

**NORTHERN COMMITTEE**

**EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION**

3-6 September 2012

Nagasaki, Japan

**WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE NORTHERN COMMITTEE**

**(AS REVISED BY THE SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION)**

**WCPFC-NC8-2012/IP-04**

| **Work areas** | **objectives** | **1-year tasks** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2012–2015** | **2012** | **2013** | **2014** | **2015** |
| **1. Northern stocks** |  |  | Consider management options other than the existing management measures, if appropriate. | | |
| a. Monitor status; consider management action | Review status and take action as needed for:[[1]](#footnote-1) |  |  |  |  |
|  | **North Pacific albacore**  Tasks  (A) Review members’ reports on their implementation of CMM 2005-03  (1) Estimate the proportion of the total catch of albacore in the North Pacific Ocean (in the Convention Area, and/or across the entire North Pacific Ocean, as appropriate) that is effectively subject to the effort limits mandated in the CMM.  (2) Determine how total effort across those fisheries has changed from 2002 through 2010 through a review of members’ reports of annual fishing effort by their vessels “fishing for” NP albacore fisheries.  (B) Establish a precautionary approach based management framework, including: (1) recommend appropriate reference points; (2) agreeing in advance to actions that will be taken in the event each of the particular limit reference points is breached (decision rules); (3) recommend any changes to CMM 2005-03. | Review the compiled members’ reports and identify and rectify shortcomings  Discuss Task (B)(1) and (2) | Review the compiled members’ reports and  identify and rectify shortcomings  Finalize Task (B) (1) and (2) | Review the compiled members’ reports and  identify and rectify shortcomings  Recommended any changes to CMM 2005-03  Task(B)(3) | Review the compiled members’ reports and  identify and rectify short-comings |
|  | **Pacific bluefin tuna** | Review reports from CCMs on their domestic management measures.  Obtain and review a full assessment and consider appropriate management action. | . |  |  |
|  | **Swordfish** | Consider interim management objective and reference points in light of ISC | Obtain and review a full assessment and consider appropriate management action |  |  |
|  | **Striped marlin** (if agreed by the Scientific Committee and Commission). | Obtain and review a full assessment and consider appropriate management action. |  |  |  |
| b. Data | Achieve timely submission of complete data needed for assessments, formulation of measures, and review of Commission decisions | CCMs participating in the NC submit complete data on fisheries for northern stocks to the Commission | CCMs participating in the NC submit complete data on fisheries for northern stocks to the Commission |  |  |
|  |  | Encourage submission to Commission of Pacific bluefin tuna, NP albacore and NP striped marlin data from all CCMs and make available to ISC | Encourage submission to Commission of Pacific bluefin tuna, NP albacore and NP striped marlin data from all CCMs and make available to ISC |  |  |
|  | Consider systems to validate catch data |  |  |  |  |
| c. Scientific support | Provide support for scientific studies | Encourage voluntary contribution for NC’s list of priority scientific projects |  |  |  |
| **2. Non-target, associated, dependent species** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. Seabirds | Consider appropriate implementation of methods to minimize catch and mortality. | Review implementation of CMM-2007-04 in the northern area |  |  |  |
| b. Sea turtles | Consider appropriate implementation of methods to minimize catch and mortality. | Review mitigation research results and consider management action |  |  |  |
| c. Sharks | Consider appropriate implementation for CMM-2010-07 in the northern area. | Review scientific advice from ISC, if any, and consider management options on two shark species (blue shark and mako shark). |  |  |  |
| **3. Review effectiveness of decisions** | Annually review effectiveness of conservation and management measures and resolutions applicable to fisheries for northern stocks | Review effectiveness of NP albacore measure (CMM 2005-03), including member’s reports on their interpretation and implementation of fishing effort control.  Review effectiveness of Pacific bluefin tuna measure. (CMM2010-04) |  |  |  |
| **4. ROP(paragraph 9, Attachment C of CMM2007-01)** |  | Review implementation of ROP for fishing vessels operating in north of 20°N. |  |  |  |
| **5. Vessel monitoring system (VMS)** |  | Consider implementation of VMS in the area north of 20°N and west of 175°E. |  |  |  |
| **6. Cooperation with other organizations** |  |  |  |  |  |
| a. ISC |  | Consider action to support ISC. |  |  |  |
| b. IATTC | Following Article 22.4, consult to facilitate consistent management measures throughout the respective ranges of the northern stocks | Have consultation to maintain consistent measures for NP albacore and northern Pacific bluefin tuna |  |  |  |

1. In the event that the Commission, in accordance with paragraph 5 of Annex I of the Commission Rules of Procedure, adds additional stocks, such as the northern stock of striped marlin, to the list of stocks understood to be “northern stocks”, this work programme will be revised to include periodic status reviews and consideration of management action for such stocks. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)