



North Pacific Fisheries Commission

NPFC-2026-SSC NFS04-MIP03 (Rev. 1)

North Pacific Fisheries Commission
4th Meeting of the Small Scientific Committee on Neon Flying Squid
28-30 July 2026
Tokyo, Japan (hybrid)

Annotated Indicative Schedule

Date	Time	Activities	Document
28 Jul	13:30-14:00	Registration	
	14:00-15:30	Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting <i>The SSC NFS Chair, Dr. Luoliang Xu, will open the meeting. He will propose that due to his unavailability, the rest of the meeting will be chaired by the SC Chair, Dr. Jie Cao. The Host Member (Japan) will welcome participants. Participants will introduce themselves. The Science Manager, Dr. Alex Zavolokin, will outline meeting arrangements.</i> Agenda Item 2. Adoption of Agenda <i>The provisional agenda will be reviewed, amended, as appropriate, and adopted.</i> Agenda Item 3. Review of Commission meeting updates related to NFS <i>The Chair will brief participants on the outcomes of the SSC NFS03 meeting. The Science Manager will update participants on NFS-related issues from COM10.</i> <i>The Data Coordinator, Mr. Sungkuk Kang, will introduce a GIS map of NFS monthly catch and effort developed by the Secretariat.</i> Agenda Item 4. Updates on Members' fishery 4.1 Review of 2025 fishery status (3rd NFS SSC) and preliminary reports on the ongoing 2026 fishing season <i>Members will present on their NFS fisheries operated in the Convention Area and adjacent EEZs including recent information from 2026</i>	MIP02, 03. IP01, 02.

		<i>(template for fisheries status information for NFS).</i>	
	15:30-16:00	Group picture and afternoon break	
	16:00-18:00	Agenda Item 5. Review and updates of biological information for NFS <i>Participants will make updates on biological information for NFS.</i> 5.1 Development of a common sampling protocol for age and size data collection by interested members <i>Participants will be invited to share their suggestions and ideas on a common sampling protocol for collecting NFS age and size data.</i> Agenda Item 6. Updates on surveys and fishery-independent abundance indices 6.1 Presentation about survey prepared by Members in advance <i>China and Japan will give a presentation on their recent research surveys.</i> 6.2 Discussion on the feasibility of integrating fishery-independent abundance data into stock assessments in a timely manner <i>Participants will discuss how to incorporate fishery-independent abundance data into stock assessments in a timely manner.</i> <i>China and Japan will provide information about fisheries-independent indicators, i.e. (a) Abundance index from surveys conducted by China and Japan up to 2025, and (b) Size composition from surveys conducted by China and Japan up to 2025.</i>	WP06. WP09.
	18:30-20:30	Reception	

Date	Time	Activities	Document
29 Jul	9:00-10:30	Agenda Item 6. Continued	
	10:30-11:00	Morning break	
	11:00-12:30	Agenda Item 7. Updates on fishery-dependent abundance indices up to 2025 7.1 Member presentations on CPUE standardization analysis <i>Members will present CPUE standardizations conducted in accordance with the CPUE Standardization Protocol for NFS.</i> <i>Participants will provide feedback on the draft template for presenting standardized CPUEs of NFS that was submitted by the Chair to SSC NFS03 (NPFC-2026-SSC NFS03-WP11).</i> 7.2 Progress on joint CPUE standardization <i>Invited expert, Dr. Rujia Bi, will present joint standardized CPUE analysis.</i> 7.3 Discussion on strategies for the timely integration of fishery-dependent abundance indices into the stock assessment process <i>Participants will discuss strategies for the timely integration of fishery-dependent abundance indices into the stock assessment process.</i> <i>Members will review fisheries-dependent indicators:</i> <i>a. Standardized CPUE (see above)</i> <i>b. Cohort-specific mean size at catch, if available</i> <i>c. Total catch (eAR)</i>	WP03, 04, 05, 08 NFS03-WP11 SC11-IP01
	12:30-13:30	Lunch	
	13:30-15:30	Agenda Item 8. Fisheries stock assessment 8.1 Review of progress on the surplus production models <i>Participants will review progress in surplus production modelling conducted by Members.</i> 8.2 Discussion of model configurations: cohort	OP01. WP07, 10.

		structures, input data (standardized CPUE, joint CPUE, survey indices), data weighting strategies, prior distribution selection, climate change impact and other related matters <i>Participants will discuss model configurations, including cohort structures, input data, data weighting strategies, prior distribution selection, climate change impact and other related matters.</i> <i>The Pew Charitable Trusts (Dr. Tom Carruthers) will give a presentation on new simulation and assessment tools for short lived species.</i>	
	15:30-16:00	Afternoon break	
	16:00-18:00	Agenda Item 8. Continued	

Date	Time	Activities	Document
30 Jul	9:00-10:30	Agenda Item 8. Continued	
	10:30-11:00	Morning break	
	11:00-12:30	Agenda Item 9. Review of the SSC NFS Work Plan <i>Participants will review and update the SSC NFS Work Plan.</i> Agenda Item 10. Other matters <i>SSC NFS will discuss its meeting schedule for 2027-2028.</i> <i>SSC NFS will update the SC Data Call for 2026-2027.</i> <i>Members will be invited to present their sampling programs for transshipped catch and research on climate change impacts on NFS.</i> <i>Participants will discuss science-based options for operationalizing precautionary approach.</i> <i>Participants will review the species summary for NFS updated by the Chair and Secretariat.</i>	WP01. WP02.

		<i>Participants will review the SSC NFS intersessional activities and timelines for the 2026 operational year. SSC NFS will identify invited expert's roles and tasks to support its work in the 2027/2028 operational year.</i>	
	12:30-13:30	Lunch	
	13:30-15:30	Agenda Item 11. Recommendations to SC <i>The SSC NFS will make recommendations to the Scientific Committee.</i> Agenda Item 12. Adoption of Report <i>The report of the meeting will be prepared, reviewed and adopted by consensus.</i>	
	15:30-16:00	Afternoon break	
	16:00-18:00	Agenda Item 12. Continued Agenda Item 13. Close of the Meeting <i>The Chair will make concluding remarks and close the meeting.</i>	