

# Interim ABC Analysis – Discussion on Timing and Use for Management



# Presentation Overview

- Interim ABC Analysis
  - Candidate species
  - Management Strategy Evaluation
- Timing of Request to Implementation in Management
  - Gulf Example: Red Grouper
- Improve Timing or Automate Process
- Current Requests
- Future Considerations



# Interim ABC Analysis

- A quantitative method of adjusting catch advice
- Occurs between SEDAR stock assessments
- Requires an accepted stock assessment
- Uses a defensible **fishery-independent** index



# Gulf species that can be considered

Must have been assessed and at least 1 defensible survey or CPUE index

Red Snapper

BLL, Video

Vermilion Snapper

Video, Trawl

Gray Snapper

Video, Diver

Red Grouper

BLL, Video

Gag Grouper

Video

Scamp

Video

Yellowedge Grouper

BLL

Greater Amberjack

Video

Gray Trigger

Video

King Mackerel

Larval, Fishery CPUE?

Yellowtail Snapper

Diver, Video?



Red Grouper Interim Analysis  
completed in 2018



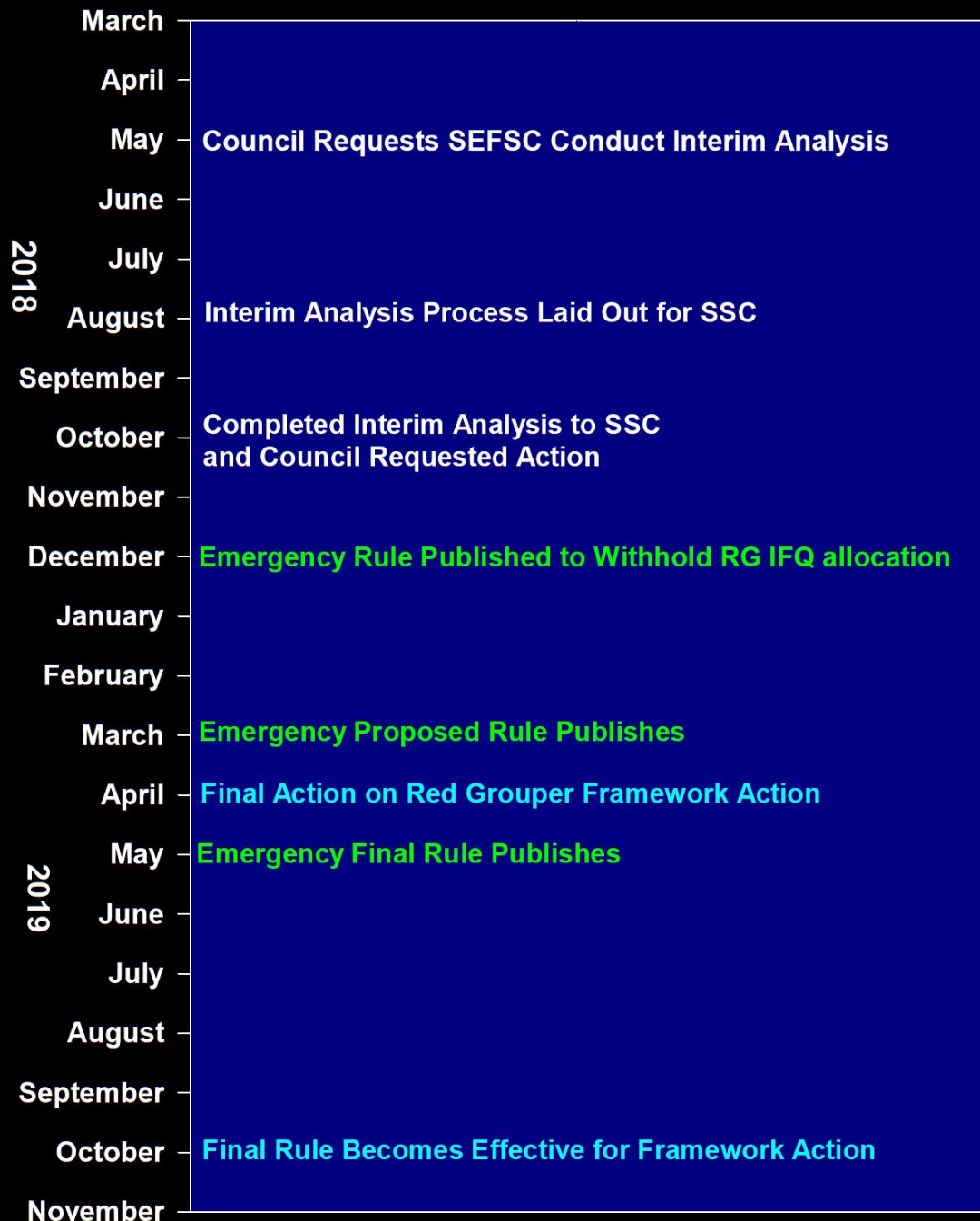
Source: Slide from Dr. Porch's Oct 2019 Presentation to the Gulf Council

# Management Strategy Evaluations (MSE)

Useful for refining the Interim Analysis procedure

- How long between full stock assessments
- How much to buffer the ABC given various types of uncertainty in the index (or when combining multiple indices)
- How best to adjust the interim ABC advice to balance competing objectives (requires stakeholder workshops)
- MSE evaluations may be revisited periodically to address specific questions, but not every time an interim analysis is conducted





**Gulf Example:**

**Red Grouper**



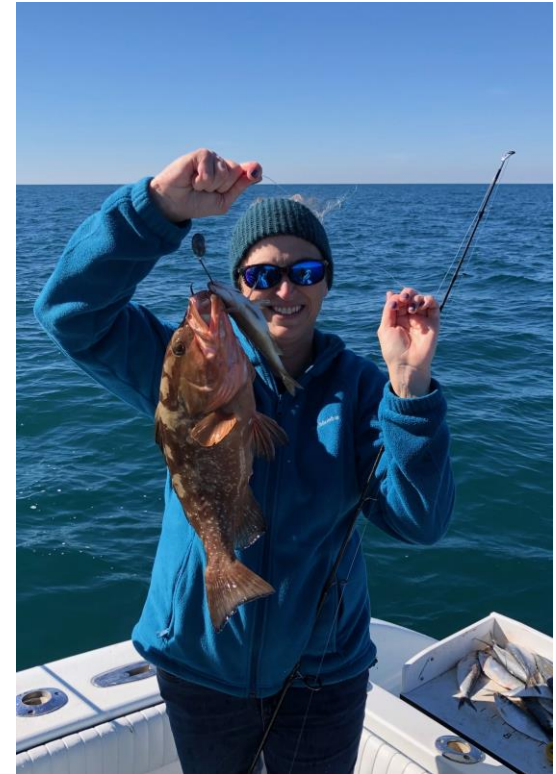


# Example: Red Grouper Framework Action

Council 2018-2019

## Process

- Took 1-year via Framework Action
- Took 7- months to implement Emergency Rule
- Due to Emergency Rule request to reduce ACLs, NMFS was able to withhold IFQ allocation before Jan 2019



# Improve Timing or Automate the Process?

## Potential Council Approaches

- Modify Framework Procedure
  - Use Closed Framework to change ABCs and/or ACLs after the SSC reviews a stock assessment and the Council concurs with recommendations (not to exceed the OFL)
- Automate the ABC Control Rule (NEFMC exploring)
  - Use existing ABC Control Rule and ACL/ACT Control Rule for modifying catch limits
- Continue with Framework Action Approach
  - Streamline where possible





# Current Interim ABC Analysis Requests



Gray triggerfish scheduled for SSC review  
Sept 14-16, 2020



Red snapper anticipated to be available  
Spring 2021



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Standing request for red grouper – start of  
every year

January	
February	Council Requests SEFSC Conduct Interim Analysis
March	
April	
2020 May	
June	
July	
August	
September	Completed Interim ABC Analysis to SSC
October	Council Requests Action
November	
December	
January	Final Action on Gray Triggerfish Framework Action
February	
March	
April	
May	
2021 June	Final Rule Becomes Effective for Framework Action
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

## Gulf Example: Gray Triggerfish



2021	January	Council Requests SEFSC Conduct Interim Analysis
	February	
	March	Completed Interim ABC Analysis to SSC
	April	Council Requests Action
	May	
	June	Final Action on Species X Framework Action
	July	
	August	
	September	
	October	
	November	
	December	Final Rule Becomes Effective for Framework Action
2022	January	
	February	
	March	
	April	
	May	
	June	
	July	
	August	
	September	
	October	
	November	
	December	

## Proposed Timeline for Future Interim ABC Analysis Requests

# Future Considerations

## Management Changes Triggered

- Interim ABC analysis has the potential to provide managers flexibility to respond to recent trends that were not considered in the last stock assessment
- Ideal time to request interim ABC analysis for most species appears to be January and review by SSC in March
- Due to fishing year: greater amberjack and king mackerel may need different timing



# Questions?

