



*14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the  
International Scientific Committee  
for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean  
Taipei, Chinese Taipei  
16-21 July 2014*

## **ISC Action Plan<sup>1</sup>**

(2013-2014)

ISC

July 2014

<sup>1</sup>Prepared for the Fourteenth Meeting of the International Scientific committee on Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), 16-21 July, 2014, Taipei, Chinese-Taipei. Document should not be cited without permission of the authors.

## 2013-2014 ISC ACTION PLAN

### I. ISC CHAIRMAN and OFFICE of the CHAIR

1. Discuss coordination and collaboration on shark assessments with WCPFC leadership (5.1, 6.4)
2. Continue seeking funding for proposed biological sampling program
3. Invite PICES representative to future ISC Plenary seminars (5.1)
4. Contact China to discuss annual data submission to ISC and ISC Plenary participation (9.1)
5. Work with members to develop and propose a special session at the 2014 PICES meeting in Korea or the formation of a study group (11.2)
6. Form a task force to develop the science planning process and themes in time for ISC14 (11.2)
7. Help coordinate Tuna Ageing Workshop to be held in Japan in November 2014 (11.4)
8. Gather information on criteria used by other organizations to determine when stock assessment updates should be performed (11.10)
9. Revise Operations Manual to address concerns about incorporating BASI in to stock assessment reports and send to Members. Finalize Operations Manual.
10. Finalize rules and procedures for Observer participation at ISC Plenary meetings
11. Keep working on official channels to create real ISC agreement while working with PICES to determine if ISC could exist under its umbrella.

### 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. Japan – bring revised vessel counts to the ALBWG workshop in November 2013 (3.3 and 6.1)

3. J. Holmes, J. Brodziak, C. Werner will participate in the 2013 PICES Annual Meeting in Nanaimo, B.C. (5.2.3)
4. All – amend historical data in the ISC database in accordance with STATWG guidelines (9.1)
5. Chinese Taipei – prepare to host ISC14 (10.1)
6. All – submit entire historical time series of Category I, II, and III data online by 1 July 2014
7. All – submit ISC14 documents by July 1, 2014; Final stock assessment reports should be submitted by June 1, 2014.

### III. ALBWG

1. Conduct tuna age-and-growth workshop and develop manual in collaboration with PBFWG in November 2013 (11.4)
2. ALBWG Chair will work with STATWG Chair to obtain China data for use in 2014 stock assessment (7.1, 11.4)

### IV. PBFWG

1. Craft a response to the CIE peer review of the Pacific bluefin stock assessment within 90 days and post the reviews and response (6.2)
2. Conduct a workshop on tuna ageing in November 2013 (6.2)
3. Conduct a PBF stock assessment update before ISC14 (6.2)

### V. BILLWG

1. Conduct WCPO and EPO swordfish stock assessment updates in 2014 (6.3)

### VI. Shark WG

1. Review SPC blue shark assessment at the next SHARKWG workshop (6.4)
2. Conduct age and growth workshop in January 2014 (6.4)
3. Prepare data for shortfin mako stock assessment (6.4)
4. Consider identifying a data manager

### VII. STATWG

1. Complete workplan outlined in Annex 4 and detailed below (9.1)
  - a. DA will distribute the ISC data inventory to ISC Data Correspondents for review by August 1, 2013. DA will then distribute the ISC data inventory to chairs of the species Working Groups by September 1, 2013.
  - b. DA will exchange the ISC data inventory with the WCPFC and IATTC by August 1, 2013.
  - c. STATWG Chair will request data (CAT I, II, and III) of 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 Aug 31, annually.
  - d. The STATWG Steering Group will finalize the input format for the online data submission of Category III data into the ISC database by November 30, 2013. DA will report on cost and time estimates for any necessary database modification to the Steering Group by the end of December, 2013. The Steering Group will prioritize the scheduling of the database development as necessary.
  - e. DA will revise the user's manual for the online data submission system, including the data codes, and distribute to the Data Correspondents by April 1, 2014.
  - f. DA will start archiving the stock assessment files for Species Working Groups according to the procedures documented in ISC13-STATWG-WP1. The chair of STATWG will distribute the Working Paper to the chairs of the Species Working Group for review and revision by the end of the Plenary. Species Working Groups will submit stock assessment files from 2013 assessments (bluefin, blue marlin, blue shark) to the DA by November 1, 2014.
  - g. DA will complete the comparison between the data provided prior to 2013 and the data provided in July, 2013, by country and fishery in order to check for completeness by Jan 1, 2014.
  - h. Webmaster will continue to improve the ISC website. Webmaster will provide copies of the species profiles to the chairs of the Species Working Groups at the STATWG meeting, and comments will be provided back to the Webmaster by the end of the ISC13 Plenary.
  - i. The STATWG Steering Group will draft procedures to enable Members to amend historical data in the ISC database by February, 2014. The procedures will be reviewed for approval at the next STATWG meeting in July, 2014.
  - j. STATWG Steering Group will meet in January, 2014 in Honolulu, Hawaii, U.S.A.
2. Chair - participate in an ad hoc committee that will in January 2014 to ensure successful completion of ISC data management objectives (9.1)
3. Steering committee – meet in Hawaii in January 2014 (9.1)

#### VIII. Database Administrator

1. Complete ISC data inventory and forward to the WCPFC Secretariat and IATTC by 31 July 2014
2. Participate in an ad hoc committee that will meet in January 2014 to ensure successful completion of ISC website and data management objectives (9.1)

IX. Webmaster

1. Continue enhancing ISC website (11.8)