

**SUMMARY REPORT
FROM THE SAFMC SEDAR COMMITTEE
Charleston, SC
September 14, 2010**

The SAFMC SEDAR Committee met September 14th, 2010 at Charleston, SC. The Committee discussed the following items:

1. SEDAR Activities

The Committee appointed SSC representatives to the SEDAR Review Workshops for spiny lobster, Goliath grouper, and red snapper. Staff is allowed latitude to identify 2 SSC representatives who are able to attend from the 4 appointed.

The Committee recommended that the Steering Committee elevate assessment of black sea bass to a benchmark and approved Terms of Reference. Approval of participants and the schedule will be considered in December following Steering Committee consideration.

2. SAFMC Research Plan

The Committee approved the 2011-2015 research plan.

3. Assessment Prioritization and Steering Committee Guidance

The Committee approved the proposed assessment prioritization and timing plan for consideration at the Steering Committee.

The Committee discussed recent changes in the SEDAR process. Despite challenges that are expected in the early stages of any new process, using webinars for the assessment process in SEDAR 24 proved effective and efficient. Participation increased as desired.

The Committee recommends attention be paid to future appointments to ensure industry and AP appointees actually participate.

The Committee advises that the scientific credibility of SEDAR workshops must be maintained. The nature and intent of public comment in a scientific process such as SEDAR must be thoroughly evaluated to ensure the process preserves scientific validity.

The Committee recommends addressing timeliness in the assessment process and considering future changes that will reduce the overall time required for assessment production. Recently added steps, such as the 'pre-review', that added considerable time to development are considered experimental at this point and should be thoroughly evaluated before becoming a permanent part of the program.

The Committee recommends adding a vermilion snapper update and golden crab benchmark to the 2012 assessment request.

4. Conflict of Interest Form

The committee approved the SEDAR appointee conflict of interest form with the following revisions:

- Apply the form generally, not for each specific SEDAR project
- Disclosures will expire after 2 years
- Clarify that the form intends to provide consistency with existing council member, SSC, and AP disclosures.

MOTIONS

Move to carefully analyze appointments of panelists to SEDAR workshops and webinars to ensure attendance. Geiger/Hartig. Approved

Move to appoint Hoenig, Sedberry, Johnson, and Reichert to the Goliath Grouper and Spiny lobster Review Panel. Geiger/Hartig. Approved

Move to appoint Anne Lange as the red snapper review chair. Geiger/Hartig. Approved

Move to recommend that the steering committee elevate the black sea bass assessment to a benchmark, including data through 2010 and presented to the Council by June 2012. Geiger/cupka. Approved

Move to adopt the BSB TORs for the benchmark assessment. Chevront/Hartig. Approved

Move that subsampling of otoliths procedure carried out within SEFSC be evaluated. Hartig/Chevront. Approved

Move to approve the 2011-2015 research prioritization plan. Geiger/Robson. Approved.

Move that the Council direct the STC members to use the SAFMC SA prioritization proposal as a guideline for decisions about stocks to be assessed. Chevront/Geiger. Approved.

Move that the Council chair as member of the sedar steering committee has authority to act on behalf of the council at Steering Committee meetings. Geiger/Hartig. Approved

Motion to accept the COI disclosure form with the suggested edits. Chevront/Cupka. Approved.