Sustainable and Cooperative Management of Atlantic Coastal Fisheries

Black Drum Benchmark Stock Assessment – Methods Workshop

February 22-24, 2022

Webinar: https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/865364813
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This is a draft agenda, and times and topics are subject to change at the discretion of the SAS Chair.

Tuesday, February 22

Welcome/Workshop Objectives and TOR Review (*C. McDonough*)   9:00 a.m.

Age-Specific Indices of Abundance   9:15 a.m.

    i.   SC Trammel *(C. McDonough)*
    ii. NEAMAP and ChesMMAP *(E. Simpson/J. Gartland)*
    iii. NC Gill Net *(C. Stewart)*
    iv. FL Haul Seine *(S. Allen)*

Commercial Fleet Designations   10:15 a.m.

    i.   VA *(E. Simpson)*
    ii. NC *(C. Stewart)*
    iii. Other States *(J. Kipp)*

Break   10:45 a.m.

Composition Sampling Intensity *(J. Kipp)*   11:00 a.m.

Fishery Age Composition Data *(H. Liao)*   11:30 a.m.

Lunch   12:00 p.m.

Recreational Catch Data *(J. Kipp)*   1:00 p.m.

    i.   2019-2020 Released Alive Decline
    ii. Historic Catch with Different CPUE Assumptions
    iii. Updated Released Alive Mean Weights
    iv. Southeast Region Headboat Survey Data
    v. MRIP CPUE

Other Data Sets   2:30 p.m.

      i.   Acoustic Tagging Data *(M. Conroy)*
     ii.   PSEG Survey Data *(C. Tomlin)*
    iii.   Shrimp Trawl Observer Program Data *(J. Kipp)*
    iv.   Data Sets North of NJ *(J. Kipp)*

Adjourn   3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 23

Considerations for Index of Abundance Data (*C. McDonough)*   9:00 a.m.

      i.   Index Selection
     ii.   Index Calculation Changes (e.g., standardization)
    iii.   Correlation Analysis (among indices, between age-specific indices if applicable)
    iv.   Evaluate for power to detect trends
     v.   Evaluate for trends through time
    vi.   Combine indices

Break   11:00 a.m.

Utility of Fishery Composition Data for Assessment (*C. McDonough)*   11:15 a.m.

Lunch   12:00 p.m.

Remaining Data Tasks   1:00 p.m.

      i.   Weight-based MRIP CPUE *(J. Kipp)*
     ii.   Others?

Indicator Structure and Data Sets (*C. McDonough)*   1:45 p.m.

      i.   TOR 4. Identify and develop simple, empirical indicators of stock abundance, stock characteristics, and fishery characteristics that can be monitored annually between stock assessments.

Adjourn   3:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 24

Discuss Possible Assessment Approaches *(J. Kipp)*   9:00 a.m.

Break   11:00 a.m.

Assessment Method Tasks (*C. McDonough)*   11:15 a.m.

Determine Approximate Dates for Assessment Workshop (*C. McDonough)*   11:45 a.m.

Adjourn   12:00 p.m.

Goal of Data Workshop Tasks: Improve understanding of data set utility for assessment methods to be discussed during the Methods Workshop

Indices of Abundance

- Develop age-specific indices from surveys tracking multiple ages (if appropriate) to evaluate cohort tracking
    - SC Trammel Survey (Chris McDonough)
    - NEAMP and ChesMMAP (Ethan will check with what VIMS has)
    - NC Gill Net (Chris Stewart)
    - FL Haul Seine (Shanae)
- Consider below at methods workshop
    - Calculate standardized indices of abundance
    - Evaluate for synchrony/correlation
    - Evaluate for power to detect a trend
    - Evaluate for trend
    - Selection of final indices for assessment models/stock indicators between assessments – prescriptive selection criteria?
    - Combine indices

Composition Data

- Characterize temporal and spatial coverage of composition sampling data (support research recommendations, determine need for tasks below) (Jeff)
- Apply growth estimates (in place of ALKs) to length composition data to evaluate cohort tracking (Hank)
- Check with more northern states (NY, RI) about any data sets that have encountered black drum (Savannah)
- Consider below at methods workshop
    - Develop guidance for age composition methodology (e.g. seasonal ALKs vs annual ALKs, sample size thresholds, borrowing from other data sets)
    - Develop age composition data from age samples and length frequency data

Recreational Catch Data

- Investigate 2019-2020 decline in B2 (Jeff)
- Update B2 weight for Mid-Atlantic with updated weight data through 2020 (Jeff)
- Calculate catch rates from all pre regulatory periods by state and compare to 1981-1985 catch rates to see if we should update recreational historic estimates with new CPUE (Jeff)
- MRIP CPUE (Jeff)
- Report back on SRHS data availability (Jeff)
- Consider below at methods workshop

Commercial Catch Data

- Investigate fleet designations for potential application of composition data to landings with similar selectivity patterns

- o Mid-Atlantic Fleets (Ethan)
  - Explore magnitude of landings between pound nets (within Chesapeake Bay) and gill nets (Eastern Shore) to determine a need for gear groupings within the Mid-Atlantic (i.e., are pound net landings so small that landings can reasonably just be collapsed over gears for applying length sampling data)
  - Explore length sampling data from the MD tagging study, MD pound net sampling, and VMRC BSP for indication of different selectivities
  - Work with Hank to provide length composition data for application to growth model estimates for potential age composition data
  - Consider below at methods workshop
    - Can other Mid-Atlantic states be collapsed into these fleets
    - Should any other length sampling data sets be used to supplement length composition estimates
- o South Atlantic Fleets (Chris Stewart)
  - Explore magnitude of landings among gear groupings to determine a need for gear groupings within North Carolina
  - Explore length sampling data from P400 fish house sampling for indication of different selectivities
  - Work with Hank to provide length composition data for application to growth model estimates for potential age composition data
  - Consider below at methods workshop
    - Can other South Atlantic states be collapsed into these fleets

Life History

- Update life history analyses with recent data (low priority)

Other Tasks

- Upload data workshop presentations to ShareFile site (All workshop presenters)
- Complete monitoring program descriptions by Methods Workshop (All workshop presenters)
- Check federal shrimp trawl observer program for occurrence of black drum (Jeff)
- Check on availability of acoustic tagging data in shared acoustic tagging networks (Margaret)
- Request PSEG survey data (Craig)