

# South Atlantic Fishery ~~Dependent~~ Monitoring Program Data Inventory Workshop

## Scope of Work

June 2014

### Description

In December 2013 the Council directed that a workshop be held to develop recommendations for fishery dependent monitoring of the snapper-grouper fishery. It was suggested that this workshop will follow an approach similar to the 2009 joint SAFMC-SEFSC workshop which led to recommendations for a comprehensive fishery independent monitoring program.

The SSC reviewed the workshop plan in April 2014 and recommended that its scope be expanded to also address fishery independent data, indicating that the primary goal of creating an inventory was also needed for fishery independent data sources. The title is changed as indicated to reflect the expanded scope.

### Objectives

**NEW: Workshop goals are to develop an inventory of fishery monitoring information available for those resources managed by the South Atlantic Council, including both dependent and independent sources; obtain descriptive information (metadata) on monitoring datasets; and recommended best practices for improving and reporting findings from monitoring programs in the future.**

The Council is asked to provide guidance on workshop goals and objectives

*In discussion of this topic both with the SSC and SEFSC, a common topic that emerged is the lack of comprehensive documentation on sources of fishery dependent biological monitoring information across state and federal agencies. One suggestion as an efficient use of the workshop format is to document existing region-wide sampling information and develop a process for documenting and reporting ongoing sampling effort. Possible objectives include:*

*1. Document fishery ~~dependent~~ biological sampling (lengths, ages, weights) information across the South Atlantic region, considering both State and Federal data collectors and providers.*

**NEW. Document sources of fishery independent information across the South Atlantic region, considering both State and Federal data collectors and providers.**

*2. Obtain and document the associated metadata - coverage, methods, sources, where housed, how to access, etc, for both historic and ongoing program.*

*3. Recommend best practices for developing sampling targets, tabulating ongoing sampling activities, and reporting sampling intensity to the Council and Agency. Consider reporting methods, such as SAFE reports, as well as reporting frequency.*

#### Time and Place

**Time and Place is to be determined.**

Considering the current SEDAR schedule and the effort necessary to develop an inventory, staff recommends holding the workshop in the latter half of 2015.

#### Planning and Organization

A planning committee composed of Council, SSC, state agency, and SEFSC representatives will be convened to develop specific objectives, Terms of Reference, and identify participants and necessary documentation.

Planning Committee suggestions:

John Carmichael (SAFMC/SEDAR), Council administrative lead

SEFSC administrative lead

SEFSC Beaufort assessment group and Headboat representatives

TIP program representative

SSC representative : **George Sedberry, Churchill Grimes, Chip Collier**

ACCSP representative

SEDAR representative: Julia Byrd

#### Participants

A list of desired participants will be developed by the Planning Committee.

This will depend on specific objectives, as well as available funding.

#### Workshop Terms of Reference

To be developed by the Planning Committee