# SEDAR 19 Management Information Worksheet Red Grouper

Details of specific regulatory requirements, including actual dates when actions went into effect, are critical to explaining catch trends and properly evaluating fishery-dependent CPUE. Current and proposed management specifications are critical to evaluating stock status as required in the SEDAR Terms of Reference. Information on current rebuilding plans is necessary to develop appropriate projections. Finally, several assumptions are necessary for developing accurate projections to evaluate impacts of changes in future fishing mortality.

**Table 1. General Management Information** 

| Species                            | Red Grouper (Epinephelus morio)  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Management Unit                    | Southeastern US  |
| Management Unit Definition         | All waters within South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Boundaries |
| Management Entity                  | South Atlantic Fishery Management Council                              |
| Management Contacts SERO / Council | Jack McGovern/Rick DeVictor  |
| Current stock exploitation status  | Overfishing  |
| Current stock biomass status       | Unknown  |

| Criteria        | Current                      |                            | Results fro               | Results from SEDAR 19 |  |
|-----------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--|
|                 | Definition                   | Value                      | Definition                | Value                 |  |
| MSST            | MSST = [(1-M)]               | Unknown                    | MSST = [(1-               | TBD                   |  |
|                 | or 0.5 whichever             |                            | M) or 0.5                 |                       |  |
|                 | is greater]*B <sub>MSY</sub> |                            | whichever is              |                       |  |
|                 |                              |                            | greater]*B <sub>MSY</sub> |                       |  |
| MFMT            | $F_{MSY}$                    | $0.28^{1}$                 | $F_{MSY}$                 | TBD                   |  |
| MSY             | Yield at F <sub>MSY</sub>    | Not Specified              | Yield at F <sub>MSY</sub> | TBD                   |  |
| $F_{MSY}$       | F <sub>30%SPR</sub>          | $0.28^{1}$                 | $F_{MAX}$                 | TBD                   |  |
| OY              | Yield at F <sub>OY</sub>     | Not Specified              | Yield at F <sub>OY</sub>  | TBD                   |  |
| F <sub>OY</sub> | F <sub>45%SPR</sub>          | Not specified <sup>2</sup> | F <sub>OY</sub> =         | TBD                   |  |
|                 |                              |                            | 65%,75%,                  |                       |  |
|                 |                              |                            | 85% F <sub>MSY</sub>      |                       |  |
| M               | n/a                          | $0.20^{1}$                 | M                         | TBD                   |  |

Table 2. Specific Management Criteria

## **Table 3. Stock Rebuilding Information**

The current stock biomass status is unknown; no rebuilding plan required.

## **Table 4. Stock projection information**

(This provides the basic information necessary to bridge the gap between the terminal year of the assessment and the year in which any changes may take place or specific alternative exploitation rates should be evaluated.)

| Requested Information                               | Value                        |
|---|------------------------------|
| First Year of Management                            | 2011                         |
| Projection Criteria during interim years should be  | Fixed Exploitation; Modified |
| based on (e.g., exploitation or harvest)            | Exploitation; Fixed Harvest* |
| Projection criteria values for interim years should | Average of previous 3 years  |
| be determined from (e.g., terminal year, avg of X   |                              |
| years)  |                              |

\*Fixed Exploitation would be  $F=F_{MSY}$  (or  $F<F_{MSY}$ ) that would rebuild overfished stock to  $B_{MSY}$  in the allowable timeframe. Modified Exploitation would be allow for adjustment in  $F<=F_{MSY}$ , which would allow for the largest landings that would rebuild the stock to  $B_{MSY}$  in the allowable timeframe. Fixed harvest would be maximum fixed harvest with  $F<=F_{MSY}$  that would allow the stock to rebuild to  $B_{MSY}$  in the allowable timeframe.

First year of Management: Earliest year in which management changes resulting from this assessment are expected to become effective

*interim years*: Those between the terminal assessment year and the first year that any management could realistically become effective.

Projection Criteria: The parameter which should be used to determine population removals, typically either an exploitation rate or an average landings value or a pre-specified landings target.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Potts and Brennan (2001)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Potts and Brennan (2001) report that the F to obtain 40% SPR is 0.17.

**Table 5. Quota Calculation Details**If the stock is managed by quota, please provide the following information

| Current Quota Value                     | N/A |
|---|-----|
| Next Scheduled Quota Change             | N/A |
| Annual or averaged quota?               | N/A |
| If averaged, number of years to average | N/A |
| Does the quota include bycatch/discard? | N/A |

There is currently not a quota specified for this stock.

Table 6. Federal Regulatory and FMP History

| Description of Action                                 | FMP/Amendment | Effective Date |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| 4" trawl mesh size; Red grouper 12" TL size           | Original FMP  |                |
| limit   | (SAFMC 1983)  | 8/31/83        |
| Prohibit trawls                                       | Amendment 1   | 1/12/89        |
|   | (SAFMC 1988)  |                |
| Prohibit fish traps, entanglement nets & longlines    |               |                |
| within 50 fathoms; Aggregate bag limit of 5           |               |                |
| groupers per person per day excluding Nassau          |               |                |
| and goliath grouper <sup>1</sup> ; Red grouper 20" TL |               |                |
| commercial and recreational minimum size limit        | Amendment 4   |                |
|   | (SAFMC 1991)  | 1/1/92         |
| Oculina Experimental Closed Area                      | Amendment 6   | 6/27/94        |
|   | (SAFMC 1993)  |                |
| Limited entry program: transferable permits and       |               |                |
| 225-lb non-transferable permits                       | Amendment 8   |                |
|   | (SAFMC 1997)  | 12/98          |
| Within the 5 fish aggregate grouper bag limit, no     |               |                |
| more than 2 fish may be gag or black grouper          | Amendment 9   | 2/24/99        |
| (individually or in combination); Vessels with        | (SAFMC 1998a) |                |
| longlines may only possess deepwater species          |               |                |
| MSY proxy for red grouper is 30% static SPR;          | Amendment 11  | 12/2/99        |
| OY proxy is 45% static SPR                            | (SAFMC 1998b) |                |
| Establish eight deepwater Type II marine              | Amendment 14  |                |
| protected areas to protect a portion of the           | (SAFMC 2007)  | 2/12/09        |
| population and habitat of long-lived deepwater        |               |                |
| snapper grouper species                               |               |                |
| Reduce the 5 aggregate grouper bag limit to 3;        | Amendment 16  | IN NOAA        |
| Reduce the 2 gag/black bag (individually or in        | (SAFMC 2008)  | REVIEW –       |
| combination) bag limit from 2 to 1; when gag          |               | REGULATIONS    |
| quota met, prohibit harvest of, possession, and       |               | NOT            |
| retention of shallow water groupers (which            |               | ESTSABLISHED   |
| includes red grouper)                                 |               |                |

<sup>1</sup>The following species are included in the grouper aggregate: snowy grouper, gag, black grouper, golden tilefish, misty grouper, red grouper, scamp, tiger grouper, yellowedge grouper, yellowfin grouper, yellowmouth grouper, blueline tilefish, sand tilefish, coney, graysby, red hind, and rock hind.

## **Table 7. State Regulatory History**

#### TO BE PROVIDED BY STATE REPRESENTATIVES

**Table 8. Annual Regulatory Summary** 

| Comme       | Commercial Fishery R |                         | Recreational Fishery   |  |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Regulations |                      | Regulations             |                        |  |
| Effective   | Size Limit           | Size Limit Possession L |                        |  |
| Date        |                      |                         |                        |  |
| 8/31/83     | 12" TL               | 12" TL                  |                        |  |
| 1/1/92      | 20" TL               | 20" TL                  | 5 grouper              |  |
|             |                      |                         | aggregate/person/day   |  |
| 2/24/99     |                      |                         | Within the 5 grouper   |  |
|             |                      |                         | aggregate, no more     |  |
|             |                      |                         | than 2 fish may be gag |  |
|             |                      |                         | or black (individually |  |
|             |                      |                         | or in combination)     |  |

#### References

- Potts, J.C. and K. Brennan. 2001. Trends in catch data and static SPR values for 15 species of reef fish landed along the southeastern United States. Report for South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Charleston, SC. 42pp.
- SAFMC (South Atlantic Fishery Management Council). 1983. Fishery Management Plan, Regulatory Impact Review and Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 1 Southpark Circle, Suite 306, Charleston, South Carolina, 29407-4699.
- SAFMC (South Atlantic Fishery Management Council). 1988. Amendment Number 1 and Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Impact Review to the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 1 Southpark Cir., Suite 306, Charleston, S.C. 29407-4699. 63 pp.
- SAFMC (South Atlantic Fishery Management Council). 1991. Amendment Number 4, Regulatory Impact Review, Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis and Environmental Assessment for the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 1 Southpark Cir., Suite 306, Charleston, S.C. 29407-4699. 200 pp.

- SAFMC (South Atlantic Fishery Management Council). 1993. Amendment Number 6, Regulatory Impact Review, Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis and Environmental Assessment for the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 1 Southpark Cir., Suite 306, Charleston, S.C. 29407-4699. 155 pp.
- SAFMC (South Atlantic Fishery Management Council). 1997. Amendment Number 8, Regulatory Impact Review, Social Impact Assessment, Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis and Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 1 Southpark Cir., Ste 306, Charleston, S.C. 29407-4699. 124 pp.
- SAFMC (South Atlantic Fishery Management Council). 1998a. Amendment Number 9, Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement, Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis/Regulatory Impact Review, and Social Impact Assessment/Fishery Impact Statement for the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 1 Southpark Cir., Suite 306, Charleston, S.C. 29407-4699. 246 pp.
- SAFMC (South Atlantic Fishery Management Council). 1998b. Comprehensive Amendment Addressing Sustainable Fishery Act Definitions and Other Required Provisions in Fishery Management Plans of the South Atlantic Region (Amendment 11 to the Snapper Grouper Fishery Management Plan). South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 1 Southpark Cir., Suite 306, Charleston, S.C. 29407-4699. 151 pp.
- SAFMC (South Atlantic Fishery Management Council). 2007. Final Amendment Number 14, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis/Regulatory Impact Review, and Social Impact Assessment/Fishery Impact Statement for the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place, Ste 201, North Charleston, S.C. 29405.
- SAFMC (South Atlantic Fishery Management Council). 2008. Amendment Number 16, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis/Regulatory Impact Review, and Social Impact Assessment/Fishery Impact Statement for the Fishery Management Plan for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region. South Atlantic Fishery Management Council, 4055 Faber Place, Ste 201, North Charleston, S.C. 29405. 375 pp.