



## **SEDAR 103 Caribbean Application of Alternate Assessment Methods**

### **Terms of Reference**

**August 13, 2025**

#### **Methods Development Workshop Terms of Reference:**

1. Review SEFSC data triage efforts for US Caribbean species and determine what types of alternative methods may be feasible for implementation.
2. Examine non-traditional approaches to single species assessments to provide information for consideration in management. Additionally, consider novel ecosystem-based fishery management approaches that have not been applied in the US Caribbean. Approaches to be evaluated might include (but not limited to):
  - a. ecosystem reference points
  - b. ecosystem productivity or biodiversity approaches
  - c. portfolio approach
  - d. empirical management procedures
3. For the species listed in the island-based FMPs, provide recommendations of specific analytical procedures for developing management advice that can be used and implemented by the Council and effectively monitored to best meet legal mandates when using tools that are alternative or complementary to conventional stock assessment.
4. Provide research recommendations to advance development and implementation of other methods and necessary data collection that could be most easily applied in the US Caribbean; i.e., tools that are alternative or complementary to conventional stock assessment.
5. Prepare a report documenting the methods and analyses reviewed and the recommendations made by the panel.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION  
**CARIBBEAN FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**  
270 MUÑOZ RIVERA AVE. STE 401  
SAN JUAN PR 00918-1903



**Methods Application Terms of Reference:**

1. Apply approaches recommended at the model development workshop to some or all of the species listed in the island-based FMPs.
2. Review and recommend analytical approaches to ensure that the results are scientifically sound and following the review and consent of the SSC will provide information useful for management advice.
3. Provide recommendations to guide future SEDAR assessments in the US Caribbean.
4. Provide recommendations to further the development of analytical methods and necessary data collection that could be most easily applied in the US Caribbean; i.e., tools that are alternative or complementary to conventional stock assessment.
5. Prepare a report documenting the application of recommended approaches to species listed in the island-based FMPs. Evaluate and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the methods used given the available data.