



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Melvin Bell, Chair | Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

AGENDA

SEDAR Committee
Town and Country
2008 Savannah Hwy
Charleston, SC 29407

Thursday, September 15, 2022 – 2:30 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. (Times subject to change)

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Committee Transcript (March 2022)

SEDAR Steering Committee Report (*Attachment 1*)

- a. Overview – Chip Collier
- b. **Committee Action:** review report and provide comments to the Council Chair for upcoming October SEDAR Steering Committee Meeting.

SEDAR Projects Update (*Attachment 2*).

- a. Overview – Chip Collier
- b. **Committee Action:** no action required.

Approve Scopes of Work for Gag, King Mackerel, and Red Porgy (*Attachments 3a-3c*).

- a. Review Scopes of Work – Chip Collier
- b. **Committee Action:** review documents, edit as needed and approve for submission to NMFS.

Other Business

Adjourn

Committee Members

Mel Bell, Chair
Carolyn Belcher, Vice Chair
Robert Beal
Tim Griner
Kerry Marhefka
Jessica McCawley
Trish Murphey
Andy Strelcheck

Attachments

Attachment 1: SEDAR Steering Committee Report May 2022 Report

Attachment 2: SEDAR Projects Update

Attachment 3a: Gag Operational Assessment Statement of Work

Attachment 3b: King Mackerel Operational Assessment Statement of Work

Attachment 3c: Red Pogy Operational Assessment Statement of Work

Staff Lead: Chip Collier (chip.collier@safmc.net)

OVERVIEW

SEDAR Committee

The Committee will approve the transcript from the March 2022 meeting and the agenda for the September 2022 Committee meeting.

May 2022 SEDAR Steering Committee Report - (*Attachment 1*)

Description: The SEDAR Steering Committee (Steering Committee) met in May 2022 to discuss SEDAR projects, SEDAR process, and assessment schedule. The delay in the Spanish Mackerel assessment was discussed by the Steering Committee and processes have been recommended to prevent this in the future. The Steering Committee was then briefed on the delay to SEDAR 79 Benchmark Assessment (Mutton Snapper) due to the pandemic.

The Steering Committee discussed three items relative to the SEDAR process review and discussion including topical working groups for operational assessments, Research Track Assessment Technical Chair, and SEDAR role in management strategy evaluations (MSE). The SEFSC indicated that topical working groups for operational assessments could lead to delays in the operational assessments; however, the committee was concerned with the approach suggested by the SEFSC. Finding technical chairs for Research Track Assessments has been difficult, and the Steering Committee approved SEDAR Coordinators chairing the Data and Assessment portions of the assessment. MSEs have not been used in management in the South Atlantic region. The Steering Committee recommended SEDAR should have a role to vet management procedures with harvest control rules particularly when developed for the first time. The SEDAR Peer Review process is the preferred approach for reviewing first applications of a tool.

Operational assessments for South Atlantic Red Grouper and Scamp and Research Track assessment for Gray Triggerfish were currently on schedule. The operational assessment for Vermillion Snapper could not be completed in 2023 and was recommended to be an interim analysis by updating the indices as a health check. The 2024 assessments (Gray Triggerfish, Tilefish, and Blueline Tilefish) were approved by the Steering Committee.

Under other business, the Steering Committee was briefed on SEFSC Updates and discussed terminal year of data for assessments, Independent Indices Procedural Workshop, website transition, Standard Operating Procedures and Policies development, and BSIA Regional Plan.

Committee Action: review report and provide comments to the Council Chair for upcoming October SEDAR Steering Committee Meeting.

SEDAR Projects Update – (*Attachment 2*)

Description: Staff will review the status of SAFMC SEDAR assessment projects. The projects update reports includes a brief description of the status of ongoing assessment projects and SAFMC future projects.

Committee Action: no action required.

SEDAR Scopes of Work – (*Attachments 3a-3c*)

Description: Scopes of work for operational assessments are due November 1 for NMFS review prior to consideration by the SEDAR Steering Committee for inclusion in the planning grid for 2025. Three species were recommended by the Council in March 2022 for an operational assessment in 2025: Gag, King Mackerel, and Red Porgy. Terminal year for the last assessments

were 2019 for Gag, 2017/2018 fishing year for King Mackerel, and 2017 for Red Porgy. The draft scopes of work were presented to the Scientific and Statistical Committee for their review at the April 2022 meeting and their comments have been added into the scopes of work.

Committee Action: review document, edit as needed and approve for submission to NMFS.

Other Business