

SEDAR Scope and Name Change

SEDAR Committee

March 2025

Council Staff

At the December 2024 SEDAR Committee meeting, there was discussion of several different processes that could be used to inform catch levels, which included SEDAR Assessments, management strategy evaluation (MSE), management procedures (MP), harvest control rules (HCR), or update model (UM, could be assessment update, updated projection, interim assessment, or management procedure). The Committee requested more information on these different processes, how the Council could be involved in the process and develop a schedule, and options to rename the Committee.

Currently the SEDAR Committee is responsible for recommending Council stances to the Chair and Executive Director for topics discussed at SEDAR Steering Committee (mostly stocks to be assessed), recommending species for future assessments, reviewing scopes of work and terms of reference for stock assessments conducted through SEDAR, and appointing advisory panel members to different SEDAR panels or workshops.

Adjusted Role of Committee

The Committee would need to continue to be involved in all aspects of the current SEDAR Committee. The new Committee may need to be involved in:

- Scheduling (timing and species) for stock assessments, management strategy evaluation, management procedure, harvest control rule, interim analysis, update model, done outside of SEDAR,
- Ensuring adequate review by the plan for Scientific and Statistical Committee for setting Acceptable Biological Catch and consideration of the analyses for use in management, and
- Developing terms of reference for review of these different products.

Additionally, the Council had a committee to address data collection issues. The *Ad Hoc* Data Collection Committee was formed in March 2012 and switched over to the Data Collection Committee (DCC) later that year. The DCC focused on various amendments including commercial logbook reporting, SEFHIER, and bycatch reporting and received updates on ongoing data collection projects such as the Charter Boat Reporting Pilot and Charter Boat Outreach Projects. The last meeting of the DCC took place in December 2017. Given that the DCC has not convened since 2017, there is a potential need for the SEDAR Committee to take on an expanded role to discuss topics previously addressed by the DCC. Specifically, the review of the Standard Bycatch Reporting Methodology (SBRM) is mandated to occur every five years, with the next review scheduled for completion by December 2026. The revised committee could therefore be tasked with monitoring the progress of the SBRM review.

Naming Options

The new committee name should reference the expanded processes and tool that could be used to set catch levels while recognizing that this group would not be receiving presentations on the actual catch level. SEDAR Committee was sufficient in the past because the Southeast Data,

Assessment, and Review covered all aspects of the stock assessment process. However, SEDAR is not currently being used for management strategy evaluation (except Review Panel for Dolphin MSE and Black Grouper MSE), management procedure, or harvest control rules. Additionally, it may be good to consider adding aspects of the DCC into the title.

Staff developed a few options for the Committee to consider:

- Stock Assessment Planning and Process Committee (SAPP)
- Assessment Planning and Process Committee (APP)
- Catch Advice Planning and Process Committee (CAPP)
- SEDAR and Catch Advice Planning and Process (SCAPP)
- Data Collection and Assessment Planning and Process (DCAPP)
- Data, Assessment, and Catch Advice (DACA)

Other words to describe the process included: organizing, scheduling, operations, procedure, or approach.