



# SEDAR

## SouthEast Data, Assessment, and Review

4055 Faber Place Drive #201  
North Charleston SC 29405

Phone (843) 571-4366  
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www.sedarweb.org

### SEDAR South Atlantic Tilefish Assessment\*

#### Terms of Reference

1. Update the approved SEDAR 25 South Atlantic Tilefish base model with data through 2014.
2. Document any changes or corrections made to the model and input datasets 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, and estimates of stock status and management benchmarks. Identify other sources of scientific uncertainty that are not already included in the model uncertainties
4. Provide stock projections, including a pdf for biological reference point estimates and yield separated for landings and discards reported in pounds and numbers. Projection outputs shall include relevant population parameters including recruitment, spawning and stock biomass, population abundance, exploitation rates and the probability that biomass and exploitation exceed reference values for MFMT and MSST. Projection criteria:
  - Probability of overfishing ( $P^*$ ) = 50% and 35%.
  - If the stock is determined to be overfished, provide the probability of rebuilding within mandated time periods based on  $F=0$ ,  $F=F_{current}$ ,  $F=F_{rebuild}$ , and  $F=F_{msy}$ . For this analysis,  $F_{rebuild}$  is defined as the maximum exploitation that rebuilds the stock in the maximum time allowed; evaluate at  $P_{rebuild} = 50\%$  and  $65\%$ . In addition to reporting yield and stock status as described above, for this projection also report the probability of  $SSB > SSB_{msy}$ .
5. Develop a stock assessment update report to address these TORS and fully document the input data and results of the stock assessment update.

NOTE: The intent of the assessment update approach is to expedite appraisals of stock status by using only the methods and data sets used in the base model and approved during the preceding SEDAR assessment of that stock. Accordingly, it is not the intent of this update to resolve any outstanding issues identified in the initial SEDAR 25 assessment.

\*This assessment is following an update assessment approach.





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### MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert Mahood, Executive Director, SAFMC  
FROM: Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator  
DATE: July 30, 2015  
RE: Notification of Schedule Availability and Request for Approval of Terms of Reference for SEDAR 47, Southeastern U.S. Goliath Grouper

Enclosed you should find the Project Schedule for SEDAR 47 Southeastern U.S. Goliath Grouper. This assessment is being conducted by the State of Florida, with SEDAR coordinating only the assessment review process. This schedule has been developed with and approved by the lead analytic team and is being provided to you for your information.

Additionally enclosed are draft Review Workshop Terms of Reference for SEDAR 47. These Terms of Reference have been produced in consultation with the FWC. Please review this information, modify if necessary, and approve according to Council SEDAR procedures.

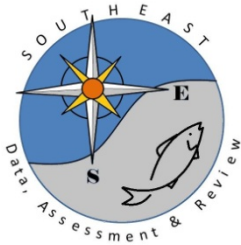
I would appreciate it if these Terms of Reference could be included for discussion at your earliest convenience. Please inform me of the results of your consideration by October 30, 2015.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

cc

John Carmichael





**SEDAR 47**  
**Southeastern U.S. Goliath Grouper**  
**Schedule of Events**

**July 2015**

Schedule Approved .....	August 2015
Terms of Reference Approved .....	October 2015
Workshop Appointments Final .....	October 2015
Final Assessment Report to SEDAR staff.....	April 15, 2016
RW Working Paper Submission .....	April 29, 2016
Final distribution to review panel.....	April 29, 2016
<i>RW Panel Introductory Conference Call (RW Panel, Chair) .....</i>	<i>week of May 9th, 2016</i>
<b>Review Workshop: (St. Petersburg, FL).....</b>	<b>May 17-19, 2016</b>
Draft Review Reports .....	May 19, 2016 (end of workshop)
Review Workshop Panel Drafts due to Chair .....	June 3, 2016
Review Workshop Addenda/Revision Reports due to Chair & SEDAR Staff.....	June 3, 2016
Review Workshop Reports due to SEDAR Staff:.....	June 10, 2016
Complete Assessment Report Submitted to Councils/SERO/SEFSC.....	June 17, 2016



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### **SEDAR 47 Southeastern U.S. Goliath Grouper Review Workshop Terms of Reference**

**DRAFT: July 2015**

#### **Review Workshop Terms of Reference**

1. Evaluate the data used in the assessment, including discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of data sources and decisions, and consider the following:
  - a) Are data decisions made by the data providers and assessment analysts sound and robust?
  - b) Are data uncertainties acknowledged, reported, and within normal or expected levels?
  - c) Are data applied properly within the assessment model?
  - d) Are input data series reliable and sufficient to support the assessment approach and findings?
2. Evaluate and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the methods used to assess the stock, taking into account the available data, and considering the following:
  - a) Are methods scientifically sound and robust?
  - b) Are assessment models configured properly and used consistent with standard practices?
  - c) Are the methods appropriate for the available data?
3. Evaluate the assessment findings and consider the following:
  - a) Are abundance, exploitation, and biomass estimates reliable, consistent with input data and population biological characteristics, and useful to support status inferences?
  - b) Is the stock overfished? What information helps you reach this conclusion?
  - c) Is the stock undergoing overfishing? What information helps you reach this conclusion?
  - d) Is there an informative stock recruitment relationship? Is the stock recruitment curve reliable and useful for evaluation of productivity and future stock conditions?
  - e) Are the quantitative estimates of the status determination criteria for this stock reliable? If not, are there other indicators that may be used to inform managers about stock trends and conditions?
4. Evaluate the stock projections, including discussing strengths and weaknesses, and consider the following:
  - a) Are the methods consistent with accepted practices and available data?
  - b) Are the methods appropriate for the assessment model and outputs?
  - c) Are the results informative and robust, and useful to support inferences of probable future conditions?

- d) Are key uncertainties acknowledged, discussed, and reflected in the projection results?
5. Consider how uncertainties in the assessment, and their potential consequences, are addressed.
    - Comment on the degree to which methods used to evaluate uncertainty reflect and capture the significant sources of uncertainty in the population, data sources, and assessment methods.
    - Ensure that the implications of uncertainty in technical conclusions are clearly stated.
  6. Consider the research recommendations provided and make any additional recommendations or prioritizations warranted.
    - Clearly denote research and monitoring that could improve future assessments
  7. Consider whether the stock assessment constitutes the best scientific information available using the following criteria as appropriate: relevance, inclusiveness, objectivity, transparency, timeliness, verification, validation, and peer review of fishery management information.
  8. Provide guidance on key improvements in data or modeling approaches that should be considered when scheduling the next assessment.
  9. Prepare a Peer Review Summary summarizing the Panel's evaluation of the stock assessment and addressing each Term of Reference.