



Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission

SAC-06-10a

Staff activities and research plans



CURRENT AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES OF THE IATTC STAFF

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Schedule for stock assessments and reviews

Species	Last assessed	2015	2016	2017
IATTC				
Yellowfin	2011 (full); 2014 (update)	Update	Full	Update
Skipjack	2004	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators
Bigeye	2010 (full); 2014 (update)	Update	Full	Update
Striped marlin	2010		Indicators	Indicators
Swordfish (south EPO)	2011		Indicators	Indicators
Swordfish (north EPO)	Never as a separate stock		Indicators	Indicators
Sailfish	2013		Indicators	Indicators
Black marlin ¹	Never		Indicators	Indicators
Silky shark	Never	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators
Dorado	Never	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators
Independent review/ Fall workshop		CAPAM workshop (data weighting)	Indicators review	
COLLABORATIONS				
Bluefin	2012 (full); 2014 (update)			
Albacore	2014			Full
Blue marlin ¹	2013			
Blue shark	2014			
Swordfish (north Pacific)	2014	Update	Full	

^[1] These assessments will be carried out in collaboration with other organizations, so dates cannot yet be set.

Stock Assessment

- Preparatory work for the stock assessments in the schedule
- CAPAM stock assessment methodology workshop series
- Post-stratification of purse-seine length composition data
- Integrating tagging data/information into stock assessment models
- Forecasting bigeye catch
- Stock status indicators and management strategy evaluation
- Dolphin assessments
- Pacific-wide bigeye tuna assessment.
- Pacific-wide swordfish assessment.
- Reference Points. for blue, black, and striped marlin, sailfish, and swordfish.
- Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)
 - **FALL CAPAM WORKSHOPS**
- The third workshop, on “Data conflict and weighting, likelihood functions, and process error”, will be held in La Jolla in October 2015.

Tagging Studies

- Analyses of archival tag data for bigeye tuna released in the equatorial central Pacific Ocean (ECPO) during 2008-2012
- Archival tag data for yellowfin released at several locations throughout the EPO are continuing to be collected and analyzed,
- Continue to seek funding sources for an IATTC Regional Tuna Tagging Project



Life history of tunas

- Comparative studies of the early life history of Pacific bluefin tuna and yellowfin tuna (2011-2016)
- Development of sustainable tuna aquaculture in the United States using yellowfin tuna (2012-2015)
- Ocean acidification impacts on tropical tuna (2011-2015)
- Joint IATTC-University of Miami workshop on yellowfin tuna
- age, growth, maturity, spawning frequency and fecundity of yellowfin throughout the EPO



Ecosystem Studies

- Food-web dynamics
- Stable isotopes in ecology
- Yellowfin tuna-dolphin trophic interactions based on stable-isotope and diet analyses
- Diet studies
- Effects of fisheries on the EPO ecosystem
- Ecological risk assessment



Bycatch Studies

- Bycatches on FADs
- Sea turtles
- Sharks and rays
- Seabirds
- Bycatches and diversified harvesting
- Workshops for fishers
- Reducing catches of small bigeye and yellowfin tunas and sharks in the fishery on FADs
- Proposed activities for an ISSF-IATTC research cruises on purse-seine vessels in the equatorial EPO in 2015



Data

– Ongoing activities

- Identification and implementation of improvements to the reporting workflow
- Streamlining of data processing for the fishing vessel logbooks
- Development of the new IATTC website
- Continuing refinement of the documentation library
- Continuing documentation of all internal data processing
- Porting of existing data entry and editing computer programs from VB6 to the Microsoft dot net framework

– Planned work

- A dedicated Vessel Register database and application redesign
- A front-end user interface for use with the Best Scientific Estimate (BSE) program
- Length Frequency data management database and application improvements

Capacity Building

BYCATCHES

- Training courses on bycatch estimation and mitigation;
- Design of research strategies to address bycatch issues;
- Management and economic incentives to address bycatch issues

SHARK FISHERIES

- Provide appropriate assistance to developing IATTC members in:
 - Sampling
 - Data reporting
 - Biological parameters
 - Fisheries data studies
 - Workshops on stock assessment of sharks



DEVELOPMENT OF LANDINGS DATABASE IN COLLABORATION WITH OSPESCA



Preguntas-Questions

