

Overview of SEDAR Steering Committee
Meeting Outcomes
July 20th, 2026
virtual



Gulf SEDAR Committee
August 24, 2026

Overview



- SEDAR Projects Report – Gulf Focus
- SEDAR Process Review and Discussion
- SEDAR Projects List and Planning Grid
- Other Business Items
 - CIE Prioritization Process
 - SEDAR funding status update

SEDAR Projects Report – Gulf Focus



- **SEDAR 99: King Mackerel Status Update**
 - June 2026: Gulf Council informed by SEFSC regarding obtaining Mexican landings and length composition data.
 - Council supported considering Mexican data in SEDAR 99 and directed staff to write two letters.
- King mackerel assessment is expected to be completed mid-2027
- SEDAR and Science Center agreed to a Review Workshop with CIE

SEDAR Process Review and Discussion



Independence of Cooperator Appointees for SEDAR Peer Review

- Concerns about Councils appointing peer reviewers who participated in the data or assessment workshops
- Appointments appear inconsistent with National Standard 2 and SEDAR guidance
 - Precludes individuals who served as panelists during the data or assessment phases from serving as peer reviewers
- In the Gulf, identifying enough eligible SSC members is a recurring challenge

Committee outcome: Consider revisiting eligibility requirements for data workshop participants serving on assessment and review panels, particularly if there are also independent CIE reviewers

SEDAR Process Review and Discussion



Review of SEDAR SOPP Appendices

- During the Feb 2026 Meeting: Committee identified several considerations to complement the SOPPs
 - Directed SEDAR staff to compile those items into several appendices for consideration at the Summer 2026 SEDAR Steering Committee meeting

Committee outcome: Committee signed off on the SEDAR SOPPs Appendices with minor edits

SEDAR Projects List and Planning Grid



MRIP-FES Pilot Results

- Committee was informed final pilot results will be released by August 31, 2026
- SEFSC's proposed options for incorporating updated FES data into existing assessments:
 - Option 1: most timely - use average adjustment factor for monitoring (no assessment runs)
 - Option 2: re-run model with only updated FES data
 - Option 3: full model re-run with update to other data sources (based on availability)
- **Gulf**: Option 2 (update FES rec data) - Gulf king mackerel, gray triggerfish, and red snapper

Gulf Stock Assessment Schedule Requests



2026: Anticipating MRIP Updates after pilot project results for Red Snapper, Gray Triggerfish, & King Mackerel

2027: MRIP Updates likely to go into following year



Greater amberjack assessment moved up in priority



Scamp assessment



Noted Gulf gag assessment will extend into 2027

Gulf Stock Assessment Schedule Requests



2028:



Added red snapper to schedule. Expect updates to historical recreational landings (AL and MS adoption of LA Creel)



Added red grouper to update stock status, given time since last assessment and Council actions in Reef Fish Amendment 62 (ACL increase, reallocation, AMs)

Gulf Stock Assessment Schedule Requests



For assessments conducted external to SEDAR: Science Center asked us to prioritize vermilion snapper or gray snapper

- We requested vermilion snapper be higher priority based on concerns about effort shifting to that species; however, we were later informed by life history staff, additional training was needed to accurately age that species.
- Gulf SSC received results of Gulf Tilefish Complex work at the July 2026 meeting
 - Science Center considering outlining a formal process for developing and executing external SEDAR products

Other Business



- **CIE Prioritization Process**
 - Regional Science Centers need to submit requests to headquarters, not necessarily a limitation by region for # of requests
 - Science Center needs advanced planning and requests must meet specific criteria
- **SEDAR funding status update**
 - Gulf apportionment, approximately \$30,000 annually has been expended for 2025 and 2026 to date to conduct and administer SEDAR activities
 - South Atlantic Council receives ~\$600,000 in annual funding to administer SEDAR program. In 2025, some categories such as personnel and fringe benefits were overspent, while other categories such as meeting costs and travel were underspent. In 2026, expenditures were reported on target.

Questions & Feedback

