



SEDAR

SouthEast Data, Assessment, and Review

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SEDAR ## South Atlantic Tilefish

Operational Assessment

Terms of Reference

Option 2

1. Submit all data used in the SEDAR 66 South Atlantic Tilefish SEDAR process. Add all new and recent available data sufficient for use in the stock assessment through 2023. Data providers may decide to include additional preliminary or partial data that could be used in the stock assessment models or projection analyses (check with analysts if unsure about what could or could not be used).
2. Update the approved SEDAR 66 Atlantic Tilefish models with all provided and relevant data. Incorporate the latest and most appropriate BAM model methodologies, including relevant advances in fisheries science, biology, population dynamics, and stock assessment science.
3. Apply appropriate model diagnostics and make expert determinations for data and model changes as necessary to improve the accuracy and precision of population estimates.
4. Detail all the input data and model changes made between the SEDAR 66 South Atlantic Tilefish Operational assessment model and the proposed SEDAR ## Operational assessment model. Write a final report describing all necessary details of the stock assessment model, data, and important issues. Include required management reference points and other important population dynamic information relevant for managers. Include a list of unresolved issues and research recommendations for future consideration.
5. 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.
6. Develop a stock assessment report to address these TORs and fully document the input data, methods, and results.

