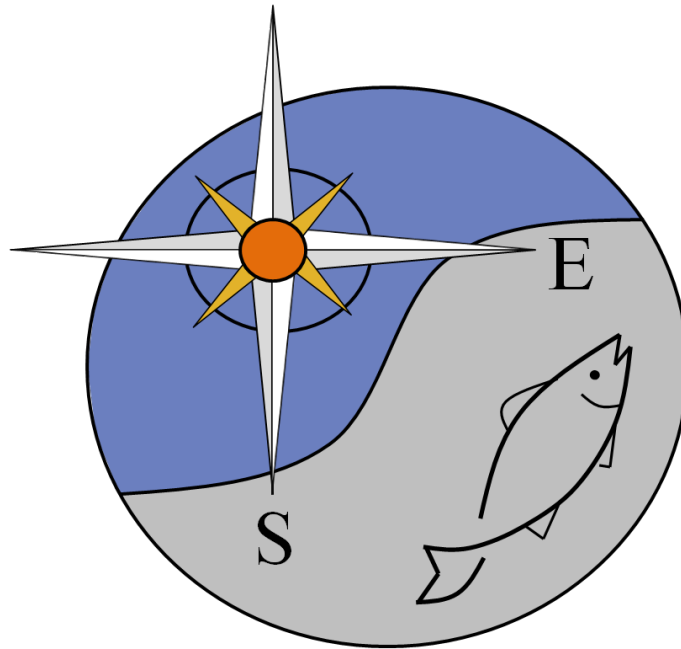


SEDAR



**SEDAR Steering Committee
Meeting Brief
February 11-12, 2026**

Charleston, SC

Webinar link:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8842168506585488990>

**Version: BB
1/26/26**

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DOCUMENTS:

Attachment 1: August 2025 Draft Meeting Summary

Attachment 2: SEDAR Projects Update January 2026

Attachment 3: Impacts from 2025 Government Shutdown

Attachment 4: SEDAR SOPPs

Attachment 5: SEDAR Projects List

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

Attachment 7: SEDAR Process Infographics

1 Introduction

1.1 Documents

- Agenda
- Attachment 1. August 2025 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 January 2026

Attachment 3: Impacts from 2025 Government Shutdown

2.2 Summary

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

SEDAR created a table reflecting timing impacts on assessment schedules due to the 2025 Government Shutdown. Impacts are delineated by cooperator. The impacts reflect updated project schedules, or adjustments using the same timing between events as the original schedule. Modifications to the impacts may be influenced by the discussions from the Committee during the meeting.

2.3 Action

- Informational; none required

3 SEDAR Process Review and Discussion

3.1 Documents

Attachment 4: SEDAR SOPPs

3.2 Summary

SSC Feedback on Proposed Process Changes:

During the February 2025 SEDAR Steering Committee meeting, the Committee recommended that the Council Science and Statistics Committees (SSC) receive presentations on the proposed modifications to the SEDAR process so they may provide feedback before the changes are implemented. The Council Cooperators were asked to share the feedback they received from their SSCs. The Gulf Council shared their SSC feedback at the August 2025 Steering Committee. The South Atlantic Council are asked to share the feedback they received from their SSCs at the October 2025 SSC meeting.

SEDAR SOPPs

SEDAR staff revised the 2015 SEDAR SOPPs to reflect the SEDAR process changes that have been discussed at the Steering Committee meetings. The updated SOPPs documents current administrative practices and includes the current policies from the Reference and Process Components documents that the Committee has been acting under and approved over the last few years.

3.3 Action

The Committee should:

- Discuss any issues and provide recommendations if needed
- Approve the SOPPs if appropriate
- Recommend how often the SOPPs should be revised.

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

4.2 Summary

The SEFSC will provide an update on the current staffing and budget issues and discuss how that may impact the upcoming SEDAR schedule, particularly 2026. Additionally, the SEFSC will provide an update on the timing of final report on the MRIP-FES pilot project and potential delays in integrating the results into assessments. Topics for the future projects (2027-2029) discussion may include, but are not limited to, transferring analytic responsibilities for Gulf gag and red grouper from the SEFSC to the USF CEASA – SEFSC and FWC and holding SEDAR alternative assessment methods workshops for Gulf and South Atlantic stocks. Modifications to the schedules may be influenced by the discussions from the Committee during the meeting.

4.3 Action

- Consider any needed modifications to the 2026 Projects
- Discuss Future Project Requests (2027-2029)

5 Other Business

5.1 Documents

Attachment 7: SEDAR Infographics

5.2 Summary

Fishery Independent Surveys:

The SEFSC is asked to provide an update on National Headquarters request regarding Fishery-Independent Surveys and impacts this could have on the southeast fishery independent surveys.

New and Updated State Surveys:

The SEFSC is asked to provide an update on potential implications of new MS and AL creel surveys on Gulf assessments, and state surveys being developed in the South Atlantic region.

SEDAR Process Infographics:

SEDAR staff presented a series of infographics to aid in communication regarding changes to the SEDAR process at the Summer 2025 meeting. SEDAR staff created an additional series of process infographics further detailing modifications to the SEDAR process (Attachment 7). The Committee is asked to review the current graphics and provide comments, as well as suggestions for additional topics that should be considered.

Discussion of Management History Development and Content:

SEDAR and Council staff have had discussions regarding the management histories contained in the Introduction section of the final Stock Assessment Reports. These management histories are important for several reasons but are time consuming to prepare for Council staff. Staff would like to recommend a working group of SEDAR, Council, and SEFSC Staff be convened to review the management history development process and content. This group will review the content to ensure what is being provided is useful and determine an efficient process for developing these documents. The Committee is asked to provide feedback on the current uses of the management histories,, and discussion if a working group is needed.

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:

- Webinar 1-day Meeting – Options include week of July 6, 20, 27, Aug 10, 17, or 31

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

Table Color Legend:

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| Steering Committee Approved and SEFSC Scheduled Projects | FUTURE Requests |
| Steering Committee Approved, PENDING SEFSC SCHEDULING | No SEDAR Involvement |

SEDAR SCHEDULE OVERVIEW- February 2026 SEDAR Steering Committee DISCUSSION

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