

**SUMMARY REPORT
FROM THE SAFMC SEDAR COMMITTEE
Key West, FL
June 12, 2011**

The SAFMC SEDAR Committee met June 12th, 2011 at Key West, FL. The Committee discussed the following items:

1. SEDAR Activities Update

The Committee was updated on progress on SEDAR 25, South Atlantic black sea bass and tilefish. Comments regarding input data and the assessment process, submitted by DW panelist Jimmy Hull, were discussed. The Committee recommended that progress continue on the SEDAR 25 assessment of black sea bass, and that issues noted with the headboat data be addressed through sensitivities for this assessment. SEDAR process issues will be discussed at the next Committee meeting and raised at the SEDAR Steering Committee.

2. SEFSC Report on Inter-jurisdictional Stocks

Dr. Ponwith briefed the Committee on SEFSC efforts to evaluate assessment possibilities for inter-jurisdictional stocks.

A wreckfish assessment was considered through ICES, but seems unlikely given the program workload, small US component of the stock and other priorities. Therefore, SEFSC is considering an exploratory assessment based on some newly developed data poor approaches. If these prove promising, the stock may be offered for a future SEDAR benchmark.

Possibilities for assessing golden crab are under evaluation, including consultations with Alaska and Northeast Center scientists who have experience with similar stocks.

Spiny lobster is being evaluated as a candidate for a Caribbean-wide assessment through the Large Marine Ecosystems Project.

3. SEDAR Steering Committee Report

The Committee was briefed on the Steering Committee meeting of May 2011. Members were asked to review the current SEDAR procedures document and consider, for discussion at the next meeting in September, whether additional changes or clarifications are required.

The Committee discussed the assessment schedule for 2012 and 2013. Bonnie Ponwith reported that a reduction in the number of assessments planned for 2012 was necessary to address issues with the available assessment scientists and the age structure interpretation workload. The Committee recommended dropping the benchmark of white grunt. Assessments prepared for the South Atlantic in 2012 will include benchmarks of Spanish mackerel and cobia, and updates of vermilion snapper and red porgy.

The Committee recommended that stocks for assessment in 2013 include, in priority order: red snapper benchmark, blueline tilefish benchmark, gray triggerfish benchmark, gag grouper standard or update, snowy grouper standard or update, speckled hind benchmark, scamp benchmark, Warsaw grouper benchmark, and wreckfish benchmark. Input from the science center and SSC will be considered at a future meeting to determine the type of assessment necessary for snowy and gag grouper.

The Committee requested that a continuity run, consistent with the pre-SEDAR MSAP assessments, be prepared for Spanish mackerel.

The Committee supported developing public comment guidelines for SEDAR.

The Committee suggested that sampling intensity should be considered by the Science Center when evaluating future assessment priorities.

4. SEDAR Administrative Procedures

The Committee reviewed and accepted a revised SAFMC SEDAR administrative procedures document that incorporates procedures for managing alternates.

5. SEDAR Appointments

The Committee appointed SSC members John Boreman and Churchill Grimes to the SEDAR 27 review workshop panel, and Luiz Barbieri as the review panel chair.

MOTIONS

Move to postpone the white grunt benchmark and to prioritize updates for vermilion and red porgy for 2012; approved.

Move that the priority stocks for assessment in 2013 are:

1. red snapper benchmark
2. blueline tilefish benchmark
3. gray triggerfish benchmark
4. gag std or update (based on appropriateness)
5. snowy std or update (based on appropriateness)
6. speckled hind benchmark
7. scamp benchmark
8. Warsaw benchmark
9. wreckfish benchmark

Motion approved.

Move to appoint John Boreman and Churchill Grimes as reviewers to the SEDAR 27 Review Workshop, and Luiz Barbieri as the chair of the review workshop; approved.

TIMING & TASK ITEMS

1. Next Council meeting: Present an overview of the recent changes in the SEDAR process and the 3 types of SEDAR assessments.
2. Develop, for consideration at the next meeting, a process for appointed SEDAR workshop observers to report their impressions to the Council and SSC and to have such information available when the SSC considers the assessment.