



*15th Meeting of the
International Scientific Committee
for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean
Kona, Hawaii, USA
15-20 July 2015*

ISC Action Plan¹

(2014-2015)

ISC

July 2015

¹Prepared for the Fifteenth Meeting of the International Scientific committee on Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), 15-20 July, 2015, Kona, Hawaii, USA. Document should not be cited without permission of the authors.

2014-2015 ISC ACTION PLAN

I. ISC CHAIRMAN and OFFICE of the CHAIR

1. ISC Vice Chair will attend PICES in Oct 2014 and present an ISC poster. (5.2.1)
2. Convene a joint PICES-ISC workshop in Oct 2014 on “Dynamics of Pelagic Fish in the North Pacific in Response to Climate Change.” (5.2.2)
3. Ask NC to reconsider the use of the $F_{SSB-ATHL}$ as the interim limit reference point. Alert the NC to the fact that the SSB in the current assessment only refers to female SSB, because a sex-specific model was used, and is different from the SSB used in previous assessments (7.1)
4. Consider shortening the length of Plenary and ancillary meetings. (11.8)
5. All - Review the list of peer-review recommendations and prioritize the issues that ISC should address and be ready to discuss how to address them next year. The ISC Chairman will request a prioritization. (11.1)

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 for at least ten years or since the start of the fishery) in National Reports; Freeze data as of the end of the last calendar year (e.g. Dec 2013 for the July 2014 ISC Plenary National Report) and to ISC database
2. Chinese Taipei - review and submit revised BSH catch records in the future with detailed documentation. (7.6)
3. All - Review the list of peer-review recommendations and prioritize the issues that ISC should address and be ready to discuss how to address them next year. The ISC Chairman will request a prioritization. (11.1)
4. U.S.A – prepare to host ISC15 (10.1)
5. All – submit entire historical time series of Category I, II, and III data online by 1 July 2015
6. All – submit ISC15 documents by July 1, 2015; Final, ready-to-be distributed stock assessment reports should be submitted by June 15, 2015.

III. ALBWG

1. Explicitly state how the $F_{SSB-ATHL}$ reference point in the stock assessment was calculated and the WG's concerns when presenting the information to the NC in 2014. (7.1)
2. Ask NC to reconsider the use of the $F_{SSB-ATHL}$ as the interim limit reference point. Alert the NC to the fact that the SSB in the current assessment only refers to female SSB, because a sex-specific model was used, and is different from the SSB used in previous assessments (7.1)
3. Submit all WG reports within 30 days of completion of WG meeting and submit all stock assessment reports by June 15th. (11.8)

IV. PBFWG

1. Identify the discrepancy among definitions of juveniles between the NC and the ISC in the 2014 request from NC regarding future projections and the range of historical variation in recruitment. (6.2)
2. Develop a procedure for establishment of close-kin analysis, including sampling design and genetic experimental techniques, should be basically discussed in the PBFWG and forwarded to the ISC Chair for review and dissemination to ISC members. (11.3)
3. Submit all WG reports within 30 days of completion of WG meeting and submit all stock assessment reports by June 15th. (11.8)

V. BILLWG

1. Complete a MLS stock assessment for ISC15. (6.3)
2. Submit all WG reports within 30 days of completion of WG meeting and submit all stock assessment reports by June 15th. (11.8)

VI. Shark WG

1. Conduct an SMA stock assessment if data permit, if not, analyze fishery and biological indicators of stock status. (6.4)
2. Consider identifying a data manager.

VII. STATWG

1. The 2014 STATWG Work Plan

- a) DA will distribute the ISC data inventory to ISC Data Correspondents for review by August 1, 2014. DA will then distribute the ISC data inventory to chairs of the species Working Groups by September 1, 2014.
 - b) DA will exchange the ISC data inventory with the WCPFC and IATTC by August 1, 2014.
 - c) STATWG Chair will request data (CAT I, II, and III) from the WCPFC and IATTC for shortfin mako and mako shark before the ISC SHARKWG stock assessment meeting in November, 2014.
 - d) STATWG Chair will request data (CAT I, II, and III) from the WCPFC and IATTC for ISC species of interest (e.g., albacore, bluefin, blue marlin, swordfish, striped marlin, blue shark, shortfin mako and mako shark) from China and non-ISC members by May 1 annually, and ask for a July 1 delivery date.
 - e) DA will distribute a comparison report between the Member data submitted in 2014 and historical data in the ISC database to the Data Correspondents by September 1, 2014. Data Correspondents will provide appropriate explanations for any discrepancy identified in the DA's comparison report by November 1, 2014.
 - f) DA will distribute access information for cloud storage services to chairs of species Working Groups by September 1, 2014, to facilitate the submission of large stock assessment files to be archived in the ISC data server. Chairs of species Working Groups will submit stock assessment files from 2013 assessments (bluefin, blue marlin, and blue shark) to the DA by November 1, 2014. DA will archive the stock assessment files according to the procedures documented in ISC13-STATWG-WP1.
 - g) DA will generate the ISC data inventories for CAT I, II, and III in the new format (as agreed on in the STATWG meeting in July, 2014); and the Webmaster will publish the new ISC data inventories on the ISC website by November 1, 2014.
 - h) STATWG Chair will complete and distribute a comparison report between the data formats for data submission of the ISC, WCPFC, and IATTC to harmonize the data format requirements of the ISC by November 1, 2014.
 - i) DA will complete any necessary changes to the ISC data codes and data submission requirements to facilitate uploading of Member CAT III data in to the ISC database. DA will request any necessary ISC database modifications to the database contractor by November, 2014. DA will revise and update the user's manual for the online data submission system, including the data codes, and distribute to the Data Correspondents by March 1, 2015.
 - j) DA will distribute a comparison report between the data inventory of the ISC and WCPFC, and between the data inventory of the ISC and IATTC, to chairs of the species Working Groups by March 1 annually to identify overlaps and gaps in the data holdings of the RFMOs.
 - k) STATWG Steering Group will meet in January, 2015 in Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A.
2. Implement a documentation procedure for revised data submissions, starting next year. Species WGs will implement the same process as the STATWG. (11.8)