



# SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Jessica McCawley, Chair | Mel Bell, Vice Chair  
Gregg T. Waugh, Executive Director

## AGENDA

### **SEDAR Committee PORTIONS CLOSED SESSION**

Marriott Hutchinson Island  
555 NE Ocean Blvd  
Stuart, Florida

**Monday, December 2, 2019 – 1:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M. (Times subject to change)**

Approval of Agenda – Jessica McCawley

Approval of Committee minutes – Jessica McCawley

1. SEDAR Appointments – (**Attachment 1**) **CLOSED SESSION**
  - a. SEDAR 71 Gag Operational Assessment
  - b. Follow-up on any changes from SSC or APs due to sched updates
  - c. Committee Action: Make appointments.
2. SEDAR Activities Update (**Attachment 2 and 3**)
  - a. Overview – John Carmichael
  - b. Committee Action: discuss and provide guidance
3. SSC Report (**Attachment: SSC Report**)
  - a. Presentation – Dr. George Sedberry, SSC Chair
  - b. Committee Action: Action as needed
4. SEDAR Approvals (**Attachment 4**)
  - a. SEDAR 71 Gag Operational
  - b. Red Snapper, Blueline Tilefish & Vermilion Snapper Operational
  - c. Committee Action: Approve planning documents

Other Business – Jessica McCawley

Adjourn – Jessica McCawley

#### **Committee Members**

Jessica McCawley, Chair  
Mel Bell, Vice-Chair  
Robert Beal  
Anna Beckwith  
Carolyn Belcher

Kyle Christiansen  
Roy Crabtree  
Tim Griner  
Steve Poland

**Attachments**

**Attachment 1:** Appointments (**CLOSED SESSION DOCUMENT**)

**Attachment 2:** SEDAR Update

**Attachment 3:** SEDAR Steering Committee Draft Report

**Attachment 4:** Approvals

**SSC Report**

**Staff:** John Carmichael

# **OVERVIEW**

## **SEDAR COMMITTEE**

### **Agenda Approval**

### **Minutes Approval – June 2019**

#### **1. SEDAR Appointments (Attachment 1) – CLOSED SESSION**

**Description:** The Committee will make appointments for the SEDAR 71 operational assessment of Gag grouper, and address any participation changes necessary due to assessment schedule revisions

**Committee Action:** Make SEDAR panel appointments

#### **2. SEDAR Activities Update (Attachments 2 and 3)**

**Description:** Staff will review the status of SAFMC SEDAR assessment projects. The projects update report (Attachment 2) includes a brief description of the status of ongoing assessment projects and indicates SAFMC future priorities. It also includes a table summarizing current projects and future priorities through 2023.

Two assessment will be completed in early 2020 that overlap SAFMC-GMFMC jurisdictions: Yellowtail Snapper, conducted by FL FWCC and disseminated by SEDAR on March 27, 2020, and Gulf Cobia, conducted by SEFSC and disseminated by SEDAR on April 21, 2020. Joint SAFMC-GMFMC SSC reviews have been organized for prior assessments of stocks that overlap jurisdictions. To ensure consistency in the recommendations and application of ABC rules, and improve efficiency of SSC operations, the Council is asked to consider a joint review of these stocks. The SSC agreed to sending a subset of its membership to meet with the GMFMC SSC when Yellowtail is reviewed, to enable the groups to recommend a single ABC for the stock. Staff is working with GMFMC staff to arrange the joint discussion.

The Committee will be provided a review of the SEDAR Steering Committee meeting of October 30, 2019 (Attachment 3).

**Committee Action:** Provide guidance on SEDAR projects as necessary.

- Provide guidance on joint SAFMC-GMFMC SSC review of Yellowtail Snapper and Gulf Cobia.

#### **3. SSC Report**

**Description:** The SAFMC SSC met October 15 - 17, 2019, in Charleston, SC. Recommendations and discussions related to SEDAR topics will be reviewed by the SSC Chair.

**Committee Action:** Provide guidance as necessary.

#### 4. SEDAR Approvals (Attachment 4)

**Description:** The committee will be asked to approve: the schedule and TORs for the Gag grouper operational assessment, SEDAR 71, and Scopes of Work for requested operational assessments of Red Snapper, Black Sea Bass, and Vermilion Snapper.

**RED SNAPPER:** The Council is being asked to reconsider the requested assessment type for Red Snapper.

Red Snapper was initially requested as a Research Track to ensure change in selectivity and any new data could be incorporated. If conducted as a Research Track, Red Snapper results would not likely be available for Council consideration until Fall 2022. At its October 2018 meeting the SSC reviewed a FL FWCC report on selectivity and recommended conducting the next assessment as an operational, incorporating updated selectivity information based on the FWCC study. The SEFSC indicated the proposed changes for Red Snapper could be addressed through an operational assessment. The Council reviewed this recommendation in December 2018, retaining the request for a Research Track request to ensure any necessary assessment changes could be incorporated and due to concerns with public perception.

The planned Red Snapper assessment was discussed at subsequent Council meetings and public comments have raised concerns with the Research Track timing. At the SEDAR Steering Committee in September 2019, the SEFSC restated its recommendation to conduct Red Snapper as an operational, and indicated the selectivity changes and updated survey values can be included through that approach. SAFMC representatives agreed to reconsider the next Red Snapper assessment, and directed staff to develop a Scope of Work to detail proposed assessment changes. This Scope of Work was reviewed by the SSC at its October 2019 meeting and is offered here for Council consideration. If approved, it will be forwarded to SEFSC for consideration, and discussed at the SEDAR Steering Committee's May 2020 meeting.

If the next Red Snapper assessment is conducted through the operational approach, the SAFMC gains the opportunity for 1 to 2 additional assessments in 2022. Blueline Tilefish and Vermilion Snapper are proposed, thus Scopes of Work are provided here for consideration. These will be provided to the SEFSC for review in preparation for Steering Committee consideration in May 2020.

**Committee Action:** Approve documents

- Gag: TORs and Schedule
- Operational Assessments Scopes of Work: Red Snapper, Black Sea Bass, Vermilion Snapper

#### Other Business

#### Adjourn