



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Southwest Fisheries Science Center
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F/SWC

September 7, 2001

Mr. Donald O. McIsaac
Executive Director
Pacific Fishery Management Council
7700 N.E. Ambassador Place, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97220

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PFMC

Dear Don,

Representatives of the Japanese Government have informed me that they intend to host the third meeting of the Interim Scientific Committee for Tunas and Tuna-Like species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) during January 22-31, 2002 in Nagasaki, Japan. While Japan has not yet issued the official invitations for this meeting, I thought that the Council would appreciate an advance warning so that it could take account of this event in its future planning. As at past ISC meetings, I will be leading the U.S. delegation and once the official invitations are issued, will invite the Council to nominate a scientist to join me in the international discussions of these highly migratory species of the North Pacific.

Based upon consultations with the U.S., Japan plans to convene the third ISC meeting according to the following schedule.

22 January	Statistical Working Group
23 January	Bluefin Tuna Working Group
24 January	Draft and adopt these two working group reports
25 January	Swordfish Working Group
26 January	Draft and adopt the final working group report
27 January	Sunday off
28-31 January	Plenary Session

While your representative would be welcome to participate in the Working Groups, I do not believe that such participation is mandatory to derive benefit from participating on the delegation.



I presume that Japan's official invitation will give the details of arrangements for the meeting and will convey this to you as soon as I have received it. In the meantime, if you have any questions about the meeting, please contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Michael F. Tillman, Ph.D.
Science Director