FINAL SUMMARY REPORT SEDAR COMMITTEE MEETING Key West, FL June 8, 2015

The Committee received reports on SEDAR projects, the annual research plan and the MRIP effort survey transition effort. There was considerable discussion on the research and monitoring plan and acknowledgement that these plans are becoming more important for guiding grant programs and allocating scarce resources within the agency. Therefore, the committee recommended changing the presentation and content to be more descriptive regarding specific research projects, while preserving the information on overall monitoring needs.

MOTIONS:

Move to approve the red grouper update assessment terms of reference. Approved by committee. Approved by council.

Move to direct SAFMC staff to begin a process to develop a video-trap index across multiple species. Approved by committee. Approved by council.

Timing and Tasks

Move to direct staff to:

• Modify the research plan to include a list of specific short term and long term needs that will improve guidance for researchers considering projects as well as those developing requests for proposals, and offer a revised version for consideration at the September meeting. The revised version should separate research and monitoring topics and consider upcoming assessment projects and past assessment research recommendations.

Approved by council.