**SEDAR 70 Data Scoping Webinar**

**Gulf of Mexico Greater Amberjack**

**June 4, 2020 from 1:00 PM to 2:30 PM**

**Summary Report**

SEDAR 70 will be an operational assessment for Gulf of Mexico greater amberjack. This assessment will be done using webinars to discuss data and gather input on modeling, results, and projections. Data and the model from the SEDAR 33 Update assessment of greater amberjack will be updated with current information, and the recreational data will transition from the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) Coastal Household Telephone Survey to the MRIP Fishing Effort Survey (FES). Greater amberjack has been subjected to many management changes, especially since 2011, which will need to be accounted for in the model.

Life history data will have age-length pairs updated through 2018 from several state and academic sources. Von Bertalanffy growth equations will be updated, along with age-length observations and uncertainty for the growth parameter estimates.

Directed fleets will include the commercial handline and longline fleets, recreational private and charter for-hire fleets, and the headboat fleet. Landings and discards will be updated through 2018, with the recreational private and charter for-hire data being updated to MIRP-FES. Recreational data from Texas will come from the Texas Parts and Wildlife Department Sport Angler survey, and from Louisiana from the LA Creel survey. Headboat landings will come from the Southeast Region Headboat Survey. Estimates of uncertainty about these recreational landings will be updated, while commercial landings will use uncertainty estimates from the SEDAR 33 Update. The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission has a calibration for GAJ landings from 2016+ for Florida from its Gulf Reef Fish Survey.

Relative indices of abundance will be structured similar to the SEDAR 33 Update, except for the headboat index which will mirror the SEDAR 33 Update. Fishery-independent indices of abundance from the SEAMAP Reef Fish Video Survey and the Combined Video Survey (Panama City Lab Video Survey, Pascagoula Lab Video Survey, and FWRI trap Camera Survey) will also be updated. Length composition data for the commercial handline and longline fleets will be updated through 2018. Length composition data for the charter for-hire and private fleets will be estimated separately, and then combined. Headboat length composition data will also be updated through 2018, as will the length compositions for the SEAMAP Reef Fish Video Survey.

Participants:

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Mike Larkin

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Vivian Matter

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Julie Neer

Carole Neidig

Matthew Nuttall

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