

SEDAR Steering Committee

Projects Report

February 2025

Completed Projects, June 2024 - January 2025

3 Projects addressing 3 Stocks

SEDAR 79 Southeastern US Mutton Snapper, Benchmark

SEDAR Contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: The Data Workshop for the SE US Mutton Snapper assessment was held August 21-25, 2023. Assessment webinars were held from November 2023 to July 2024, and the Review Workshop was held in St. Pete, FL September 10-12, 2024. The completed assessment report was released October 2024.

SEDAR 89 South Atlantic Tilefish, Operational Assessment

SEDAR Contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: A Life History Topical Working Group was developed for this assessment to address specific items in the terms of reference. This group held a series of webinars from November 2023–February 2024 to discuss and address these items. Findings from these webinars were included in the final assessment report, which was released July 2024.

SEDAR 93 Atlantic Red Drum, Benchmark (Review Workshop only)

SEDAR Contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: The ASMFC is the lead for this assessment, with SEDAR only providing logistical support for the Review Workshop. The Review Workshop was held August 12-16, 2024. The final assessment report was released in November 2024.

Projects in Progress

10 projects addressing 15 species, and five management units

SEDAR 77OA HMS Hammerhead Sharks

SEDAR Contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: The Operational Assessment to SEDAR 77 was slated to be completed in December 2024. It has not been completed as of this writing but should be finalized and released by February 2025.

SEDAR 84 Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper (Puerto Rico & St. Thomas/St. John) and Stoplight Parrotfish (St. Croix) Benchmark

SEDAR contact: Julie A Neer/Emily Ott

Summary: A Data Workshop was held in January 2024, and the Data Workshop reports should be available soon. Assessment webinars were held April –October 2024. The Review Workshop was scheduled for February 2025 and has been postponed until summer 2025 to allow the analytic team time to expand on the report and potentially add to the review Terms of Reference to maximize the feedback from the review. The assessment should be completed in fall 2025.

SEDAR 87 Gulf of Mexico Brown, Pink, and White Shrimp, Research Track

SEDAR contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: The Data Workshop was held September 18-22, 2023. A variety of issues with the commercial landing streams caused significant delays in completing the data preparation. The Data Workshop Report was completed in August 2024. Assessment webinars were postponed to September 2024 – February 2025. The Review Workshop is scheduled for June 2025 and the assessment should be completed in August 2025.

SEDAR 88 Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper, Operational Assessment

SEDAR contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: Two Topical Working Groups will be convened: 1) Red Tide and 2) SRFS Age and Length Composition. Scoping webinars for each TWG were held in October 2023. Additional webinars were held in June 2024 through January 2025. The analytic team needed more time to complete the report and so the assessment is slated to be completed in February 2025 instead of August 2024.

SEDAR 90 South Atlantic Red Snapper, Benchmark Assessment

SEDAR Contact: Emily Ott

Summary: The assessment began in November 2024 and is scheduled to be completed in November 2026. A data scoping webinar that informed data providers what to contribute for the Data Workshop was held 18 November 2024. The process includes a data workshop to be held in April 2025, a series of assessment webinars from September 2025–April 2026, and a review workshop to be held in September 2026. Additionally, there is an integration plan to evaluate and consider using SARSRP data in this assessment.

SEDAR 91 Caribbean Spiny Lobster, Benchmark Assessment (3 management units)

SEDAR Contact: Emily Ott

Summary: The in-person Data Workshop was held November 13-15, 2024, in St. Thomas. A series of assessment webinars will be held January-April 2025. A review workshop will be held in Florida in August 2025. The final assessment report is scheduled to be released September 2025.

SEDAR 92 Atlantic Blueline Tilefish, Operational Assessment

SEDAR Contact: Julie A Neer

Summary: A Landings Stream Topical Working Group met via webinars from April–

July 2024. During those webinars, it was determined that an addition Life History TWG would be needed to review new age information. That group met via webinar October 2024 - January 2025. The addition of the second TWG will cause a delay in the completion of the assessment (originally scheduled for November 2024). The new completion date is March 2025.

SEDAR 95 Atlantic Cobia, Benchmark

SEDAR Contact: Emily Ott/Julie A Neer

Summary: A Data Scoping webinar was held in March 2024, and three data webinars have been conducted (one each for Removals, Indices, and Life History). A second data webinar for each topic was held in July and August 2024. Assessment Webinars were scheduled for April 2024–September 2025; however, due to staff changes, the assessment has been delayed with an expectation of resuming in late 2025/early 2026.

SEDAR 96 Florida Yellowtail Snapper, Operational Assessment

SEDAR Contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: This assessment is scheduled to have one Topical Working Group to review recreational catch information and discuss the use of the Florida State Reef Fish Survey (SRFS). Webinars were held May – August 2024. The assessment is scheduled to be completed in February 2025.

SEDAR 98 Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper, Benchmark

SEDAR Contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: The assessment began with Data Scooping in August 2024 and is scheduled to be completed in April 2026. The data workshop was held in Mobile, AL December 10-13, 2024. A series of assessment webinars will be held from April –October 2025, and a review workshop to be held in March 2026.

Upcoming Projects – Planning Underway

5 projects addressing 5 species

SEDAR 94 Southeastern Hogfish Snapper, Benchmark

SEDAR Contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: The Benchmark assessment for SE hogfish was slated to begin in 2024 but has been postponed until 2025 to allow for a yellowtail snapper operational assessment to be conducted in 2024. The Terms of Reference have been approved by the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils, and some participants have been appointed. A revised Project Schedule has been finalized, with the project getting underway April 2025.

SEDAR 99 Gulf of Mexico King Mackerel

SEDAR Contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: The terms of reference and schedule for this assessment were approved October 2024. There will be one Topical Working Group for this assessment. The process includes a series of data webinars June-September 2025 and a series of assessment webinars April-May 2026. The final assessment report should be completed in June 2026.

SEDAR 100 Gulf of Mexico Gray Triggerfish

SEDAR Contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: The Project Schedule for this assessment has been finalized, while the Terms of Reference will be reviewed but the GMFMC's SSC in February 2025. The process includes a data workshop to be held in August 2025, as series of assessment webinars March-September 2026 and a review workshop to be held February 2027.

SEDAR 101 Highly Migratory Species Sandbar Sharks

SEDAR Contact: Emily Ott

Summary: The Project Schedule and Terms of Reference are slated to be finalized in January 2025. The process includes a data workshop to be held in May 12-16, 2025, an assessment workshop to be held in November 17-21, 2025, and a desk review January 2026. The final assessment report is scheduled to be completed February 2026.

SEDAR 102 ASMFC Menhaden (Review Workshop only)

SEDAR Contact: Emily Ott

Summary: The ASMFC is the lead for this assessment, with SEDAR only providing logistical support for the Review Workshop. The schedule and terms of reference are scheduled to be approved spring 2025. The Review Workshop will be held August 11-15, 2025. The final assessment report should be completed in October 2025.