

SAFMC SEDAR Projects Report

September 2018

Projects in Progress

SEDAR 58 Atlantic Cobia, Benchmark

SEDAR Contact: Julia Byrd

Summary:

Atlantic Cobia was originally scheduled as a Research Track assessment. However, at their May 2017 meeting, the SEDAR Steering Committee recommended conducting cobia as a Benchmark assessment, including a Stock ID evaluation based on the process developed by the Steering Committee in September 2016. Cooperators made workshop appointments for the Stock ID process in December 2018. The Stock ID Workshop was held April 10-12, 2018; the Stock ID Review Workshop was held June 5-7, 2018; the Joint Cooperator Technical Review was held July 30, 2018 via webinar; and the Science and Management Leadership Call was canceled due to guidance from the SEDAR Steering Committee which indicated this call was not necessary if there was not a change in the stock boundary. The final Cobia Stock ID Process Compiled Report was distributed August 17, 2018.

The ASMFC and SAFMC approved the assessment ToRs and schedule in May and June 2018, respectively. Appointments were made by both Cooperators in June 2018. The terminal year of the assessment is 2017. The schedule has been delayed approximately six weeks to allow for inclusion of the fully calibrated MRIP data. The current schedule includes a Data Workshop January 14-18, 2019 in Charleston, SC; Assessment webinars from April – August 2019; and a Review Workshop September 10-12, 2019 in the Beaufort, NC area. The assessment is scheduled to be complete in October 2019.

COUNCIL GUIDANCE: Due to the change in schedule, one appointed Council Representative, Anna Beckwith, will not be able to participate in the DW. The other Council Representative is Mel Bell. The Council could appoint another representative to the DW.

SEDAR 59 South Atlantic Greater Amberjack, Standard

SEDAR Contact: Julia Byrd

Summary:

A standard assessment was requested to allow consideration of video and headboat at-sea indices, to reconsider the use of age and length composition data, and to incorporate the latest BAM model configurations and updates to data calculation methodologies. The terminal year of the assessment was 2016, but due to delays in the fully calibrated MRIP data for use in assessments, the terminal year was advanced to 2017. The Council made appointments and approved the schedule and terms of reference in December 2017. A Data Scoping webinar was held on March 30, 2018. The original schedule included a data deadline for updated data of May 25, 2018; a

series of Assessment webinars from June – October 2018; and was scheduled to be complete in December 2018, and review by the SSC in Spring 2019.

On the Data Scoping webinar, there was discussion on the availability and inclusion of the fully calibrated MRIP estimates into SEDAR 59. Further discussions noted that availability of the fully calibrated MRIP data would affect all 2018 SEDAR Projects. The SEDAR 59 schedule was delayed to allow for the inclusion of fully calibrated MRIP data and for the advancement of the terminal year. The current schedule includes an updated data deadline of November 2, 2018 and a series of Assessment webinars from December 2018 – March 2019. The assessment is scheduled to be complete in mid-May 2019.

SEDAR 60 South Atlantic Red Porgy, Standard

SEDAR Contact: Julia Byrd

Summary:

A standard assessment was requested to allow consideration of new video index data, reconsider the use of age and length composition data, and to incorporate the latest BAM model configurations and updates to data calculation methodologies. The terminal year of the assessment is 2017. The Council made appointments and approved the schedule and terms of reference in December 2017. The original schedule included an updated data deadline of August 10, 2018; a series of webinars from June 2018 – January 2019; and was scheduled to be complete in March 2019.

To allow for inclusion of the fully calibrated MRIP data, the SEDAR 60 schedule was delayed. The current schedule includes a Data Scoping webinar which was held June 29, 2018; an in-person workshop February 5-7, 2019 in the Beaufort, NC area; and a series of webinars from January – April 2019. The assessment is scheduled to be complete in June 2019.

COUNCIL GUIDANCE: There is currently no Council Representative appointed to this project. Council members who are interested in participating are asked to review the schedule and consider if they are available.

Upcoming Projects – Planning Underway

SEDAR 64: Southeastern US Yellowtail Snapper, Benchmark

SEDAR Contact: Julie Neer

Summary: The State of Florida is taking the lead on the assessment of Southeastern US Yellowtail Snapper. SEDAR Staff worked with FWRI to produce a Project Schedule and Terms of Reference, which were approved by both Councils in June 2018. The Project Schedule has the assessment getting underway late 2018, with a raw data deadline in December 2018.

MRIP Revision Assessments

Species: South Atlantic: Red Grouper, Blueline Tilefish, Black Seabass, Vermilion Snapper

SEDAR Contact: South Atlantic: Julia Byrd

Summary: Revision assessments will include an update of the MRIP data, based on calibrations applied to address the effort survey change. No additional changes or data will be considered, and the terminal year of the assessment will not be advanced. Revision assessments were initially scheduled for development in late 2017 for SSC review in April 2018. The MRIP Transition Team recommended delaying assessment revisions until 2018, due to delays in the calibration processes and to include the full 3 years of side by side survey information (2015-2017). Revised data, addressing calibrations for both the effort and access point survey changes, were available through MRIP July 9, 2018. The SEFSC will need more time to complete additional adjustments so that data are ready for use in assessment.

SEFSC staff are currently preparing the revision assessments, and they are scheduled to be provided for SSC review at the October 15-17, 2018 SSC meeting.

Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Scamp, Research Track (1 or 2 stocks)

SEDAR Contact: Julia Byrd

Summary: A Scamp Research Track assessment was preliminarily scheduled to start the first quarter of 2018. At their May 2017 meeting, the SEDAR Steering Committee delayed the start of the Scamp Research Track assessment until 2019 due to the Research Track process not being adequately described. Because the project statement of work, addressing the research track approach, has not yet been provided by the SEFSC, the timing of this project is currently unknown. A planning team is scheduled to meet September 28, 2018 to develop a project schedule and Terms of Reference for review and approval by the Gulf and South Atlantic Council's.

2019 SEDAR Projects

A list of the 2019 South Atlantic SEDAR projects is below, with the assigned Coordinator noted in parentheses. SEFSC staff are currently developing a data deadline schedule for these projects. Once this is complete, SEDAR and SEFSC staff will hold a call to finalize data deadlines and workshop weeks. Planning for individual projects will get underway after this call, currently scheduled for late September 2018.

South Atlantic Tilefish Standard Assessment (Julia Byrd)

South Atlantic Snowy Grouper Update Assessment (Julia Byrd)

South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico King Mackerel Update Assessment (Julie Neer)

Atlantic Menhaden Review (Julia Byrd)

Table 1. Updated MRIP fully calibrated data delivery dates, and revised project completion dates.

Project	Original Data Delivery	REVISED Data Deadline; includes MRIP Fully Calibrated Data unless otherwise noted	Estimated Completion Date*	Terminat l Year
SEDAR 29 Update: HMS GoM Blacktip Shark	4/6/2018	8/3/2018	No changes	
SEDAR 59: SA Greater Amberjack	5/25/2018	11/2/2018	5/17/2019	2017
SEDAR 61: GoM Red Grouper	6/1/2018	8/17/2018 (except MRIP & related data) 11/16/2018 (MRIP and related data)	6/24/2019	2017
SEDAR 62: GoM Gray Triggerfish	7/13/2018	12/14/2018	8/16/2019	2017
SEDAR 60: SA Red Porgy	8/10/2018	11/30/2018	6/7/2019	2017
SEDAR 58: Atlantic Cobia	Pre-DW: 11/13/2018	Pre-DW: 12/21/2018	10/16/2019	2017

Table 2. SAFMC SEDAR Priorities

Plan Year	SEDAR #	Stocks	Approach	Terminal Data	Assessment Complete	Lead Agency
2018	58	Atlantic Cobia	Benchmark	2017	Late 2019	SEFSC
	59	Greater Amberjack	Standard	2017	May 2019	SEFSC
	60	Red Porgy	Standard	2017	Jun 2019	SEFSC
	NA	MRIP Revisions ¹	Revision	varies	TBD	SEFSC
	TBD	King Mackerel	TBD	TBD	TBD	SEFSC
2019	64	Yellowtail Snapper	Benchmark	TBD	Fall 2019	FL FWCC
	TBD	Snowy Grouper	Update	TBD	TBD	SEFSC
	TBD	Golden Tilefish ²	Standard	TBD	TBD	SEFSC
	TBD	Scamp, Gulf + SA	Research Track	TBD	Mid-2020	SEFSC
FUTURE PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED BY SAFMC						
2020 ³		Red Snapper	Research Track			
		Spanish Mackerel	Operational			
		Gag	Operational			
		Scamp (cont.)	RT/Operational			
2021		Gray Triggerfish	Research Track			
		Black Sea Bass	Operational			
		Red Grouper	Operational			
		Red Snapper (cont.)	RT/Operational			
2022		White Grunt	Research Track			
		Gray Triggerfish (cont.)	RT/Operational			
		TBD by Spring 2020				
		TBD by Spring 2020				

1. MRIP Revision Priorities: Red Grouper, Black Sea Bass, Vermilion Snapper, Blueline Tilefish
2. March 2018 request to begin golden Tilefish ASAP, in late 2018 if possible.
3. By 2020, all SEDAR Assessments will use the Research Track and Operational project categories.

