

# WCPFC TUNA TISSUE BANK

WCPFC-SC14-2018/RP-P35b-01

SPC-OFP

14<sup>th</sup> Regular Session of the Scientific Committee  
9-16 August  
Busan, Republic of Korea

# Port-samplers officers Fisheries Observers

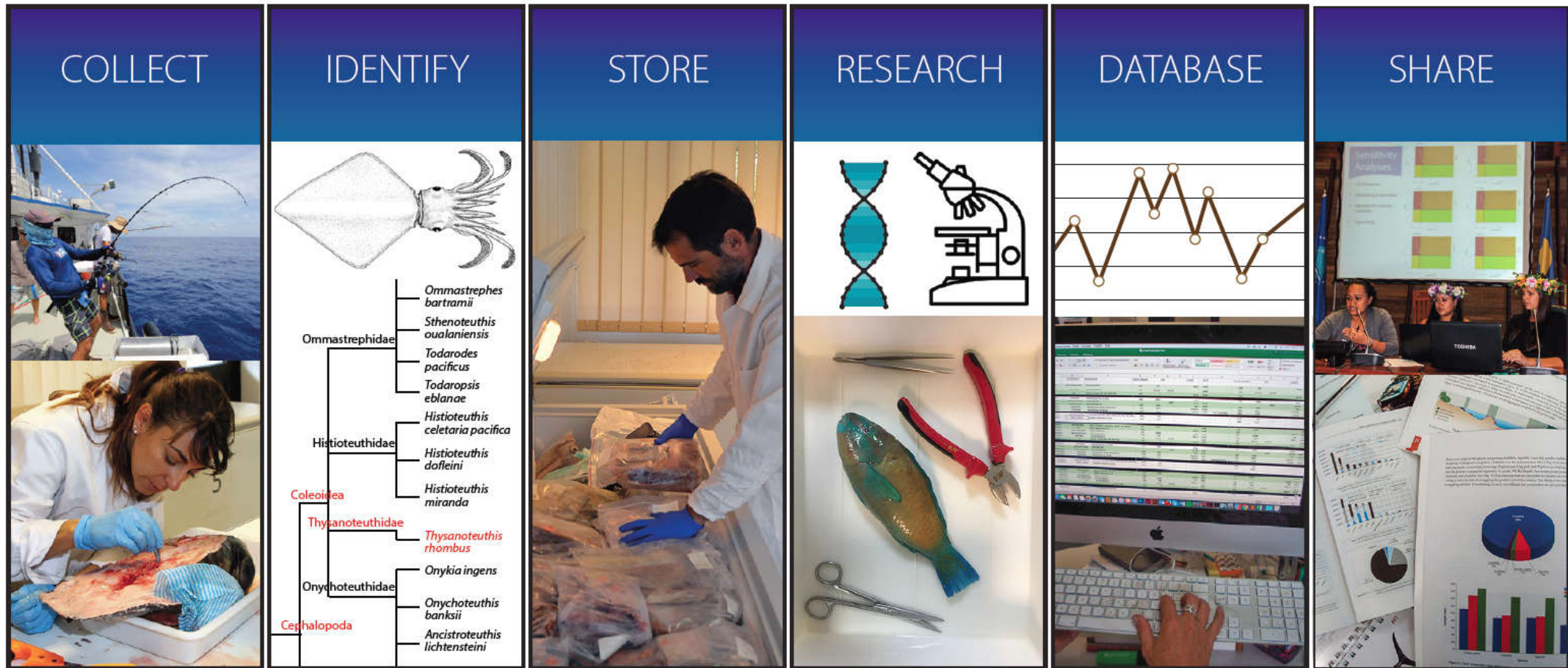


Phillips Tim Islands Natural Tourism  
Research Mark Soltuna Brian Francois  
Fish Kathy Anungar Marshall Fiji  
Ministry Malo Siosifa Langitur Thai Lenest  
Fukufoka Noumea Farley Japan Charles  
Naitege Bell Allain IRD Jess National  
Steve Grace Muller Kumasi Palau Seas  
Solomon Micronesia Bigler Derek Roupsard  
Netani Oceanic Damien States Jr Authority Simon  
Valerie Hosken Tavaga Usu Caroline Rabunataai  
Bradley Park Marine Berry Tataua  
Bruno Naiten Far Luen Lui Nicol  
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Charlyn Thomas Debrum Limited Leroy Papua  
Guinea

Debriefers  
Observers

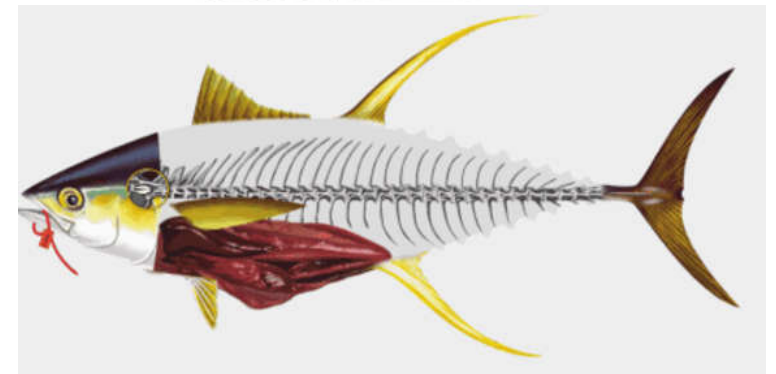
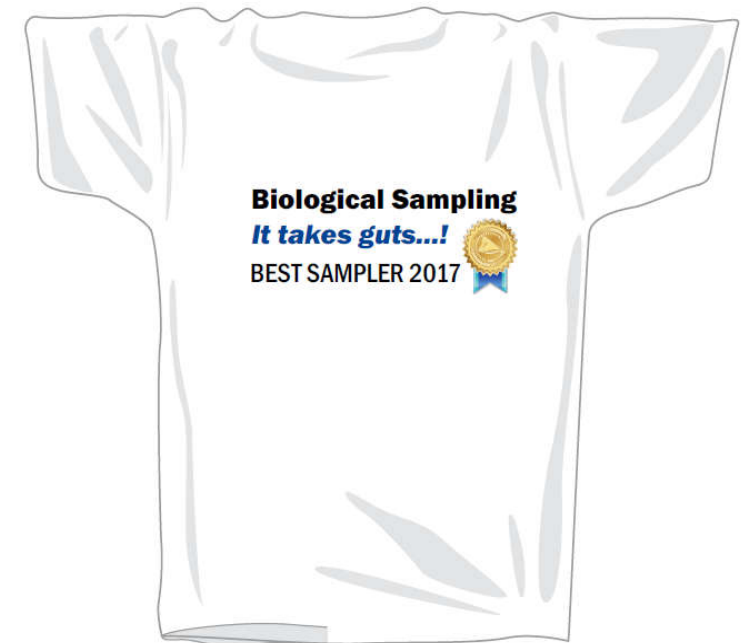
Coordinators  
Observers

# Tuna Tissue Bank: Project 35b



# Tuna Tissue Bank: Results

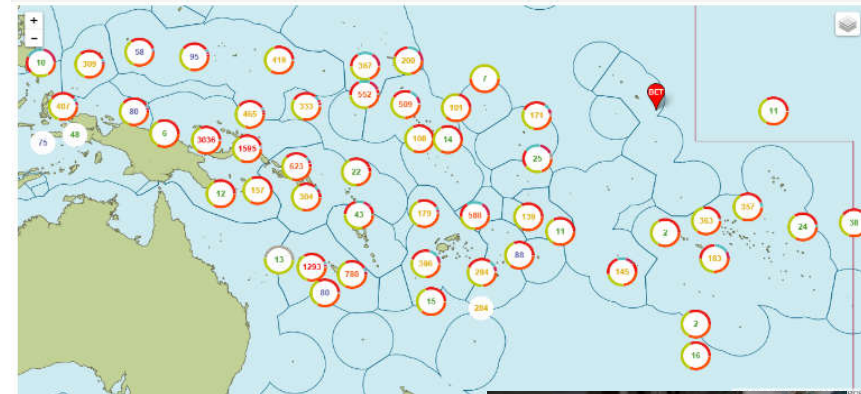
- More samples collected and curated
- More and better storage
- Stable sampling effort
- Developing sampling incentives
- Additional bigeye otoliths aged and yellowfin age and growth study started
- Three new external projects
- [www.spc.int/ofp/PacificSpecimenBank](http://www.spc.int/ofp/PacificSpecimenBank)





# Tuna Tissue Bank: Work Plan

- Ongoing maintenance and enhancement
- Improving observer training
- Review access procedures
- Develop age and growth research plan
- Develop cost recovery approaches
- Run TTb process similar to PTTp at SC15
- Investigate Nagoya protocol implications for the tissue bank



# Tuna Tissue Bank: Recommendations

## Recommendations in 2017-18:

- Regular age and growth analyses of specimens for future stock assessments should be budgeted for and aligned with the stock assessment schedule, with yellowfin tuna underway, the next priority species is South Pacific albacore tuna (additional resources required in 2020)
- Incorporate the identified budget into the 2019 budget and 2020-21 indicative budgets
- SC participants visit the TTB web portal and provide feedback to SPC
- In addition to maintaining and operating the TTB in 2018-19, the identified work plan should be undertaken by the Scientific Services Provider
- Begin to manage the process of TTB reporting during SC in a similar manner to the PTTP at SC15
- Support proposal to seek technical advice on the implications of the Nagoya Protocol for the TTB (may require additional resources)
- To ensure longevity of TTB samples, support initiatives to obtain super-cold storage capacity

# DRAFT Report Recommendations



- **The Scientific Committee reconfirmed that maintaining and enhancing the WCPFC Tuna Tissue Bank (P35b) is an essential project and recommended the Commission support the work plan and associated budget for 2019, and the work plan and associated indicative budget for 2020-2021.**
- **The Scientific Committee agreed to run the process of WCPFC Tuna Tissue Bank (P35b) reporting in a similar manner to the PTTP (P42) at SC15.**
- **The Scientific Committee agreed that that the Secretariat and the Scientific Services Provider should work together to investigate any issues arising from the Nagoya Protocol for the Tuna Tissue Bank and provide advice on this matter to the Commission as appropriate.**

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