



**NOAA
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SEFSC

Beaufort Lab

Southeast Region Headboat Survey Data Evaluation

**Southeast Fisheries Science Center
June 2015**

Southeast Region Headboat Survey (SRHS)

- Administered by the NMFS Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC)
- Has operated along the southeast coast of the U.S. South Atlantic since 1972 and in the Gulf of Mexico since 1985.
- The survey is the longest continuous time series of recreational fisheries data on the U.S. East Coast.
- SRHS data are used in stock assessments for a suite of reef-associated and pelagic species managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council.
- The SRHS involves self-reported catch and effort data by Headboat personnel (all trips), as well as catch, effort and biological data collected by SRHS port agents (a subset of trips).

Issue Background

- Aug 4-8, 2014 - SEDAR 41 Data Workshop was held for Red Snapper and Gray Triggerfish
- Aug 27, 2014 - SEDAR41-DW40 working paper submitted, which asserted:
 - Southeast Region Headboat Data (SRHS) data should not be used prior to 1992 because of:
 1. Errors in self-reported data, resulting from:
 - a. Late reporting and recall bias
 - b. Non-participant personnel filling out forms
 2. Regulatory changes over time
- SEDAR put on hold to allow time for a thorough response and treatment of the data

Approach

- Programmatic
 - Assessment of SRHS protocols and policies relevant to data quality control and the ability to detect misreported data
- Analytical
 - Catch Record (Logbook) Analysis
 - Pattern analysis and outlier detection methods
 - Basic assumption: central tendency of data is unbiased
 - Biological Sample Comparison
 - Compare dock side samples to catch records

Progress

- Programmatic section is nearly complete, write-up continuing
- Finishing up the statistical analysis portion of Analytical section for South Atlantic
 - write-up started

Next Steps

- Finishing writing report
- Go through internal review (Information Quality Act)
- Meeting with GC over confidentiality issues
- Based on GC meeting, generate a non-confidential version of report

Final Products

- Complete, internal (confidential) version of report
- Public version of report
- SEDAR 41 working paper
- Recommendations for future use of the SRHS data

Questions?