

South Atlantic Fishery Dependent Monitoring Program Workshop COUNCIL DISCUSSION DRAFT

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.

Objectives

The goals are to improve fishery dependent monitoring of South Atlantic resources and ensure that appropriate sampling targets are achieved.

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.*
- 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 frequency.*

Time and Place

Time and Place is to be determined.

Planning and Organization

Staff recommends that a planning committee composed of Council, SSC, state agency, and SEFSC representatives 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 (2)

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