



# SEDAR

## *SouthEast Data, Assessment, and Review*

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405

Phone: (843) 571-4366 Fax: (843) 769-4520 SEDARweb.org

### SEDAR ## South Atlantic Tilefish

#### Operational Assessment

#### Terms of Reference

#### Option 1

1. Update the approved SEDAR 66 Atlantic Tilefish models with previously provided data, adding all new and recent available data sufficient for use in the stock assessment through 2022. Data providers may decide to include preliminary or partial 2024 data that could be used in the stock assessment models or projection analyses. Data inclusion for the stock assessment models and projection analyses will be determined by the lead analyst based on quantity and quality of the most recent data. Incorporate the latest BAM model configurations and updates to data calculation methodologies, detailing the changes made between the SEDAR 66 South Atlantic Tilefish Operational assessment model and the proposed SEDAR ## Operational assessment model.
2. Consider updated information on life history, steepness, discard mortality, commercial and recreational landings and discards. Note any particular concerns or problems with data collected in 2020 and beyond. Document any changes or corrections made and provide updated input data tables. Provide commercial and recreational landings and discards in pounds and numbers.
3. Update model parameter estimates and their variances, model uncertainties, estimates of stock status and management benchmarks, and provide the probability of overfishing occurring at specified future harvest and exploitation levels.
4. Explore alternate plus age/size group delineations in the assessment model (similar to SAW/SARC 58 for the northern stock) given the paucity of data collection on older individuals and previous issues with the model being sensitive to the selection of the multinomial likelihood function (if not done for 2021 update assessment).
5. Explore the use of life history generated by SCDNR Vertical Longline (SBLL) survey because of recent expansion of effort and spatial area.
6. Explore the use of life history data generated by the new South Atlantic Deepwater Longline Survey (SADLS) and previous pilot study data.
7. Review methods used to generate the commercial longline CPUE index (if not done for the 2021 update assessment).





# SEDAR

## *SouthEast Data, Assessment, and Review*

4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405

Phone: (843) 571-4366 Fax: (843) 769-4520 SEDARweb.org

8. Convene a topical working group including SSC representatives, industry representatives, and outside experts to meet via webinar or in-person. This group of specialists will evaluate the following subjects and document specific changes in input data or deviations from the SEDAR## South Atlantic Tilefish.
  - a. Review and explore the potential utility and incorporation of new life history information, including:
    - i. Data collected from expanded SCDNR SBLL survey, new cooperative SADLS survey, and SCDNR CRP pilot study (abundance, life history, etc). Examine spatial differences.
    - ii. Evidence for hermaphroditism in the South Atlantic (specifically the interpretation and applicability of analyses conducted in Gulf of Mexico by Lombardi-Carlson (2012)).
    - iii. Evidence for age or size dependence of spawning frequency and spawning season duration.
    - iv. Genetic evidence of connectivity between northern and southern stocks (McDowell, VIMS).
    - v. Evidence for potential northward range shift.
9. Develop a stock assessment report to address these TORs and fully document the input data, methods, and results.

