

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

**NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Koror, Palau

16 – 24 August 2023

**PROVISIONAL ONLINE DISCUSSION FORUM TOPICS**

**WCPFC-SC19-2023/04 (Rev.03)**

**BACKGROUND**

The Secretariat introduced the online discussion forum (ODF, <https://forum.wcpfc.int>) webpage in 2020, and SC16 was the first meeting to use the ODF platform. The purpose of using SC-ODF is to facilitate discussions on SC-related projects and other topics as requested by the authors. This paper provides a list of Topics for consideration on the ODF platform for SC19.

**GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF ODF IN 2023**

The following guidelines are generally proposed for the use of the ODF for SC19:

1. This website is accessible by any approved SC19 participants;
2. The Commission-funded SC projects that are not be presented at the plenary will be considered for discussion on the ODF. Resulting outputs may be briefly reviewed under Agenda Item *SC Work Programme and Budget* to help finalize the projects;
3. Other information papers can be posted on the ODF if requested by the authors, noting that authors are fully responsible for providing responses to questions or comments as needed; and
4. Once the ODF is closed for comments by Saturday, 19 August 2023, a *Summary of the SC19 Online Discussion Forum* will be prepared and noted under the Agenda Item “Other Matters.” If needed, appropriate action will be taken under the relevant agenda item.

For an efficient Q&A process, all participants are requested to prefix “COMMENT” or “QUESTION” when providing input on the ODF as shown below:

COMMENT: My comment on section 3.5 of the paper SC19-GN-IP-01 is …

QUESTION: My question on section 3.5 of the paper SC19-GN-IP-01 is …

**LIST OF SC19 ONLINE DISCUSSION FORUM TOPICS**

# Future Operations of the Scientific Committee

* **Responsibility**: Secretariat
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-GN-WP-06** | Secretariat. **Future Operations of the Scientific Committee** |

# Project 60 – Progress report – Improving purse seine species composition

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-ST-IP-03** | T. Peatman, P. Williams, S. Nicol. **Project 60: Progress report – Improving purse seine species composition**  |

# Project 90 update – Better data on fish weights and lengths for scientific analyses

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-ST-IP-04** | J. Macdonald et.al. **Project 90 update: Better data on fish weights and lengths for scientific analyses** |

# Independent review of recent WCPO yellowfin tuna assessment

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP and Review Panel
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-SA-WP-01** | André E. Punt, Mark N. Maunder, and James N. Ianelli. **Independent review of recent WCPO yellowfin tuna assessment** |

# Project 109 – Training observers for elasmobranch biological sampling

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-ST-IP-05** | Tim Park. **Training observers for elasmobranch biological sampling (Project 109)** |

# Progress in improving coverage of cannery receipts data for WCPFC scientific work (Project 114)

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-ST-IP-06** | P Williams. **Progress in improving coverage of cannery receipt data for WCPFC scientific work (Project 114)** |

# Concept note for a new EU supported study on the reproductive biology of yellowfin tuna

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-SA-WP-17** | SPC-OFP. **Concept note for a new EU supported study on the reproductive biology of yellowfin tuna** |

# Trends in the South Pacific albacore longline and troll fisheries

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-SA-IP-04** | S. McKechnie, P. Williams, G. Pilling, and WCPFC Secretariat. **Trends in the South Pacific albacore longline and troll fisheries** |

# Factors contributing to recent and projected declines in south Pacific albacore stock status

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-SA-IP-10** | Scott, R., Yao, N., Scott, F., Pilling, G., Hamer, P., Natadra, R., Casitllo-Jordan, C., Hampton, J. and Hoyle, S. **Factors contributing to recent and projected declines in south Pacific albacore stock status** |

# Evaluations of skipjack management procedures for the robustness set

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-MI-IP-01** | F. Scott, R. Scott, N. Yao and R. Natadra. **Evaluations of skipjack management procedures for the robustness set** |

# CPUE analyses for South Pacific albacore

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-MI-IP-04** | N Yao **CPUE analyses for South Pacific albacore**  |

# Examining Indicators of Effort Creep in the WCPO Purse Seine Fishery

* **Responsibility**: SPC-OFP and the PNAO
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-MI-IP-07** | P. Hamer, T. Teears and the PNAO. **Examining Indicators of Effort Creep in the WCPO Purse Seine Fishery** |

# Progress of FADMO-IWG Priority Tasks for 2023

* **Responsibility**: FADMO-IWG
* **Related papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-EB-WP -13** | FADMO-IWG. **Progress of the FADMO-IWG Priority Tasks for 2023** |

# West Pacific East Asia Project (WPEA)

* **Responsibility:** Lars Olsen
* **Related Papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-RP-WPEA-01** | Lars Olsen. **WPEA-ITM Project Update** |
| **SC19-RP-WPEA-02** | Barbara Hanchard. **WPEA-ITM: End of Project Gap Analysis Report** |

# Testing and developing estimation models for South Pacific albacore

* **Responsibility:** SPC-OFP
* **Related Papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-MI-IP-02**  | F. Scott, R. Scott, N. Yao and R. Natadra. **Testing and developingestimation models for South Pacific albacore** |

# Progress report of Project 110: Non-entangling and biodegradable FAD trial in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

* **Responsibility:** SPC-OFP
* **Related Papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-EB-WP-02** | L. Escalle, G. Moreno, J. Wichman, D. David, and P. Hamer. **Progress report of Project 110: Non-entangling and biodegradable FAD trial in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean** |

# Terms of Reference for a project to support additional work on trialing non-entangling and biodegradable FADs in the WCPO

* **Responsibility:** SPC-OFP
* **Related Papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-EB-WP-07** | SPC-OFP. **Terms of Reference for a project to support additional work on trialling non-entangling and biodegradable FADs in the WCPO** |

# Follow-up work on 2022 skipjack assessment recommendations

* **Responsibility:** SPC-OFP
* **Related Papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-SA-WP-07** | SPC-OFP. **Follow-up work on 2022 skipjack assessment recommendations** |

# Review and analyses to inform conceptual models of population structure and spatial stratification of bigeye and yellowfin tuna assessments in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

* **Responsibility:** SPC-OFP
* **Related Papers:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SC19-SA-WP-02** | SPC-OFP. **Review and analyses to inform conceptual models of population structure and spatial stratification of bigeye and yellowfin tuna assessments in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean** |