

# Proposed changes to the Assessment Portion of SEDAR



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# Should SEDAR continue to run the assessment portion?

## **Impetus for change:**

- Assessment webinars are inefficient, and often do not produce useful and consistent scientific advice.
  - Overall, we rarely gain technical insights during webinars.
  - Create logistic workload that could be better spent on model work.
  - Not an efficient or useful way to engage stakeholders.
  - Difficult to find times when all can attend.



# How to maintain transparency if the assessment process is run by the SEFSC

- What transparency will be available if the SEFSC runs the assessment portion/process?
  - The Data Workshop is a public meeting
    - If there is no DW, we can hold a data webinar if requested by the Council.
  - The SSC meetings and their public comment opportunities.
  - The Review Workshop.
  - We do not want to lose the technical input of the SSC members (as panelists), so we propose utilizing the SSC along the way.
    - Provide progress reports or ask for input on certain issues the technical team needs input along the way
      - Examples of Gulf Yellowedge, SA Snowy Grouper, and Gulf Red Grouper



# Things to keep in mind:

- Though we do not want to lose transparency, transparency is not the same as participation.
- We think the transparency proposed here meets the requirements without extending the assessment schedule.
  - Is it worth a longer schedule to continue with the way it has been done in the past?
- We've received feedback from SEDAR noting a decline in participation of the Panels (whether assessment panels, ADTs or TWG panels) and that often it seems like it contributes little to the assessment itself.

# Procedural Details



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# Proposal for SEFSC SEDAR Projects for SAFMC, GMFMC and CFMC

- The SEDAR process will be limited to those assessments with sufficient new information to require external participation/review.
- Update assessments and interim assessment approaches would be ***conducted internally by the SEFSC*** and reviewed by the SSC.
- The SEFSC proposes to take responsibility for the assessment component of the SEDAR process. Data and review components remain unchanged.
- For SEDAR assessments, the specifics of each project will be negotiated between the Center and Council Staff with input from SSC/Council. A Council may elect to prepare a statement of work, or communicate verbally.
- The Councils will establish a standing Technical Team with diverse scientific expertise and fishing experience as appropriate for the cooperator and the logistics to which they must adhere.



# Proposal for SEFSC SEDAR Projects for SAFMC, GMFMC and CFMC

- **For all SEDAR projects:**

- SEDAR will organize a data scoping call and the data workshop/webinar(s). The public is encouraged to participate.
- The Center will then take over responsibility for the assessment component.
- The Center will develop the assessment internally, and will coordinate ad-hoc meetings with members of the Technical Team as needed. The Center will provide a record of these communications for inclusion in the assessment report. Ad-hoc meetings could focus on technical issues, or on stakeholder input/outreach.
- The role of the SSC in model development will be expanded. Council Staff will schedule a pre-decisional briefing(s) with the SSC to provide feedback on key decision points. The Center will revise the assessment as appropriate.
- SEDAR will coordinate the review process as usual.

# Proposal for SEFSC SEDAR Projects for SAFMC, GMFMC and CFMC

- **Optional Components:**

- In-person Data Workshop - appropriate for new assessments, when many new data inputs must be considered, or when there is a need to substantially modify an existing assessment
- Data Webinar(s) - appropriate when limited new information is available. These would function similarly to a Topical Working Group
- External CIE Review - appropriate for new assessments, when many new data inputs must be considered, or when there is a need to substantially modify an existing assessment
- SSC Review - appropriate when limited new information is available and for all updates/interim assessments conducted extra-SEDAR



# Proposal for SEFSC SEDAR Projects for HMS

- **SEDAR projects will be conducted in a manner similar to ICCAT**
  - SEDAR will organize a data scoping call and an in-person data workshop. The Center will assign a meeting chair and rapporteurs. Ideally, a meeting report will be drafted at the data workshop. The public is encouraged to participate.
  - The Center will then take over responsibility for the assessment component.
  - The Center will develop the assessment internally, in cooperation with a Technical Team established by the relevant Science Centers and HMS. The model development team will present a candidate model(s) for evaluation at an in-person or hybrid assessment workshop. The Center will assign a meeting chair and rapporteurs. Ideally, a meeting report will be drafted at the assessment workshop. The public is encouraged to participate.
  - SEDAR will coordinate the review process as usual.

