NPFC-2020-SC05-WP02

**SC Five-Year Rolling Work Plan, 2020-2021 to 2024-2025**

Participants will review and revise the Work Plan of the SC drafted intersessionally. Participants will finalize the draft five-year rolling work plan (2021-2025) for submission to the SC05 meeting in accordance with the SC decision to develop five-year rolling research and work plans from 2020 onwards. This draft plan draws on examples from other regional fisheries management organizations and domestic fisheries science agencies. It has been developed for consideration by SC before it is endorsed to the Commission.

In general, the key goals of this Work Plan are to assess NPFC’s eight priority species, inform the development of fishery management strategies for a subset of those species, understand ecological interactions among species in the North Pacific Ocean and the impacts of fisheries on those species and associated ecosystem components. This plan does not include activities that are already identified in the work plans of SC’s subsidiary bodies, including the SSC BF-ME, SSC PS, and TWG CMSA, but those activities will be added after review by the subsidiary bodies.

Priority list

As stipulated in the Convention, Article 10, the Scientific Committee shall provide scientific advice and recommendations to the Commission which is considered the highest priority task of the SC. The following priority areas have been identified for SC:

1. Priority species summaries and stock assessments for management advice
2. Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) for priority species
3. Ecosystem approach to fisheries management: understand ecological interactions among species and impacts of fishing on fisheries resources and their ecosystem components
4. Collaboration with other organizations
5. Regular review of the research plan and work plan
6. Data collection, management, and security

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **ITEM** | **2020-2021** | **2021-2022** | **2022-2023** | **2023-2024** | **2024-2025** |
| **Priority Species** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Summaries of priority species | Develop summary template | Draft summary sheet | Update summary sheets as needed | Update summary sheets as needed | Update summary sheets as needed |
| Assessment of Spotted Mackerel and associated bycatch | Identify lead  Identify data sources, data gaps and strategies to fill gaps | Collate data  Develop data collection templates and share data  Determine spatial structure of stocks | Undertake baseline stock assessment and provide management advice including harvest control rules | Update baseline stock assessment as needed and provide management advice including harvest control rules  Collate data on associated bycatch species | Update baseline stock assessment as needed and provide management advice including harvest control rules  Develop baseline stock assessment of associated bycatch species |
| Assessment of Japanese Sardine and associated bycatch | Identify lead  Identify data sources, data gaps and strategies to fill gaps | Collate data  Develop data collection templates and share data  Determine spatial structure of stocks | Undertake baseline stock assessment and provide management advice including harvest control rules | Update baseline stock assessment as needed and provide management advice including harvest control rules  Collate data on associated bycatch species | Update baseline stock assessment as needed and provide management advice including harvest control rules  Develop baseline stock assessment of associated bycatch species |
| Assessment of Neon Flying Squid and associated bycatch | Identify lead  Identify data sources, data gaps and strategies to fill gaps | Collate data  Develop data collection templates  Determine spatial structure of stocks | Undertake baseline stock assessment and provide management advice including harvest control rules | Update baseline stock assessment as needed and provide management advice including harvest control rules  Collate data on associated bycatch species | Update baseline stock assessment as needed and provide management advice including harvest control rules  Develop baseline stock assessment of associated bycatch species |
| Assessment of Japanese Flying Squid and associated bycatch | Identify lead  Identify data sources, data gaps and strategies to fill gaps | Collate data  Develop data collection templates  Determine spatial structure of stocks | Undertake baseline stock assessment and provide management advice including harvest control rules | Update baseline stock assessment as needed and provide management advice including harvest control rules  Collate data on associated bycatch species | Update baseline stock assessment as needed and provide management advice including harvest control rules  Develop baseline stock assessment of associated bycatch species |
| **Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chub Mackerel | Describe MSE from a scientific perspective  Establish a joint MSE Committee that includes members from SC, TCC, fishery managers, and stakeholders | Develop preliminary MSE tools for Chub Mackerel in consultation with TCC, fishery managers, and stakeholders | Update MSE tools for Chub Mackerel with input from TCC, fishery managers, and stakeholders | Update MSE tools for Chub Mackerel with input from TCC, fishery managers, and stakeholders | Update MSE tools for Chub Mackerel with input from TCC, fishery managers, and stakeholders |
| Pacific Saury |  |  |  | Develop preliminary MSE tools for Pacific Saury in consultation with TCC, fishery managers, and stakeholders | Update MSE tools for Pacific Saury with input from TCC, fishery managers, and stakeholders |
| **Ecosystem approach to fisheries management** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ecological Interactions | Understand ecological interactions among species in the North Pacific Ocean | Understand ecological interactions among species in the North Pacific Ocean | Understand ecological interactions among species in the North Pacific Ocean | Understand ecological interactions among species in the North Pacific Ocean | Understand ecological interactions among species in the North Pacific Ocean |
| Impacts of fishing on ecosystem component | Evaluate impacts of fishing on fisheries resources and their ecosystem components, including bycatch species and discards | Evaluate impacts of fishing on fisheries resources and their ecosystem components, including bycatch species and discards | Evaluate impacts of fishing on fisheries resources and their ecosystem components, including bycatch species and discards | Evaluate impacts of fishing on fisheries resources and their ecosystem components, including bycatch species and discards | Evaluate impacts of fishing on fisheries resources and their ecosystem components, including bycatch species and discards |
| **Collaboration with other Organizations** |  |  |  |  |  |
| PICES | Review implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration  Discuss SC representation at PICES Annual Meetings  Review ICES-PICES WGSPF activities | Review implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration  Review ICES-PICES WGSPF activities  Review NPFC-PICES workshop on VME indicator identification | Review implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration  Review ICES-PICES WGSPF activities  Review NPFC-PICES workshop on VME indicator identification | Review implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration  Identify other opportunities for collaboration with PICES | Review implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration  Identify other opportunities for collaboration with PICES |
| FAO | Review partnership with FIRMS | Review NPFC’s involvement in the 2nd Phase of the GEF-FAO Common Oceans Programme |  |  |  |
| NPAFC | Review work plan to implement NPFC/NPAFC Memorandum of Cooperation  Review NPAFC- NPFC multinational survey program | Review work plan to implement NPFC/NPAFC Memorandum of Cooperation  Review NPAFC- NPFC multinational survey program |  |  |  |
| Other organizations | Review collaborations with other organizations | Review collaborations with other organizations | Review collaborations with other organizations | Review collaborations with other organizations | Review collaborations with other organizations |
| **Research and Work Plans** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Terms of Reference | Review SC’s Terms of Reference | Review SC’s Terms of Reference, as needed | Review SC’s Terms of Reference, as needed | Review SC’s Terms of Reference, as needed | Review SC’s Terms of Reference, as needed |
| Research Plan | Update SC’s rolling 5-year research plan | Update SC’s rolling 5-year research plan | Update SC’s rolling 5-year research plan | Update SC’s rolling 5-year research plan | Update SC’s rolling 5-year research plan |
| Work Plan | Update SC’s rolling 5-year work plan | Update SC’s rolling 5-year work plan | Update SC’s rolling 5-year work plan | Update SC’s rolling 5-year work plan | Update SC’s rolling 5-year work plan |
| Projects | Review completed and ongoing projects  Identify and prioritize new projects and recommend sources of funding | Review completed and ongoing projects  Identify and prioritize new projects and recommend sources of funding | Review completed and ongoing projects  Identify and prioritize new projects and recommend sources of funding | Review completed and ongoing projects  Identify and prioritize new projects and recommend sources of funding | Review completed and ongoing projects  Identify and prioritize new projects and recommend sources of funding |
| **Data Management** |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Review SC’s Interim Regulations for Management of Scientific Data and Information  Review and Endorse overarching policy for data management and security for TCC and SC  Discuss need of VMS data for scientific analyses  Review data management system (DMS) and Electronic Annual Report | Review data standards in relation to stock assessment of priority species | Review data standards in relation to stock assessment of priority species  Discuss need for additional sources of data for scientific analyses and associated data management policy | Review data standards in relation to stock assessment of priority species  Discuss need for additional sources of data for scientific analyses and associated data management policy | Review data standards in relation to stock assessment of priority species  Discuss need for additional sources of data for scientific analyses and associated data management policy |
| **Recommendations** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Advice | Develop recommendations for the Commission, TCC, and FAC | Develop recommendations for the Commission, TCC, and FAC | Develop recommendations for the Commission, TCC, and FAC | Develop recommendations for the Commission, TCC, and FAC | Develop recommendations for the Commission, TCC, and FAC |
| **Media Communication** |  |  |  |  |  |
| Press Release | Prepare and publish a press release about SC activities during its meeting | Prepare and publish a press release about SC activities during its meeting | Prepare and publish a press release about SC activities during its meeting | Prepare and publish a press release about SC activities during its meeting | Prepare and publish a press release about SC activities during its meeting |