

SAFMC SEDAR Projects Report

December 2019

SEDAR 58 Atlantic Cobia, Benchmark**SEDAR Contact:** Kathleen Howington**SAFMC SSC REVIEW:** NA

Management of Atlantic cobia was transferred from the South Atlantic Council to ASFMC. Since this assessment was underway before this transfer was finalized, the assessment will be completed following the SEDAR Process without further involvement by the SAFMC and its SSC. The Peer Review Workshop will be held November 19 – 21, 2019, in Beaufort NC.

SEDAR 59 South Atlantic Greater Amberjack, Standard**SEDAR Contact:** Kathleen Howington**SAFMC SSC REVIEW:** April 2020

Summary: A standard assessment was requested to allow consideration of video and headboat at-sea indices, to reconsider the use of age and length composition data, and to incorporate the latest BAM model configurations and updates to data calculation methodologies. The terminal year of the assessment was 2016, but due to delays in the fully calibrated MRIP data for use in assessments, the terminal year was advanced to 2017. The Council made appointments and approved the schedule and terms of reference in December 2017. A Data Scoping webinar was held on March 30, 2018.

The original schedule included a data deadline for updated data of May 25, 2018; a series of Assessment webinars from June – October 2018; and was scheduled to be complete in December 2018, and review by the SSC in Spring 2019. The SEDAR 59 schedule was again delayed allowing for including fully calibrated MRIP data and advancing the terminal year. Due to the government shutdown in early 2019, the Greater Amberjack assessment was pushed back a few months, to a completion date in late June with consideration by the SAFMC SSC in October 2019 and no changes to the Council's timing of actions.

In Spring 2019, due to the concerns raised by the SFAMC SSC about MRIP estimates, the schedule was again postponed. The current scheduled completion date is March 2020, with the completed SAR available for review by the SAFMC SSC in April of 2020.

SEDAR 60 South Atlantic Red Porgy, Standard**SEDAR Contact:** Kathleen Howington**SAFMC SSC REVIEW:** April 2020

Summary: A standard assessment was requested to allow consideration of new video index data, reconsider the use of age and length composition data, and to incorporate

the latest BAM model configurations and updates to data calculation methodologies. The terminal year of the assessment is 2017. The Council made appointments and approved the schedule and terms of reference in December 2017. The original schedule included an updated data deadline of August 10, 2018; a series of webinars from June 2018 – January 2019; and was scheduled to be complete in March 2019.

To allow for inclusion of the fully calibrated MRIP data, the SEDAR 60 schedule was delayed. The revised schedule included a Data Scoping webinar which was held June 29, 2018; an in-person workshop planned for February 5-7, 2019 in the Beaufort, NC area; and a series of webinars from January – April 2019. The assessment was scheduled to be complete in June 2019.

To address the 2019 Federal Government shutdown, the SEFSC-SEDAR planning group recommendation was to cancel the in-person workshop, and to delay the Red Porgy assessment a few months to a completion date in late August 2019 for consideration by the SAFMC SSC in October 2019. However, due to concerns raised subsequently by the SAFMC SSC regarding the MRIP estimates, in March 2019 the Council rejected eliminating the in-person workshop and in April 2019 the project was put on hold to accommodate the SAFMC SSC MRIP Workshop.

The in-person workshop is now scheduled for Beaufort, NC December 10-12, 2019. The scheduled completion date is March of 2020, with the completed SAR available for SAFMC SSC April 2020.

SEDAR 64: Southeastern US Yellowtail Snapper, Benchmark

SEDAR Contact: Julie Neer

SAFMC SSC REVIEW: April 2020; **Consider GMFMC Coordination**

Summary: The State of Florida is taking the lead on the assessment of Southeastern US Yellowtail Snapper. The terminal year of data for this assessment is 2017. The Data Workshop was held June 25-27, 2019 in St. Petersburg, Florida. Assessment webinars will be held September-December 2019. The Review Workshop is scheduled for February 25-27, 2020. It will be held in St. Petersburg, Florida. The assessment is scheduled for completion in March 2020.

SEDAR 68: Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic Scamp, Research Track (1 or 2 stocks)

SEDAR Contact: Julie A Neer

SAFMC SSC REVIEW: April 2021

Summary: The Stock ID webinars were held August and September 2019. The preliminary recommendation from the Stock ID Panel is to move forward with two assessment stocks, split at the current Council boundary between the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. A Data Scoping webinar is scheduled for October 10, 2019. The terminal year for the Research Track assessment is 2017. The Data Workshop will be held in March 16-20, 2020, with assessment webinars between July and October 2020.

The Review Workshop is tentatively scheduled for March 2021, with an operational assessment in late 2021, but that will depend on the progress of the assessment.

SEDAR 38 Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic King Mackerel, Update

SEDAR Contact: Julie Neer

SAFMC SSC REVIEW: April 2020

Summary: The Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic King Mackerel Update assessments are underway. TORs were approved by the GMFMC in January 2019, and by the SAFMC in March 2019. The terminal year of data for the Atlantic component is 2017/2018 FY. The terminal year of data for the Gulf of Mexico assessment is 2016/2017 FY. The King Mackerel assessments have a completion date in March 2020.

SEDAR 28 Gulf of Mexico Cobia, Update

SEDAR Contact: Julie Neer

SAFMC SSC REVIEW: TBD – Time and Scope, GMFMC Coordination

Summary: The Gulf of Mexico Update assessment of cobia is scheduled. TORs were approved by the GMFMC in January 2019. The terminal year of data for this assessment is 2018. Final analytical products are due November 2019. The completion date is scheduled for April 2020.

Upcoming Projects – Planning Underway

SEDAR 66 South Atlantic Tilefish, Operational

SEDAR Contact: Kathleen Howington

Summary: The South Atlantic Tilefish operational assessment is in the planning stages. The TORs were approved by SAFMC in December 2017. The terminal year for data is 2018. The schedule was postponed due to concerns raised by the SSC about the MRIP numbers. The assessment is scheduled to restart in April 2020 and the completion date is April 2021.

SEDAR 36 South Atlantic Snowy Grouper, Update

SEDAR Contact: Kathleen Howington

Summary: The South Atlantic snowy Grouper update assessment is in the planning stages. The TORs were approved by the SAFMC in December 2018. The terminal year for data is 2018. The completion date is September 2020.

SEDAR 71 South Atlantic Gag Grouper, Operational

SEDAR Contact: Kathleen Howington

Summary: The South Atlantic Gag Grouper operational assessment is in the planning stages. The TORs and schedule are scheduled to be reviewed in October 2019 by the SSC. The terminal year for data for this assessment is 2019. The completion date is March 2021.

SEDAR # South Atlantic Spanish Mackerel

SEDAR Contact: Kathleen Howington

Summary: The South Atlantic Spanish Mackerel operational assessment is in the planning stages.

SEDAR # South Atlantic Black Sea Bass

SEDAR Contact: Kathleen Howington

Summary: The South Atlantic Black Sea Bass operational assessment is in the planning stages.

SEDAR # South Atlantic Red Grouper

SEDAR Contact: Kathleen Howington

Summary: The South Atlantic Red Grouper operational assessment is in the planning stages.