



*13th Meeting of the
International Scientific Committee
for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean
Busan, Korea
17-22 July 2013*

ISC Action Plan¹

(2012-2013)

ISC

July 2013

¹Prepared for the Thirteenth Meeting of the International Scientific committee on Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), 17-22 July, 2013, Busan, Korea. Document should not be cited without permission of the authors.

2012-2013 ISC ACTION PLAN

I. ISC CHAIRMAN

1. Continue seeking funding for proposed biological sampling program
2. Invite PICES representative to future ISC Plenary seminars (5.2.4)
3. Follow up on SC request for additional ALB research (5.3)
4. Discuss data inventory exchange with IATTC Director (6.1, 9.2)
5. Convene 1-2 day intercessional Plenary meeting (electronic) during the week of 17 Dec 2012 to address completed PBF assessment (6.2)
6. Shepherd completion of ISC peer review of function (11.1)
7. Draft budget required to respond to Peer Review Team recommendations for ISC13 to review (11.1)
8. Investigate geographic place name concerns (11.5)
9. Revise Operations Manual to address concerns about incorporating BASI in to stock assessment reports and send to Members by 30 August (11.6)
10. Ensure ISC participation in International Billfish Symposium (11.8.2)
11. Investigate ISC membership agreements (11.8.3)
12. Finalize Operations Manual at intercessional Plenary in December 2012
13. Distribute final PBF stock assessment report and post Executive Summary on ISC website (I 3.0)
14. Work with PBFWG Chair to prioritize the following tasks for presentation at ISC13: (1) Conduct additional projection scenarios with recruitment levels consistent with the lower values estimated in the 1980s; (2) Pending approval from the WCPFC-NC, conduct reference point research similar to that being conducted for North Pacific albacore and swordfish (see item 4 WCPFC-NC8); (3) Conduct fishery impact analyses to determine the extent to which gears are contributing to the overfishing and overfished status; (4) Develop and recommend Kobe plot(s) based on results from the current Pacific bluefin tuna stock assessment. Provide plausible explanations for PBF being in an overfished condition throughout the entire assessment period (I 3.0)

15. Contact NC about conducting reference point work for PBF and MLS (I 4.0)
16. Incorporate additional changes to Operations Manual submitted by Members prior to the Dec. 2012 intercessional meeting (I 5.1)
17. Report on ISC membership documentation at ISC13 (I 5.1)
18. Develop rules and procedures for Observer participation at ISC Plenary meetings (I 5.2)

II. ISC MEMBERS

1. All – provide summaries of all North Pacific Ocean HMS fisheries (annual catch by species and gear, number of vessels by gear and size category and average size of fish caught by species and fishery for entire NPO) in National Reports and to ISC database
2. Chinese Taipei – provide shark catch in the STLL and coastal fisheries to SHARKWG (3.2)
3. Korea – review SWLL data for potential discrepancies in blue vs. black marlin reporting (3.4)
4. Korea – submit corrected PBF troll fishery catch data to ISC (3.4)
5. H. Nakano agreed to represent ISC at the October 2012 PICES meeting and F. Werner agreed to present potential collaboration opportunities between ISC and PICES at the October 2012 PICES meeting; both will report back on any noteworthy information opportunities for collaboration at ISC12 (5.2.3)
6. F. Werner will provide a draft report on potential collaborations with PICES to ISC Chair by August 30 (5.2.3)
7. All – review draft report on potential collaborations with PICES by September 30 (5.2.3)
8. All – review PBF stock assessment and participate in intercessional Plenary in December 2012 (6.2)
9. All – provide shark discard data to the SHARKWG for blue and mako shark assessments (6.4)
10. All – provide estimated BSH catch data to SHARKWG by 31 August (6.4)
11. All – submit shark catch data at the lowest possible taxonomic level and associated discard Category I and II data (9.2, I 5.6)

12. All – submit entire historical time series of Category I, II, and III data online by 1 July 2013 (9.2)
13. Korea – prepare to host ISC13 (10.1)
14. All – Review ISC Peer review report, when available (11.1)
15. Korea – provide additional changes to ISC Org Chart by 30 Aug to ISC Chair (11.4)
16. All – review Operations Manual changes by 19 December (11.6)
17. All – provide examples of effective peer-review processes (11.7)
18. Investigate whether governments will sponsor the International Billfish Symposium (11.8.2)
19. All – address catch table discrepancies and assist the DA in resolving them
20. All – submit ISC13 documents by July 1, 2013

III. ALL ISC WORKING GROUPS

1. Resolve working group workshop date conflicts (10.2)
2. Address catch table discrepancies and assist the DA in resolving them
3. Communicate data requests to the STATWG Chair
4. Provide information for species webpages for ISC website
5. Submit workshop reports to ISC Chair within 30 days of end of workshop

IV. ALBWG

1. Conduct tuna age-and-growth workshop and develop manual in collaboration with PBFWG in late 2013 (6.2, 11.8.1)
2. Complete NC8 reference point request and present results to ISC13 (I 4.0)

V. PBFWG

1. Complete a full Pacific bluefin tuna stock assessment in 2012 (6.2)
2. Resolve outstanding issues with PBF assessment at Nov 2012 workshop (6.2)

3. Use BASI guidelines and the same report style/format as the 2011 ALB assessment for final PBF assessment report (6.2)
4. Conduct tuna age-and-growth workshop and develop manual in collaboration with ALBWG in late 2013 (6.2, 11.8.1)
5. Clarify the steepness value at November 2012 workshop (7.2)
6. Consider identifying a data manager (11.4)
7. Distribute final PBF stock assessment report and post Executive Summary on ISC website (I 3.0)
8. Provide more detail on the steepness parameter in the stock-recruit relationship (I 3.0)
9. Revise PBF Stock Assessment Report: Clarify how the WG dealt with data weighting of the size composition data and how CPUE standardizations were conducted; Clarify justification for the adopted steepness value used in the assessment; Move figures to the back of the executive summary (I 3.0)
10. Work with ISC Chair to prioritize and complete tasks for presentation at ISC13: (1) Conduct additional projection scenarios with recruitment levels consistent with the lower values estimated in the 1980s; (2) Pending approval from the WCPFC-NC, conduct reference point research similar to that being conducted for North Pacific albacore and swordfish (see item 4 WCPFC-NC8); (3) Conduct fishery impact analyses to determine the extent to which gears are contributing to the overfishing and overfished status; (4) Develop and recommend Kobe plot(s) based on results from the current Pacific bluefin tuna stock assessment. Provide plausible explanations for PBF being in an overfished condition throughout the entire assessment period (I 3.0)

VI. BILLWG

1. Conduct full blue marlin stock assessment and present at ISC13
2. Complete NC8 reference point request and present results to ISC13 (I 4.0)

VII. Shark WG

1. Conduct full blue shark stock assessment and present at ISC13
2. Consider identifying a data manager (11.4)

VIII. STATWG

1. Complete workplan outlined in Annex 10 (9.1)

2. Chair - participate in an ad hoc committee that will in September 2012 to ensure successful completion of ISC data management objectives (9.2)
3. Steering committee – meet in Taipei in September 2012 (9.1)
4. Verify accuracy of 2010 and 2011 ALB data from WCPFC (6.1, 9.2)

IX. Database Administrator

1. Complete ISC data inventory and forward to the WCPFC Secretariat by 31 July 2012 (9.1)
2. Participate in an ad hoc committee that will meet in September 2012 to ensure successful completion of ISC website and data management objectives (9.1)

X. Webmaster

1. Participate in an ad hoc committee that will meet in September 2012 to ensure successful completion of ISC website and data management objectives (9.1)
2. Replace the “@” symbol in email addresses listed on the website with the text “AT” to prevent unwanted automatic harvesting of addresses (11.5)
3. Add a new page summarizing the schedule of future stock assessments (11.5)
4. Update ISC website based on new information from ISC12, update public domain catch data, complete WG pages