



SEDAR

SouthEast Data, Assessment, and Review

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SEDAR 32A Gulf of Mexico Menhaden Review Workshop

Terms of Reference

1. Evaluate the data used in the assessment, addressing the following:
 - a) Are data decisions made by the Assessment Workshop sound and robust?
 - b) Are data uncertainties acknowledged, reported, and within normal or expected levels?
 - c) Are data applied properly within the assessment model?
 - d) Are input data series reliable and sufficient to support the assessment approach and findings?
2. Evaluate the methods used to assess the stock, taking into account the available data.
 - a) Are methods scientifically sound and robust?
 - b) Are assessment models configured properly and used consistent with standard practices?
 - c) Are the methods appropriate for the available data?
3. Evaluate the assessment findings with respect to the following:
 - a) Are abundance, exploitation, and biomass estimates reliable, consistent with input data and population biological characteristics, and useful to support status inferences?
 - b) Is the stock overfished? What information helps you reach this conclusion?
 - c) Is the stock undergoing overfishing? What information helps you reach this conclusion?
 - d) Is there an informative stock recruitment relationship? Is the stock recruitment curve reliable and useful for evaluation of productivity and future stock conditions?
 - e) Are the quantitative estimates of the status determination criteria for this stock reliable? If not, are there other indicators that may be used to inform managers about stock trends and conditions?
4. Consider how uncertainties in the assessment, and their potential consequences, are addressed.
 - Comment on the degree to which methods used to evaluate uncertainty reflect and capture the significant sources of uncertainty in the population, data sources, and assessment methods.
 - Ensure that the implications of uncertainty in technical conclusions are clearly stated.



5. Consider the research recommendations provided by the Assessment workshop and make any additional recommendations or prioritizations warranted.
 - Clearly denote research and monitoring that could improve the reliability of, and information provided by, future assessments.
 - Provide recommendations on possible ways to improve the SEDAR process.
6. Provide guidance on key improvements in data or modeling approaches which should be considered when scheduling the next assessment.
7. Prepare a Peer Review Summary summarizing the Panel's evaluation of the stock assessment and addressing each Term of Reference. Develop a list of tasks to be completed following the workshop. Complete and submit the Peer Review Summary report in accordance with the project guidelines.

The panel shall ensure that corrected estimates are provided by addenda to the assessment report in the event corrections are made in the assessment, alternative model configurations are recommended, or additional analyses are prepared as a result of review panel findings regarding the TORs above.