



**North Pacific Fisheries Commission**

NPFC-2022-SSC BFME03-MIP02

**North Pacific Fisheries Commission**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Small Scientific Committee on Bottom Fish and Marine Ecosystems**  
**8-10 December 2022**  
**WebEx**

**Provisional Agenda**

Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting

Agenda Item 2. Adoption of Agenda

Agenda Item 3. Stock assessment and scientific advice on the management of North Pacific armorhead (NPA)

3.1 Review of Members fishing statistics for NPA in 2022

3.2 NPA monitoring survey and Adaptive Management Procedure (AMP)

3.2.1 Review of the results from 2022 monitoring survey

3.3 Review of Members' research and joint research activities on NPA

3.3.1 Analysis of recruitment relationships to oceanography

3.3.2 Update on analyses or progress on biomass estimates from the NPA acoustic survey

3.3.3 Species summary document for NPA update

Agenda Item 4. Stock assessment and scientific advice on the management of splendid alfonsino (SA)

4.1 Review of Members fishing statistics for SA in 2022

4.2 Review of Members' research and joint research activities on SA

4.2.1 Species summary document for SA update

Agenda Item 5. Stock assessment and scientific advice on the management of sablefish

5.1 Review of Members fishing statistics for sablefish in 2022

5.2 Review of Members' research and joint research activities on sablefish

5.2.1 Updated stock status for sablefish (Canada and USA)

5.2.2 Results of analysis of sablefish association with VME indicators

5.2.3 Update catch limits relative to stock status if needed

5.2.4 Species summary document for sablefish update

Agenda Item 6. Progress on data-limited approaches to assessment of NPA and SA

6.1 Update from SWG NPA-SA

- 6.1.1 Data sharing and spatial resolution of shared data
- 6.1.2 Joint work on life history based approach to stock assessment
- 6.1.3 Update on CPUE standardization work
- 6.1.4 Review of Fish ID guide

Agenda Item 7. Assessment and scientific advice on the management of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)

7.1 Review of Members' research and joint research activities on VME

- 7.1.1 Review of progress towards developing a definition of VMEs
- 7.1.2 Assessing the relative risk of SAIs
- 7.1.3 Update on trade-off analysis between VME protection and sablefish fishing
- 7.1.4 Update on progress on standardizing an approach to defining SAI

7.2 Review of intersessional activities of the SWG VME

- 7.2.1 Recommendations on gear specific encounter thresholds
- 7.2.2 Review and discussion of scientific basis for move on rule and size of area closures
- 7.2.3 Proposals for revisions to VME indicator species list
- 7.2.4 Discussion of draft objectives for recovering VMEs

7.3 Data sharing for VME management

- 7.3.1 Discussion and revision of terms of reference for sharing VME data
- 7.3.2 Generation of template for data sharing for VME data

7.4 Significant and adverse impacts (SAI) assessment

- 7.4.1 Literature review of impacts of fishing activities on VME

Agenda Item 8. Data collection and reporting

8.1 Review of the template for collection of scientific observer data

Agenda Item 9. 5-Year (2022-2026) Rolling Work Plan

- 9.1 North Pacific armorhead
- 9.2 Splendid alfonsino
- 9.3 Sablefish
- 9.4 Vulnerable marine ecosystems
- 9.5 Other ecosystem components

Agenda Item 10. Review of CMMs 2021-05 and 2019-06 for bottom fisheries and protection of

vulnerable marine ecosystems and CMM 2019-10 for sablefish

Agenda Item 11. Other matters

11.1 Inter-sessional work and priority issues for next meeting

11.2 Update on PICES WG47 Seamount Ecology

11.3 Other issues

Agenda Item 12. Recommendations to the Scientific Committee

Agenda Item 13. Next meeting

Agenda Item 14. Adoption of the Report

Agenda Item 15. Close of the Meeting