



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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

AGENDA REVISED

SEDAR Committee

The Beaufort Hotel
Beaufort, NC

Thursday, December 7, 2023, 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM (Times are subject to change)

Approval of the agenda

Approval of minutes (September 2023)

1. SEDAR Steering Committee Report (*Attachments 1a and 1b*)
 - a. Presentation – Chip Collier, SAFMC Staff
Committee Action: No action is required.

2. SEDAR 94 (Hogfish) Terms of Reference (*Attachment 2*)
 - a. Presentation – Chip Collier, SAFMC Staff
Committee Action: Review the terms of reference and modify as needed.

3. Review SEDAR Schedule (*Attachment 3*)
 - a. Presentation – Chip Collier, SAFMC Staff
Committee Action: No action is required.

4. Species for 2027 Assessment Slots (*Attachment 4*)
 - a. Presentation – Chip Collier, SAFMC Staff
Committee Action: Recommend species for 2027 assessments.

Other Business

Adjourn

Committee Members

Carolyn Belcher, Chair
Trish Murphey, Vice Chair
Robert Beal
Mel Bell

Tim Griner
Kerry Marhefka
Jessica McCawley
Andy Strelcheck

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

Attachment:

Attachment 1a: October 2023 SEDAR Steering Committee Overview (Available in Recent Documents)

Attachment 1b: October 2023 SEDAR Steering Committee Overview (Available in Recent Documents)

Attachment 2: SEDAR 94 (Hogfish) ToR

Attachment 3: SEDAR Project Schedule

Attachment 4: SEDAR 2027 Projects

OVERVIEW

SEDAR Committee

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

1. **October 2023 SEDAR Steering Committee Meeting (*Attachments 1a and 1b*)**

Description: The SEDAR Steering Committee (STC) met in October 2023 to discuss SEDAR assessment schedule, SEDAR Process review and discussion, and several items under other business. A few of the highlights include:

- Recommended shifting the SEDAR schedule due to potential impacts of FES Bias Estimation Study;
- Provided guidance on the benchmark process;
- Discussed right-sizing assessments; and
- Discussed SEDAR funding/potential carryover.

Committee Action: No action is required.

2. **SEDAR 94 (Hogfish) Terms of Reference (*Attachment 2*)**

Description: The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is conducting a stock assessment for Florida Keys/East Coast of Florida and West Coast of Florida stocks of Hogfish. The Florida Keys/East Coast of Florida stock was last assessed through SEDAR 37 with data through 2012. The stock was overfished (rebuilding plan 2017-2026) and overfishing was occurring. The terms of reference have been reviewed and modified based on comments from the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Scientific and Statistical Committees.

Committee Action: Approve SEDAR 94 Terms of Reference.

3. **Review SEDAR Schedule (*Attachment 3*)**

Description: At the last SEDAR Committee meeting, a list of statements of work were approved for 2026 but the SEDAR schedule for South Atlantic stocks was recommended to change. Based on the recommendations of the Committee and stocks included for 2026 on the SEDAR Steering Committee projects list, staff developed statements of work for Gag, King Mackerel, and Snowy Grouper. This group of species differs from the approved statements of work by the Committee in September. A benchmark assessment for Red Grouper was also requested to begin in 2026 to consider multiple stocks of Red Grouper along the Atlantic Coast.

Committee Action: No action is required.

4. **Species for 2027 Assessment Slots (*Attachment 4*)**

Description: The SEDAR STC is considering adjusting their timing for their spring meeting, which will cause changes when information is needed from the SEDAR Committee. The Committee is requested to develop a list of species to propose to the STC to be included in the SEDAR Project Schedule for 2027. After inclusion on the SEDAR Schedule staff will develop statements of work for the species at the April 2024 Scientific and Statistical Committee meeting and June 2024 Council meeting. Staff will present the current SEDAR Project Schedule and list previously assessed species.

Committee Action: Approve South Atlantic species to be included in the SEDAR Project Schedule for 2027.

Other Business

Adjourn