

SEDAR – SouthEast Data, Assessment, and Review

Steering Committee Minutes

April 7, 2004

SEFSC, Miami FL

1. Introductions

The meeting convened at 10:10 am in the SEFSC Directors Office.

Steering Committee Members in Attendance:

Roy Crabtree, SERO RA
Nancy Thompson, SEFSC
Wayne Swingle, GMFMC
David Cupka, SAFMC
Bobbi Walker, GMFMC
Graciella Garcia-Moliner (for Miguel Rolon)

Other Attendees:

John Carmichael, SEDAR

2. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved.

3. Approval of January 2004 minutes.

The minutes of the prior meeting were approved with minor editorial comment.

4. Future Assessment Priorities

The Committee reviewed the current SEDAR Schedule before discussing future priorities. The Committee agreed to increase the planning horizon to 3 years (6 SEDAR cycles), to allow more notice for completing research projects and meeting potential data needs, and to allow each Council to prioritize needs for 2 SEDAR cycles.

After discussing each Council's assessment priorities, the Committee agreed on the following assessment schedule:

SEDAR8: Fall 2004 – February 2005, Caribbean Yellowtail Snapper and Spiny Lobster

All 3 workshops to be held in the Caribbean.

Additional Review: Florida Spiny Lobster

SEDAR9. March of 2005 - August 2005.

Gulf of Mexico Vermillion Snapper and Greater Amberjack

Review Gulf of Mexico Red Drum Escapement Estimates.

SEDAR10. September 2005 - February 2006

South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Gag Grouper

SEDAR11. March 2006 – August 2006.
Gulf and South Atlantic Gray Triggerfish

SEDAR12. September 2006 - February 2007.
South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Red Grouper
(Include 2005 data)

SEDAR13. March 2007 - August 2007.
Caribbean Yellowfin grouper, mutton and lane snapper.

Discussion of Atlantic/Gulf Spiny Lobster: The spiny lobster fishery is primarily prosecuted in Florida. The SEDAR Steering Committee recommends requesting the state of Florida to serve as the lead assessment agency and develop an assessment following the SEDAR workshop model. The SEFSC will provide additional support and assessment expertise if necessary. The assessment should be completed by February 2005 for review in the SEDAR 8 Review Panel.

General Workshop Information: Specific workshop dates will be selected at least 1 year in advance and so as not to conflict with currently scheduled Council and Commission Meetings, National scientific meetings (e.g. AFS), Holidays, and SEFSC obligations (e.g. ICCAT, NEFSC SARC). The SEDAR coordinator will work with Council Staff to determine workshop dates and locations.

Stock Assessment Update Priorities

South Atlantic Red Porgy for 2005

Shrimp as a possibility – explore assessment options and inclusion in SEDAR.

South Atlantic Vermillion Snapper and Black seabass for 2006

Long Term Priorities:

Councils should consider long-term priorities so that data collection programs can be implemented. The SEFSC will provide a summary of landings and current sampling intensity (total lengths and age structures, and number of trips sampled) by species to aid in planning and prioritization.

5. Funding

The SEFSC provided the Gulf Council with \$30,000 to help defray the travel and administrative expenses of SEDAR workshops.

6. SEDAR relation to Highly Migratory Species, esp. Coastal Sharks.

Tentative shark assessment schedule:

Summer 2005 – large coastal sharks

Summer 2006 – small sharks, sharpnose

These shark assessments will likely follow a SEDAR style assessment approach, including multiple workshops and an independent review.

7. Other Business

- Synchronizing Assessment and Management Planning

The Northeast Region uses a 'Coordinating Council' to plan both assessment and management plan activities. The SEDAR steering committee could serve a similar role. The Committee recommends that this be discussed further at a future meeting when more members are in attendance and supporting

materials can be prepared. Nancy Thompson will provide information on the NE coordinating council for distribution and review.

- Red Snapper

The Steering Committee reviewed the tentative agenda for the red snapper data workshop and discussed workshop organization and planning.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.