



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE  
SEVENTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

ELECTRONIC MEETING  
5 – 7 October 2021

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**REQUESTS TO THE ISC**

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**WCPFC-NC17-2021/DP-01**

**Proposal by Chinese Taipei, Japan and the United States of America**

**Explanatory Note**

The United States proposed requests to the ISC during the Sixth WCPFC-NC and the IATTC Joint Working Group meeting on the Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (JWG6), but JWG6 did not have time to discuss them and requested interested parties to develop the proposal for the NC and IATTC before the ISC starts the next assessment for Pacific Bluefin Tuna. Chinese Taipei, Japan and the United States are co-sponsors of this proposal to NC17.

## REQUESTS TO THE ISC

1. The Northern Committee (NC) requests the ISC to perform projections based on the new stock assessment and on catch increases agreed to at the 6th Meeting of the Joint Working Group and the revised conservation and management measures adopted in WCPFC and IATTC meetings in 2021 and to provide the proportionate fishery impact of WCPO fisheries and EPO fisheries on SSB over the projection period. Additionally, NC requests that the ISC provide projections of the scenarios in the **Appendix** as well as projections with at least one scenario that achieve
  - a. Effort and catch limits for EPO and WCPO that would satisfy the rebuilding objective and by 2034, or 10 years after reaching the initial rebuilding target, whichever is earlier achieve a proportional fishery impact on SSB of approximately 75% from WCPO fisheries and 25% from EPO fisheries or
  - b. Effort and catch limits for EPO and WCPO that would satisfy the rebuilding objective and by 2034, or 10 years after reaching the initial rebuilding target, whichever is earlier achieve a proportional fishery impact on SSB of approximately 80% from WCPO fisheries and 20% from EPO fisheries.

The NC does not recommend the ISC perform projections of the scenarios performed in the 2020 stock assessment.

2. The NC reiterates to the ISC the standing request in the current harvest strategy that “[t]he ISC...periodically evaluate whether the recruitment scenario used during the second rebuilding period is reasonable given current conditions, and to make recommendations on whether a different recruitment scenario should be used.” In 2022 and with each benchmark or update stock assessment thereafter, the NC requests the ISC to conduct such an evaluation and make recommendations on whether a different recruitment scenario should be used. If the ISC recommends alternative recruitment scenarios, then they should be included as projection runs in the benchmark or update stock assessment.
3. The NC requests that the ISC analyze in the projections the impacts of a transfer of 10% for Japan and 25% for Korea of small fish limit to large fish limit using a conversion factor of 0.68:1 small:large.

**Appendix: Scenarios for catch increase**

| West Pacific |            | East Pacific |
|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Small fish   | Large fish |              |
| 0            | 500t       | 500t         |
| 10%          |            | 10%          |
| 20%          |            | 20%          |