NPFC-2024-SC09-WP17 (Rev. 1)

**Five-Year Work Plan of the Scientific Committee**

**Scientific Committee (SC)**

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** | **2024** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **Progress** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Priority Species** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Summaries of priority species | Update summary sheets as needed | Update summary sheets as needed | Update summary sheets as needed | Update summary sheets as needed | Update summary sheets as needed | Summary sheets are complete for 10 priority species |
| Assessment of Blue (Spotted) Mackerel and associated bycatch | Update data on Blue Mackerel and provide relevant data for stock assessment  Compile data on the catch composition of Chub Mackerel and Blue Mackerel and provide information to TWG CMSA and SWG BM  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Blue Mackerel  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed. | Update data on Blue Mackerel and provide relevant data for stock assessment  Compile data on the catch composition of Chub Mackerel and Blue Mackerel and provide information to TWG CMSA and SWG BM  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Blue Mackerel  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed.  Develop data collection templates | Update data on Blue Mackerel and provide relevant data for stock assessment  Compile data on the catch composition of Chub Mackerel and Blue Mackerel and provide information to TWG CMSA and SWG BM  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Blue Mackerel  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed. | Update data on Blue Mackerel and provide relevant data for stock assessment  Compile data on the catch composition of Chub Mackerel and Blue Mackerel and provide information to TWG CMSA and SWG BM  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Blue Mackerel  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed.  Collate data on associated bycatch species | Update data on Blue Mackerel and provide relevant data for stock assessment  Compile data on the catch composition of Chub Mackerel and Blue Mackerel and provide information to TWG CMSA and SWG BM  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Blue Mackerel  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed.  Assess impacts of fishery on dependent or associated species | Data on Blue Mackerel up to 2022 fishing year have been collated and provided for stock assessment  Data on catch composition are compiled up to 2022 fishing year and were provided to TWG CMSA and SWG BM  The SC observed Japan’s stock assessment of Blue Mackerel  Stock assessment results were communicated to the Commission |
| Assessment of Japanese Sardine and associated bycatch | Update data on Japanese Sardine  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese sardine  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed. | Update data on Japanese Sardine  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese sardine  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed. | Update data on Japanese Sardine  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese sardine.  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed. | Update data on Japanese Sardine  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese sardine.  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed.  Collate data on associated bycatch species | Update data on Japanese Sardine  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese sardine.  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed.  Assess impacts of fishery on dependent or associated species | Data on Japanese Sardine have been collated  The SC observed Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese Sardine  Stock assessment results were communicated to the Commission |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Assessment of Japanese Flying Squid and associated bycatch | Update data on Japanese Flying Squid  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese Flying Squid  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed. | Update data on Japanese Flying Squid  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese Flying Squid  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed.  Develop data collection templates | Update data on Japanese Flying Squid  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese Flying Squid  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed.  Collate data on associated bycatch species | Update data on Japanese Flying Squid  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese Flying Squid  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed.  Collate data on associated bycatch species | Update data on Japanese Flying Squid  Observe Japan’s stock assessment of Japanese Flying Squid  Provide management advice to the Commission as needed.  Assess impacts of fishery on dependent or associated species | Data on Japanese Flying Squid have been collated  The SC observed Japan’s domestic stock assessment of Japanese Flying Squid  Stock assessment results were communicated to the Commission |
| **Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pacific Saury | Support NPFC’s SWG MSE PS in achieving its goals | Support NPFC’s SWG MSE PS in achieving its goals | Support NPFC’s SWG MSE PS in achieving its goals | Support NPFC’s SWG MSE PS in achieving its goals | Support NPFC’s SWG MSE PS in achieving its goals | The SC/SSC PS supported NPFC’s SWG MSE PS |
| **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 components | 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 | No assessment of the impacts of fishing on bycatch or discards were reported. |
| Climate change | Consider possible key vulnerabilities and management implications of changing oceanographic conditions resulting from climate change on NPFC fisheries resources and species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent upon or associated with target stocks.  Make recommendations to help adapt to climate  change and promote resilience in NPFC fisheries | Consider possible key vulnerabilities and management implications of changing oceanographic conditions resulting from climate change on NPFC fisheries resources and species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent upon or associated with target stocks.  Make recommendations to help adapt to climate  change and promote resilience in NPFC fisheries | Consider possible key vulnerabilities and management implications of changing oceanographic conditions resulting from climate change on NPFC fisheries resources and species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent upon or associated with target stocks.  Make recommendations to help adapt to climate  change and promote resilience in NPFC fisheries | Consider possible key vulnerabilities and management implications of changing oceanographic conditions resulting from climate change on NPFC fisheries resources and species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent upon or associated with target stocks.  Make recommendations to help adapt to climate  change and promote resilience in NPFC fisheries | Consider possible key vulnerabilities and management implications of changing oceanographic conditions resulting from climate change on NPFC fisheries resources and species belonging to the same ecosystem or dependent upon or associated with target stocks.  Make recommendations to help adapt to climate  change and promote resilience in NPFC fisheries | SC discussed implications of climate change and received three presentations including  Tools for incorporating climate change considerations into scientific advice by Tom Carruthers, a  FAO consultancy report on climate change in the North Pacific and  Ongoing research activities  7.3.1 PICES’ Basin-scale Events to Coastal Impacts (BECI) project |
| **Collaboration with other Organizations** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PICES | Review implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration; Consider renewing this Framework for another 5 years  Review ICES-PICES WGSPF activities (PICES WG43)  Review ICES-PICES WGSPF activities (PICES WG53)  Identify other opportunities for collaboration with PICES. | Review implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration  Review ICES-PICES WGSPF activities (PICES WG53)  Identify other opportunities for collaboration with PICES. | Review implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration  Review ICES-PICES WGSPF activities (PICES WG53)  Identify other opportunities for collaboration with PICES | Review implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration  Review ICES-PICES WGSPF activities (PICES WG53)  Identify other opportunities for collaboration with PICES | Review implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration  Identify other opportunities for collaboration with PICES | SC reviewed implementation of NPFC-PICES Framework for Collaboration and endorsed its renewal  SSC BFME reviewed PICES WG43 activities  SC reviewed PICES WG53 activities |
| FAO | Review NPFC’s involvement with the ABNJ Deep-sea fisheries project  Review NPFC’s partnership with the Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System of FAO (FIRMS) | Review NPFC’s involvement with the ABNJ Deep-sea fisheries project  Review NPFC’s partnership with the Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System of FAO (FIRMS) | Review NPFC’s involvement with the ABNJ Deep-sea fisheries project  Review NPFC’s partnership with the Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System of FAO (FIRMS) | Review NPFC’s involvement with the ABNJ Deep-sea fisheries project  Review NPFC’s partnership with the Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System of FAO (FIRMS) | Review NPFC’s involvement with the ABNJ Deep-sea fisheries project  Review NPFC’s partnership with the Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System of FAO (FIRMS) | SC reviewed its collaboration with the ABNJ Deep-sea fisheries project  SC reviewed its partnership with the Fisheries and Resources Monitoring System of FAO (FIRMS) |
| NPAFC | Undertake scientific activities to achieve relevant deliverables of the NPFC/NPAFC work plan | Undertake scientific activities to achieve relevant deliverables of the NPFC/NPAFC work plan | Undertake scientific activities to achieve relevant deliverables of the NPFC/NPAFC work plan | Undertake scientific activities to achieve relevant deliverables of the NPFC/NPAFC work plan | Undertake scientific activities to achieve relevant deliverables of the NPFC/NPAFC work plan | SC reviewed NPFC/NPAFC activities |
| 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 | SC was updated on the MOU with SPRFMO and n collaboration with ISC and WCPFC |
| **Research and Work Plans** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 | Review SC’s Terms of Reference, as needed | SC reviewed its TOR and agreed it did not need to be revised |
| 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 | SC updated its 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 | SC updated its 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 | SC reviewed its completed and ongoing projects, and recommended new projects and sources of funding |
| **Data Management** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Review data inventories and the status of data gaps  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 inventories and the status of data gaps  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 inventories and the status of data gaps  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 inventories and the status of data gaps  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 inventories and the status of data gaps  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 | SC discussed data standards in relation to stock assessment of priority species.  SC discussed the 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 | SC made 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 | SC drafted and endorsed a press release about SC activities during its SC09 meeting |