NPFC-2025-SSC NFS02-WP06 (Rev. 2)

**Five-Year Work Plan of the SSC NFS**

Abstract: The Five-Year Work Plan of the SSC NFS has been drafted by the SSC NFS Chair. Members will review the work plan during the SSC NFS02 meeting and recommended it to the SC.

Priority list:

1. Conduct research to appropriately separate two cohorts using spatial and age/size characteristics
2. Continue CPUE standardization work
3. Conduct research and literature reviews to better understand the biological characteristic (e.g., growth rate, natural mortality), life history (e.g., cohorts associated with spawning timing and location, feeding and spawning migration) of the species and population structure (e.g. genetic analysis)
4. Conduct a stock assessment based on surplus production model
5. Further investigate improvements to the surplus production model
6. Explore and develop alternative approaches, such as the management strategy evaluation framework and data-limited management procedures, to provide effective management advice
7. Conduct research and literature reviews to better understand the factors driving abundance fluctuations (including climate change) in this short-lived species
8. Review other successful (or unsuccessful) stock assessment and management practices for squid or other short-lived species globally to inform SSC NFS work
9. Develop other models e.g., age/size-structured model
10. Develop databases to support age/size-structured models

| **ITEM** | **2025** | **2026** | **2027** | **2028** | **2029** | **Progress** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Regular update of inputs** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Update & improvement of CPUE indices | Continue review of outcomes of regular update and analytical works | Submit standardized CPUE by each member | Update | Update | Update | Updated CPUE indices of Japanese survey and Chinese squid jigging fishery |
| Joint CPUE standardization |  | Conduct joint CPUE standardization | Update | Update | Update | No progress |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Regular update of the surplus production model** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Update and review of surplus production model and other stock assessment models | Conduct preliminary stock assessment | Conduct preliminary stock assessment using standardized CPUE from each member | Same as on the left | Same as on the left | Same as on the left | Some Members (China and Japan) conducted preliminary stock assessment using JABBA and SPiCT |
| Improvement and further investigation of surplus production model | Review any outcomes of improvements, inter alia in light of possible incorporation of environmental information | Same as on the left | Same as on the left | Same as on the left | Same as on the left | No progress |
| **Toward age/size-structured models** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Data inventory (CPUE and size/age in space and time) |  |  | Conditional age at length information.  Spatio-temporal variation of size composition. | TBD | TBD | Information on size composition was shared by some Members |
| Summarizing available information on neon flying squid biology |  |  | Update regularly, specifically maturity ogive and growth function | Continue | Continue | Updated information on spawning ground and age composition |
| Development of models |  |  | Develop models to be evaluated | TBD | TBD | No progress |
| **Toward other approaches to provide management advises** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| MSE or data-limited management procedures |  |  | Develop framework to provide management advice (MSE or data-limited management procedures) | TBD | TBD | Libin Dai (China) conducted MSE as part of SC capacity building and reported its outcome |
| Review other successful (or unsuccessful) stock assessment and management practices for squid or other short-lived species globally to inform SSC NFS work | Review by the invited expert | TBD | TBD | TBD | TBD | Invited expert reviewed stock assessment methods and management measures for squid and other short-lived species |