



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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David M. Cupka, Chairman
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OVERVIEW

SEDAR COMMITTEE

PORTIONS CLOSED SESSION

Hutchison Island Marriott
555 NE Ocean Boulevard
Stuart, FL

Items to be addressed at this meeting: (1) SEDAR activities update, (2) SEDAR Steering Committee Recommendations, (3) ORCS Workshop recommendations, (4) Research plan approval, and (5) SEDAR 38, 32 and 36 approvals.

1. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Committee last met December 2012.

3. **SEDAR ACTIVITIES**

Attachment 1 provides an overview of SEDAR projects.

SEDAR 32, addressing blueline tilefish and gray triggerfish, is underway. The Data Workshop was held in February 2013 and assessment webinars are in progress. The Review Workshop will be held in August 2013 and the assessments will be reviewed by the SSC in October 2013. Recommendations will be provided to the Council in December 2013.

SEDAR 36, a standard assessment addressing snowy grouper, is underway. Data are due in mid-June and the assessment will be prepared through a series of webinars. The report will be provided to the SSC for review in October and recommendations available to the Council in December 2013.

The update assessment of black sea bass was completed and reviewed by the SSC in April 2013. The Council took action on the SSC recommendations during its special meeting held May 13, 2013.

The SEDAR 28 benchmark assessments of Spanish mackerel and cobia were reviewed by the SSC in April 2013. SSC recommendations will be provided during the June 2013 Council meeting.

ACTION: As necessary

4. **STEERING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Steering Committee met via conference call on February 25, 2013, to discuss the assessment schedule for 2013 and 2014. The draft meeting summary is provided (Attachment 2). The table below highlights the approved assessment projects for South Atlantic stocks.

Table 1. South Atlantic assessment projects, 2013-2014. Years in parentheses next to stocks indicate the terminal data year of the most recent prior assessment.

Year	Stocks
2013	1.Gray triggerfish B 2. Blueline Tile B 3. Snowy STD (2003) 4.Black Sea Bass U (2010) (Completed) FL FWC 1: Hogfish B
2014	1. Red Snapper B (2009) 2. Red porgy B (2011) 3. Gag U (2005) FL FWC: Black Grouper U (2008)

The SSC reviewed assessment priorities for 2015 and beyond. Based on the SSC and prior Council recommendations, there are more assessments desired for 2015 than can be accommodated. The SEFSC has indicated previously that up to 5 assessments may be scheduled for the South Atlantic in a year. However, as shown in Table 1, only 4 slots are available to the South Atlantic in 2013 and 3 in 2014. This is due to resources being devoted to Gulf and Atlantic Menhaden in those years, and an allowance for additional analysts assigned to red snapper in 2014. Given the realities of the last several years, the Council should not expect to receive more than 4 assessment slots in 2015 and beyond.

The SSC recommended prioritizing a scamp benchmark over a tilefish update in 2015. No prioritization was provided by the SSC for 2016. SEDAR scheduling plans call for the Steering Committee to finalize 2015 assessment priorities during its Fall 2013 meeting, and indicate likely priorities for 2016 - 2018.

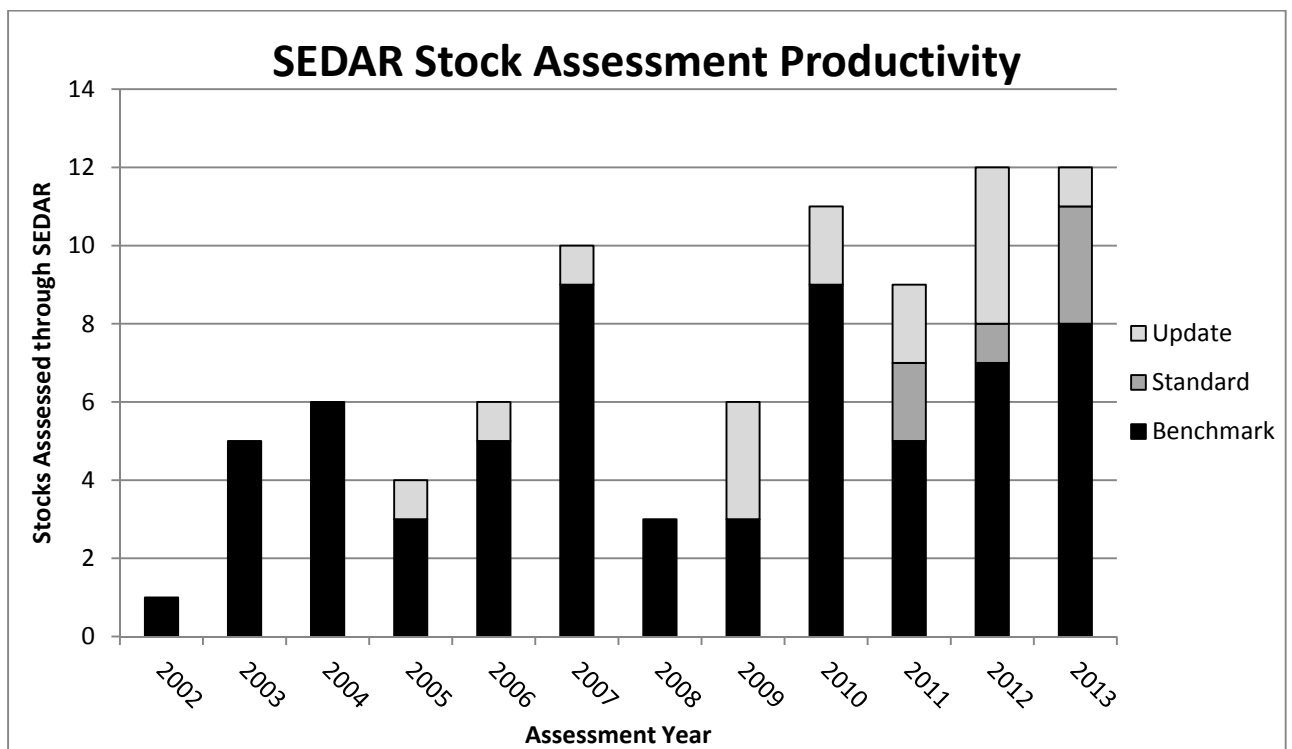
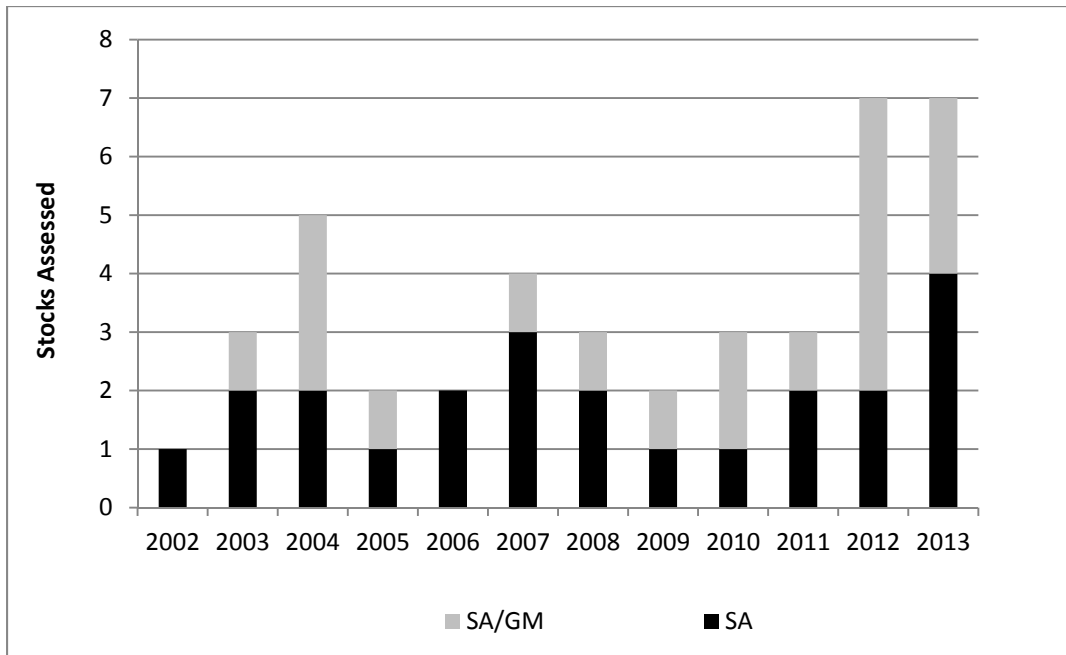
Table 2. SAFMC assessment priorities, 2015- 2017. Values in parentheses indicate the terminal year of the prior assessment, if one is available.

Year	Stocks
2015	1. gray snapper B 2. Dolphin B 3. Wahoo B 4. Scamp B BLACK SEA BASS UPDATE (Required by April 2016) Greater Amberjack U (2006) Red grouper U (2008) Vermilion U? (2011) Tilefish U (2010)
2016	white grunt B Speckled Hind B Warsaw grouper B wreckfish B Red Snapper U (2013) Snowy U (2012) Blueline tilefish U (2012)
2017	Red Pogy U (2013) Gag U
2015	1. gray snapper B 2. Dolphin B 3. Wahoo B 4. Tilefish U (2010) 5. Red grouper U (2008) Vermilion U? (2011) Red Pogy U?
2016	white grunt B Speckled Hind B Warsaw grouper B wreckfish B Red Snapper U Snowy U (2011) Blueline U (2011)
2017	Red Pogy U Black Sea Bass U (if receive 3y of recommendations in 2016) Gag U

The next Steering Committee meeting will be held in Fall 2013. Topics to discuss include the SEDAR project schedule and assessment productivity.

SEDAR productivity is summarized in Attachment 3 and in the two figures below. Assessment output has increased considerably and regularly over time, following increases in both Science Center and SEDAR staff. Around 12 assessments are conducted per year, with the South Atlantic receiving 3-4, and perhaps more when jointly managed or regional stocks are assessed.

Figure 1. Annual assessment frequency for South Atlantic and joint South Atlantic/Gulf of Mexico stocks, 2002-2013.



ACTION: Provide recommendations for the Steering Committee

- Identify 4 priority stocks for 2015
- Identify 4 priority stocks for 2016

5. ORCS WORKSHOP REPORT

The second ORCS workshop, held April 8- 9, 2013, completed the final workshop Terms of Reference and provided recommendations for the SSC (Attachment 4). The SSC recommends that the ORCS method, as adapted through the workshops, be included as a Tier within the SAFMC ABC control rule (Attachment 5). SSC Chair Dr. Luiz Barbieri will provide an overview of the modified ORCS approach and the SSC recommendations.

ACTION: Provide guidance on addressing the SSC ABC Control Rule recommendations

6. SAFMC RESEARCH PRIORITIZATION

The Revised MSA requires that Councils regularly provide prioritized research needs to NOAA Fisheries. Plans addressing SAFMC needs are prepared annually, reviewed by the SSC, and approved by the Council. The current plan is provided for review (Attachment 6)

ACTION: Approve the 2013 Research Prioritization Plan.

7. SEDAR Approvals

The Committee is asked to approve schedule and Terms of Reference for SEDAR 38, consider appointments for SEDAR 36 and 38, and review the Terms of Reference for SEDARs 32 and 36. (Attachments 7 - 10).

SEDAR 38 will address South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico King Mackerel. The SSC reviewed the TORs and schedule, and provided suggested participants, at its meeting of April 2013. The Gulf Council will be considering TORs, appointments and the workshop schedule at its meeting in June.

Initial SEDAR 36 appointments were made in December 2013. This item is being raised again due in the even some additional AP representation may be available.

Terms of Reference for SEDAR 32 and 36 were approved in December 2013. These items are being brought before the committee for further consideration of the TORs addressing stock projections. The Committee is asked to review the TORs addressing projections to ensure that all quantities necessary to guide management are requested.

ACTION: Approve workshop schedule and appoint participants

- SEDAR 38 (King Mackerel) Schedule and TORs (Attachment 7)
- SEDAR 32 and 36 TORs (Attachment 8)
- SEDAR 36 appointments (Attachment 9; CLOSED SESSION)
- SEDAR 38 appointments (Attachment 10; CLOSED SESSION)

8. OTHER BUSINESS

9. TIMING AND TASKS MOTION

10. ADJOURN