

SAW ASSESSMENT REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Northeast Stock Assessment Workshop (SAW) process has three parts: preparation of the stock assessments by SAW Working Groups or by ASMFC Technical Committees/ Assessment Subcommittees; peer review of the assessments by a panel of outside experts who judge the adequacy of the work as a basis for providing scientific advice to managers; and a presentation of results and reports to the Region's managers

As of this SAW cycle, the 39th, the process has been revised in two fundamental ways. First, the SARC is now a smaller panel (3 panelists and a chair in this case) with all panelists provided by the University of Miami's Independent System for Peer Review (CIE). Second, the SARC is no longer asked to produce management advice. Instead, existing Council and Commission protocols (e.g. Plan Development Teams, Monitoring Committees, Technical Committees) are used to formulate relevant management advice given that an assessment has been accepted by the SARC.

Likewise, the structure of the 39th *SAW Assessment Report* differs slightly from previous reports. A comprehensive SAW Report is prepared after the SARC peer review and includes: an *Assessment Summary Report* - a brief summary of assessment results in a format useful to managers; this *Assessment Report* - a detailed account of the assessments for each

stock; and SARC panelist reports – one for each panelist and a separate report from the SARC chair summarizing the individual panelist reports.

The 39th Stock Assessment Review Committee was convened in Woods Hole, at the Northeast Fishery Science Center, June 7-10, 2004, to review assessments of black sea bass, sea scallops and bluefish. The basis for review were detailed assessment reports (and summary reports) produced by the SAW Coastal Pelagic Working Group for black sea bass, the SAW Invertebrate Working Group for sea scallops and the ASMFC Bluefish Technical Committee for bluefish. A panelist list, meeting agenda, list of working group meetings and list of attendees are provided in Tables 1 – 4, respectively.

In overview, the SARC accepted the assessments for black sea bass and scallops and rejected the assessment for bluefish. Thus, this report provides results of only the black sea bass and scallop assessments. The individual SARC panelist reports and the SARC Chair's report do, however, provide discussion on the bluefish assessment as well as the rationale for rejection and suggestions for new approaches which may prove productive in the future.

Table 1. 39th Stock Assessment Review Committee panel.

**The 39th NORTHEAST REGIONAL
STOCK ASSESSMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE
(39th SARC)**

**June 7-10, 2004
Northeast Fisheries Science Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts**

SARC Chairman

**Andrew Payne
Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, Lowestoft,
England (CIE)**

SARC Panelists

**Mike Armstrong
Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science, Lowestoft,
England (CIE)**

**Din Chen
International Pacific Halibut Commission, University of Washington, Seattle
(CIE)**

**Paul Medley
Consultant, Alne, England (CIE)**

Table 2. Agenda, 39th Stock Assessment Review Committee meeting.

**39TH NORTHEAST REGIONAL STOCK ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP (SAW 39)
STOCK ASSESSMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE (SARC) MEETING**

**Stephen H. Clark Conference Room
Northeast Fisheries Science Center
Woods Hole, Massachusetts
June 7-10, 2004**

AGENDA

TOPIC	PRESENTER	SARC LEADER	RAPPORTEUR
MONDAY, 7 June (1:00 - 5:00 PM).....			
Opening			
Welcome	John Boreman , Center Director		
Introduction	Terry Smith , SAW Chairman		
Agenda	Andy Payne , SARC Chairman		
Conduct of meeting			
Black Sea Bass (B)	Gary Shepherd	Din Chen	Laurel Col
SARC Discussion	Andy Payne		
TUESDAY, 8 June (8:30 - 5:00 PM).....			
Sea Scallop (A)	Dvora Hart	Paul Medley	Larry Jacobson
SARC Discussion	Andy Payne		
WEDNESDAY, 9 June (8:30 - 5:00 PM)			
Bluefish (C)	Jessica Coakley	Mike Armstrong	Laura Lee
SARC Discussion	Andy Payne		
THURSDAY, 10 June (8:30 - 5:00 PM)			
SARC Report writing (closed)			

Table 3. 39th Stock Assessment Workshop, list of working group meetings.

<u>ASSESSMENT GROUP</u>	<u>CHAIR</u>	<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>MEETING DATE/PLACE</u>
SAW INVERTEBRATE WORKING GROUP	LARRY JACOBSON	SEA SCALLOP	APRIL 5-7, 2004 MAY 4-6, 2004 WOODS HOLE
	Bill DuPaul, VIMS Dave Rudders, VIMS Russel Brown, NEFSC Ron Smolowitz, FSF Paul Rago, NEFSC Deborah Hart, NEFSC Richard Taylor Kevin Stokesbury, SMAST Stephen Smith, DFO Andrew Applegate, NEFMC Toni Chute, NEFSC Victor Nordahl, NEFSC		Trevor Kenchington, FSF Fred Serchuk, NEFSC John Walter, VIMS Brad Harris, SMAST Grant Law, Rutgers John Quinlan, Rutgers Jake Nogueira, SMAST Tu Trong, SMAST Mike Marino, SMAST Joachim Gröger, SMAST Hanamunt Singh, WHOI Amit Huppert, WHOI
SAW PELAGIC WORKING GROUP	WILLIAM OVERHOLTZ/GARY SHEPHERD	BLACK SEA BASS	APRIL 27-28, 2004 WOODS HOLE
	Liz Brooks, SEFSC Steve Cadrin, NEFSC Jessica Coakley, DE FW Steve Doctor, MD DNR Mary Fabrizio, NEFSC Blanch Jackson, NEFSC Kohl Kanwit, ME DNR Toni Kerns, ASMFC Rob Latour, VIMS		Chris Legault, NEFSC Chris Moore, MAFMC Josh Moser, NEFSC Roy Pemberton, VIMS Paul Rago, NEFSC David Simpson, CT DEP David Smith, USGS Mark Terceiro, NEFSC Azure Westwood, NEFSC

<u>ASSESSMENT GROUP</u>	<u>CHAIR</u>	<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>MEETING DATE/PLACE</u>
ASMFC BLUEFISH STOCK ASSESSMENT SUBCOMMITTEE			
	JESSICA COAKLEY	BLUEFISH	DECEMBER 9, 2003 FEBRUARY 25-27, 2004 APRIL 4-7, 2004
Jim Armstrong, MAFMC		Patrick Kilduff, ASMFC	
Herb Austin, VIMS		Wilson Laney, USFWS	
Tom Baum, NJ		Rob Latour	
Beth Burns		Laura Lee, RI/ASMFC	
Paul Caruso, MA		Rich McBride, FL	
Jessica Coakley, DE		Chris Moore, MAFMC	
Mark Collins, SC		Herb Moore	
Andy Cooper, UNH		Brandon Muffley	
Eric Durell, MD		Brian Muffley	
Kurt Gottschall, CT		Brian Murphy, RI	
Doug Grout, NH		Rob O'Reilly, VA	
Mandy Hewitt		Gary Shepherd, NEFSC	
Bruce Joule, ME		Alice Webber, NY	
Toni Kerns, ASMFC		Erick Williams	

Table 4. 39th Stock Assessment Review Committee, list of attendees

Larry Alade, NEFSC	William Kramer, NEFSC
Frank Almeida, NEFSC	Laura Lee, ASMFC/RIDFW
Andy Applegate, NEFMC	Paul Medley, Panelist
Mike Armstrong, CEFAS, Panelist	Chris Moore, MAFMC
John Boreman, Director, NEFSC	Joshua Moser, NEFSC
Paul Caruso, MADMF	Victor Nordahl, NEFSC
Din Chen, IPHC, Panelist	Bill Overholtz, NEFSC
Toni Chute, NEFSC	Andy Payne, CEFAS, SARC Chairman
Jessica Coakley, DE, Bluefish	Paul Rago, NEFSC
Laura Col, NEFSC	Gary Shepherd, NEFSC, Black sea bass
Bill DuPaul, VIMS	Ron Smolowitz, Industry
James Fletcher, Industry	Terry Smith, NEFSC, SAW Chairman
Dvora Hart, NEFSC, Scallops	Mark Terceiro, NEFSC
Larry Jacobson, NEFSC, Scallops	James Weinberg, NEFSC
Trevor Kenchington, Industry	Shari Wiley, NEFSC
Toni Kerns, ASMFC	Abdul-Aziz Yakubu, Howard Univ.
Patrick Kilduff, ASMFC	