

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TENTH MEETING

San Diego, California (USA)

13-17 May 2019

DOCUMENT SAC-10-02 (REVISED)

IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED AT THE PREVIOUS SAC MEETING: PROGRESS AND OUTCOMES

At its annual meetings, the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) makes recommendations to the Commission, many of which involve actions by the staff. This document lists the recommendations currently requiring action by the staff and/or the Commission, and their current status: **green**: completed; **yellow**: in progress, incomplete; **orange**: planned, but pending funding; **red**: no action. For the full recommendations made at SAC-09, see [here](#).

	Recommendation, SAC-09	Status (25 April 2019)	
TUNAS			
1.	Pacific bluefin tuna. The SAC recommends that the Commission take note of the current status of Pacific bluefin tuna, the different impacts of harvesting small and large bluefin, and of the increased risks of not achieving the rebuilding targets, if the current resolution (C-16-08) is modified to increase current catch limits.	The Commission was informed of the risks of modifying the resolution, and a new resolution was adopted (C-18-01) that maintains the same restrictions	
2.	South Pacific albacore. Assessments of South Pacific albacore have not considered the fisheries data in all of the EPO, and so the eastern part of the stock is effectively not assessed. The SAC recommends that the IATTC staff work with SPC to ensure that the entire South Pacific is included in future assessments.	The Staff Activities and Research Workplan includes a benchmark assessment of South Pacific albacore in 2022 (Project H.7.c). The project includes a workshop to develop the assessment, but funding is pending.	
RESEARCH			
3.	Strategic Science Plan (SSP). Send the detailed Plan to the CPCs to receive their feedback before being presented to the Commission in 2018.	The SSP was circulated to CPCs in July 2018, and the comments received were addressed. The SSP was presented at the 93 rd Commission meeting (August 2018), but has not been adopted yet.	
4.	Bigeye growth. Convene a joint IATTC-WCPFC workshop of experts to analyze methodologies of age and growth	Project E.2.b was approved at the 93 rd Commission meeting (August 2018), and the workshop took place on 23-25 January 2019. A	

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	determination of tunas, with priority to bigeye tuna.	report will be presented at SAC-10 (agenda item 7).	
5.	Tagging program. Provide funding for the development and implementation of a well-designed, large-scale tagging program.	Project E.4.a was approved at the 93 rd Commission meeting (August 2018); it was funded by the EU, with an additional contribution by the IATTC. A workshop to review the proposed activities of the tagging program took place on 28-30 January 2019. A report will be presented at SAC-10 (agenda item 8a). The initial tagging trip began on 6 March 2019; a progress report will be presented at SAC-10 (agenda item 8a).	
6.	Vessel characteristics and fishing mortality: Present at the next meeting of the SAC an analysis of the relationship on the depth of purse-seine nets versus the levels of catch of juvenile bigeye and yellowfin tunas.	A presentation will be made at SAC-10 (Project J.2.a ; SAC-10-10)	
DATA COLLECTION			
7.	Electronic monitoring: Provide resources to extend the electronic monitoring pilot project to vessels of all capacity classes	Project D.2.a was funded by the European Union. Cameras are installed on two Class-6 vessels and one Class-2 vessel; all three are currently fishing. A report (SAC-10-12) will be presented at SAC-10 (agenda item 8b).	
BYCATCHES			
8.	Maintain training activities for captains on the handling of bycatches on board to ensure their return to the sea alive as far as possible.	Three workshops were held in August 2018, in Manta, Ecuador (organized jointly with ISSF and ATUNEC), with a record 160 attendees; Panama City, Panama; and San Diego, USA (with the American Tunaboat Association).	
LONGLINE			
9.	Longline fleet. CPCs should provide an annual report to the IATTC Secretariat, with a list of their longline vessels that have fished in the EPO in the previous year.	The Secretariat sent a reminder to CPCs on 11 March 2019 on the implementation of recommendation 9, which was extended later to all types of vessels and became mandatory under Resolution C-18-06, paragraph 5. To date (10 May 2018), excluding the CPCs having notified that they had nothing to report, 5 CPCs (Chile, Chinese Taipei,, Ecuador, El Salvador, and EU) provided lists of their longline vessels that fished in the EPO in 2018.	
10.	Abundance indices. The SAC recommends that CPCs with large-scale longline fleets: 1) share the operational-	Project H.1.d was approved at the 93 rd Commission meeting (August 2018). As part of this project, a workshop to improve the longline	

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	level data with the IATTC through an appropriate way; and/or 2) collaborate with IATTC staff and other CPCs with large-scale longline fleets to develop improved abundance indices.	indices of abundance was held on 11-15 February 2019. A report (SAC-10-14) will be presented at SAC-10 (agenda item 7a) .	
OTHER			
11.	Scientists-managers dialogue. The SAC recommends that the Commission create a dedicated working group to facilitate dialogue among scientists, managers, and other stakeholders.	The Commission has not yet constituted this working group; however, the Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) work plan includes various workshops involving all stakeholders. Project R.1.b , approved at the 93 rd Commission meeting (August 2018), includes workshops with managers and other stakeholders in 2019 and 2020.	
12.	National reports. The SAC recommends that the CPCs present their national reports to the SAC following the format adopted by the SAC in 2014. CPCs are urged to prepare these reports to be presented annually to the SAC.	The Secretariat sent a reminder to CPCs on implementation of recommendation 12 on 11 March 2019. Information on the data received will be presented at SAC-10 (agenda item 5b) .	
13.	Publication of SAC/WG documents: The SAC reiterates its previous recommendation that meeting documents (in particular stock assessments) are posted at the IATTC website three weeks in advance of the start of the meetings, and the recommendations regarding tunas two weeks in advance.	Despite an unprecedented number of preparatory workshops and meetings in 2019 to date, and some unforeseen issues with the yellowfin assessment, all stock assessments were posted by 23 April, 20 days before the SAC meeting. The staff expects to post its recommendations on schedule.	