

OVERVIEW

SEDAR Committee

Doubletree by Hilton Atlantic Beach Oceanfront
2717 W. Fort Macon Road
Atlantic Beach, NC

Tuesday, December 8, 2015

Items to be addressed at this meeting: SEDAR activities update, assessment prioritization, and Steering Committee recommendations.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Committee last met September 2015.

3. **SEDAR UPDATE**

The Assessment Workshop for SEDAR 41 was delayed due to data issues. Originally scheduled for November 17 – 20, 2015 it will now be held December 14 – 17, 2015.

4. **STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT**

The SEDAR Steering Committee met September 28 and 29, 2015 in North Charleston, SC, and again via webinar on October 30, 2015. Details of the meetings are provided in the meeting summaries, including the final version for the September meeting and draft for the October 30 meeting (**Attachment 1**).

Highlighted outcomes and recommendations:

- Approved Marcel Reichert as the SEDAR 47 (Goliath Grouper) Review Panel Chair, and recommended that, for future joint assessments, 2 SSC reviewers be appointed by the Council not appointing the Chair.
- Supported recommendations of the Data Best Practices Workshop, including creation of a standing Data Best Practices Panel. The suggested SAFMC representative to the Panel is Marcel Reichert.
- Requested that Councils and their SSCs receive the assessment prioritization process presentation by Dr. Rick Methot, and report back at the next Steering Committee meeting on how the approach could be used by the Councils and SEDAR Steering Committee.
- Received a report from the SEFSC on a proposed change to the SEDAR process that would recast the current benchmark process into a ‘research cycle’, and combine the update and standard processes as ‘operational assessments’. The Committee directed that presentations on this proposal be made to the Council SSCs for review and comment prior to the next SEDAR Steering Committee Meetings. The SAFMC SSC will consider this topic in Spring 2016.
- Developed an assessment schedule for 2016-2018.

- Includes resources allotted to revise some existing assessments to address updated recreational catch estimates, based on the new MRIP effort survey, which will be available in July 2017.
- These will not be the normal SEDAR updates, as only the recreational data will be revised, and only through the terminal year of the most recent assessment.
- SEFSC will develop a ranking process for assessed stocks to help the Council and SSC determine which stocks are candidates. This should build off the ranking reviewed by this committee at the September 2015 meeting, which considered assessment age and MRIP Transition Team priorities.
- Blueline Tilefish elevated to a benchmark, per SSC recommendation, beginning in 2016. This change is accommodated by separating Scamp and Gray Snapper, with Scamp to possibly be considered under the research track process in 2018 and Gray Snapper to be considered at a later date.
- Vermilion snapper delayed, to allow including revised MRIP estimates.
- As also discussed at the SSC, an SSC meeting by mid-February 2016 will likely be necessary to review genetics and recent sampling data for Blueline Tilefish and approve benchmark assessment Terms of Reference.

ACTION

- Confirm Marcel Reichert as the Data Best Practices Panel representative.
- Provide comment on Steering Committee actions.

5. NOAA FISHERIES ASSESSMENT PRIORITIZATION

Dr. Rick Methot, NOAA Fisheries, will present the final stock Assessment prioritization process (**Attachment 2**).

ACTION

- Provide guidance on the use of this approach by the SAFMC and the SEDAR Steering Committee.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

7. ADJOURN

Table 1. SEDAR Assessment Work Plan, 2016 – 2018.

YEAR	Quarter	SEFSC – South Atlantic					SEFSC - Gulf					SEFSC- Caribbean	SEFSC -HMS		FL FWC		OTHER Projs
		1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	1	2	
2016	1	41	41			gT	49	49				46			47	48	
	2	41	41				49	49				46			47	48	
	3	BL					49	49							47	48	Stock ID
	4	BL			RG		49	49		GG	GAJ		DS			48	Stock ID
2017	1	BL					49	49	GS							48	
	2	BL							GS								
	3	BL		MRIP					GS	MRIP							BPA
	4		VS	MRIP			<i>RS</i>	<i>RS</i>	GS	MRIP			GBt		YTS		BPA
2018	1	S/RT		MRIP			<i>RS</i>	<i>RS</i>	GS?	MRIP	S/RT		GBt		YTS		
	2	S/RT		MRIP					GS?	MRIP	S/RT		ABt	SBS	YTS		
	3	S/RT									S/RT		ABt	SBS	YTS		
	4	S/RT									S/RT		ABt	SBS	YTS		

BENCHMARK Benchmarks are in Bold. Project number listed where known, otherwise species listed. These require 5 quarters, considering SEDAR timing as well as post-SEDAR actions including reporting to SSCs and conducting projections.

Standard Standard Projects in Italics. These require 2 quarters.

Update Update Projects in plain font. These require 1 quarter.

Codes

gT	golden Tilefish	BL	Blueline Tilefish	RS	Red Snapper
S/RT	Scamp, Research Track Pilot	RG	Red Grouper	GG	Gag Grouper
DS	HMS Dusky Shark	VS	Vermilion Snapper	SBS	Sandbar shark
GBt	Gulf Blacktip Shark	GAJ	Greater Amberjack	YTS	Yellowtail Snapper
Abt	Atlantic Blacktip Shark	BSB	Black Sea Bass	RP	Red Porgy
SnG	Snowy Grouper	BPA	Best Practices, Assessments	GS	Gray Snapper, start time TBD
MRIP	Recreational Data Revision				