

**NORTHERN COMMITTEE**

**SIXTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

**ECECTRONIC MEETING**

**8 October 2020**

**WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE NORTHERN COMMITTEE**

**WCPFC-NC16-2020/WP-03**

**NC Chair**

**The Commission for the Conservation and Management of**

**Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean**

**Northern Committee**

**Sixteenth Regular Session**

Electronic Meeting

8 September 2020

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| **WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE NORTHERN COMMITTEE** |

| **Work areas** | **Objectives** | **annual tasks** | | |
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| **2021–2023** | **2021** | **2022** | **2023** |
| **1. Northern stocks** |  |  | | |
| a. Monitor status; consider management action | Review status and take action as needed for: |  |  |  |
|  | **North Pacific albacore**  Tasks  (A) Review members’ reports on their implementation of CMM 2019-03.  (B) Implement the Interim Harvest Strategy, including: (1) monitor if LRP is breached; (2) continue to work to establish TRP and other elements of harvest strategies, if appropriate based on MSE; (3) recommend any changes to CMM. | Review the compiled members’ reports and identify and rectify shortcomings.  Continue to support ISC MSE work to complete Task (B)(2).  Obtain the new assessment results from ISC and recommend any necessary changes to CMM. (Task (B) (3)) | Review the compiled members’ reports and identify and rectify shortcomings.  Continue to support ISC MSE work to complete Task (B)(2).  Recommend any necessary changes to CMM (Task (B) (3)). | Review the compiled members’ reports and 　identify and rectify shortcomings.  Continue to support ISC MSE work to complete Task (B)(2).  Recommend any necessary changes to CMM. (Task (B) (3)). |
|  | **Pacific bluefin tuna**  Tasks  (A) Review members’ reports on their implementation of CMM on Pacific bluefin tuna.  (B) Implement the Harvest Strategy including: (1) monitor probabilities of initial and second rebuilding targets being achieved on schedule; (2) continue to work to establish LRP, TRP and other elements of harvest strategy, if appropriate based on MSE; (3) recommend any changes to CMM; (4) support MSE development, including stakeholder workshops, considering recommendations of the NC-IATTC Joint Working Group on the Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (JWG).  (C) Develop CDS | Review the compiled members’ reports and identify and rectify shortcomings.  Obtain the results of assessment and other scientific work from ISC and recommend any necessary changes to CMM on Pacific bluefin tuna (Task B(3)).  Work in the JWG in its oversight of MSE, including further consideration of candidate LRPs, TRPs, and HCRs, and further development of the objectives and performance criteria to be used in the MSE.  Explore means of supporting the MSE and its oversight by the JWG, including funding and in-kind support.  Develop CDS based on the inputs from members and recommendations of the JWG, including a draft CMM. | Review the compiled members’ reports and identify and rectify shortcomings.  Obtain work results from ISC and recommend any necessary changes to CMM on Pacific bluefin tuna (Task B(3)).  Work in the JWG in MSE development.    Develop CDS based on the inputs from members and recommendations of the JWG, and further develop a draft CMM if needed. | Review the compiled members’ reports and identify and rectify shortcomings.  Obtain work results from ISC and recommend any necessary changes to CMM on Pacific bluefin tuna.  Work in the JWG in MSE development. |
|  | **Swordfish**  Further develop the harvest strategy consistent with CMM 2014-06, including consideration of a target reference point and associated harvest control rule. | Consider and recommend appropriate TRP and associated HCR, and develop a draft CMM. | Consider and recommend appropriate TRP and associated HCR, and develop a draft CMM. |  |
|  | **Striped marlin** (if agreed on by the Scientific Committee and Commission). |  |  |  |
| 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. | CCMs participating in the NC submit complete data on fisheries for northern stocks to the Commission. |
|  |  | Encourage submission to Commission of Pacific bluefin tuna, North Pacific albacore, North Pacific striped marlin, and swordfish data from all CCMs and make available to ISC. | Encourage submission to Commission of Pacific bluefin tuna, North Pacific albacore, North Pacific striped marlin and swordfish data from all CCMs and make available to ISC. | Encourage submission to Commission of Pacific bluefin tuna, North Pacific albacore, North Pacific striped marlin and swordfish 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, including close-kin analysis. |  |  |
| **2. Non-target, associated, dependent species** |  |  |  |  |
| a. Seabirds | Evaluate effectiveness of current measures to minimize catch and mortality, and improve them as needed. | Review implementation of CMM 2018-03 in the northern area.  With input from the SC, evaluate the design of tori lines for small longline vessels in North Pacific and consider improvements as needed. | Review implementation of CMM 2018-03 in the northern area. | Review implementation of CMM 2018-03 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. | Review mitigation research results and consider management action. | Review mitigation research results and consider management action. |
| c. Sharks | Consider appropriate implementation for CMM 2019-04 in the northern area. | Review scientific advice from ISC, if any, and consider management options on two shark species (blue shark and short fin mako shark). | Review scientific advice from ISC, if any, and consider management options on two shark species (blue shark and short fin mako shark). | Review scientific advice from ISC, if any, and consider management options on two shark species (blue shark and short fin mako shark). |
|  |  | Encourage submission of all shark data to ISC. | Encourage submission of all shark data to ISC. | Encourage submission of all shark data to ISC. |
| **3. Review effectiveness of decisions** | Annually review effectiveness of conservation and management measures and resolutions applicable to fisheries for northern stocks. | Review effectiveness of North Pacific albacore measure (CMM 2019-03), including members’ reports on their interpretation and implementation of fishing effort control.  Review effectiveness of Pacific bluefin tuna measure. | Review effectiveness of North Pacific albacore measure (CMM 2019-03), including members’ reports on their interpretation and implementation of fishing effort control.  Review effectiveness of Pacific bluefin tuna measure. | Review effectiveness of North Pacific albacore measure (CMM 2019-03), including members’ reports on their interpretation and implementation of fishing effort control.  Review effectiveness of Pacific bluefin tuna measure. |
| **4. ROP (Paragraph 9, Attachment C of CMM2007-01)** |  | Review implementation of ROP for fishing vessels operating in north of 20°N. | Review implementation of ROP for fishing vessels operating in north of 20°N. | Review implementation of ROP for fishing vessels operating in north of 20°N. |
| **5. Cooperation with other organizations** |  |  |  |  |
| a. ISC |  | Consider action to support ISC. | Consider action to support 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 North Pacific albacore and Pacific bluefin tuna.  Hold a joint working group meeting on Pacific bluefin tuna management. | Have consultation to maintain consistent measures for North Pacific albacore and Pacific bluefin tuna.  Hold a joint working group meeting on Pacific bluefin tuna management. | Have consultation to maintain consistent measures for North Pacific albacore and Pacific bluefin tuna.  Hold a joint working group meeting on Pacific bluefin tuna management. |