SEDAR

Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review

2007 Update of the SEDAR 2 Assessment

of

South Atlantic Vermilion Snapper

Preface

SEDAR (Southeast Data, Assessment and Review) was initially developed by the Southeast Fisheries Science Center and the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council to improve the quality and reliability of stock assessments and ensure a robust and independent peer review of stock assessment products. SEDAR expanded in 2003 to address the assessment needs of all three Fishery Management Council in the Southeast Region (South Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean) and provide a platform for reviewing assessments developed through the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions.

SEDAR strives to improve the quality of assessment advice provided for managing fisheries resources in the Southeast US by increasing and expanding participation in the assessment process, ensuring the assessment process is transparent and open, and providing a robust and independent review of assessment products. SEDAR is overseen by a Steering Committee composed of: NOAA Southeast Fisheries Science Center Director and the Southeast Regional Administrator; the Executive Directors and Chairs of the South Atlantic, Gulf of Mexico, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils; and the Executive Directors of the Atlantic States and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions.

SEDAR benchmark assessments are conducted through a three workshop process. First is the Data Workshop, during which fisheries, monitoring, and life history data are reviewed and compiled. Second is the Assessment workshop, during which assessment models are developed and population parameters are estimated using the information provided from the Data Workshop. Third and final is the Review Workshop, during which independent experts review the input data, assessment methods, and assessment products.

SEDAR Update assessments are conducted through Council SSCs or other relevant technical advisory bodies following guidelines established by the SEDAR Steering Committee and addressing terms of reference developed by the Council and SSC. Update assessments are prepared during an update workshop and reviewed by the Council SSC.

This assessment is an update of the South Atlantic vermilion snapper benchmark assessment prepared in 2003 through SEDAR II.

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