

**SEDAR 64 Post-Data Workshop Webinar**  
**Southeastern US Yellowtail Snapper**  
**July 23, 2019 from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM**  
**Summary Report**

Staff from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC) presented life history and indices data that will be used in model construction, along with a brief overview of approaches for running sensitivity analyses to compare with the base model results.

Maximum age was increased to 28 years. Since approximately 88% of otolith samples came from fish determined to be between the ages of 2-6 years, analysts will explore methods associated with subsampling 30 lengths per age to standardize sample sizes for length composition data. Size and age at which 50% of individuals are sexually mature will be input as 192 mm fork length and 1.7 years respectively. Natural mortality will be bound between 0.136 and 0.222, with those priors being estimated using Hoenig's method. A lower bound for discard mortality rate of 10% is assumed for both commercial and recreational sectors. Sensitivity runs will be conducted using a maximum discard mortality of 15% for commercial and 20-30% recreational and compared to results generated from the base model. Length distribution information for recreational discards will come from the Reef Fish Observer Program and the Shark Observer Program.

Indices to be included were reviewed. Only data collected from within the state of Florida will be used in the assessment model, since over 99% of all yellowtail snapper landings are recorded in Florida. Fisheries data from outside of Florida will be included when calculating the acceptable biological catch in projections. Fishery-independent data will include the Reef Fish Visual Census survey.

Final data inputs are due July 26, 2019
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Participants:

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Steve Brown  
Jessica Carroll  
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