

**SUMMARY REPORT  
FROM THE SEDAR COMMITTEE MEETING  
Orlando, FL  
June 11, 2008**

The SEDAR Committee met June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2008 in Orlando, FL. The committee received presentations from John Carmichael regarding the following items:

1. May 2008 SEDAR Steering Committee Report

The Committee was briefed on the May 5 SEDAR Steering Committee meeting and the follow-up conference call held June 10. Complete details of the Steering Committee meeting were provided in attachment 1, so only those issues generating additional discussion are addressed below.

Difficulties in obtaining complete management program information for consideration prior to SEDAR data workshops were discussed. The Committee was advised that the Steering Committee was briefed on the delays experienced in SEDAR 16 (king mackerel) and responded by strengthening the process for requesting management information and the role of SERO in providing the information.

The Committee was informed that no changes were made in the SEDAR benchmark schedule at the May meeting. The Steering Committee considered changes in scheduled updates, specifically to address Gulf of Mexico red grouper and gag grouper as well as Gulf of Mexico red snapper in 2009. The Steering Committee reviewed reports of the GMFMC SSC and SEFSC on the June 10<sup>th</sup> conference call. The SSC and SEFSC are supportive of these projects and working to finalize completion deadlines and TORs.

The Committee expressed support for the scheduled review of ASMFC menhaden and croaker scheduled for 2010.

The Committee discussed the potential need to update South Atlantic gag and the impacts of effort trends on assessments and management evaluations. SAFMC staff are currently assessing trends in effort across fishery sectors to evaluate comments that recent increases in fuel prices have led to decrease in fishing effort. The committee was informed that state agencies are also monitoring the situation. This issue will need to be considered thoroughly in future CPUE calculations and management alternative evaluations. The Committee acknowledged that scheduling of future SEDAR updates are likely as the new MSA requirements are finalized.

2. SEDAR 18 Planning

Given that the ASFMC TC will take lead on the Atlantic red drum assessment and that NFMS is in the process of transferring management of red drum to ASMFC, the committee agreed to yield to ASMFC with regard to specifying the schedule, appointments, and Terms of Reference for SEDAR 18.

### 3. SEDAR 19 Planning

The Committee was informed that the SSC suggested changes in SEDAR 19, to replace hogfish with black grouper and white grunt with red grouper. Both black and red grouper are categorized as overfishing and therefore of high priority. The agencies assigned to assess these two species support the change and the SEDAR Steering Committee supported the change during their June 10 Conference call. The Committee supported the change and directed staff to make necessary modifications in the schedule and terms of reference.

### 4. Other Business

The Committee was provided an SSC request that the Council request probabilistic analyses of reference point alternatives for all past and future SEDAR assessed stocks. The Committee agreed to add the appropriate Terms of Reference to the assessment workshops for ongoing and future SEDAR assessments to ensure such analyses are provided.

The Committee was provided a final progress report on efforts to complete age determinations for Spanish mackerel and vermilion snapper. State and federal aging labs worked with diligence and cooperation to complete aging for these stocks in time for the data workshop.