



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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

AGENDA **SEDAR Committee** Westin Hotel 110 Ocean Way Jekyll Island, GA 31527

Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Approval of Agenda

Approval of September 2022 Transcript

1. SEDAR 92 (Blueline Tilefish) and SEDAR 89 Tilefish (Golden) Terms of Reference (*Attachments 1a and 1b*)
 - a. Terms of Reference
 - b. **Committee Action:** Approve for terms of reference for 2024 assessments
2. SEDAR Steering Committee Updates (*Attachments 2a and 2b*)
 - a. Update on the September and February Meetings
 - b. **Committee Action:** None
3. Update on SEDAR Projects (*Attachment 3*)
 - a. Overview
 - b. **Committee Action:** None.
4. Project/Species for 2026 slots (*Attachment 4*)
 - a. Overview
 - b. **Committee Action:** Provide guidance on recommended species/projects for 2026 assessment slots.
5. Other Business (*Attachments 5a-5c*)
 - a. Review revised Statements of Work for 2025 Assessments
 - b. **Committee Action:** review and conduct public hearing.

Adjourn

Committee Members:

Carolyn Belcher, Chair
Trish Murphey, Vice-chair
Robert Beal
Mel Bel
Tim Griner
Kerry Marhefka
Jessica McCawley
Andy Strelcheck

Attachments:

Attachment 1a: Blueline Tilefish Terms of Reference
Attachment 1b: Tilefish (Golden) Terms of Reference
Attachment 2a: September 2022 Draft SEDAR Steering Committee Meeting Summary
Attachment 2b: SEDAR Steering Committee Overview February 2023
Attachment 3: SEDAR Projects Update
Attachment 4: Projects/Species for 2026 SEDAR Slots
Attachment 5a: SAFMC SEDAR SOW 2025 Pre-negotiations
Attachment 5b: NMFS and SSC Comments on Statements of Work Assessments (will be in Recent Documents)
Attachment 5c: Edited Draft Statements of Work for 2025 Assessments (will be in Recent Documents)

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

OVERVIEW

SEDAR Committee

The Committee will approve the minutes from the September 2022 meeting and the agenda for the March 2023 Committee meeting.

1. Blueline Tilefish and Tilefish (Golden) Terms of Reference Review (*Attachments 1a and 1b*)

Description: Terms of reference, which are used to aid in the SSC’s review of stock assessments, are provided for Blueline Tilefish and Tilefish (Golden). These assessments are scheduled to start in 2024. The ToRs have been reviewed by the SSC and Blueline Tilefish ToRs were reviewed by the Mid-Atlantic SSC. Staff will provide an overview and describe changes recommended by the SSC and SEFSC.

Required Committee Action: Revise as needed and approve Terms of Reference for SEDAR 92 (Blueline Tilefish) and 89 (Tilefish).

2. SEDAR Steering Committee Meeting Updates (*Attachments 2a and 2b*)

Description: The SEDAR Steering Committee was scheduled to meeting in September 2022, however, due to Hurricane Ian, the committee only discussed the SEDAR Planning Grid and the remaining items were discussed at an in-person meeting in February 2023. The planning grid was adjusted to include operations assessments in 2024 for Blueline Tilefish and Tilefish (Golden) as requested by the SAFMC (*Attachment 2a*). The report for the February meeting is not complete and will be passed along to the SAFMC when available; however, a meeting overview is provided in *Attachment 2b*. The meeting covered SEDAR Project Updates, SEDAR Process review and discussion, Assessment Schedule, and other Business. One recommendation the Steering Committee made was to live stream in-person meetings for the plenary sessions at data workshops and review workshops. This will allow additional people to hear the discussions. The Steering Committee was also told the South Atlantic Team would not have a fifth analyst slot.

Required Committee Action: No action required.

3. SEDAR Projects Update (*Attachment 3*)

Description: Staff will review the status of SEDAR assessment projects that impact stocks managed by the SAFMC. The projects update report includes a brief description of the status of ongoing assessment projects and SAFMC future projects.

Required Committee Action: No action required.

4. Projects/Species for 2026 Slots (*Attachment 4*)

Description: Staff have developed a proposed list of species for 2026 assessment slots based on time since last assessment, need, and available slots. The Council recommendations will have scopes of work developed and provided to the SSC at their April 2023 meeting.

Required Committee Action: Provide guidance on recommended species/projects for 2026.

5. Other Business

SEDAR Scopes of Work (*Attachments 5a – 5c*)

Description: Gag, King Mackerel, and Red Porgy were recommended by the Council in March 2022 for an operational assessment in 2025. Scopes of work for the operational assessments were provided to NMFS on November 1, 2022 for review prior to inclusion in the planning grid for 2025. Terminal year for the assessments were 2019 for Gag, 2017/2018 fishing year for King Mackerel, and 2017 for Red Porgy. Comments on the scopes of work were provided back to the Council on February 1, 2023. The SSC was asked to comment on the changes before the March 2023 Council meeting. Council staff will review the suggested changes and SSC comments. *Attachment 5c* presents Scopes of Work with comments from the SSC and SEFSC included.

Required Committee Action: Revise and approve scopes of work for 2025 assessment slots.