



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Carolyn N. Belcher, Ph.D., Chair | Trish Murphey, Vice Chair
John Carmichael, Executive Director

AGENDA

SEDAR Committee

Town and Country Inn
2008 Savannah Highway
Charleston, SC 29407

Tuesday, September 12, 2023, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Approval of Agenda

Approval of minutes (March 2023)

1. May 2023 SEDAR Steering Committee Report (*Attachment 1*)
 - a. Update on the May 2023 Meeting – Chip Collier
 - b. **Committee Action:** None
2. Update on SEDAR Projects (*Attachment 2*)
 - a. Overview - Chip Collier
 - b. **Committee Action:** None.
3. Statements of Work for 2026 (*Attachment 3*)
 - a. Overview – Chip Collier
 - b. **Committee Action:** Consider the statements of work for approval and submission to the Southeast Fishery Science Center.
4. Other Business
 - a. SEDAR 86 (Red Grouper) Modifications – Chip Collier
 - b. Impact of Marine Recreational Information Program Pilot Study Evaluating Measurement Error – Chip Collier
 - c. **Committee Action:** None.

Adjourn

Committee Members:

Carolyn Belcher, Chair
Trish Murphey, Vice-chair
Robert Beal
Mel Bel
Tim Griner
Kerry Marhefka
Jessica McCawley
Andy Strelcheck

Attachments:

Attachment 1: April 2023 SEDAR Steering Committee Meeting Summary
Attachment 2: SEDAR Projects Update
Attachment 3: Draft Statements of Work 2026

Staff Lead: Chip Collier (chip.collier@safmc.net)

OVERVIEW

SEDAR Committee

The Committee will approve the minutes from the March 2023 meeting and the agenda for the September 2023 Committee meeting.

1. **May 2023 SEDAR Steering Committee Report (*Attachment 1*)**

Description: The SEDAR Steering Committee met in May 2023 to discuss SEDAR process and assessment schedule, recommend projects for 2025, and was provided updates on current projects. A few of the highlights include:

- 1) the SEDAR Steering Committee stated it would be beneficial to include Benchmark Assessments as part of the assessment portfolio (SEDAR staff will revise the SEDAR Guidance Document to allow for benchmark assessments),
- 2) hybrid meetings would be allowed if the cooperator requested it, but the cooperator may be required to provide logistical and financial support if needed,
- 3) Gag Grouper and King Mackerel operation assessments requests were approved.
- 4) Red Porgy operational assessment has not been scheduled due to limited capacity for data provision at the SEFSC.

Required Committee Action: No action is required.

2. **SEDAR Projects Update (*Attachment 2*)**

Description: Staff will review the status of SEDAR assessment projects that impact stocks managed by the SAFMC. The projects update report includes a brief description of the status of ongoing assessment projects and SAFMC future projects.

Required Committee Action: No action is required.

3. **Statements of Work for 2026 Projects (*Attachment 3*)**

Description: The Committee is asked to review the draft scopes of work for the Snowy Grouper Operational Assessment, Spanish Mackerel Benchmark, and Dolphinfish Management Strategy Evaluation, and provide comments and feedback. These draft statements of work include comments provided by the SSC at their July 2023 meeting. The Committee should review and provide guidance on requested model modifications appropriate for the upcoming assessments and type of review.

Required Committee Action: Consider the statements of work for approval and submission to the Southeast Fishery Science Center.

4. **Other Business**

SEDAR 86 (Red Grouper) Modifications and Marine Recreational Information Program Pilot Study Impacts

Description: The SSC is holding a webinar on September 7, 2023 to discuss potential modifications to SEDAR 86 (Red Grouper) Operational Assessment. The SEFSC investigated Red Grouper data and has identified potentially two stocks of Red Grouper in the South Atlantic region. A recommendation on potential approaches for the assessment will be provided by the SSC during Snapper Grouper Committee.

Impacts of MRIP's Pilot Study Evaluating Measurement Error.

The Office of Science and Technology conducted a pilot study to evaluate sources of bias in the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) survey. During the pilot, the order of questions impacted the scale of the effort. Staff will provide an update on upcoming assessments and potential impacts.

Required Committee Action: No action is required.