

Draft Statement of Work and Updated Timing 2023

Species:

Snowy Grouper

Model and Additional Data Years:

- Prior Assessment: South Atlantic Snowy Grouper SEDAR 36U
- Prior Terminal Year: 2018
- OA Terminal Year: 2022, adding 4 years of new data.
- Apply the current BAM configuration.

Requested Data Updates (Please be as specific as possible):

- Include any new and updated information on life history, discard mortality, and steepness.
- Explore the use of SCDNR Vertical Longline (SBLL) survey data because of recent expansion of effort and spatial area
- Explore the use of the new South Atlantic Deepwater Longline Survey (SADLS) and previous pilot study data.

Requested Model Modification to previously approved assessment (Please be as specific as possible):

- Separate landings and discards into different data streams due to potential change in discard mortality (current research at NCSU), which may result in a selectivity change due to the seasonal recreational fishery, low bag limit, and survivorship of some released fish when descending devices are used.

Is a Topical Working Group Needed? Yes

If Yes, Topical Working Group Topics:

- Topic 1: Methods to estimate landings of Snowy Grouper north of the South Atlantic region and consider for inclusion in assessment (species moving northward)
- Topic 2: Explore the utility of data collected from expanded SCDNR SBLL survey, new cooperative SADLS survey, and SCDNR CRP pilot study (abundance, life history, etc). May be able to examine spatial differences.
- Topic 3: Examine age or size dependence with spawning frequency and spawning season duration.


Suggested Topical Working Group Process:

Webinar held early during the assessment process but after the data scoping.

APPROVED TIMING:

- Assessment Species are approved at Spring SEDAR Steering Committee Meeting (ex. May 2020)
- Cooperators use their process to develop SoWs
- Initial Cooperator-approved SoWs submitted to SEFSC by October 15th, 2020. ****NOTE: The SSC has requested final review of the SOWs at April 2021 meeting after reviewing the 2021 update assessment.****

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- SEFSC provides feedback to Cooperators via memo no later than February 1st, 2021
- Cooperators/Technical review bodies review feedback and negotiate final SoWs with SEFSC
-  Final SoWs provided to SEDAR Program Manager by May 1st, 2021