico Gray Snapper process was designed following the "Standard" assessment process with an assessment panel. Chair Porch inquired whether it could be transitioned to the current OA model with TWGs. The Gulf Council Cooperators agreed. SEDAR Staff will work with Center and Gulf Council Staff to redesign the schedule and adjust participation appointments as need.

The Caribbean Council requested to add assessments for both Yellowtail Snapper and Lane Snapper to the 2023 schedule. The SEFSC Center and Caribbean Council Staff will meet to discuss if any assessments can be accommodated in 2023.

HMS stated they were not ready to provide potential candidates for assessment for 2024 at this time.

A request was made to change the deadline for Statements of Work from October 15th of each year to November 1st. The SEFSC agreed to this change moving forward.

Summary of Requests for 2024 Operational Assessments:

Requested Cooperators provide Scopes of Work for 2024 operational assessments to the SEFSC by November 1st, 2021. The SEFSC will provide feedback to the Cooperators by February 1st, 2022. These projects will be considered for approval at the Spring 2022 meeting.

- SAFMC: Tilefish, Gray Triggerfish OA timing dependent on 2022/23 Research Track schedule
- GMFMC: Red Grouper, Tilefish or Blueline Tilefish, Vermilion Snapper
- CFMC: Queen snapper, Redtail Parrotfish (these species depend on which species can be accommodated in 2023)
- GSMFC: Gulf Menhaden

Other Business:**SEFSC Reorganization and Data Improvement Update**

The SEFSC is moving from a geographic structure to a matrixed organization based on functional groups where supervisors would be experts in the group they supervised.

Created a new position: Deputy Director for Science and Council Services – John Walter. John will be serving as Clay’s back-up on many items and heading up an effort to improve communications with the Councils.

SEDAR 2020 Carryover and Budget Outlook

The Committee supported the suggestions from SEDAR Staff on possible uses for the 2020 unspent funds moving forward through the remaining years for the grant cycle.

There was strong support for moving forward with identifying possible Procedural or Special Topics workshops that could be supported by those carry over funds, and to utilize some of the funds to contract individuals with specialized expertise to Chair these workshops.

The Committee directed SEDAR Staff to gather information regarding potential increases in travel and meeting expenses and produce projections for expenses for the remaining grant years. This information will help the Committee determine how to apportion the unspent 2020 funds among the suggested uses.

Update on Fishery- Independent Indices Procedural Workshop In-Person workshop options

Chair Porch said that he felt it was highly unlikely that NMFS personnel would be able to attend an in-person workshop in September 2021. Given that guidance, Staff will go back to the Procedural Workshop Steering Committee and work on plans to postpone the workshop until January 2022, in hopes that NMFS Staff will be able to attend at that point.

Discussion on Resumption of In-person SEDAR Meetings

The Committee was in favor of SEDAR meetings returning to an in-person format but recognized the continued issue of NMFS personnel being in restricted travel status for the foreseeable future. Given that, alternative options were discussed. The discussion focused on the two Data Workshops scheduled for Fall 2021:

SEDAR 74 Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper: The Gulf Cooperators were strongly in favor of holding an in-person component to the Data Workshop, even if it means NMFS personnel would need to participate remotely. SEDAR Staff will continue to work with SEFSC and Council Staff to determine logistics should this approach be necessary.

SEDAR 77 HMS Hammerhead Sharks: The Data Workshop for this assessment may be held virtually, given that more than half of the currently identified participants are NMFS personnel. The Planning Team for this assessment has a meeting scheduled in June and will discuss this at that time.

Table 1: SEDAR Project Planning Grid – Meeting Outcome: May 2021 SEDAR Steering Committee

Table Color Legend:

Steering Committee Approved and SEFSC Scheduled Projects								FUTURE Requests						
Steering Committee Approved, PENDING SEFSC SCHEDULING								2023 Preliminary Projects - Finalized This Meeting						
SEDAR SCHEDULE OVERVIEW – May 2021 SEDAR Steering Committee Discussion														
YEAR	SA Team				Gulf Team				Caribbean Team	HMS Team		FL FWCC	ASMFC GSMFC	CMP/ Shrimp
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4		1	2			
2021	Scamp RT	Red Snapper OA	Gag Grouper OA	Tilefish OA	Scamp RT	Gag Grouper OA	Red Snapper RT	Red Snapper RT	Queen Trigger PR-STX-STT OA	Hammerheads RT	Mutton Snapper Bench	Gulf Menhaden OA		
2022	Scamp OA	Gray Triggerfish RT	Spanish Mackerel OA		Scamp OA	Gray Snapper OA								
			Black Sea Bass OA				Yellowedge OA							
2023	Vermilion OA				Red Grouper OA			Red Snapper OA	Red Snapper OA			YTS, Lane		HH OA
2024	White Grunt RT		Tilefish OA	Blueline Tilefish OA	Red Grouper OA	Gray Triggerfish RT	Tilefish or Blueline OA	Vermilion OA	Queen snap@PR, redtail parrot@STX			Hogfish Bench	ASFMC Red Drum (RW)/ Gulf Menhaden OA	
2025			Snowy Grouper OA	Red Porgy OA	GAJ OA/RT		Lane Snapper OA	Cobia OA	Caribbean Hogfish			Black Grouper Bench?	King Mackerel OA (SA & Gulf)	
2026	Gag Grouper OA	GAJ OA/RT	Red snapper RT											
2027														

Timing of projects shown in this table is approximate and is intended for SEDAR Steering Committee workload planning purposes only. Please consult individual project schedules for specific start and end dates.

1 Introduction

1.1 Documents

- Agenda
- Attachment 1. October 2020 Draft Meeting Summary

1.2 Action

- Introduction
- Review and Approve Agenda
- Approve Meeting Summary

MEETING OUTCOME

The Committee made no modifications to the agenda and approved the October 2020 Draft Meeting Summary v.3 (12/1/2020).

2 SEDAR Projects Report

2.1 Documents

Attachment 2. SEDAR Projects Update April 2021

2.2 Summary

The projects report (Attachment 2) provides a summary of current and recently completed SEDAR assessment projects.

Highlighted project developments:

- SEDAR 71 -South Atlantic Gag Grouper: The lead analyst requested one additional assessment webinar to complete the project. The assessment was originally scheduled to be completed March 2021. It was completed in April 2021
- SEDAR 72 – Gulf of Mexico Gag Grouper: On 22 February 2021, the SEFCS informed the Council that they would need an additional 2 months to complete the assessment due to delays in data delivery. Assessment webinars are underway and should be completed by July 2021. The assessment is now scheduled to be completed in September 2021.
- SEDAR 80 - Caribbean Queen Triggerfish: A Life History TWG Data Scoping webinar was held 10 February 2021, where the group was informed that the ageing data is not yet complete and would not be available until 30 September 2021. As this data is a critical touch point for the assessment, this delay has required a shift in the overall project schedule by ~7 months. The assessment is now expected to be completed April 2022.
- COVID-19 Impacts to ongoing projects:
 - SEDAR 68 Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Scamp: This assessment continues to be impacted by delays due to COVID-19. The need to postpone the completion of

the data process until December 2020 translated into an extension of assessment schedule, now slated to be completed in August 2021. The Review Workshop will be held August 31st – Sept 3rd, 2021. Given that NOAA currently has concerns regarding staff's ability to travel through the remainder of the fiscal year, the SEFSC requested that the Review Workshop be held virtually, for which plans are underway.

- Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Assessment Process: The SEFSC will provide an update on the impacts COVID-19 has had on this process during the Schedule Review.

2.3 Action

- Informational; none required

3 SEDAR Process Review and Discussion

3.1 Documents

Attachment 3. Research Track/Operational Assessment/Topical Working Group Guidance Document

3.2 Summary

During the October 2020 SEDAR Steering Committee Meeting, the Committee reviewed a document that summarized the process for the integration of the Topical Working Group (TWG) Approach. The Committee continued to have some questions on the use of TWGs, as well as a few components of the Research Track (RT) and Operational Assessments (OA).

SEDAR Staff worked with Chair Porch to produce and refine a single guidance document that covers those topics. That document can be found in Attachment 3.

3.3 Action

- Review the Guidance document and provide feedback

MEETING OUTCOME

The Committee reviewed Attachment 3 and discussed the following topics:

Need for a Public Webinar for an OA which has no Topical Working Groups:

The Committee agreed that there was no need for any public webinars for OAs which had no TWGs. Holding a webinar under those circumstances seemed inappropriate since any comments received would not be included in the current assessment, but rather listed as part of Research Recommendations for the next assessment. Public comment opportunities will be available when the assessment is reviewed by the Cooperator's technical bodies, and while it is being considered for management action. The Committee also endorsed the use of Procedural and Special Topics Workshops as an alternative way to receive and incorporate public comment.

Potential Additional Workload and Financial Cost of TWGs:

- The Gulf Council Cooperator expressed concern about the potential additional workload and financial cost of the TWG approach, primarily if multiple TWGs are needed for an OA. Attachment 3 (updated with the changes discussed during this meeting incorporated) will be provided to their SSC for review.

Difficulty in Identifying Chairs for Research Track Assessments:

It was noted that it continues to be difficult to identify qualified individuals willing to serve as Chairs during the Data and Assessment portions of the RTs. While the lead agency is responsible for appointing a Chair, it will be necessary for all parties involved to work together to find appropriate individuals to serve. This remains an ongoing issue that everyone will need to continue to work on resolving.

Timing of OAs Following a RT:

Discussion regarding the timing of an OA which immediately follows a RT clarified that the OA should be completed within 4-6 months of the Cooperator's technical body review. It was acknowledged that it may take longer for a first-time assessment, as there may be more topics to address once the feedback from the Review Panel and Cooperator technical body is received. It was also noted that it may not be possible to address every issue raised by the review bodies in that time frame.

4 Assessment Schedule Review

4.1 Documents

Attachment 4. SEDAR Projects List

Attachment 5. Modifications to the Project Planning Grid from the October 2020 Steering Committee report

4.2 Summary

- During the Master Scheduling meeting with SEDAR and SESFC for 2022, the S68 Operational Assessments were tentatively scheduled to begin in January 2022. That timing was dependent on the assessment being completed in June of 2021. Given that the assessment will now be completed in October 2021, the timing of the OAs will need to be revisited during the next scheduling call.
- The SEFSC will provide an update to the Gulf of Mexico Shrimp Assessment Process, including information on timing of the SEDAR component of the process.
- The Committee is asked to review and finalize the project schedule for 2023 and provide priorities for 2024 and beyond.

4.3 Action

- Consider any needed modifications to the 2023 Projects

- Review 2024 Priorities
- Consider long-term priorities (2025/2026)

MEETING OUTCOME

Chair Porch provided an update on the process of the Shrimp Working Groups. Five groups have been convened. Several are well underway or nearing completion of their tasks. One group has not been able to make much progress as they are awaiting a decision on the Council regarding how data will be collected since the current data system, which relies on 3G technology, is out of date. It is uncertain if the Research Track assessment on shrimp will be able to begin in 2023 as originally planned. Center Staff will meet to discuss this and let SEDAR Staff know prior to the 2023 Master Scheduling call which is held prior to August 1st, 2021.

South Atlantic Cooperators noted that the assessment schedule for 2021 and 2022 appears light. They acknowledged that it would not be possible to add an additional assessment at this time due to data delivery issues. They requested that time be allocated to make progress on an Interim Analysis approach in the South Atlantic region, similar to what has been done in the Gulf of Mexico. They also suggested that some time could also be allocated toward the ongoing Ecosystem Assessment product that has been underway for some time.

It was noted that SEDAR 75 Gulf of Mexico Gray Snapper process, which was postponed due to COVID delays, was designed following the “Standard” assessment process with an assessment panel. Chair Porch inquired whether it could be transitioned to the current OA model with TWGs, given that it has not yet begun. The Gulf Council Cooperators agreed the approach could be modified to an OA, indicating the need for two TWGs (Life History and Rec/Shore mode). SEDAR Staff will work with Center and Gulf Council Staff to redesign the schedule and adjust participation appointments as need. It was also noted that the terminal year of the assessment will now be 2020, not 2019 as stated in the Terms of Reference.

The Caribbean Council requested to add assessments for both Yellowtail Snapper and Lane Snapper to the 2023 schedule. It was noted that no SoWs were submitted for any assessments for 2023 (which should have been submitted by October 15th, 2020), and questions were raised as to what type of assessment would be most appropriate for these species. The SEFSC Center and Caribbean Council Staff will meet to discuss if any assessments can be accommodated in 2023 and will let SEDAR Staff know prior to the 2023 Master Scheduling call which is held prior to August 1st, 2021.

HMS stated they were not ready to provide potential candidates for assessment for 2024 at this time. They were informed that should they wish to have species considered for OAs in 2024, SoWs would need to be submitted by November 1st, 2021.

A request was made to change the deadline for Statements of Work from October 15th of each year to November 1st. This shift would allow the South Atlantic council to have its SSC review the SoWs during their regular October meeting. The SESFC agreed to this change moving forward.
Summary of Requests for 2024 Operational Assessments:

Requested Cooperators provide Scopes of Work for 2024 operational assessments to the SEFSC by November 1st, 2021. The SEFSC will provide feedback to the Cooperators by February 1st, 2022. These projects will be considered for approval at the Spring 2022 meeting.

- *SAFMC: Tilefish, Gray Triggerfish OA timing dependent on 2022/23 Research Track schedule*
- *GMFMC: Red Grouper, Tilefish or Blueline Tilefish, Vermilion Snapper*
- *CFMC: Queen Snapper, Redtail Parrotfish (these species depend on which species can be accommodated in 2023)*
- *GSMFC: Gulf Menhaden*

5 Other Business

- SEFSC Reorganization and Data Improvement Update

Chair Porch will provide the Committee an update on the ongoing reorganization and data improvements underway at the SEFSC.

- SEDAR 2020 Carryover and Budget Outlook

SEDAR began a new 5-year grant cycle in 2020. Due to the global pandemic, most of the scheduled in-person SEDAR meetings for 2020 and Spring 2021 were changed to be held virtually. As such, there are some unspent travel funds from 2020, and potentially from 2021, available for use during the 5-year cycle. SEDAR Staff have discussed options with the SEFSC on ways those funds may be used moving forward. The following suggestions have been put forward:

- 1) Reserve some of the funds to guard against potential funding cuts in the remaining years of the grant cycle. The SEFSC received a significant cut to its funding this year, and it is uncertain if further cuts in the NMFS budget may be coming.
- 2) Reserve a portion of the funds to support current operational levels in the future. SEDAR has been level-funded for the last 6 years, while the costs for travel and meeting expenses continue to rise.
- 3) Fund Procedural and Special Topics Workshops, such as the one currently underway looking at fishery-independent indices development. While there are several topics identified for future workshops, until this year none had been held since 2015, in large part due to the lack of funding to convene one.
- 4) Allocate some funds to support contracting individuals to facilitate or chair procedural and special topics workshops. Identifying and securing qualified chairs for various SEDAR special projects continues to be an issue. Contracting with outside experts may be a solution.

- Update on Fishery- Independent Indices Procedural Workshop In-Person workshop options

Due to the current concerns that NOAA has regarding SEFSC staff's ability to travel through the remainder of the fiscal year, the SEFSC requested that SEDAR consider options for the scheduled September 2021 in-person procedural workshop.

SEDAR Staff convened the Steering Committee for PW08 to gather feedback on possible approaches to the September workshop, if NOAA staff were not able to attend the in-person meeting. Overall, the Committee felt an in-person workshop was critical to the success of this process. The nature of these meetings requires personal interactions and complex discussions that are incredibly difficult in a virtual process.

The Committee came up with the following options, ranked by preference:

- 1) Hold the in-person workshop in September as scheduled: If only a few SEFSC personnel are not able to attend, the Committee would prefer to move forward with the current schedule. Those not in attendance could participate in all other virtual stages of the process, and possibly call in via phone for specific discussions.
- 2) Postpone the in-person meeting until all participants would be allowed to attend. This would likely move the meeting until January 2022 and would put a time crunch on the development of advice for the upcoming S74 Gulf of Mexico red snapper RT, though it could still be accommodated.
- 3) All Virtual: Everyone attends from their own location. The Committee felt this format will decrease efficiency and did not believe that this approach would produce as much advice as holding an in-person workshop.
- 4) Hybrid Meeting: One group of participants “in person” and another group on the webinar. The Committee felt this would be the most difficult approach to navigate, feeling that this approach creates unequal footing between participants, and often causes disruptions to discussions.

The Committee is asked to discuss the feedback provided and recommend a path forward.

- Discussion on Resumption of In-person SEDAR Meetings

SEDAR had to modify the bulk of its 2020 and early 2021 in-person meetings to a virtual format due to the global pandemic and restricted travel guidance. With vaccine availability becoming widespread, SEDAR staff are planning for the resumption of in-person assessment meetings starting in Fall 2021. Three large data workshops are currently on the schedule:

S74 – Gulf Red Snapper DW, November 1-5 in New Orleans, LA

S77 – HMS Hammerhead Sharks DW, December 13-17 in Charleston, SC

S79 – SE Mutton Snapper DW, January 31- February 4, 2022 in Saint Petersburg, FL

The feedback staff has received from informal discussions is that most participants are very eager to return to in-person meetings, and seem to have no concerns with gathering, given the status of the wide-spread availability of vaccines and that these meetings are still several months away.

Travel restrictions are still in place for certain agencies, with NMFS being the largest component of SEDAR participants still under a very restrictive travel ban.

The Committee is asked to discuss thoughts or concerns regarding the resumption of in-person meeting for SEDAR assessments.

5.1 Action

- Provide recommendations regarding the Indices Procedural Workshop in September 2021
- Provide guidance regarding the resumption of in-person meetings

MEETING OUTCOME

SEFSC Reorganization and Data Improvement Update

The SEFSC is moving from a geographic structure to a matrixed organization based on functional groups where supervisors would be experts in the group they supervise.

- *Phase one: Consolidated the operations management and information staff into a single division, created several new groups including an observer group, and a marine mammal and sea turtle group*
- *Phase Two: Created a single stock assessment division with all branch supervisors reporting to a single Director, including a new Caribbean assessment branch; moved observer program into Fishery Statistics Division*
- *Phase Three (just approved but not yet implemented): Creating two new divisions: assessment and survey support, and population and ecosystem monitoring*

Created a new position: Deputy Director for Science and Council Services – John Walter. John will be serving as Clay’s back-up on many items and heading up an effort to improve communications with the Councils.

SEDAR 2020 Carryover and Budget Outlook

The Committee supported the suggestions from SEDAR Staff on possible uses for the 2020 unspent funds through the remaining years for the grant cycle.

There was strong support for moving forward with identifying possible Procedural or Special Topics workshops that could be supported by those carry over funds, and to utilize some of the funds to contract individuals with specialized expertise to Chair these workshops. A concern was raised as to setting a precedent of funding Chairs for workshops when those funds may not be available to do so in the future. This issue is something the Committee will have to discuss further should it decide to use the funds in this way.

The Committee directed SEDAR Staff to gather information regarding potential increases in travel and meeting expenses and produce projections for expenses for the remaining grant years. This information will help the Committee determine how to apportion the unspent 2020 funds among the suggested uses. Staff will provide an update at the Fall 2021 Steering Committee meeting.

Update on Fishery- Independent Indices Procedural Workshop In-Person workshop options

The Committee accepted the recommendations of the Procedural Workshop Steering Committee regarding how to proceed if NMFS personnel could not attend an in-person meeting in

September. The Gulf of Mexico Cooperator expressed some concern over postponing the workshop due to the potential impact it might have on the red snapper assessment.

Chair Porch said that he felt it was highly unlikely that NMFS personnel would be able to attend an in-person workshop in September 2021. Given that guidance, Staff will go back to the Procedural Workshop Steering Committee and work on plans to postpone the workshop until January 2022, in hopes that NMFS Staff will be able to attend at that point.

Discussion on Resumption of In-person SEDAR Meetings

The Committee was in favor of SEDAR meetings returning to an in-person format but recognized the continued issue of NMFS personnel being in restricted travel status for the foreseeable future. Given that, alternative options were discussed. The discussion focused on the two Data Workshops scheduled for Fall 2021:

SEDAR 74 Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper: The Gulf Cooperators were strongly in favor of holding an in-person component to the Data Workshop, even if it means NMFS personnel would need to participate remotely. This will be a large Data Workshop with many participants from a variety of organizations throughout the Gulf region. It was not deemed appropriate to hold this workshop virtually. The Committee discussed the challenges of holding a hybrid meeting and SEDAR Staff will continue to work with SEFSC and Council Staff to determine logistics should this approach be necessary.

SEDAR 77 HMS Hammerhead Sharks: The Data Workshop for this assessment may be held virtually, given that more than half of the currently identified participants are NMFS personnel. It may not make sense to convene an in-person workshop if only a small number of people will be travelling. This situation is different from that of the S74 Data Workshop discussed above. The Planning Team for this assessment has a meeting scheduled in June and will discuss this at that time.

Discussion of the S79 SE US Mutton Snapper Data Workshop was postponed as the Florida Cooperator was unable to attend the meeting.

6 Next Meeting

The Committee is asked to make scheduling recommendations and suggest topics for the next meeting. Based on past practices, the next meeting would be a webinar-based meeting in October 2021.

MEETING OUTCOME

The Committee discussed the timing of the Fall 2021 meeting. It was recommended that the meeting be scheduled for one day and held via webinar. Staff suggested the meeting be held the week of October 4th or 11th. A doodle poll will be sent out to the Committee to determine a date.

Table 1: SEDAR Project Planning Grid – May 2021 SEDAR Steering Committee Discussion Draft

Table Color Legend:

Steering Committee Approved and SEFSC Scheduled Projects					FUTURE Requests														
Steering Committee Approved, PENDING SEFSC SCHEDULING					2023 Preliminary Projects - Finalized This Meeting														
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YEAR	SA Team				Gulf Team				Caribbean Team	HMS Team		FL FWCC	ASMFC GSMFC	CMP/ Shrimp					
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4		1	2								
2021	Scamp RT	Red Snapper OA	Gag Grouper OA	Tilefish OA	Scamp RT	Gag Grouper OA	Red Snapper RT	Red Snapper RT	Queen Trigger PR-STX-STT OA	Hammerheads RT		Mutton Snapper Bench	Gulf Menhaden OA						
2022			Spanish Mackerel OA															ASFMC Menhaden OA	
	Scamp OA	Gray Triggerfish RT	Black Sea Bass OA		Scamp OA	Gray Snapper OA													Gulf Spanish OA
2023	Vermilion OA			Red Grouper OA	Yellowedge OA		Red Snapper OA	Red Snapper OA	Queen snap@PR, redtail parrot@STX								Gulf Shrimp		
2024	White Grunt RT			Blueline Tilefish OA	Lane Snapper OA?	Gray Triggerfish RT	Tilefish Complex OA?	Vermilion OA	Lane@PR,, YTS			Hogfish Bench	ASFMC Red Drum (RW)/ Gulf Menhaden OA						
2025											Caribbean Hogfish			Black Grouper Bench?					
2026																			

Timing of projects shown in this table is approximate and is intended for SEDAR Steering Committee workload planning purposes only. Please consult individual project schedules for specific start and end dates.