

## SEDAR Projects Report

Feb 2021

### Completed

#### SEDAR 36 South Atlantic Snowy Grouper, 2020 Update

**SEDAR Contact:** Kathleen Howington

**Summary:** The TORs were approved by the SAFMC in December 2018. The terminal year for data was 2018. The completion date was postponed by a month due to complications discovered in the data process. The completion date was November 2020. The assessment was reviewed by the SSC in January 2021 and a revised version was released January 31, 2021. The revision includes a correction in the current F over  $F_{MSY}$  on several pages and did not impact the results of the assessment.

### Projects in Progress

#### SEDAR 66 South Atlantic Tilefish, Operational

**SEDAR Contact:** Kathleen Howington

**Summary:** The TORs were approved by SAFMC in December 2018. The terminal year for data is 2018. The schedule was postponed due to concerns raised by the SSC about the MRIP numbers. The assessment restarted with a data scoping webinar April 27, 2020. An in-person workshop was scheduled for November 16-19, 2020 in Beaufort, NC. However, given the difficulty of scheduling in-person meetings due to COVID-19 the workshop was changed to a series of webinars. The webinar workshop occurred over four 5-hour long webinars held November 16, 17, 18, and 19 of 2020. The assessment process will occur over a series of webinars from December 2020 to April 2021. The completion date is April 7, 2021.

#### SEDAR 68: Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Scamp, Research Track (2 stocks)

**SEDAR Contact:** Julie A Neer

**Summary:**

The Data Workshop was scheduled to be held March 16-20, 2020, but it was cancelled due to safety concerns regarding COVID-19. The process continued via a remote process, with individual working groups meeting to review the available data and come up with pre-decisional recommendations. Those pre-decision recommendations were presented on a publicly-noticed Data Process Plenary Webinars held in April, May, and September, where the entire Panel, as well as members of the public, were able to discuss them. The Assessment Development Team made final recommendations for a variety of data recommendations.

The assessment webinars are now scheduled to be held between December 2020 and March 2021. The Review Workshop is tentatively scheduled for June 2021, with an

operational assessment likely in early 2022, but that will depend on the progress of the assessment.

#### SEDAR 71 South Atlantic Gag Grouper, Operational

**SEDAR Contact:** Kathleen Howington

**Summary:** The TORs were approved by the Council in December 2019. The terminal year for data for this assessment is 2019. The assessment began with a data scoping call on May 12, 2020. The Assessment process will occur over a series of webinars from October 2020 to March 2021. The scheduled completion date is April 19, 2021.

#### SEDAR 73 South Atlantic Red Snapper, Operational

**SEDAR Contact:** Kathleen Howington

**Summary:** The South Atlantic Red snapper operational assessment is underway. The TORS and Schedule were approved by SAFMC in June of 2020. The terminal year of data is 2019. The assessment began with a data scoping call in July 2020. An in-person workshop was scheduled for December 2-3, 2020 in Beaufort, NC. However, given the difficulty of scheduling in-person meetings due to Covid-19, the workshop was changed to a series of webinars. The webinar workshop occurred over four 4-hour long webinars held December 1, 2, 3, and 4 of 2020. The assessment process will occur via a series of webinars from December 2020 through February 2021. The scheduled completion date is April 6, 2021.

### **Upcoming Projects – Planning Underway**

#### SEDAR 78 South Atlantic Spanish Mackerel

**SEDAR Contact:** Kathleen Howington

**Summary:** The South Atlantic Spanish Mackerel operational assessment is ready to begin. The TORs, project schedule and participants list were approved by the SAFMC in September 2020. The terminal year for the assessment is 2020. The assessment is scheduled to begin with data scoping in May 2021. The assessment process will occur over a series of webinars November 2021 through February 2022. The scheduled completion date is April 13, 2022.

#### SEDAR76 South Atlantic Black Sea Bass

**SEDAR Contact:** Kathleen Howington

**Summary:** The South Atlantic Black Sea Bass operational assessment is in the planning stages. The TORs were approved by the SAFMC in June 2020. The schedule and participants list were approved by the SAFMC in September 2020. Due to impacts brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, the assessment was postponed by one year. The Terminal year of data is 2020. The assessment is scheduled to begin with data scoping in May 2022. The assessment process will occur over a series of webinars October 2022 through January 2023. The scheduled completion date is March 17, 2023.

SEDAR 79 Southeastern US Mutton Snapper, Benchmark

**SEDAR contact:** Julie Neer

**Summary:** Planning for the SE US benchmark assessment of mutton snapper is underway and will be conducted by FWRI. The Terms of Reference and Project Schedule were reviewed by the SAFMC SSC in January 2021 and the GMFMC SSC at its January 2021 meeting. The terminal year of data for the assessment will be 2020. Data Scoping is slated for August 2021, with a Data Workshop in late January/early February 2022. The assessment should be completed by February 2023.