



Madrid, 17 April 2019

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 2390 / 2019

SUBJECT: 2019 SECOND INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF THE ICCAT BLUEFIN TUNA MSE TECHNICAL GROUP (St Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada, 23 - 27 July 2019)

I should like to inform you that the 2019 Second Intersessional Meeting of the ICCAT Bluefin Tuna MSE Technical Group will be held 23 - 27 July 2019, at St Andrews Biological Station, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, New Brunswick, Canada.

Attached please find the objectives, the tentative agenda of the meeting and other relevant information about their organization. I would appreciate very much if you could distribute this announcement to scientists who may contribute by participating in the meetings. This announcement will also be published on the [current meetings page](#) of our web site.

In order to have an estimation of the number of participants in advance of the session I would also appreciate if you could send to the Secretariat a list of delegates who will participate in the meetings by **9 July 2019**.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary

Camille Jean Pierre Manel



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Attachment: Objectives, Tentative Agendas and Information for participants.

2019 SECOND INTERSESSIONAL MEETING OF THE ICCAT BLUEFIN TUNA MSE TECHNICAL GROUP
(*St Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada, 23 - 27 July 2019*)

Objectives

The 2019 Second Bluefin Tuna MSE Technical Group meeting is tasked with evaluating whether the Operating Models (OMs) meet acceptable criteria for presenting to the Bluefin Tuna Species Group and will also advance the development of candidate management procedures (CMPs).

The results of this meeting will be discussed during the Bluefin Tuna Species Group meeting to be held in Madrid, September 23 – 27 2019.

Tentative Agenda

1. Opening, adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements
2. Review of available documents
3. Summary of developments since the February Bluefin Tuna Species Group and Bluefin Tuna MSE Technical Group meetings, including feedback from the Panel 2 meeting
4. Review of data revisions made prior to 1 April 2019 deadline
5. Review of OMs for the interim grid and the robustness tests requested by Bluefin Tuna Species Group
6. Evaluation of OMs in relation to diagnostics for acceptability, to advise whether they meet acceptable criteria for presenting to the Bluefin Tuna Species Group
7. Review of Interim Grid to make proposals for a Reference Grid
8. Review of results from CMP developers
9. Tuning of CMPs to a reference west and an east performance statistic for a specified OM to the extent possible, and preparation of summary results
 Tunings are to facilitate evaluation of results of different CMPs for comparable recovery vs short-medium term catch trade-offs
10. Coding package and Trial Specifications document modifications required
11. Discussion of plausibility weighting of OMs and exceptional circumstances provisions
12. Work plan leading up to September 2019 meetings
13. Adoption of the report

Additional information for participants

1. Date and venue

The meetings will be held from 23-27 July (Tuesday to Saturday) 2019 (registration starts at 08:30 am, on 23 July). Meeting hours will be approximately from 09:00 to 18:00.

The meeting will be held at the Harry Hachey Conference Center (Marked by the red pin in the map) at the St Andrews Biological Station, 125 Marine Science Drive, St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada. Parking is available next to the building and across the street.



2. Contact information

Co-chair of Bluefin Tuna MSE Technical Group:

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Secretariat contact: Ai Kimoto (ai.kimoto@iccat.int)

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3. Language

The working language for the meeting will be English, as no simultaneous translation can be provided. Scientific documents can be written in English, French or Spanish.

4. Call for scientific papers

Participants are encouraged to submit relevant scientific papers. In order to better organize the meetings, in 2014 the SCRS established deadlines for submitting documents, which were revised in 2015. These deadlines provide the rapporteurs with valuable information to better fit the meeting timetable as well as allow the Secretariat to make the documents available to participants in advance of the meeting. In 2015 the SCRS “proposed that a new deadline for the submission of SCRS documents should be implemented; these documents should be provided in their entirety at least one week before the meeting in which they are to be presented to facilitate their review by participating scientists prior to these meetings”. As such the full documents for this meeting should be provided to info@iccat.int or miguel.santos@iccat.int by **9 July 2019**. Authors are reminded to closely follow the [Guidelines for Authors of Scientific Documents for the ICCAT SCRS and Collective Volume Series](#). Furthermore, the original documents (text, tables and figures) should be prepared in WORD or compatible software.

5. Funding

No financial assistance will be available within the MPF as it was not included in the list approved by the Commission

6. Hotel information

Please find below a list of recommended hotels in St. Andrews, New Brunswick in Canada. Please note that the St. Andrews, New Brunswick is a popular tourist destination in summer. Participants are advised to book their tickets and accommodation as soon as possible.

(1) Algonquin Resort 184 Adolphus Street St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada E5B 1T7 Tel: +1-506-529-8823 https://algonquinresort.com/	(2) Seaside Beach Resort 339 Water Street, St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada E5B 2R2 Tel: +1-506-529-3846 https://seasidebeachresort.net/
(3) Rossmount Inn 4599 Route 127, PO Box 3911 St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada E5B 3S7 Tel: +1-877-529 3351 https://www.rossmountinn.com/	(4) Cory Cottage at the Pansy Patch 45 Carleton Street, St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada, E5B 1M8 Tel: +1-416-953-3665 http://standrewsbythesea.ca/directory/cory-cottage-pansy-patch/
(5) Windsor House of St. Andrews 132 Water Street, St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada E5B 1A8 Tel: +1-506-469-5000 http://standrewsbythesea.ca/directory/windsor-house/	(6) Treadwell Inn 129 Water Street, St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada E5B 1A7 Tel: +1-506-529-1011 http://treadwellinn.com/