<u>FINAL</u> SUMMARY REPORT SEDAR COMMITTEE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL Jekyll Island, GA March 7, 2018

The Committee approved minutes from the December 2017 meeting and the agenda for this meeting.

Assessment Projects update

Council staff provided an update of SEDAR projects that are underway. Assessments of Black Sea Bass and Vermilion Snapper will be reviewed by the SSC in May.

SAFMC SEDAR Committee

Council staff gave a presentation on the SEDAR process and the role of the SAFMC SEDAR Committee.

SEFSC SEDAR Improvements – Other Business

Dr. Cisco Werner, acting Director for the SEFSC, gave a presentation on approaches for increasing assessment productivity. This included implementing the Research Track – Operational Assessment framework and providing interim analyses of assessed stocks. The SSC will review an example interim analysis at its May meeting. The Committee supports efforts to increase productivity.

SEDAR Steering Committee Guidance

The Committee provided the following guidance for the SAFMC SEDAR Steering Committee representatives:

- Request addressing Red Grouper through the first MRIP revision assessment.
- Conduct the next King Mackerel assessment as a standard assessment.
- Request that the SEFSC provide guidance on stocks to consider for a first benchmark assessment in 2023 and 2024, considering the priority stocks based on the prioritization tool and Wreckfish.

No Motions were made.