

SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

SEDAR COMMITTEE

**Town & Country Inn
Charleston, South Carolina**

October 1, 2018

Summary Minutes

SEDAR Committee Members

Jessica McCawley
Dr. Roy Crabtree
Doug Haymans

Mel Bell
Tim Griner
Steve Poland

Council Members

Anna Beckwith
Dr. Kyle Christiansen
LCDR Jeremy Montes
Spud Woodward

Chester Brewer
Chris Conklin
Art Sapp

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Dr. Brian Chevront
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Dr. Mike Errigo
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Christina Wiegand

John Carmichael
Myra Brouwer
Dr. Chip Collier
Kelsey Dick
John Hadley
Roger Pugliese
Amber Von Harten
Julia Byrd

Observers and Participants

Dr. Jack McGovern
Dr. Erik Williams
Erika Burgess
Dr. Marcel Reichert

Monica Smit-Brunello
Dr. Tom Frazer
Rick DeVictor

Other observers and participants attached.

The SEDAR Committee of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council convened at the Town & Country Inn, Charleston, South Carolina, Monday afternoon, October 1, 2018, and was called to order by Chairman Jessica McCawley.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Let me name who the SEDAR Committee members are. It's myself, Mel Bell, Bob Beal, Roy Crabtree, Tim Griner, Doug Haymans, and Steve Poland are the committee members. All right, and so our first order of business is Approval of the Agenda. Are there any changes or additions to the agenda? Seeing none, the agenda stands approved. We also have to approve the June 2018 committee minutes. Any changes or corrections to those committee minutes? Seeing none, the minutes stand approved. I am going to turn it over to John.

MR. CARMICHAEL: Okay. Thank you very much. I will go to Attachment 1 for the projects report and just go through and highlight a few things here. I will start out with the things that are underway, SEDAR 58, and that's the Atlantic cobia benchmark assessment. Since our last meeting, the stock ID process concluded, and the recommendations of the process and accepted by the peer reviewers was that there is no change in the stock definition from what was used in the prior assessment, and so that is now moving in the data workshop phase and the regular assessment phase, and that's underway now.

One point to raise is that, due to the changes in the schedule of cobia, our council representative was Anna Beckwith, and she's not going to be able to participate. We have Mel Bell, who is able to participate still so far, but you could add another representative, and Steve Poland had indicated that he was interested earlier. That was pre-Florence, but I hope that still holds.

MR. POLAND: Yes, I would still like to participate.

MS. MCCAWLEY: So what is the pleasure of the committee? Do we want to appoint another person to this assessment?

MR. BELL: **I would move to appoint Steve Poland.**

MS. MCCAWLEY: It's seconded by Tim. Any discussion on that motion that is going up on the board?

MR. CARMICHAEL: It's to the whole process, as much as he can participate.

MS. MCCAWLEY: All right. Any discussion of that motion? **Any objection to that motion? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.**

MR. CARMICHAEL: Thank you very much. The next one on our list is SEDAR 59, and this is South Atlantic greater amberjack, and it's a standard assessment. It is getting underway, and there's not a whole lot to add about that. We'll just get this thing pulled through.

The next one that comes up is SEDAR 60, and it's also a standard, and it's dealing with South Atlantic red porgy, and a couple of things are being considered there, and this one is also underway, and we have workshops coming up in early 2019. Now, on this one, we do not have any council representatives appointed to the project, and so is anyone interested and available to take part in

this and participate, and there will be a series of webinars from January through April to develop this assessment.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Don't all jump at once. Would anybody like to be the council rep for the red porgy stock assessment? I believe it's coming up in March of 2019.

MR. CARMICHAEL: The webinars will be January through April, and so, yes.

MR. GRINER: I will do it.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thank you for volunteering.

MR. BELL: **So moved.**

MS. MCCAWLEY: Can I get a second? Second by Steve. It's under discussion. Any additional discussion. Any additional discussion? **Any objection to that motion? Seeing none, that motion stands approved.**

MR. CARMICHAEL: Okay. Thank you again. Our next projects are things that are in the planning stages. We have SEDAR 64, which is yellowtail snapper, and I would just point out that this one is being led by the FWCC, and thank you very much, and Luiz's shop is working on that, and so we'll be glad to get that assessment going.

The next one on the list I know is of a lot of interest to folks, and that is the MRIP revision assessments, and we've talked quite a bit leading up to these about the efforts to get the revised MRIP data, and I am very pleased to report that, thanks to the efforts of the Beaufort Lab and team, despite Hurricane Florence, that those assessments were provided to the council on Friday, and they are in the SSC briefing book materials, and so these assessments -- It's an abbreviated report that just compares the data and then gives the results of updated projections and the reference point and stock status calculations, and so it's not a full-on, entirely new stock assessment report.

It's a very abbreviated report that gets to the point of the data revisions and how that affected the bottom line, and so the SSC will be reviewing all of these assessments, and they will need to apply their control rule, and they will give you new ABC recommendations that will then be incorporating this new, revised MRIP data, in which case then you get those in December, and the council will need to decide how to move ahead in terms of getting those into place, and so it should be an interesting discussion at the SSC on those.

The next item is the Gulf and South Atlantic scamp, and this is going to be our first research track assessment. We have had a little bit of a delay in the early initial planning stages of this, again due to Florence, and we had hoped to have a meeting of the planning group, which is meeting to come up with a schedule and terms of reference that will be considered by both councils for approval, and we hoped to have that on September 28, but we weren't able to do that, because of getting delayed in getting the initial documentation together because of the impacts of Florence, and so we're looking at getting that group together in early October.

The challenge that that creates, and even the timing we had that it creates, was getting something to our SSC for them to consider that you guys could then consider in December, and we really

don't want to push this thing into say the SSC looking at it in April, and so one of the things that we talked about, just SEDAR staff working with the Science Center staff, is perhaps we would do a joint meeting of a subset of the Gulf and South Atlantic SSCs sometime this fall to go through and do the SSC approval and review of the terms of reference and the schedule.

This has just been hashed out basically last Friday afternoon by the staffs, and I haven't run it by this council or the Gulf Council, and so I wanted to put that out there and see if you guys think that has some merit to try and keep this project from falling further behind and maybe have a more efficient way of getting both SSCs to comment on these planning documents.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Comments on that?

MR. BELL: Was that a joint meeting, or were you going to do a webinar-type meeting?

MR. CARMICHAEL: We would do a joint webinar meeting, and I think suggest that it could be a subset of the SSCs and it wouldn't have to be -- Obviously, it would be open to the public, and all could sit in, but we could at least get a subset that was agreed to by both groups.

MS. MCCAWLEY: It sounds good to me. Any comments or questions on that?

MR. CARMICHAEL: Okay. Thanks for that, and so what I will do as a next step is I will approach the Gulf and see if they're onboard with that, and we'll start talking about dates and times. Great. Thank you very much. Then we'll look ahead to 2019, and you have the projects listed there that we'll be looking at for 2019, and these will go to the -- Really, we're working on the planning stage to get the data deliveries and such set up for those.

One of the things we do kind of know is that, going into 2018, we got a little bit delayed in dealing with the MRIP revision data and the work that had to be done after the revisions were done by the Science Center to get the assessment-ready information, and I think we just know there has been - - There is a lot of improvements underway in the data group down at the Science Center, and things are just taking a little bit longer than I think what everyone would like, and certainly what Clay would like, but he is very strongly committed to do this, but the bottom line is some of our 2019 things are probably going to push back a little bit farther than we had hoped as well, and we're still working on getting the final deadlines for everything worked out, but we are continuing to work through that, and we're certainly keeping the Steering Committee briefed and the councils briefed as much as we can as we go. There are some signs of light at the end of the tunnel at least though, which is nice. Then the next thing is you have the Table 2 that just lays out our priorities for what we have underway in 2018 and 2019 and then looking forward into 2020, 2021, and 2022.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Thank you, John. I would like to note that we've been discussing at the FWC about when the next Atlantic hogfish stock assessment is going to occur, and I would love to see that and the additional FWC stock assessments get on that particular table for the future. Also, can you remind me again of what's happening with the wreckfish assessment? I can't remember.

MR. CARMICHAEL: The wreckfish assessment, we had asked the Center to weigh-in on updating the model that was done before by the outside contractor, and what was indicated was that they weren't able to do that and that we would need to do that as a whole new assessment, essentially, through SEDAR. As you can see right now, it's not on the priority list so far, and they

may want to consider if that would justify a research track or not or what they would want to do, because it would be sort of the first assessment being done by the Center staff and through SEDAR, and so that would be a good Steering Committee topic, I think, to bring up.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Well, I would love to talk about that at our next Steering Committee meeting, which I think is in the spring.

MR. CARMICHAEL: It is, and that's our next topic, and we could probably go right into that, and so the Steering Committee guidance -- The plan now is to meet in May. If we can, we are going to try to coordinate this with the CCC, to try and ease travel for folks who are on both, and we would be looking at the future assessment schedule and getting an update on where things stand on the scamp research track, importantly, and the planning.

We are also going to be providing the Science Center some guidance on our 2020 operational assessments, which are Spanish mackerel and gag, and the Center is trying to estimate the amount of time that it takes for data prep for these assessments, so that they can give the councils better feedback on how many assessments they actually can do, and so that's one thing that we'll be talking about, and then I think, Jessica, you mentioned getting the FWC assessments.

Normally, what we do is, once you guys tell us when you're doing one, we just go ahead and add it in, because the Steering Committee has kind of tried to stay out having much of a role in terms of which order you do the assessments that FWC has worked on, but we do like to include them, because then we make sure they're in the queue for the data, and so, if you know -- Like, at the Steering Committee in the spring, it would be really good, if you know out a couple of years what you all are planning to do, definitely fold them in.

MS. MCCAWLEY: I will get with Dr. Barbieri and get his secret list.

MR. CARMICHAEL: I expect that will be the biggest business at the Steering Committee, is just keeping tabs on the research track, probably getting some more updates from Clay in terms of the data timing, and getting a bit more detailed into what operational assessments mean in terms of the cooperator level. Of course, as always, our schedule. That is all that I had, unless someone has other business.

MR. HAYMANS: John, you said that the MRIP revision assessment is available to the SSC at the moment, and it's in the SSC briefing book, and we don't have access to that, right?

MR. CARMICHAEL: Yes, you do. It's in the SSC briefing book, and it is posted on the council website, and all the council members got an email copy about that, and I think it was perhaps Sunday or Saturday, Saturday night, when it went out, and so they're there, and I forget what attachment number. Mike, do you recall which attachment that might have been? Not off the top of his head, but maybe 17, but they are in the report, and so just go to the website, and that should cover it. That concludes the SEDAR business I had.

MS. MCCAWLEY: Any other business to come before the SEDAR Committee? Seeing none, we're going to adjourn this committee, and we're going to move into the SOPPs Committee.

(Whereupon, the meeting adjourned on October 1, 2018.)

Certified By: _____ Date: _____

Transcribed By:
Amanda Thomas
October 18, 2018

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September Council mtg webinar - day 1 - 10/1/18

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