The 17th Meeting of the ISC & NC13: Activity Report

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Presentation Topics

- Participants
- Stock Status & Conservation Information
- Interactions with Regional Organizations
- Administrative matters
- Future Activities
 - **ISC17**
 - NC13 PBF



ISC17 Participants July 2017 Vancouver BC, Canada

ISC Members

- Canada
- Chinese Taipei
- Japan
- Mexico
- Republic of Korea
- United States of America

Non-Voting Members

- WCPFC
- PICES

Observers

- Pew Charitable Trust
- World Wildlife Fund for Nature Japan
- Monterey Bay Aquarium
- Wild Oceans

- AFRF/AAFA
- Tohoku University
- Waseda University



ISC Stock Assessments

- North Pacific Albacore Tuna
 - Benchmark assessment



- North Pacific Blue Shark
 - Benchmark assessment



 NP Swordfish, NP Striped Marlin, Pacific Blue Marlin, Pacific Bluefin Tuna and Shortfin Mako Shark – No assessments



North Pacific Albacore Tuna – Stock Status

- The stock is likely not overfished relative to the adopted limit reference point and
- Stock is not likely in an overfishing condition.



North Pacific Albacore Tuna – Conservation Information

If a constant fishing intensity (F₂₀₁₂₋₂₀₁₄) is applied to the stock, median female spawning biomass is expected to undergo a moderate decline, with a < 0.01% probability of falling below the WCPFC established limit reference point by 2025.



North Pacific Blue Shark - Stock Status

- Female spawning biomass in 2015 (SSB₂₀₁₅) was 69% higher than at MSY and estimated to be 295,774 mt;
- The recent average annual fishing mortality ($F_{2012-2014}$) was estimated to be well below F_{MSY} at approximately 38% of F_{MSY} ; and
- The stock is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring.



North Pacific Blue Shark - Conservation Information

– Projections under different fishing mortality (F) harvest policies (status quo, +20%, -20%, F_{MSY}) show that median blue shark spawning biomass in the North Pacific Ocean will likely remain above SSB_{MSY} in the foreseeable future (2024).



Interactions with Regional Organizations

PICES

- November 2016 Annual Meeting
 - Convene Workshop 4 Methods relating oceanographic conditions to the distribution of highly migratory species
- September 2017 Annual Meeting
 - Convene Workshop 3 Linking oceanographic conditions to the distribution and productivity of highly migratory species and incorporation into fishery stock assessment models



Administrative matters

ISC Leadership Changes

- Jon Brodziak (USA) reelected as BILLWG Chair
- Hidetada Kiyofugi (Japan) elected as ALBWG Chair
- Ren-Fan Wu (Taiwan) reelected as STATWG Chair
- John Holmes (Canada) elected as ISC Chair
- Eric Chang (Taiwan) elected as ISC Vice Chair ISC18
- Korea, July 2018



Future Activities – ISC17 (2017-2018)

- Form Ad-Hoc Working Group to explore the development of an international HMS tagging program – initial focus Pacific bluefin and North Pacific albacore tuna under the auspices of ISC;
- October 2017 (Shimizu, Japan) Convene mako shark ageing workshop;
- Fall 2017 (La Jolla, CA USA) Convene Close-kin Workshop; and
- October 17-19, 2017 (Vancouver BC, Canada) -Convene 3rd ISC MSE Workshop.



Future Activities – ISC17 (2017-2018)

- March 2018 (La Jolla, CA USA) PBF Stock Assessment;
- April 2018 SMA Stock Assessment
- April 2018 ALB MSE and Data Prep.
- May 2018 SWO Stock Assessment
- July 11-18 (Korea) ISC18

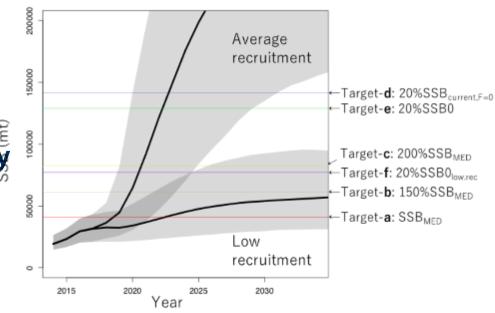


Future Activities - NC13 Pacific Bluefin Tuna (2019 - ?)

Keep in mind:

- No BRP & HCR, inadequate catch monitoring
- Initial rebuilding target:
 SSB_{MED} by 2024
- Pressure for NC to specify 2nd rebuilding target and develop emergency recruitment rule
- ISC conducted ~ 20
 harvest scenarios April

 2017





Future Activities - NC13 Pacific Bluefin Tuna (2019 - ?)

Outcome:

- Second rebuilding target: 20%SSB _{F=0} by 2034
- Emergency recruitment rule Recruitment Framework

Decision Rules (HCR)

- 1. HCR-Initial Rebuilding Period (based on projections by ISC)
 - If I-RT is not achieved by 2024 w/60% prob., mgt. modified to meet 60% (less catch or transfer of catch)
 - If prob. of achieving I-RT by 2024 is > 75%, increase catch to levels such that reaching the 2nd-RT by 2034 is at least 60%
- 2. HCR-2nd-Rebuilding Period
 - 1. To be defined during initial rebuilding period



Future Activities - NC13 Pacific Bluefin Tuna (2019 - ?)

Monitoring

- ISC will:
 - Conduct stock assessments in 2018, 2020, 2022, and 2024
 - Continue to monitor recruitment

Performance Evaluation --- ABOUT TIME

- ISC develop PBF MSE by 2024
- ISC initiate MSE Workshops in early 2018
- NC provide candidate TRP, LRP, HCR to ISC by 2019
- New MSE staff for ISC



Stakeholder's Pulse

Given the agreements at NC13 nothing but praise

... the two groups that manage Pacific bluefin tuna reached a historic long-term agreement that would put the species on the path to recovery. – NPR Sept. 2017

...good first step – SeafoodSource Sept. 2017



... good first step.. Proponents hailed the deal as a compromise that everyone could live with – Washington Post Sept. 2017

... historical moment for this remarkable species – MBA Sept. 2017



However



ISC Sept. 2017

THANKS!