SEDAR

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# *MEMORANDUM*

TO: Carrie Simmons, Executive Director, GMFMC

FROM: Julie A. Neer, SEDAR Coordinator

DATE: July 14, 2020

RE: Approval request for SEDAR 74, Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper Stock ID Terms of Reference

Enclosed are draft Terms of Reference for the Stock Id Process of SEDAR 74 Gulf of Mexico red snapper assessment. These Terms of Reference have been produced in consultation with the SEDAR 74 Planning Team. Please review this information, modify if necessary, and approve according to GMFMC SEDAR procedures.

I would appreciate it if these Terms of Reference could be included for discussion at your earliest convenience. Please inform me of the results of your consideration by August 31, 2020.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

cc

Ryan Rindone

# SEDAR 74
# Gulf of Mexico Red Snapper
# Stock ID Process
# Terms of Reference

DRAFT: **May 2020**

Process Goal: Review Gulf of Mexico stock structure and unit stock definitions and consider whether changes are required.

1. Review relevant information on stock structure. Potential sources include genetic studies, growth patterns, movement and migration, existing stock definitions, otolith chemistry, oceanographic and habitat characteristics, and hotspot maps of landings or CPUE.

2. Make recommendations on biological stock structure and the assessment unit stock or stocks to be addressed through SEDAR 74 and document the rationale behind the recommendations. The default boundaries for assessments should be the current Council boundaries between the Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic, and the boundary used in previous assessments to divide the eastern (shrimp grids 1-12) and western (shrimp grids 13-21) Gulf of Mexico. If there is reasonable evidence for deviating from these boundaries, an accompanying recommendation on spatial considerations for management should also be provided.

3. Discuss the strength of evidence in support of stock ID recommendations with particular attention paid to recommendations if they result in a mismatch of biological stock structure, assessment unit stock, and existing management boundaries.

4. Provide recommendations for future research on stock structure.

5. Prepare a report providing complete documentation of workshop recommendations and decisions.