

## Wish list

NOTE: These were CFMC data needs prior to the SEDAR Data Workshop. Highlighted are the portions of the wish list that have not been accomplished but are priorities for the CFMC.

Caribbean Fishery Management Council  
Research Needs 2008  
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The following has been compiled from (1) SSC/AP/HAP/CFMC and ad-hoc committees meetings, (2) SEDAR, (3) various documents prepared for the CFMC (e.g. Beets 1999), among other sources.

### REQUIRED BY LAW

The CMFC needs to determine ACLs/AMs by 2010 for queen conch, Nassau grouper, Grouper Unit 4, Snapper Unit 1 and parrotfish. The same needs to be done for all other units and groups (n= 17 groups) by 2011. This requires that the data available (landings, TIP, SEAMAP and other pertinent data) be available for evaluation and use in the stock assessments or trend assessments of these species groups. The data are being assembled by the SEFSC to be used at the SEDAR Data Workshop of January 2009. This Data Workshop could be the basis for the ACLG and SSC meetings in February 2009.

Priority 1: Complete data entry, quality assessment of historical and current fisheries by December 2008. The data need to be distributed to SEDAR participants at least 1 month in advance. This includes also the MRFSS database. (SEDAR DATA WORKSHOP, January 2009)

Priority 2: Evaluate the data prior to the SEDAR Data Workshop for usability (length frequency analyses, species composition changes in time, space and by gear, etc.). Evaluate the data for some type of effort measure. (SEDAR DATA WORKSHOP, January 2009)

Priority 3: Evaluate the changes in fisheries management over time and its impact on landings and TIP data collection efforts. Assess if the changes in the fisheries are due to management (e.g. seasonal closures and decreases in landings) or to biological/social/economic issues with the fishery.

Priority 4: There is an urgent need to evaluate management measures independently from the fishery, most significantly the area closures and seasonal closures to determine the benefits of the strategy.

(The evaluation of the management strategies in place is urgently needed to help explain observed changes in the fisheries data.)

### Fish species research needs:

It has been recommended (SSC, TMCT, ACLG) that species be selected so that all information required such as length frequency distributions (by gear, for example), age, reproductive biology (maturation, fecundity, etc.) be collected concurrently over 12-18 months. Each cycle will look at a number of species at a time and this will be done continuously until the species composition of the fisheries has been done.