SEDAR 68 Index Working Group—Gulf of Mexico Plenary 2

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Review from Plenary 1

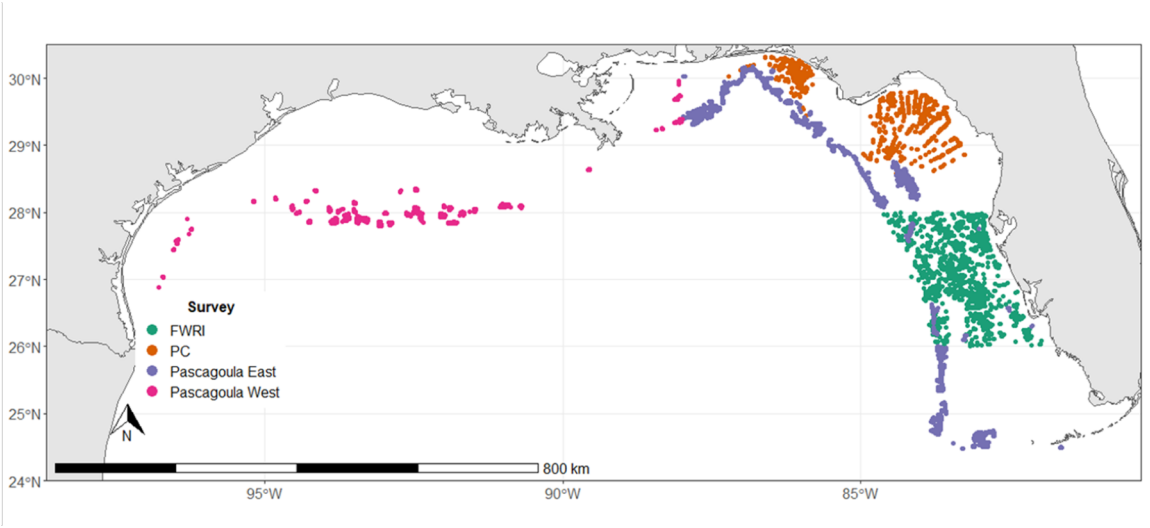
- South Atlantic-Recommended and Approved
  - Headboat logbook
  - Commercial longline logbook

- Gulf of Mexico
  - Tortugas visual survey not to be used

- This meeting:
  - Gulf-wide combined video survey
  - Gulf Headboat index
  - Future discussions and decisions

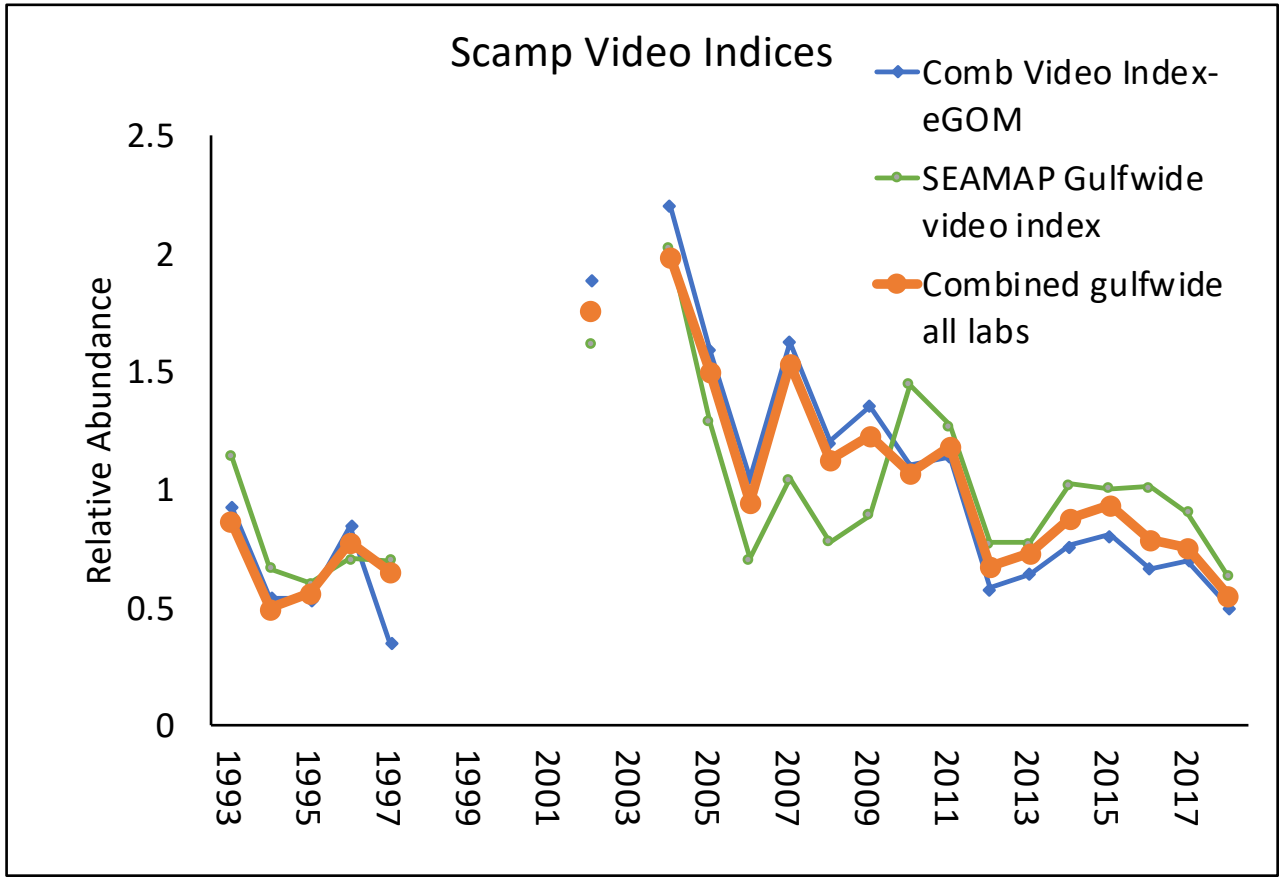
Combined video index eGOM

- Pros:
  - Largest sample size possible for the eGOM by using data from PC, Pascagoula (SEAMAP), and FWRI
  - Covers several habitat, depth, and spatial strata
  - Length comps for this species are very similar
  - Large selectivity range for gear
- Updated to include Western GOM SEAMAP data



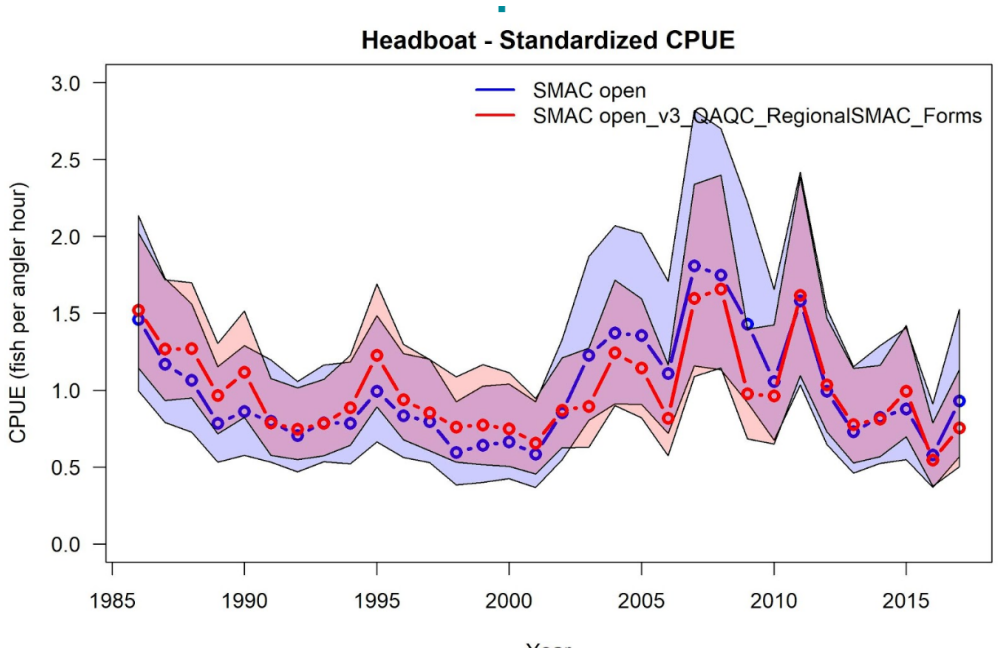
Camera survey recommendations

- Recommend to use the updated combined video index
  - Largest sample size
  - Entire GOM sample range-most representative
  - West data weighting appropriate approach



Gulf Headboat Index

- Pros
  - Standard dataset and index used in regional assessments
  - Scamp not targeted specifically so likely more reflective of abundance than with other species
  - Research track opportunity to update data filtering and modeling procedure—Get in line with SA/Beaufort approach
- Issues
  - Regional issues not a problem
- Recommendation
  - To be used in assessment



Review and next steps

- 2 indices recommended for the assessment
  - Headboat
  - Combined video index with west data
- To be reviewed
  - Ongoing trap/camera selectivity discussion in South Atlantic
  - Fishery dependent indices in prep
    - Logbook indices: Longline and Vertical line, pre- and post-IFQs
    - Commercial index from observer program data