

# **SEDAR 6. Goliath Grouper and Hogfish Snapper**

## **Review Workshop**

### **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The task of the SEDAR Assessment Review Panel is to review the goliath grouper and hogfish stock assessments as to completeness, correctness, and adequacy under the Sustainable Fisheries Act. Do the assessments use the best available scientific information and techniques, both within the constraints of available time and manpower provided for the assessments? The Panel should also make recommendations for improvements in future data collection and assessments. The Review Panel will provide two reports to accompany the stock assessment report. The first is a consensus summary of the stock assessment that addresses the Terms of Reference and includes the peer review comments on the assessment, the Panel's findings on stock and fishery status, and recommendations biological benchmarks and status determination criteria necessary for management under SFA guidelines. The second is an Advisory Report that summarizes the status of the stock.

1. Evaluate the adequacy and appropriateness of fishery-dependent and fishery-independent data used in the assessment (i.e., are the input data scientifically sound and up to date?).
2. Evaluate the adequacy, appropriateness, application and results of models used to assess goliath grouper and hogfish stocks (e.g., measures of exploitation, abundance, and biomass).
3. Evaluate the adequacy, appropriateness, application, and results of models used to estimate population benchmarks and Sustainable Fisheries Act status determination criteria (e.g., MSY,  $F_{msy}$ ,  $B_{msy}$ , MFMT, MSST, and OY).
4. Evaluate the adequacy, appropriateness, and application of models used for rebuilding analyses where appropriate, and estimate, to the extent possible, generation time and rebuilding time in the absence of fishing mortality.
5. Develop recommendations for improving data collection and assessment and future research (both field and assessment).
6. Prepare a Consensus Summary report summarizing the peer review panel's evaluation of the goliath grouper and hogfish assessments and addressing the Terms of Reference. (Drafted during the Review Workshop, final report due two weeks later - February 12, 2004).
7. Prepare an Advisory Report on Stock Status, including summaries of fishery and population status and recommendations for biological benchmarks and SFA parameters. (Drafted during the Review Workshop, final report due two weeks later - February 12, 2004).

Each individual panelist will receive the stock assessments and other appropriate documents on these species for review approximately 10 days before the Panel meets.

The Panel's primary duty is to review the existing assessments. In the course of this review, the Chair may request a reasonable number of sensitivity runs, additional details of the existing assessments, or similar items from technical staff. However, the Review Panel is neither authorized to conduct or review an alternative assessment, nor to request an alternative assessment from the technical staff present. To do so would invalidate the transparency of the SEDAR process. If the Review Panel determines that the assessment models and results are not adequate and appropriate, then the Panel shall outline in its report the remedial measures that the Panel proposes to rectify those shortcomings.