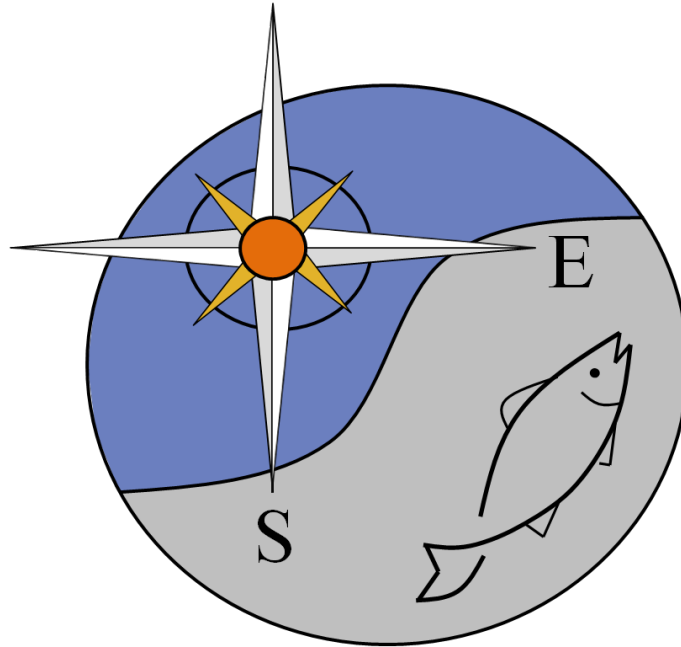


SEDAR



**SEDAR Steering Committee
Meeting Brief
July 20, 2026**

Meeting via Webinar

Webinar link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2931821820957570654>

Version: BB

7/1/26

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DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: February 2026 Draft Meeting Summary

Attachment 2: SEDAR Projects Update June 2026

Attachment 3: SEDAR SOPPs Appendices

Attachment 4: Peer Review Process Authorization FRN

Attachment 5: SEDAR Projects List

Attachment 6: Modifications to the Project Planning Grid from the February 2026 Steering Committee Summary

Attachment 7: Summer 2025 SEDAR Steering Committee Summary Report

Attachment 8: SEDAR Budget Summary

1 Introduction

1.1 Documents

- Agenda
- Attachment 1. February 2026 Draft Meeting Summary

1.2 Action

- Introduction
- Review and Approve Agenda
- Approve Meeting Summary

2 SEDAR Projects Report

2.1 Documents

Attachment 2. SEDAR Projects Update June 2026

2.2 Summary

Attachment 2 provides a summary of recently completed, current, and upcoming SEDAR

assessment projects.

Highlighted project developments:

SEDAR 99 Gulf of America King Mackerel

SEDAR Contact: Julie A. Neer

Summary: The Terms of Reference and Project Schedule for this assessment were approved October 2024. Initial Data scoping was held via email to the appointees and Interested Parties. There was a Data webinar in September 2025, and two assessment webinars held in May and June 2026. In June 2026, the Gulf Council received a presentation from the SEFSC regarding obtaining Mexican landings and length composition data, and their desire to include that information in the SEDAR 99 assessment. Additionally, the Council has requested that SEDAR conduct a Review Workshop to review the assessment once complete. A new project schedule is being produced, with a new completion date likely mid-2027.

2.3 *Action*

- Informational; none required

3 SEDAR Process Review and Discussion

3.1 *Documents*

Attachment 3: SEDAR SOPPs Appendices

Attachment 4: Peer Review Process Authorization FRN

3.2 *Summary*

Review of SEDAR SOPP Appendices

During the review and approval of the SEDAR SOPPs during the Winter 2026 meeting, the Committee identified several pieces of information that would serve as a compliment to the SOPPs and directed SEDAR staff to compile those items into several appendices for their consideration and review at the Summer 2026 meeting. Attachment 3 is provided for Committee review.

Discussion on the Independence of Cooperator Appointees for SEDAR Peer Review Process

The SEDAR review process was established as an acceptable peer review process in 2016, pursuant to Magnuson-Stevens and NS2 guidance (Attachment 4) to ensure that management measures be based on the best scientific information available. One of the stated guidelines NS2 guidelines is reviewer independence from the work being reviewed.

Recently, an individual was appointed to serve as a reviewer for the external peer review who also served as a member of the assessment panel. These appointments do not follow the general NS2 guidance, nor the SEDAR-specific guidance that anyone who serves as a panelist during the data or assessment stages of the process is not eligible to serve as a reviewer. The Cooperator was

reminded of this guidance but indicated the appointment was made because of the lack of individuals willing to serve as a reviewer.

The Committee is asked to discuss the issue of independence of Cooperator appointed reviewers, considering the guidance on independent reviewers and SEDAR's status as an approved peer review process.

3.3 *Action*

The Committee should:

- Discuss any issues and provide recommendations if needed
- Approve the SOPPs appendices if appropriate
- Provide guidance on approach and timing to revise appendices if needed
- Review appointment guidance for Cooperator appointed reviewers and revise recommendations if necessary

4. Assessment Schedule Review

4.1 *Documents*

Attachment 5. SEDAR Projects List

Attachment 6. Modifications to the Project Planning Grid from the August 2025 Steering Committee Summary

Attachment 7: Summer 2025 SEDAR Steering Committee Summary Report

4.2 *Summary*

The SEFSC will provide an update on the timing of final report on the MRIP-FES revised estimates and any potential delays in integrating the results into assessments. The Committee should discuss the potential approaches for updating assessments to include the new estimates that were presented by the SEFSC at the Summer 2025 Steering Committee meeting (Attachment 7) and provide recommendations as appropriate. The 2027 assessment priorities and timing need to be finalized so SEDAR staff may begin work on those projects, and the Committee should provide guidance on future projects (2028-2029) as possible.

4.3 *Action*

- Consider any needed modifications to the 2027 Projects
- Provide approach recommendations for incorporating new MRIP-FES estimates
- Discuss Future Project Requests (2028-2029)

5 Other Business

5.1 *Documents*

Attachment 8: SEDAR Budget Summary

5.2 Summary

CIE Review Prioritization Process:

The SEFSC is asked to provide information on the process the Center for Independent Experts uses to determine which requests for reviewers are funded.

SEDAR Grant Status Review:

SEDAR Staff will provide a status update on the current SEDAR grant.

Timing of Review Workshop Presentation Availability:

The introductory presentations prepared prior to the review workshop and presented during the first day provide an excellent way for the lead assessment team to summarize the work completed and direct the Review Panel to components of the assessment to elicit feedback. Recently several reviewers have asked if the presentations could be provided in advance of the meeting to help them focus their preparation efforts. The Committee is requested to discuss this possibility.

Management History Working Group Update:

During the Winter 2026 Steering Committee meeting, the Committee recommended that a working group be convened with representatives from each Cooperator and SEDAR to discuss the content and process for developing the management history for the assessments. The group would be convened after the SEFSC rolled out their management history tool. It was noted that the group would also discuss a process for using the database to develop the needed management histories for SEDAR assessments, including if there is any additional information that needs to be included that is not in the SEFSC management history tool.

As of this Overview release, the Center management history tool has not been released, so the working group has not been convened.

5.3 Action

- The Committee should discuss any issues and provide recommendations if needed.

6 Next Meeting

The Committee is asked to make scheduling recommendations and suggest topics for the next meeting. SEDAR Staff would suggest the following:

- In-person 1 - 1.5-day Meeting – Options include week of February 8, 15, 22

Table 1: SEDAR Project Grid - July 2026 SEDAR Steering Committee Discussion Grid

Table Color Legend:

Steering Committee Approved and SEFSC Scheduled Projects

FUTURE Requests

Steering Committee Approved, PENDING SEFSC SCHEDULING

Conducted External to SEDAR

SEDAR SCHEDULE OVERVIEW- July 2026 SEDAR Steering Committee DISCUSSION

Year	South Atlantic Branch				Gulf Branch						Caribbean Branch		HMS Branch		Florida FWC		Commission RW only							
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	1	2	1	2								
2026	S90 Red Snapper Benchmark	S108 BSB			S99 King Mackerel	S100 Gray Triggerfish	S98 Red Snapper Benchmark	S98 Red Snapper Benchmark	S105 Gag Grouper	S101 SandbarHMS Sharks	S103 Application of Alternate Assessment Methods		S101 HMS Sandbar Sharks	S770A Hammerhead Sharks	S94 Hogfish	S105 Gag Grouper								
		S104 Dolphin MSE RW																						
2027	Spanish Mack (TWG)	S106 Gag Grouper			MRIP and other data updates		Tilefish Complex	SATL- King Mackerel		S103 Application of Alternate Assessment Methods							S107 ASMFC Cobia RW							
	Red Grouper (DW/Stock ID)		Vermilion			Scamp (LH TWG)			Greater Amberjack (DW requested)			Gray Snapper									GSMFC Menhaden RW			
				Snowy (TWG)									Vermillion											
2028	Red Porgy (TWG)	GAJ (TWG)			Cobia, Lane, Spanish Data Limited Workshop (PW/DW)	Yellowedge		Red Grouper	Red Snapper				Bull Sharks		Gulf Red Grouper		ASMFC Menhaden							
2029	Tilefishes	Scamp																						
2030																								
2031																								
2032																								

Timing of projects shown in this table is approximate and is intended for SEDAR Steering Committee workload planning purposes only. Please consult individual project schedules for specific start and end dates.