

SEDAR COMMITTEE OVERVIEW

March 4, 2014

PORTIONS CLOSED SESSION

Items to be addressed at this meeting: SEDAR activities update, Steering Committee report and recommendations, fishery-dependent monitoring workshop, wreckfish assessment peer review, and SEDAR administrative approvals.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Committee last met December 2013.

3. **SEDAR ACTIVITIES**

Attachment 1 provides an overview of SEDAR projects. Table 1 below, summarizing upcoming South Atlantic assessments, is unchanged from December 2013.

Gray triggerfish ageing work is underway, and is anticipated to be complete in time for consideration during the SEDAR 41 Data Workshop in August.

SEDAR 36, a standard assessment addressing snowy grouper, was not peer reviewed by the SSC in October as planned, due to the lack of a presentation addressing the assessment. The SSC plans to conduct a peer review at its April 2014 meeting, with recommendations available to the Council in June 2014.

The FL FWCC is completing an assessment of mutton snapper. It will be reviewed by the SSC in April and recommendations will be provided to the Council in June 2014.

FL FWCC is also working on an assessment of hogfish. Completion is scheduled for June 2014, with review by the SSC in October 2014. SSC recommendations will be provided to the Council in December 2014.

In December the Council requested that the Science Center investigate opportunities for an update of blueline tilefish as soon as possible. The Centers response proposes 3 options (**Attachment 2**) for consideration here.

SEDAR staff are planning a procedures workshop devoted to shrimp assessment and bycatch data. An organizing committee composed of SEDAR and SEFSC staff with several SSC representatives has met several times and developed a workshop description including objectives and desired participants (**Attachment 3**). The workshop will be held July 21 - 25, 2014 in Charleston. Later in this meeting the Committee will be asked to consider workshop appointments.

ACTION

- Provide guidance on blueline tilefish assessment alternatives.

Table 1. SEDAR Assessment Projects for the South Atlantic, 2013 - 2015.

Year	SEDAR #	Stocks	Type	Terminal Data	Assessment Complete
2013	U	Black Sea Bass	Update	2012	April 2013
	36	Snowy Grouper	Standard	2012	October 2013
	32	Blueline tilefish	Benchmark	2012	October 2013
	U	Mutton snapper	Update	2012	April 2014
2014	U	Gag	Update	2012	April 15, 2014
	37	Hogfish	Benchmark	2013	June 2014
2015	41	Red snapper Gray triggerfish	Benchmark start 8/2014	2013	August 1, 2015
	U	Tilefish	Update	2014	October 1, 2015
	U	Red grouper	Update	2014	October 1, 2015
	U	Vermilion snapper	Update	2014	October 1, 2015
	U	Black grouper	Update	2014	April 2015
2016		Scamp Gray snapper	Benchmark start ~7/2015	2015	April 2016
		red porgy	Benchmark	2014	October 1, 2016

4. SEDAR STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Steering Committee met January 30, 2014, via webinar to finalize action on topics first discussed in October 2013, necessary due to the impact of the federal government shut down on member participation in October. The October meeting summary is provided as **Attachment 4**, and the January summary as **Attachment 5**.

ACTION

- Provide guidance on steering committee topics

5. SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY DEPENDENT WORKSHOP

At the December 2013 meeting this committee passed a motion requesting a workshop be held to address fishery dependent monitoring: "*Move to convene a workshop to develop a comprehensive fishery dependent sampling program for the snapper grouper fishery of the South Atlantic.*" Discussions suggested that this workshop should largely follow the approach of the 2009 workshop, convened jointly between the South Atlantic Council and the Southeast Fisheries Science Center, to recommend a fishery-independent monitoring program.

At this meeting the Committee is asked to discuss the workshop in further detail, and provide guidance on a workshop steering committee, participation, timing, scope of work, and funding opportunities. A draft workshop proposal is provided to guide the discussion (**Attachment 6**)

ACTION

- Provide guidance on the Fishery Dependent workshop, considering:
 - Workshop Steering Committee

- Participants and appointment process
- Timing
- Workshop objectives
- Funding (meeting space and travel expenses)

6. **WRECKFISH ASSESSMENT PEER REVIEW**

An assessment of the South Atlantic wreckfish resource is underway by Dr. Douglas Butterworth. Development and review of this assessment is proceeding according to the principles of the South Atlantic Peer Review Policy (**Attachment 7**). At the December 2013 meeting this Committee was briefed on the timeline for the peer review component, and advised that requests would be made to appoint peer reviewers and approve TORS at this meeting. Furthermore, as also discussed in December 2013, the dates recommended by the SSC for the peer review were forwarded to the Council on February XXXX, and have been noticed in the Federal Register to ensure the review can take place as planned.

The SSC met on January 27, via webinar, to make recommendations for reviewers and Terms of Reference (**Attachment 8**).

ACTION

- Approve Wreckfish Peer Review TORS
- Appoint Wreckfish Reviewers and Review Workshop Chair (Closed Session)

7. **SEDAR APPROVALS**

Additional requests for appointments to SEDAR 41, South Atlantic red snapper and gray triggerfish, will be offered for consideration. Current appointments are provided in **Attachment 9**.

ACTION:

- Discuss and approve SEDAR 41 appointments (**Attachment 10**)
- Discuss and approve SEDAR South Atlantic Shrimp Data Procedural Workshop

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

9. **ADJOURN**