



North Pacific Fisheries Commission

NPFC-2021-SSC BFME02-MIP03 (Rev. 3)

North Pacific Fisheries Commission  
2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Small Scientific Committee on Bottom Fish and Marine Ecosystems  
7-9 December 2021  
WebEx

**Annotated Indicative Schedule**

| Date  | Tokyo time | Activities  | Document                                       |
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| 7 Dec | 9:00-11:00 | <p>Agenda Item 1. Opening of the Meeting<br/><i>The BF-ME Chair, Dr. Chris Rooper, will open the meeting. Science Manager, Dr. Aleksandr Zavolokin, will outline procedural matters, including the meeting schedule and administrative arrangements.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 2. Adoption of Agenda<br/><i>The provisional agenda will be reviewed, amended, as appropriate, and adopted.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 3. Stock assessment and scientific advice on the management of North Pacific armorhead (NPA)</p> <p>3.1 Review of Members fishing statistics for NPA in 2021<br/><i>Participants will review fishing catch and effort statistics for NPA in 2021.</i></p> <p>3.2 NPA monitoring survey and Adaptive Management Procedure (AMP)</p> <p>3.2.1 Review of the results from 2021 monitoring survey<br/><i>Participants will review the results of the monitoring survey in March-June 2021 compiled by the Secretariat.</i></p> <p>3.3 Update on analyses or progress on biomass estimates from the NPA 2021 acoustic survey<br/><i>Japan will update participants on the analysis of the results obtained in the 2020 acoustic survey.</i></p> <p>3.4 Review of Members' research and joint research activities on NPA</p> | <p>MIP02 and 03.</p> <p>IP03.</p> <p>WP14.</p> |

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|  |             | <p>3.4.1 Analysis of recruitment relationships to oceanography</p> <p>3.4.2 Species summary document for NPA</p> <p>3.4.3 Update on Japan's maturity data</p> <p><i>Participants will review research activities on NPA presented by the Chair and Members.</i></p>  | <p>WP02.</p> <p>WP06.</p>              |
|  | 11:00-11:15 | Break  |  |
|  | 11:15-13:00 | <p>Agenda Item 4. Stock assessment and scientific advice on the management of splendid alfonsino (SA)</p> <p>4.1 Review of Members fishing statistics for SA in 2021</p> <p><i>Participants will review fishing catch and effort statistics for SA in 2021.</i></p> <p>4.2 Review of Members' research and joint research activities on SA</p> <p><i>Japan will present analysis of maturity data for SA.</i></p> <p>4.2.1 Yield per recruit analysis update of SA</p> <p><i>Participants will be updated on the yield per recruit analysis of SA presented by Japan at the SSC BF01 meeting.</i></p> <p>4.2.2 Species summary document for SA</p> <p><i>Participants will review the species summary document developed by the SWG NPA-SA intersessionally.</i></p> <p>4.3 Adaptive management strategy for SA</p> <p>4.3.1 Intersessional work to develop TOR for SA adaptive management plan</p> <p><i>The Chair will update participants on intersessional work to develop TOR for SA adaptive management plan.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 5. Stock assessment and scientific advice on the management of sablefish</p> <p>5.1 Review of Members fishing statistics for sablefish in 2021</p> <p><i>Participants will review fishing catch and effort statistics for sablefish in 2021.</i></p> <p>5.2 Review of Members' research and joint</p> | <p>WP08.</p> <p>WP07.</p> <p>WP04.</p> |

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|  |  | <p>research activities on sablefish</p> <p>5.2.1 Tagging studies – Joint USA-Canada research</p> <p>5.2.2 Sablefish Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)</p> <p>5.2.3 Species summary document for sablefish</p> <p>5.2.4 Evaluation of historical harvest relative to trip limits</p> <p><i>Participants will review research and joint research activities on sablefish.</i></p> | <p>WP12, 13.</p> |
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| Date  | Tokyo time | Activities  | Document   |
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| 8 Dec | 9:00-11:00 | <p>Agenda Item 6. Data-limited management tools and approach to assessment of NPA and SA</p> <p>6.1 Discussion of next steps in identification of data limited approaches to stock assessment for NPA and SA</p> <p>6.1.1 Review of data available and data quality for stock assessment of NPA and SA (compiled by SWG)<br/><i>Participants will review available data for stock assessment of NPA and SA compiled by the SWG NPA-SA.</i></p> <p>6.1.2 Discussion of data availability and sharing<br/><i>Participants will discuss data availability and sharing.</i></p> <p>6.1.3 Review and recommendation of data limited tools available to use with existing data for NPA and/or SA<br/><i>Participants will review data limited tools available to use with existing data for NPA and/or SA.</i></p> <p>6.1.4 Recommendations for plans to determine stock status and potentially rebuilding stocks<br/><i>Participants will make recommendations on the plans to determine stock status and potentially rebuilding stocks of NPA and SA.</i></p> <p>6.1.5 Formulate TOR for stock assessment for NPA and SA<br/><i>Participants will consider the endorsement of TOR for stock assessment for NPA and SA developed by the SWG NPA-SA.</i></p> <p>6.1.6 Update on plans to hold workshop on managing NPA, SA and other species with other RFMOs<br/><i>Participants will be updated on plans to hold workshop on managing NPA, SA and other species with other RFMOs.</i></p> | <p>WP01.</p> <p>WP01.</p> <p>WP01.</p> <p>WP01.</p> <p>WP01.</p> |

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|  |  | <p>6.1.7 Review CPUE time series for NPA and SA commercial fisheries</p> <p><i>Participants will review CPUE time series for NPA and SA commercial fisheries.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 7. Assessment and scientific advice on the management of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VME)</p> <p>7.1 Review of Members’ research and joint research activities on VME</p> <p><i>Members will present the results of their VME research surveys conducted in 2021.</i></p> <p>7.1.1 Update on developing a quantitative definition of VMEs</p> <p><i>The SWG VME Lead, Dr. Janelle Curtis, will give an update on developing a quantitative definition of VMEs.</i></p> <p>7.1.2 Review of Members available VME related data</p> <p><i>Participants will review Members available VME related data compiled by the SWG VME.</i></p> <p>7.2 VME identification</p> <p>7.2.1 Update on VME indicator taxa identification course</p> <p><i>Participants will consider the postponement of the workshop on VME indicator identification to 2022.</i></p> <p>7.2.2 Review and recommendation of data used to identify VME (the flow chart from SWG VME)</p> <p><i>Participants will consider the endorsement of the flow chart of data for VME identification developed by the SWG VME intersessionally.</i></p> <p>7.3 Encounter protocol</p> <p>7.3.1 Review and recommendation of post-encounter measures</p> <p><i>Participants will review the revised post-encounter measure proposed by the SWG VME.</i></p> <p>7.3.2 Consider gear-specific thresholds and gear-specific closures for encounter protocol</p> | <p>WP09, 16.</p> <p>WP05.</p> <p>WP10.</p> <p>BFME01-IP02.</p> <p>WP10.</p> <p>WP10, IP01.</p> |
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|             |  | <p><i>Participants will consider gear-specific thresholds and gear-specific closures for encounter protocol.</i></p> <p><i>The Science Manager will present the revised CMMs 2021-05 and 2019-06.</i></p> <p>7.3.3 Reports from Members on analyses of the impacts of different fishing gears on VME from their own data or literature</p> <p><i>Members will provide reports on analyses of the impacts of different fishing gears on VME from their own data or literature.</i></p> | WP15. |
| 11:00-11:15 | Break  |   |       |
| 11:15-13:00 | <p>7.4 Significant and adverse impacts (SAI) assessment</p> <p>7.4.1 Update on small working group progress on standardizing an approach to defining SAI</p> <p><i>The Lead will update on the progress of the SWG VME on standardizing an approach to defining SAI.</i></p> <p>7.4.2 Update on analysis of the potential impact of current fishing activities on known and potential VME sites in the Emperor Seamount area</p> <p><i>Participants will provide an update on their analysis of the potential impact of current fishing activities on known and potential VME sites in the Emperor Seamount area.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 8. Data collection and reporting</p> <p>8.1 Review of the template for collection of scientific observer data</p> <p><i>Participants will review the <a href="#">template for collection of scientific observer data</a>.</i></p> <p>8.2 Update on Japan's fish ID guide, translation into English and translation costs</p> <p><i>Japan will update participants on the progress of translation of Japan's fish ID guide into English.</i></p> | <p>WP10.</p> <p>WP11.</p>   |       |

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|  |  | <p><i>Participants will discuss the format and design of the fish ID guide.</i></p> <p>8.3 Review and discussion of other RFMOs' practices regarding developing maps of combined fishing footprint</p> <p><i>Secretariat will provide a summary of other RFMOs' practices regarding developing maps of combined fishing footprint. Secretariat will present draft maps of bottom fishing effort based on data shared by members.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 9. 5-Year Rolling Work Plan</p> <p>9.1 North Pacific armorhead</p> <p>9.2 Splendid alfonsino</p> <p>9.3 Sablefish</p> <p>9.4 Vulnerable marine ecosystems</p> <p>9.5 Other ecosystem components</p> <p><i>Participants will review and revise the SSC BF-ME Work Plan for 2021-2025.</i></p> | <p>IP02, 04.</p> <p>WP03.</p> |
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| Date  | Tokyo time  | Activities   | Document |
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| 9 Dec | 9:00-11:00  | <p>Agenda Item 10. Review and revision of CMMs 2021-05 and 2019-06 for bottom fisheries and protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems and CMM 2019-10 for sablefish</p> <p><i>Participants will review CMMs 2021-05 and 2019-06 for bottom fisheries and protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems and CMM 2019-10 for sablefish and revise them, if necessary.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 11. Other matters</p> <p>11.1 Inter-sessional work and priority issues for next meeting</p> <p><i>Participants will identify the tasks for intersessional work and priority issues for the next meeting.</i></p> <p>11.2 Election of SSC BF-ME Chair and vice-Chair</p> <p><i>Members will elect SSC BF-ME Chair and vice-Chair. Members will also select a new Lead of the SWG NPA-SA.</i></p> <p>11.3 Update on PICES WG47 Seamount Ecology</p> <p><i>Dr. Janelle Curtis will update participants on the PICES Working Group 47 on Seamount Ecology.</i></p> <p>11.4 Other issues</p> <p><i>Participants will discuss other issues raised under Agenda Item 2.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 12. Recommendations to the Scientific Committee</p> <p><i>SSC BF-ME will make recommendations to the Scientific Committee.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 13. Next meeting</p> <p><i>Participants will discuss the dates and place of the next meeting.</i></p> | OP01.    |
|       | 11:00-11:15 | Break  |          |
|       | 11:15-13:00 | <p>Agenda Item 14. Adoption of the Report</p> <p><i>The report of the meeting will be prepared, reviewed</i></p>   |          |

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|  |  | <p><i>and adopted by consensus.</i></p> <p>Agenda Item 15. Close of the Meeting</p> <p><i>Chair will make concluding remarks and close the meeting.</i></p> |  |
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