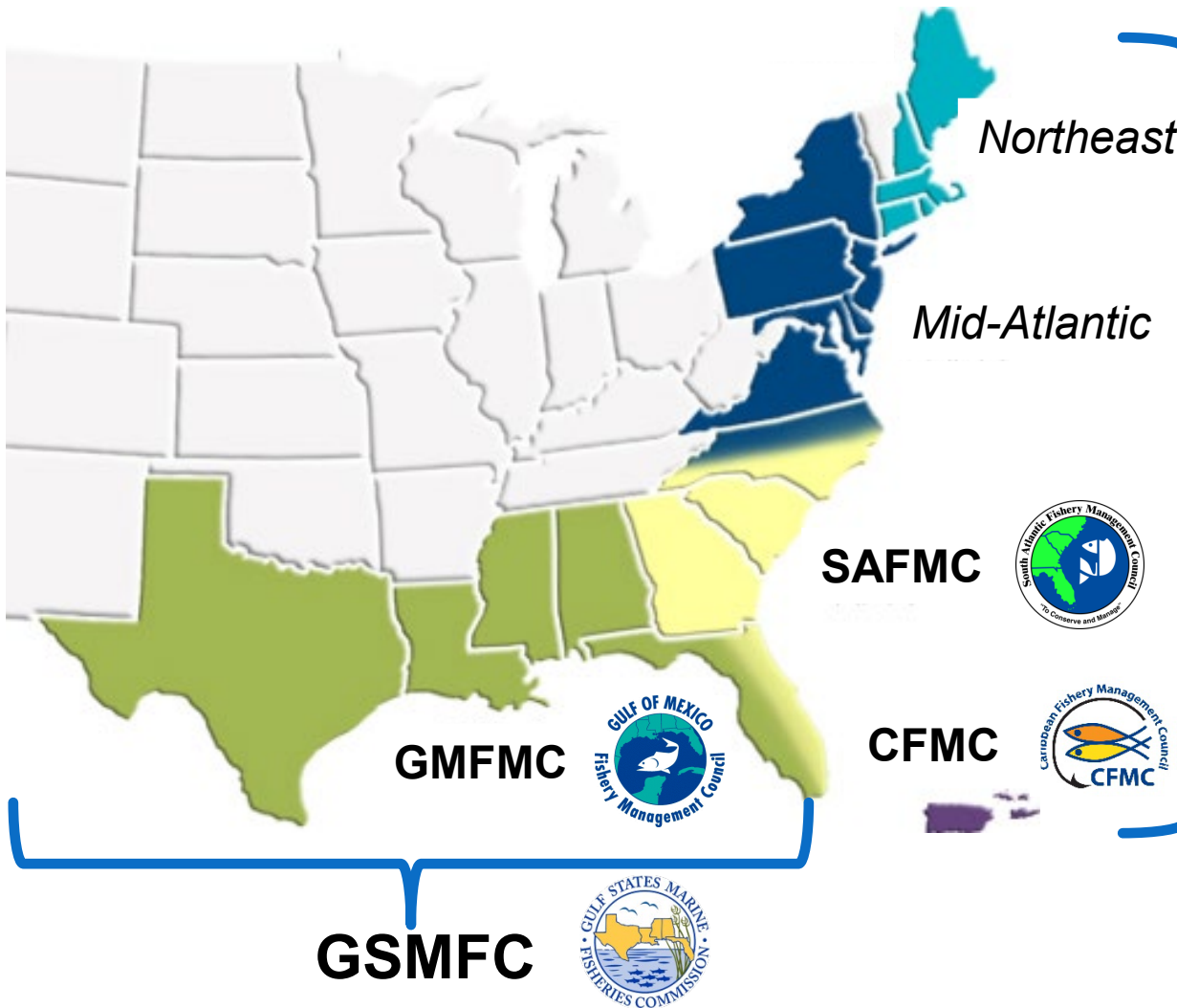
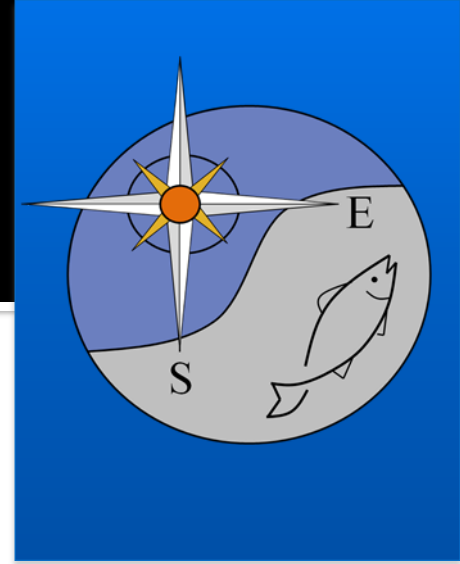


SEDAR: SouthEast Data, Assessment, and Review Stock Assessment Program

Ryan Rindone
July 31, 2024



Where is SEDAR?



ASMFC



Federal Cooperators

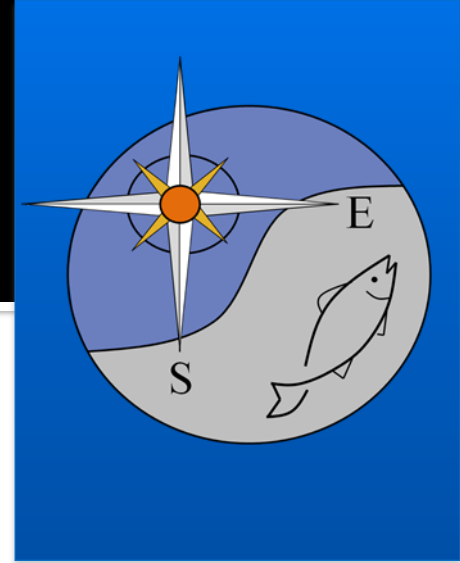
- SEFSC
- SERO
- NMFS HMS (Sharks)



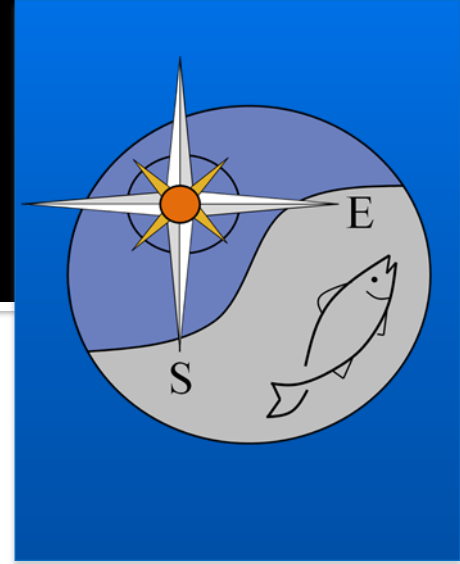
What is SEDAR?

SEDAR is a collaborative approach to conducting peer-reviewed, regional, quantitative stock assessments across the southeastern U.S.

- Broaden participation in assessments
- Provide independent peer-review
- Improved planning, increased transparency
- Not designed to handle all regional assessment needs
- Now on SEDAR 98 (Gulf Red Snapper)



What is SEDAR?

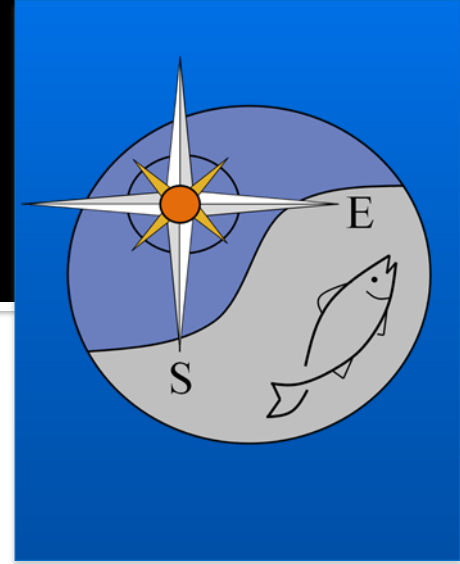


SEDAR Program Goals:

- Improve species priority setting and workload management
- Provide transparency
- Improve data and assessment quality
- Provide thorough documentation of methods and data
- Provide independent peer-review
- Increase participation (stakeholders, academics, etc.)



What is SEDAR?

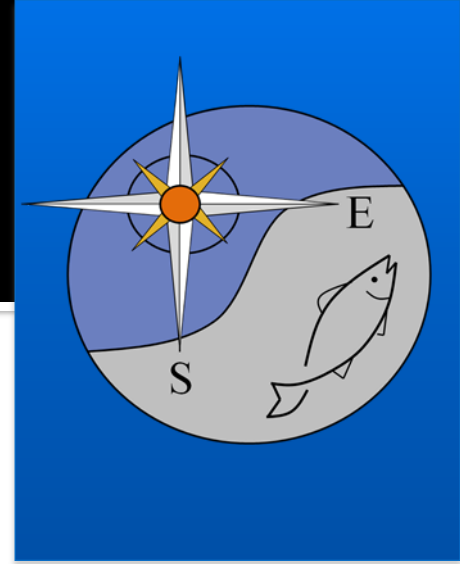


A word on “transparency” ...

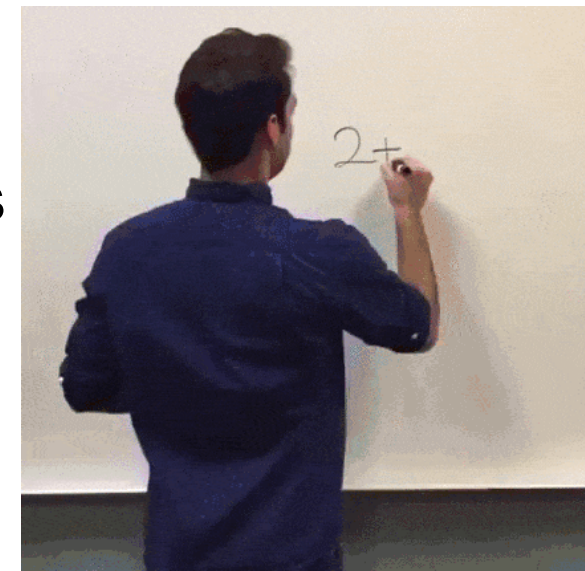
- All workshops and webinars open to the public
- All documents available on the SEDAR website
- All assessment input data available
 - Within legal limits of confidentiality requirements
- Multiple opportunities for public comment
 - Through SEDAR, SSC, and Council



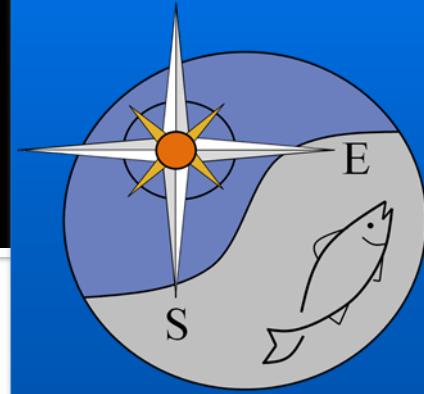
Who is SEDAR?



- Federal, state, and university scientists
 - Research, monitoring, ageing
 - Evaluating and compiling data
- Federal and state analysts
 - Run assessment and support models
 - Age/growth compositions, indices
- Fishermen
 - Share data, evaluate and interpret results and trends
- Council Members and Staff
 - Observers, oversight, regulatory history



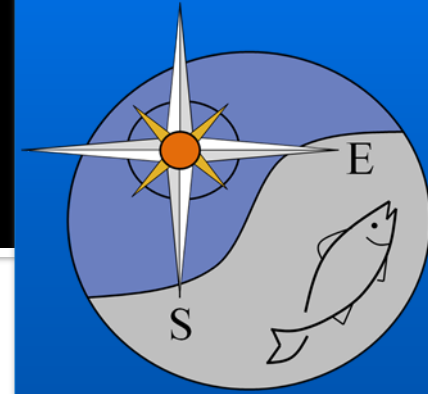
Who is SEDAR?



 **NOAA** Southeast Fisheries Science Center
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE



Who runs SEDAR?



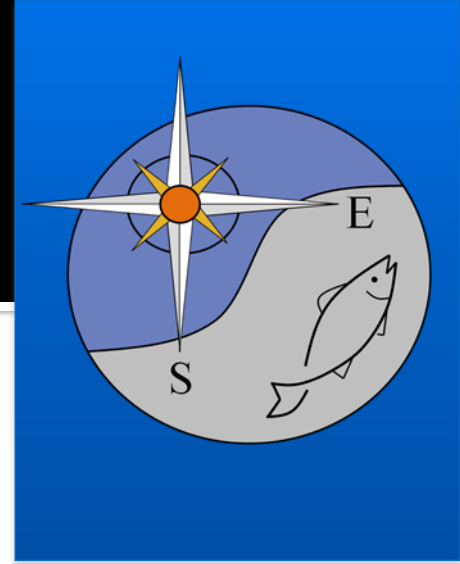
SEDAR Steering Committee

- Council Chairs (3) & Executive Directors (3)
- Commission Executive Directors (2)
- SERO Regional Administrator
- SEFSC Science & Research Director (Chair)
- HMS Director
- FWC

Role of Steering Committee

- Approves policies
- Balances assessment priorities & schedule
- Budgets fiscal and human resources
- Program oversight

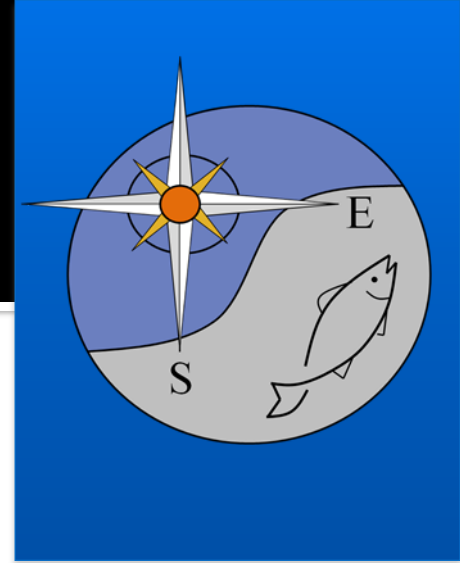
Who runs SEDAR?



- Administered through the SAFMC on behalf of all Cooperators
- Staff housed at SAFMC
 - Program Manager
 - SEDAR Coordinator
- Grant funding from NOAA Fisheries
 - Staff
 - Travel support for participants

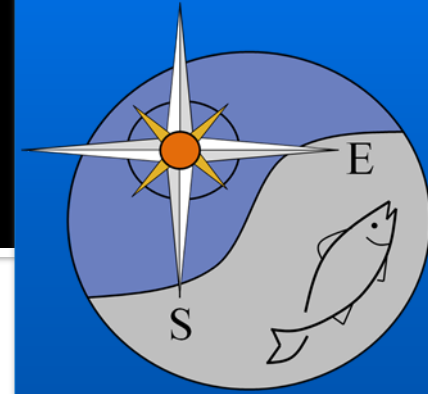
You may be appointed by the Gulf Council, then contacted by someone from SAFMC

How does SEDAR work?



Benchmark { Everything 'on the table', scope can vary
Independent peer-review, with CIE/SSC
Uses workshops, produces mgmt. advice

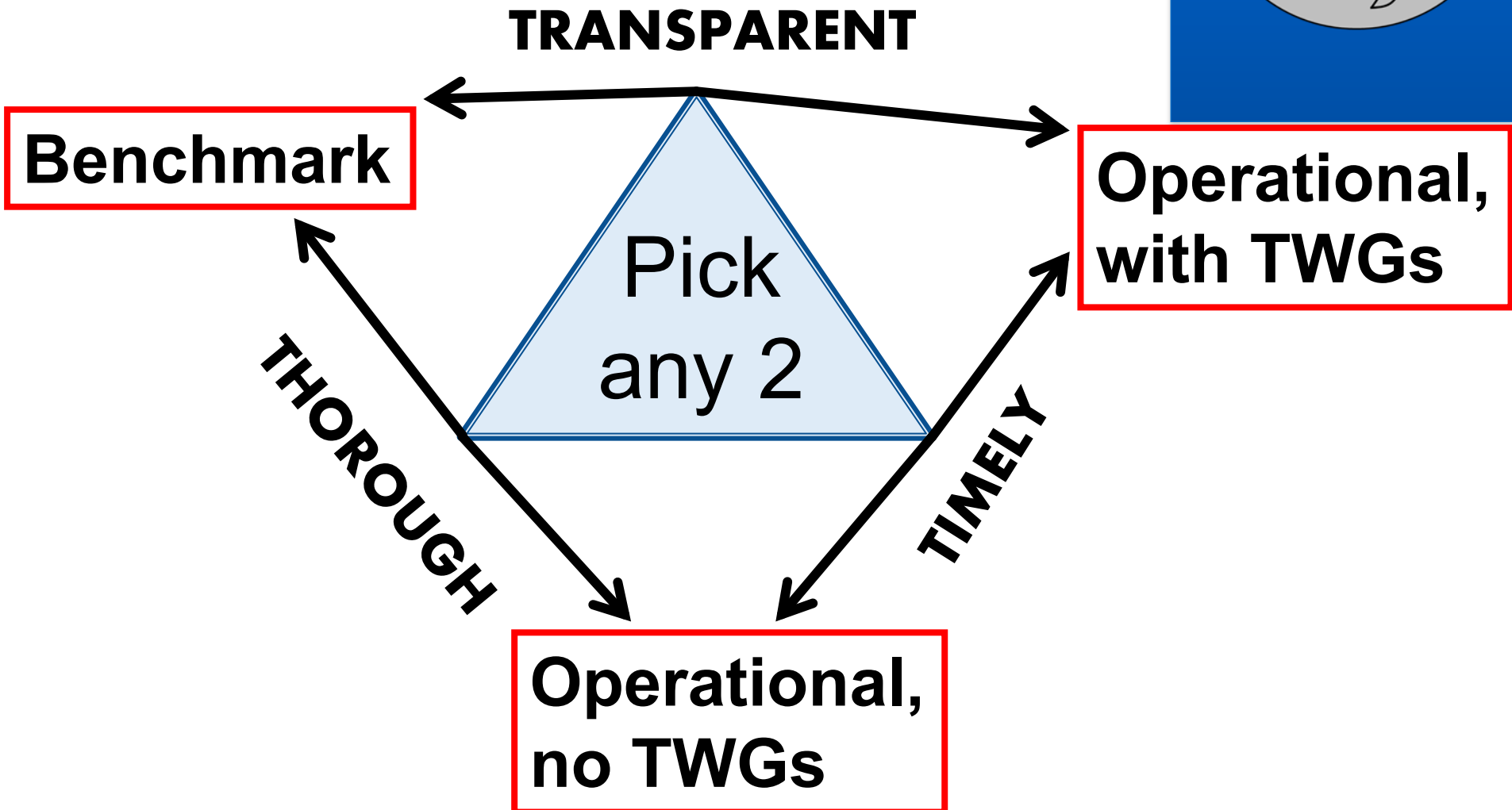
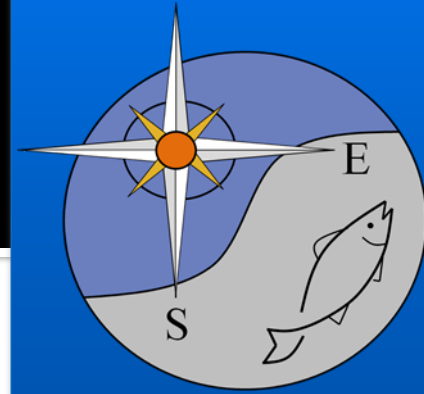
How does SEDAR work?



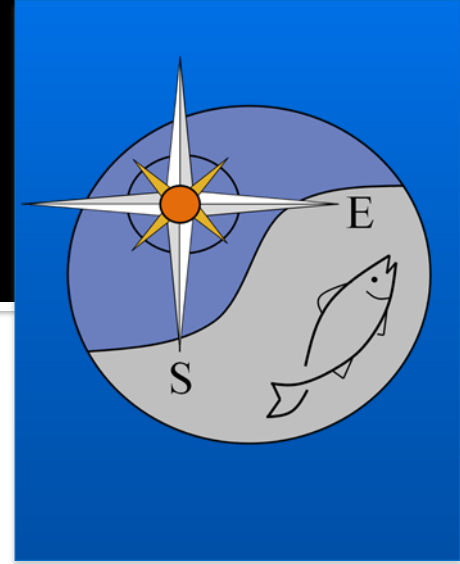
Operational

- New data put through prior accepted model
 - Use topical working groups to evaluate
- Update existing data
- Limited changes to prior model
 - Can use TWGs here, but not required
- Changes proposed affect time requirements
- SSC provides review, yields mgmt. advice

How does SEDAR work?

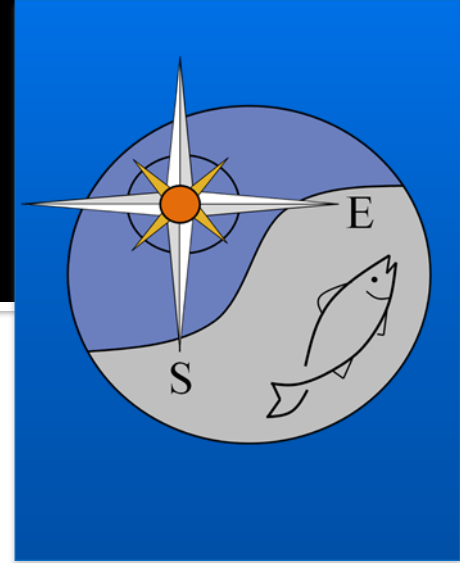


How does SEDAR work?



- Three-step stock assessment process:
 - Step 1: Data Stage
 - Step 2: Assessment Stage
 - Step 3: Review Stage
- Discuss SCIENCE
- Panels develop recommendations by consensus
- List of tasks developed for each stage (e.g., Terms of Reference)

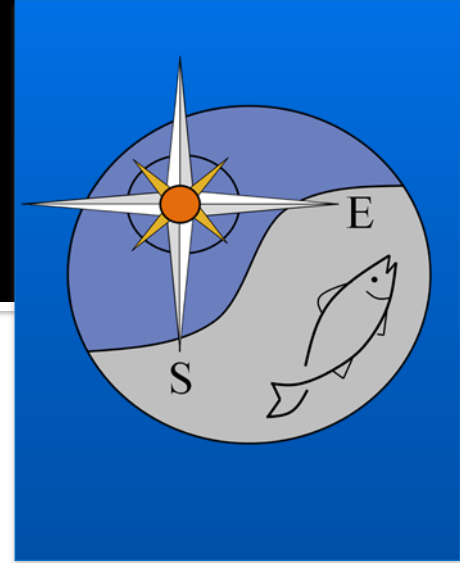
How does SEDAR work?



- Step one: Data Stage & Data Workshop
 - Data are compiled, reviewed, evaluated
 - Participants include state agency and university researchers, data collectors, analysts, SSC, and fishermen
 - Significant effort to compile and prepare data in advance

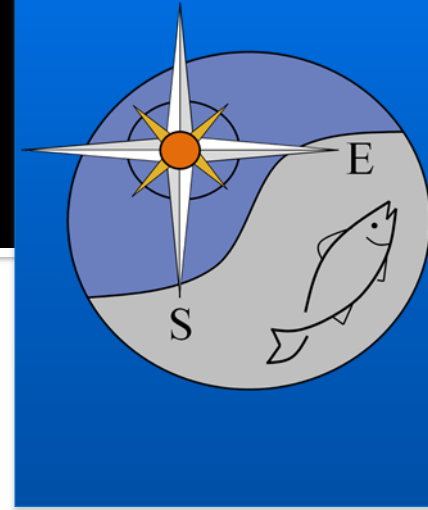
SSC volunteers for this stage should be familiar with the species life history, fishery dynamics, and the types of data available

How does SEDAR work?



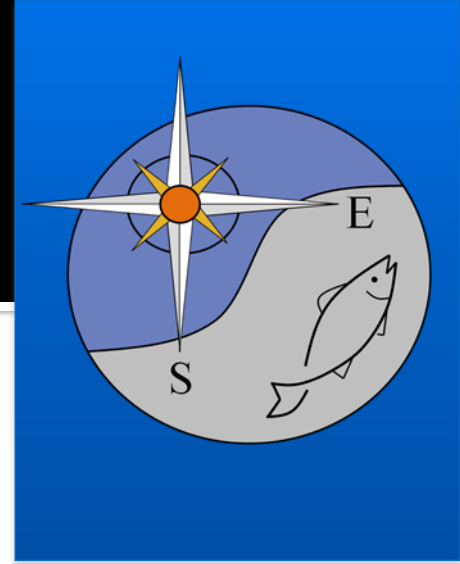
- Step one: Data Workgroups
 - Participate in workgroups based on your expertise
 - Determine data to put forward to Assessment Process
 - Review available information and offer guidance
 - Update SSC about workshop proceedings
 - CONSENSUS- solution building and compromising will be necessary

How does SEDAR work?



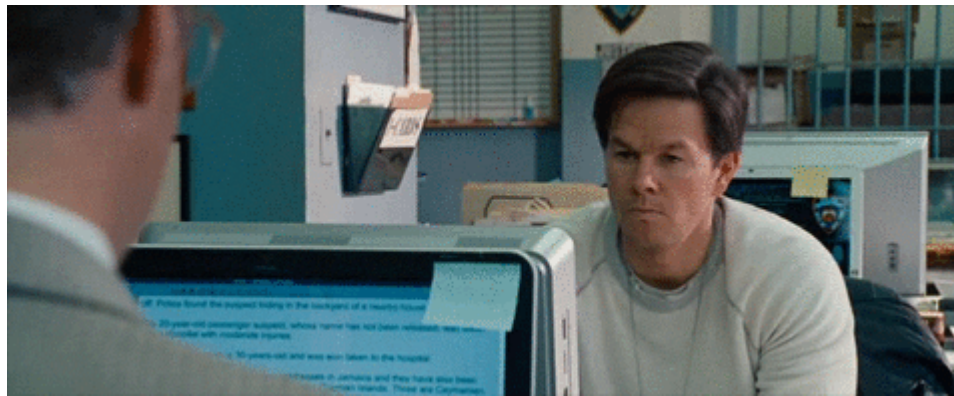
- Consensus building:
 - Dr. Capriscus thinks a survey should not be included because the sample sizes are too low, and the signal is noisy and uninformative.
 - Dr. Dumerili thinks the survey should be included because of the general lack of data available, and excluding this survey leaves even less to inform trends in abundance.
 - The DW Panel agrees to recommend combining the survey with another similar survey to resolve both the sample size and data paucity issues.

How does SEDAR work?

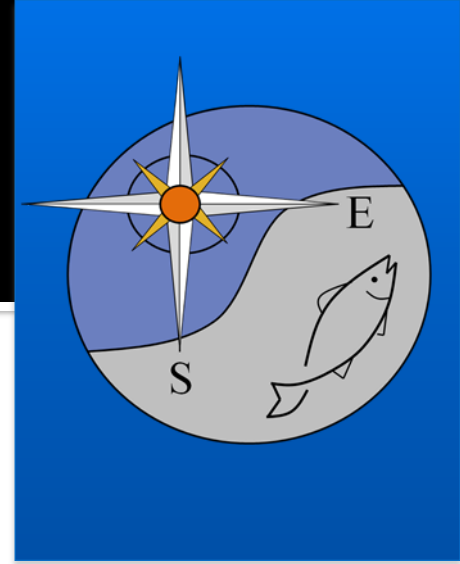


- Step two: Assessment Process
 - Assessment models are developed
 - Data may be re-evaluated
 - Participants include analysts, SSC, and fishermen
 - Held via webinars

SSC volunteers for this stage should have familiarity with how contemporary stock assessment models work

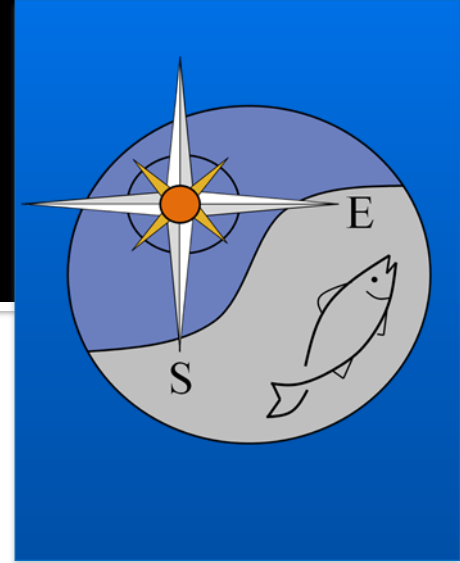


How does SEDAR work?



- Step two: Assessment Process
 - Important to participate as much as possible
 - Model direction may change once data begin informing model estimates
 - Materials often not available until about a week before an assessment webinar
 - Should be prepared to provide constructive guidance to analysts

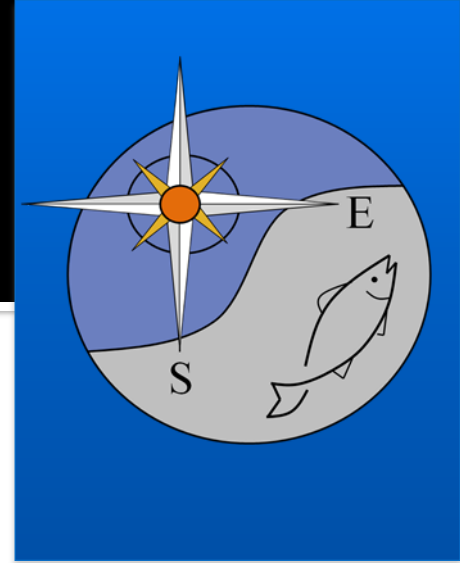
How does SEDAR work?



- Step three: Review Stage & Peer-review
 - Benchmark:
Independent peer-review, open to public
 - Data used, model, and findings
 - Review Panel include SSC and CIE
 - Other participants include analysts and fishermen
 - All others: SSC peer-review, open to public

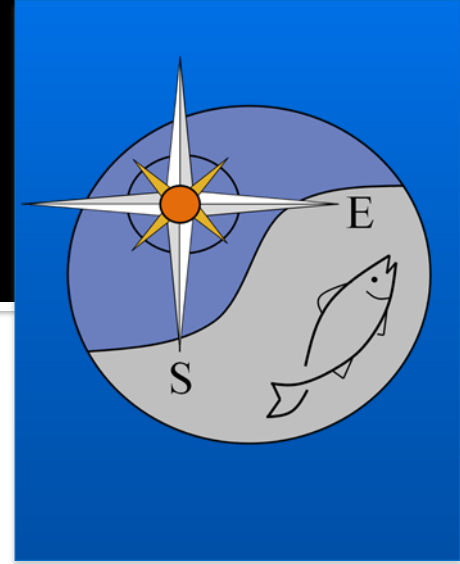
SSC volunteers for this stage should have familiarity with how contemporary stock assessment models work

How does SEDAR work?



- Step three: Review Stage & Peer-review
 - Must be critical of how data are used
- Must be able to critique assessment methods and decisions
 - Examine weightings, time blocking, handling of biases and assumptions
 - Evaluate appropriateness of methods to data available
- Must be impartial to the data and methods
 - Review Workshop Only: Cannot have been a panelist for DW or AW

How does SEDAR work?

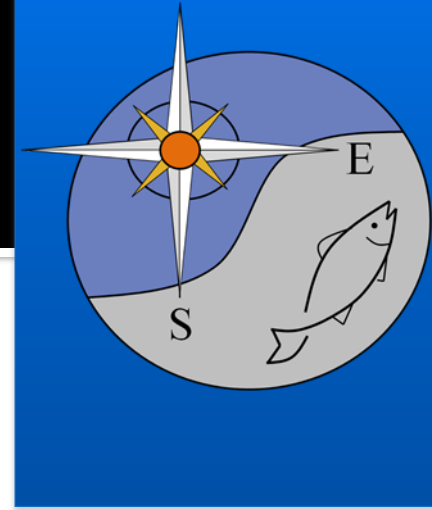


SEDAR Products:

- Stock Assessment Report
 - The final product from the SEDAR process
 - Includes full documentation of process, methods, inputs
 - Target audiences are SSC and peer-reviewers
- Working Papers & References
 - Further details on model inputs and methods
 - Background information used in decision-making

**All available on SEDAR website
(sedarweb.org)**

What happens after SEDAR?



- SSC Action:
 - Review assessment
 - May make additional requests of analysts
 - Sensitivities, projections
 - Recommend consistency with best scientific information available (BSIA)
Recommend suitability for informing mgmt., catch limits
 - Overfishing Limit, Accceptable Biological Catch
- NMFS considers assessment, peer-review and SSC recommendations
 - Determines BSIA, stock status (Overfished? Overfishing?)
- Council begins necessary actions