



North Pacific Fisheries Commission

NPFC-2024-SC09-MIP03 (Rev. 2)

North Pacific Fisheries Commission
9th Scientific Committee Meeting
17-20 December 2024
Tokyo, Japan

Annotated Indicative Schedule

Date	Time	Activities	Document
17 Dec	8:30-9:00	Registration	
	9:00-10:00	Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting 1.1 Welcome Address and Introductions <i>The SC Chairperson, Dr. Janelle Curtis, will open the meeting. The inaugural SC Chair, Dr. Joji Morishita, will make an opening speech on the history of science developments and progress made since the 1st SC meeting. Members will be invited to give opening remarks to highlight the progress made and perspectives of future work in relation to the 10th anniversary of the Commission.</i> <i>Participants will have a break for a group picture and anniversary cake ceremony.</i>	
	10:00-10:30	Morning break	
	10:30-12:45	<i>Members, observers, invited experts, and the Secretariat will introduce themselves.</i> 1.2 Appointment of Rapporteur <i>The rapporteur will be appointed.</i> 1.3 Meeting Arrangements <i>The Science Manager, Dr. Alex Zavolokin, will outline procedural matters including the meeting schedule and administrative arrangements.</i> Agenda Item 2. Adoption of Agenda <i>The provisional agenda will be reviewed, amended as appropriate, and adopted.</i>	MIP02, 03.

		<p>Agenda Item 3. Key milestones to achieve for NPFC stock assessment of priority species and provision of management advice</p> <p>3.1 A process for reviewing and possibly endorsing domestic stock assessments for priority species</p> <p><i>The SWG Milestones Leads, Dr. Chris Rooper and Karolina Molla Gazi, will present a report on the SWG's intersessional work. Participants will discuss the key milestones and the proposed process for reviewing and endorsing domestic stock assessments for priority species.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 4. Review of reports and recommendations from the Technical Working Group on Chub Mackerel Stock Assessment (TWG CMSA) and the Small Scientific Committees (SSC BF-ME, SSC NFS and SSC PS)</p> <p>4.1 Technical Working Group on Chub Mackerel Stock Assessment</p> <p><i>The TWG CMSA Chairperson, Dr. Kazuhiro Oshima, will summarize the outputs of the TWG CMSA08&09 meetings and present recommendations to be considered by the Scientific Committee.</i></p> <p>4.2 SSC on Bottom Fish and Marine Ecosystems</p> <p><i>The SSC BF-ME Chairperson, Dr. Chris Rooper, will summarize the outputs of the SSC BF-ME05 meeting and present recommendations to be considered by the Scientific Committee.</i></p> <p>4.3 Small Scientific Committee on Neon Flying Squid</p> <p><i>The SSC NFS Chairperson, Dr. Luoliang Xu, will summarize the outputs of the SSC NFS01 meeting and present recommendations to be considered by the Scientific Committee.</i></p>	<p>WP08</p> <p>Reports are available on the website</p> <p>WP20</p>
	12:45-14:15	Lunch	

		<i>The Chairs/Leads of SC's subsidiary bodies will present updated species summaries for review.</i>	
	18:30-20:30	Reception	

Date	Time	Activities	Document
18 Dec	9:00-11:00	<p>Agenda Item 7. Climate change effects on NPFC's priority species and associated ecosystems</p> <p>7.1 Tools for incorporating climate change considerations into scientific advice</p> <p><i>Dr. Tom Carruthers will present on incorporating climate change into management strategy evaluations (MSE) and management procedures (MPs) and then he'll present his work on outlining default climate change robustness tests for use in a variety of MSE processes. Participants will discuss tools for incorporating climate change considerations into scientific advice.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 6. Continued</p> <p>6.3 Domestic stock assessments of BM, JFS, and JS</p> <p><i>Members will provide overviews of their domestic stock assessments of these three priority species.</i></p>	OP02, 03
	11:00-11:30	Morning break	
	11:30-12:45	<p>Agenda Item 6.3 Continued</p> <p>6.4 Future roles and activities of SWG BM, SWG JFS, and SWG JS</p> <p><i>Participants will identify tasks and activities of SWG BM, SWG JFS, and SWG JS in the coming operational year.</i></p>	

	12:45-14:15	Lunch	
	14:15-15:45	<p>Agenda Item 7. Continued</p> <p>7.2 Current knowledge</p> <p>7.2.1 FAO consultancy report on climate change in the North Pacific</p> <p><i>The FAO DSF project consultant will present a report on potential climate change impacts on NPFC stocks. Participants will review the report and discuss potential research and advice that the SC should address.</i></p> <p>7.3 Ongoing research activities</p> <p>7.3.1 PICES' Basin-scale Events to Coastal Impacts (BECI) project</p> <p><i>The Science Director of the BECI project will update participants on the developments made by BECI.</i></p> <p>7.4 Research priorities and potential scientific projects</p> <p><i>Participants will identify research priorities and recommend scientific projects and activities to address climate change effects on NPFC's priority species and associated ecosystems.</i></p>	<p>OP04</p> <p>OP01</p> <p>OP10</p>
	15:45-16:15	Afternoon break	
	16:15-18:00	<p>Agenda Item 8. Data Collection and Management</p> <p>8.1 Data Management System</p> <p><i>The EU will present a proposal on the development of common standards for the collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data in NPFC. Participants will provide their views and suggestions on the proposed CMM.</i></p> <p>8.1.1 Update on GitHub Plan for NPFC</p> <p><i>The Data Coordinator, Mr. Sungkuk Kang, will brief participants on any new developments of the NPFC data management system and update them on the NPFC GitHub.</i></p>	<p>WP15</p> <p>IP01</p>

		<p>8.1.2 Evaluation of biological data provision templates</p> <p><i>Participants will review responses from the SC's subsidiary bodies on the draft biological data provision templates and finalize the templates.</i></p>	SC08-IP13
		<p>8.1.3 Data inventory</p> <p><i>Participants will review a draft data inventory policy and data inventory tables prepared by the Secretariat.</i></p>	WP03
		<p>8.1.4 Establishment of a new database to manage and archive scientific data</p> <p><i>The Secretariat will present a concept paper to facilitate discussions on the establishment of a new database to manage and archive scientific data.</i></p>	WP06
		<p>8.1.5 Potential establishment of a new Small Working Group on Data (SWG Data)</p> <p><i>The SC will consider the establishment of a new Small Working Group on Data (SWG Data) to assist the SC's subsidiary bodies with data-related issues and guide the Secretariat in the development of a database and management of scientific data.</i></p>	WP08
		<p>8.1.6 Review of need of GIS maps with catch and effort data for NFS and JS</p> <p><i>The consultant, Dr. Jihwan Kim, will update participants on a draft map with catch and effort data for NFS. Participants will discuss the need for these maps and, if needed, their specifications.</i></p>	WP13

Date	Time	Activities	Document
19	9:00-10:30	8.2 NPFC Data Sharing and Data Security Protocol	

Dec		<p>8.2.1 Revision of Regulations for Management of Scientific Data and Information</p> <p><i>The Science Manager will present the revised Regulations for Management of Scientific Data and Information.</i></p> <p>8.3 Data needs, data gaps, and strategies to fill gaps</p> <p>8.3.1 Information about species belonging to same ecosystem or dependent/associated with target stocks.</p> <p>8.3.1.1 Historical information about species captured in surveys and/or discarded bycatch from fisheries in the Convention Area</p> <p><i>Members will be invited to report if they have any historical information about species captured in surveys and/or discarded bycatch from their fisheries in the Convention Area and to present summaries of such information.</i></p> <p>8.3.1.2 Potential impacts on species belonging to same ecosystem or dependent/associated with target stocks</p> <p><i>Members will review historical information about species captured in surveys and/or discarded bycatch in the Convention Area and identify any potential impacts on species belonging to same ecosystem or dependent/associated with target stocks.</i></p> <p>8.3.1.3 Status of current non-target catch, definitions of bycatch applied in other RFMOs, and options for defining bycatch within NPFC</p> <p><i>In reviewing NPFC Performance Review Recommendations 3.1.8, 3.4.3 and 4.2.4, the SC noted the need for a clear definition of what constitutes “bycatch”. Participants will consider definitions of bycatch applied in other RFMOs and suggest options for defining bycatch within NPFC.</i></p>	<p>WP07</p> <p>WP21, 22</p> <p>WP23</p>
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	10:30-11:00	Morning break	
	11:00-12:45	<p>8.3.2 Potential roles of regional observer program</p> <p>8.3.2.1 Summary of scientific objectives of an observer program</p> <p><i>The SC Chair will propose a set of scientific objectives based on the NPFC's Convention. Members will consider this list and identify others that should be considered to inform decisions about the design of a regional observer program (ROP).</i></p> <p>8.3.2.2 Summary of the kinds of data that would need to be collected and the level of observer coverage that would be needed on fishing vessels to achieve those scientific objectives by gear type</p> <p><i>Members will review the types of data to be collected and the level of observer coverage needed to achieve the scientific objectives identified in Agenda Item 8.3.2.1.</i></p> <p>8.3.2.3 Review of template for collecting qualitative information about Members' sampling programs</p> <p><i>The Science Manager will present an updated review of Members' observer Programs / sampling schemes.</i></p> <p>8.3.2.4 Summary of SC responses to six questions from the TCC Chair</p> <p><i>The SC Chair will present a summary of SC responses to six questions from the TCC Chair. Members will be invited to contribute additional details.</i></p> <p>8.3.3 Potential use of NPFC Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) data for scientific purposes</p> <p><i>The Science Manager will present a paper on the potential use of VMS data for scientific purposes. Participants will review the paper and make suggestions.</i></p>	<p>WP02</p> <p>WP04</p> <p>WP05</p>

	12:45-14:15	Lunch	
	14:15-15:45	<p>Agenda Item 9. Scientific projects for 2025 and 2026</p> <p>9.1 Report on capacity building project</p> <p><i>Dr. Jhen Hsu will report on her training supported by the SC capacity building project.</i></p> <p>9.2 Ongoing/planned projects</p> <p><i>The Secretariat and Members will report on the status of the current projects, discuss their implementation and propose new projects to be carried out in 2025 and 2026.</i></p> <p>9.3 New projects</p> <p>9.3.1 Potential project(s) for PS, CM, NPA, SA, and NFS</p> <p>9.3.2 Independent review of stock assessments</p> <p>9.3.3 Other potential projects</p> <p><i>Participants will discuss and recommend potential SC scientific projects for PS, CM, NPA, SA, and NFS, as well as any other projects that would support provision of scientific advice to the Commission. They will also consider an independent review of stock assessments.</i></p> <p>9.4 Review and prioritization of projects</p> <p><i>If needed, an Informal Small Group will compile the projects, review and prioritize them, suggest a source of funds (SC fund or Special Project Fund) and make recommendations to the plenary of SC. Projects shall be submitted in accordance with the Guidelines for Projects.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 10. Cooperation with other organizations</p> <p>10.1 Reports on the joint NPFC-PICES activities since the SC08 meeting, including a report from the PICES Secretariat</p> <p><i>PICES Executive Secretary will present a report on PICES-NPFC collaborative activities.</i></p>	<p>WP09</p> <p>OP07</p>

		<p>10.2 SC Representation at scientific meetings</p> <p><i>The SC Chair will present an updated document on evaluation and ranking of nominations for SC representatives to be financially supported to participate in relevant scientific meetings.</i></p>	WP18
		<p>10.2.1 SC representation in the joint ICES-PICES Working Group on Sustainable Pelagic Forage Communities (WG SPF) and SPF symposium in 2026</p> <p><i>Members of the WGSPF will update participants on membership of WGSPG and its intersessional work.</i></p> <p><i>PICES will present an invitation to support its SPF symposium scheduled for 2026.</i></p>	OP06
		<p>10.2.2 Report on renewal of the NPFC – PICES Framework for Enhanced Scientific Collaboration in the North Pacific</p> <p><i>The SC Chair will present a draft renewed NPFC – PICES Framework for Enhanced Scientific Collaboration in the North Pacific. Participants will review the Framework, revise it if needed, and recommend it to the Commission for adoption.</i></p>	WP19
		<p>10.3 Report on cooperation between NPFC and NPAFC</p> <p><i>NPAFC Executive Secretary will update participants on the implementation of the NPFC-NPAFC Work plan.</i></p>	OP09
		<p>10.4 FAO ABNJ Deep-sea fisheries project</p> <p><i>FAO will update participants on the ABNJ Deep-sea fisheries project as well as related FAO initiatives.</i></p>	OP05, 08
		<p>10.5 Partnership with the Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System of FAO (FIRMS)</p> <p><i>FAO will update participants on NPFC's arrangement with FIRMS and other relevant initiatives.</i></p>	
		<p>10.6 Partnership with WCPFC and ISC</p> <p><i>The Executive Secretary, Dr. Robert Day, will</i></p>	

		<p><i>inform participants about a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed with WCPFC and ISC.</i></p> <p>10.7 Partnership with SPRFMO</p> <p><i>The Science Manager will update participants on NPFC's partnership with SPRFMO.</i></p> <p>10.8. Cooperation with other organizations</p> <p><i>Participants will discuss cooperation with other regional and global organizations.</i></p>	
	15:45-16:15	Afternoon break	
	16:15-18:00	Agenda Item 10. Continued	

Date	Time	Activities	Document
20 Dec	9:00-1100	<p>Agenda Item 11. SC Terms of Reference (TOR) and 2024-2028 Research Plan and Work Plan</p> <p><i>Members will review the SC Terms of Reference (TOR) and revise them if needed. Members will also review progress and revise the current SC Research Plan and Work Plan based on the recommendations from the SSCs and TWG and develop 5-year rolling research and work plans from 2024 onwards. The work plan will be based on priorities identified in the research plan.</i></p> <p>11.1 Review of the Scientific Committee TOR</p> <p>11.2 Five-year Research Plan</p> <p>11.3 Five-year Work Plan</p> <p>11.4 Progress on addressing NPFC PR recommendations for SC</p> <p><i>Participants will discuss progress on achieving the NPFC PR recommendations for SC and review the five-year Research Plan and Work Plan in the context of those recommendations.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 12. Other Matters</p>	<p>WP16</p> <p>WP17</p> <p>WP01</p>

		<p>12.1 Coordination between SC and TCC</p> <p><i>The Compliance Manager, Ms. Judy Dwyer, will update participants about the progress in TCC in defining reference levels for the number of authorized vessels in CMMs.</i></p> <p><i>Participants will discuss matters that involve coordination between SC and TCC, including relevant NPFC PR recommendations.</i></p> <p>12.2 Other issues</p> <p><i>Participants will discuss other issues raised under Agenda Item 2, if any.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 13. Advice and recommendations to the Commission</p> <p><i>Members will agree on advice and recommendations to be submitted to the 9th Commission meeting for endorsement.</i></p>	
	11:00-11:30	Morning break	
	11:30-12:45	<p>Agenda Item 14. Next meeting of SC and its subsidiary bodies</p> <p>14.1 Meeting Schedule for 2025/2026</p> <p><i>Members will review the proposed dates of the next meetings.</i></p> <p>14.2 Meeting format and Venue</p> <p><i>Members will suggest a location of the next SC meeting and recommend the format and location of meetings of SC's other subsidiary groups. Members will be invited to host the meetings.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 15. Press release</p> <p><i>Members will agree on the content and wording of a press release that describes key achievements of SC09.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 16. Adoption of the Report</p> <p><i>The report of the meeting will be prepared, reviewed and adopted by consensus.</i></p>	IP02

	12:45-14:15	Lunch	
	14:15-15:30	Agenda Item 16. Continued	
	15:30-16:00	Afternoon break	
	16:00-18:00	<p>Agenda Item 16. Continued</p> <p>Agenda Item 17. Close of the Meeting</p> <p><i>The Chairperson will make concluding remarks and close the meeting.</i></p>	