## PLEASE PROVIDE COMMENTS TO [annala@snap.net.nz](mailto:annala@snap.net.nz) before 12:00 on Monday 8th August 2016

**SC12** – **ECOSYSTEM AND BYCATCH MITIGATION THEME**

AGENDA ITEMS 6.1.1.1, 6.1.1.2, and 6.3 (part)

* + - 1. **SEAPODYM**

**SC12 recommends that WCPFC 13 endorses the results of the review of SEAPODYM (EB-IP- 14) as follows:**

1. SEAPODYM has the potential to be a useful complementary model to Multifan-CL for MSE work that includes spatial management. Similarly, the capacity of SEAPODYM to include alternate oceanographic states (e.g. ENSO phases and climate change projections) would allow climate proofing (reducing risks and capitalizing on opportunities presented by climate change) to be a consideration in the MSE work undertaken by WCPFC.
   1. **Seabirds**

**Regarding the results of research on seabird distributions, SC12 recommends that the Commission:**

1. Note that the northern limit of the spatial distribution of seabird density data presented extends to areas north of 300S. [ADOPTED]
2. Within the southern hemisphere part of the WCPO the main area of distribution for New Zealand’s vulnerable seabirds, especially the Antipodean albatross and the black petrel, is south of 25oS. [ADOPTED]
3. Note that use of effective bycatch mitigation measures across the full range of at-risk seabirds should enhance conservation of those seabirds.
4. Note the above information from SC12 and other relevant information when discussing seabird mitigation measures and request that the TCC consider reviewing the 300S boundary of the seabird CMM further north.
   * 1. **Review of conservation and management measures for sharks**

SC12 will review relevant paragraphs of each shark CMM below, and provide comments or recommendations as required to the Commission.

1. **CMM 2010-07 (CMM for Sharks)**

SC12 will review any updated information and research outputs related with the CMM for Sharks, especially related with Paragraphs 4, 8, and 13 with reference to data provision, fin to carcass ratios, and the need for a revised or new CMM.

**Recommendations**

1. **SC11 recommends that the Commission:**
2. **SC11 was able to review the ratio of fin weight to shark carcass weight from one study (SC11-EB-IP-03). This study demonstrated that shark fin weight data suffered from some serious limitations, potential biases and errors. SC11 was unable to confirm the validity of using a 5% fin to carcass ratio in CMM 2010-07 and forwards these concerns to TCC, noting that an evaluation of the 5% ratio is not currently possible due to insufficient information for all but one of the major fleets implementing these ratios. Additional information reported to SC12 (SC12-EB\_IP-02) that provided an inventory of the types of data available to the Secretariat on the practice of finning confirmed the conclusions of SC11.**

OR

1. **SC12 recommends that TCC12 and WCPFC13:**
2. **Note that SC12 was able to review the ratio of fin weight to shark carcass weight from one study (SC11-EB-IP-10). This study demonstrated that shark fin weight data suffered from some serious limitations, potential biases and errors. SC11 was unable to confirm the validity of using a 5% fin to carcass ratio in CMM 2010-07 and forwards these concerns to TCC, noting that an evaluation of the 5% ratio is not currently possible due to insufficient information for all but one of the major fleets implementing these ratios.**
3. **Note that according to the most recent information provided by SPC, finning still occurs in the Convention Area.**
4. **Takes note of SC12-EB-IP-02 that confirms that the information which can be used to evaluate the effectiveness of the WCPFC ban on shark finning (CMM 2010-07) is currently very limited.**
5. **Encourage CCMs to gather and submit information on the implementation of CMM 2010-07, including data on fin to carcass ratios where CCMs apply that approach, to the Secretariat, in their AR-Part 2 reports or other formats, in order to support future evaluation.**