

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
WORKING GROUP ON ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH
4TH MEETING

La Jolla, California (USA) (Hybrid)
June 1 and 2, 2026
(9 am to 5 pm PST)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the meeting

2. Adoption of agenda

3. Review of recommendations from the 3rd meeting of the EBWG

4. Updates on Ecosystem and Bycatch Activities

- i. SAC-17-07 Characterization of longline fleets in IATTC Convention area (IATTC Staff)*
- ii. Update on Deep Sea Mining (J van der Grient, Univ of Hawaii)*

5. Ecosystem

- i. EB-04-01 Ecosystem considerations report (IATTC Staff)*
- ii. EB-04-03 Establishing criteria for delineating ecoregions and indicators in support of EAFM operationalization (IATTC Staff)*
- iii. Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management: Advancing the Development of Ecosystem Indicators (Murua, ISSF)*
- iv. Identification of persistent and ephemeral billfish bycatch hotspots across the Pacific Ocean (Arostegui, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute)*

6. Climate Change

- i. SAC-17 INF-M Climate change staff recommendations: updated (IATTC Staff)*

7. Elasmobranchs

- i. SAC-17-09 Proposed shark data collection and research plan for the IATTC: follow-up on paragraphs 15 and 16 of C-25-08 (IATTC staff)*
- ii. EB-04-06 Evaluating silky shark post release survival in class 4-5 purse seine vessels (IATTC staff)*
- iii. Genetic population structure and misidentification reveal the need for regionally informed management of manta and devil rays (Cronin, UMass New Bedford)*
- iv. Identifying operational and anthropogenic drivers of mobulid ray bycatch in the EPO purse seine fishery. (Garfield, UMass New Bedford)*
- v. A shark reporting template for Resolution C-25-08 (IATTC staff)*

8. Seabirds

- i. EB-04-02 IATTC Seabird Action Plan: Seabird distribution overlap with longline fisheries (IATTC Staff)*
- ii. EB-04-INF-A A seabird mitigation reporting template for the IATTC (IATTC Staff)*
- iii. Updates and future work relating to the Seabird Action Plan (Clay, Environmental Defense Fund)*
- iv. Reducing seabird bycatch in Ecuador's artisanal longline fisheries (S Cruz, American Bird Conservancy)*

9. Best Handling and Release Practices (BHRP)

- i. A Decade of Sustainable Best Practices in Tuna Purse Seine Fisheries (Cuevas, AZTI).*
- ii. SAC-17-INF-K Pilot study to evaluate use of tools for lifting large sharks: update (IATTC staff)*

iii. Guidelines for best handling and release practices for vulnerable species: sharks (SAC-17-08), sea turtles (EB-04-04), and seabirds (EB-04-05) (IATTC staff)

10. Recommendations

11. Other business

12. Adjournment