

Report of the 2025 Meeting of the Subcommittee on Statistics *(Hybrid/Madrid, Spain, 27 September 2025)*

1. Opening, adoption of Agenda and meeting arrangements

The annual meeting of the Subcommittee on Statistics (SC-STATS) was held in Madrid on 27 September 2025 in a hybrid format. The Convenor of the SC-STAT, Dr Pedro Lino (EU), opened the meeting and reiterated the need to work efficiently focusing on the main aspects under discussion.

The Agenda (**Appendix 1**) was discussed and adopted without modifications. Mr Carlos Mayor and Mr Bruno Deprez (ICCAT Secretariat) served as rapporteurs for the meeting. The List of participants is provided in **Appendix 2**. The list of the documents presented during the meeting is summarised in **Appendix 3**, with their respective summaries provided in **Appendix 4**.

After a fruitful discussion in relation to the mandate of this Subcommittee and the relationship with other SCRS subsidiary bodies, it was agreed to defer this subject to the SCRS plenary for further clarification.

2. Summary of fisheries and biological data submitted during 2025 (Tasks 1, 2 and 3), including historical revisions

The Secretariat provided a summary of the data reported to date through an overview of the 2025 detailed Secretariat Report on Research and Statistics [PLE-SCRS_07/2025], covering the activities and the information on fisheries statistics and biological data received between 1 October 2024 and 1 September 2025 (the “reporting period”), including revision to historical data. Furthermore, it was recalled how all basic fisheries statistics and biological information have been presented (fully updated with the most recent data) by the Secretariat to the SCRS Working Groups during the SCRS intersessional meetings.

After a slight regression in data completion quality for 2022 and 2023 data, reported during 2023 and 2024, respectively, the Secretariat noted that by advancing in 15 days (from 31 July to 15 July each year) the deadline to submit SCRS related information (2024 and 2025), have had a slight impact on the late reporting aspect, slightly better during 2025. The advancement of the deadline in 15 days gave the Secretariat additional time to properly verify the information and request the pertinent data corrections to consequently improve the overall data quality. Some datasets have only passed the SCRS filtering criteria after the corrections introduced by the Secretariat to resolve common errors (mostly linked to incomplete forms and invalid use of ICCAT codes). In addition, the information submitted using outdated versions of the standard electronic forms (i.e. versions prior to 2025a) increased to a total of 8% of the ~1,300 forms submitted during the reporting period, with 16 Flag CPCs submitting at least one dataset through outdated versions of the forms, compared to the 19 Flag CPCs that did so in 2023. The Secretariat recalled that only the latest version of the standard electronic forms is considered valid for the submission of new and historical data, as they incorporate all latest changes approved by the SCRS.

In addition to the standard activities (management of statistics, publications, and budgets for various data-related tasks), the Secretariat dedicated substantial work to support stock assessment activities whether by participating actively in the assessments, or by coordinating and managing external support to the SCRS work. The lack of adherence of ICCAT CPCs to deadlines established for data submission (slightly improved this year), complicates the work of the Secretariat.

The Secretariat applied the SCRS filtering criteria (Filters 1 & 2) to accept/reject the statistical forms submitted during the reporting period. The results presented reflect the status of a total of 76 Flag CPCs (52 CP + 1 CP [15 EU Member States] + 1 CP [5 UK Flag States] + 4 NCC) with reporting obligations. All forms that were submitted with errors that the Secretariat could not correct until the end of the SCRS annual meeting were considered as “unreported data” and require CPC revisions.

The overall reporting status for 2024 data (**Figure 1**), shows that 64 (84%) of the 75 Flag CPCs have reported fisheries and biological information: 55 Flag CPCs with catches (72%) and 9 Flag CPCs with no fishing activity (12%).

2.1 Basic Task 1 (T1FC and T1NC) and Task 2 (T2CE and T2SZ) statistics

The Secretariat presented a summary of the 2024 data reporting status (reported during 2025) for the two Task 1 datasets (T1FC - Fleet Characteristics, and T1NC - Nominal Catches dataset), as well as the three Task 2 datasets (T2CE - Catch and Effort, T2SZ - Size Frequencies, and T2CS - Catch-at-Size dataset) using the standard SCRS Report Cards (respectively, Tables 1, 2, 3 and 4 of PLE-SCRS_07/2025).

The overall reporting of T1FC data for 2024 was 74% (56 Flag CPCs), including 9 Flag CPCs with late submission and 11 Flag CPCs requiring corrections. Eleven Flag CPCs (14%) have not yet reported this information.

The overall reporting of T1NC data for 2024 was 84% (64 Flag CPCs), including 14 Flag CPCs with late submissions and 6 Flag CPCs requiring corrections. Twelve Flag CPCs (16%) have not yet reported this information.

The overall reporting of T2CE data for 2024 was 74% (56 Flag CPCs), including 8 Flag CPCs with late submissions and 6 Flag CPCs requiring corrections. Twenty Flag CPCs (26%) have yet to report this information.

The overall reporting of T2SZ/T2CS data for 2024 was 61% (46 Flag CPCs), including 5 Flag CPCs with late submissions and 6 Flag CPCs requiring corrections. Thirty Flag CPCs (41%) have yet to report this information.

The Task 1 and Task 2 dataset provisions over the last six SCRS meetings (**Figure 1**) gives a broader perspective on the reporting status of all ICCAT Flag CPCs at the beginning of each annual SCRS meeting.

The Secretariat informed that the most common deficiencies detected across all submissions of Task 1 and Task 2 datasets are similar to previous years (incompleteness of the forms' header, not using ICCAT codes, use of outdated form versions). These four types of deficiencies, identified with "orange" cells in the SCRS report cards, do not pass the SCRS filtering criteria, and require explicit corrections, followed by subsequent confirmations and/or revisions by the CPCs. The Subcommittee reiterated once again the need for ICCAT CPCs to pay a special attention to correct these types of data reporting issues.

The Secretariat also informed that additional progress was made to the statistical dashboards for statistical data exploration. Besides the improvements made to the T1NC dashboard, a new one was created to query the SCRS catalogues. The Subcommittee commended the Secretariat for this work and requested to continue the development and maintenance of dashboards to explore ICCAT fisheries data.

The SC-STAT also presented an update to the summary table highlighting the fraction of catches by species reported as *target* / *bycatch* / *unknown* (mandatory requirement since 2023) reported in T1NC for 2024. The indicators are very similar than ones observed for 2023.

The Secretariat informed that nine Flag CPCs reported no fishing activity on ICCAT species ("0" catches in all species) during 2024. It was recalled that CPCs with no fishing activities in a given year catching ICCAT species in the Convention area, have only to report the form ST02-T1NC (completing header section and stating that fact in the field "Notes").

2.2 Tagging

The Secretariat provided a summary of the tagging data received by the Secretariat during the Reporting Period. The different laboratories and scientific institutions conducting electronic tagging in the ICCAT Convention area reported a total of 200 releases and 26 recoveries. With respect to the conventional tagging (details in Tables 8 and 9 of PLE-SCRS-07/2025), a total of 3336 tags were deployed and 839 were recovered. In the same period, the Secretariat distributed about 525 conventional tags.

The Secretariat also informed on several ongoing projects such as the full cross-validation of both conventional and electronic tagging databases, with the main objective of correcting all the discrepancies and missing information across all species. The creation of a new section within the ICCAT web page where the layers representing the ICCAT area, sampling areas, stock areas, etc. has been published. In addition, the

website contains a link to a cartographic viewer that will facilitate the visualisation and consultation of the geographic layers.

In addition, regarding electronic tagging, the Secretariat also informed on the creation of a database containing the statistics of Wildlife Computers' miniPAT tags with the aim of carrying out an in-depth analysis of the performance of these tags over time. This database contains information about the tag (configuration) or the data sent to the satellite (number of messages, days of transmission, etc.) as well as the metadata sent by the CPCs and the inventory created by ICCAT.

The Subcommittee discussed removing some conventional tags submitted via the corresponding TG02 form and currently published in the tagging files. It was suggested that some of these datasets might not be public data, since they come from observer data, and it was proposed to remove them from the published files until indicated otherwise.

2.3 Complementary data obtained within ICCAT data collection and research programmes (GBYP, AOTTP, EPBR, SMTYP and SRDCP)

The data recovery activities conducted within ICCAT research programmes (GBYP, AOTTP, EPBR, SMTYP and SRDCP) have historically contributed with great improvements to the ICCAT fisheries statistics by recovering missing or incomplete catch series and biological samples. However, no major fisheries statistics datasets were recovered under these programmes during the reporting period.

2.4 Other relevant statistics (observer data, VMS, BCDs, ISSF, etc.)

Domestic Observer information is reported using form ST09-DomObPrg. The Secretariat indicated that the 29 Flag CPCs submitting 2024 observer data during 2025 (Appendix 4 of PLE-SCRS_07/2025). Table 10 of that same report provides a summary of the data extracted from the forms ST09 reported for 2024 by species group and discard fate, including sharks, sea turtles, and seabirds. Table 11 contains data on discards (both dead and alive) extracted from T1NC data for 2024 by species group, species, discard fate, and Flag CPC. A summary of the information submitted on ST09 forms for sea turtles, seabirds, and cetaceans is provided in Tables 12, 13, and 14 of the Report, respectively.

The Secretariat also provided an overview of the 2024 information submitted on FAD deployments (form ST08) and their 2024 FAD management plans (Appendix 2 of PLE-SCRS-07/2025).

2.5 Historical revisions

The major updates to Task 1 and Task 2 have occurred intersessionally within their Species Groups in 2025, are summarised in Tables 15 to 18 of document PLE-SCRS-07/2025. **Table 15** presents the updates adopted intersessionally to T1NC, with the T1NC updates pending a decision by the respective Species Group, provided in **Table 16**. The dataset revisions to T2CE and T2SZ (all adopted intersessionally) are summarised in **Tables 17** and **18**, respectively. The pending adoptions were mostly approved during the species groups annual meeting.

2.6 Documents relevant to statistics

Document SCRS/2025/225 presented the new Brazilian Tuna Fishing Monitoring Programme (PMPA) approved by the Federal Government in 2023, particularly focusing on the tuna species size data collected under this programme. It began its activities in early 2024 with the aim of expanding and systematising the collection of data on tuna fisheries caught by Brazil, promoting the generation of information that can contribute to research, management of this activity and conservation of target and bycatch species caught by different fishing gear. The data presented refer exclusively to the size measurements of fish of different species caught by the national tuna fleet in 2024, which were compiled and made available to ICCAT in the Task 2 - Sizes (T2SZ) form. This information is being collected and analysed for 2025, for a posterior submission to ICCAT in 2026.

The Subcommittee acknowledged the Brazilian improvements to the collection of scientific information on tuna fisheries, as also as the monitoring of these important stocks.

3. Summary of ICCAT Secretariat's standard (yearly based) datasets estimations

3.1 Catch distribution (CATDIS) and Fishing effort distribution (EFFDIS)

The Catch distribution (CATDIS) (*CATch DIStribution*) dataset represents an estimation of T1NC data for the nine major tuna and tuna-like species of ICCAT stratified by year, flag, fleet, gear, fishing mode, catch type, trimester, and 5-degree squares. It represents one of the most used ICCAT catch estimations and is of particular importance for the ICCAT stock assessments using integrated stock synthesis models (SS3) with the overall catches stratified by trimester. The Secretariat has updated the CATDIS from 1950 to 2023 with the most recent statistical information available. The newly CATDIS estimations were published on the ICCAT website on 31 January 2025 (reflecting in detail the T1NC catches also published on the same date). The CATDIS was used in most of the 2025 SCRS intersessional meetings, and Vol. 50 of the Statistical Bulletin was also updated with the most recent CATDIS (maps) estimates of the period 1950-2023. No intermediate updates were made intersessionally.

As of today, due to the lack of adequate T2CE information (see SCRS catalogues published in Appendix 1 of PLE-SCRS_07), the CATDIS does not yet include estimations for the remaining four (out of 13 in total) major species, namely spearfish (SPF), blue shark (BSH), shortfin mako (SMA), and porbeagle (POR). However, and considering the requests in this regard emerging from the various Species Groups, further attempts should be made to recover T2CE information with more complete species catch compositions (containing those four species), to allow estimating CATDIS for these species in the future.

The Group requested an explanation on why these four major species do not have yet a CATDIS, at least for the last one or two decades. The Secretariat informed that, without having the major longline fleets revising and reporting in their official T2CE datasets these four species in the species catch composition, it is unfeasible (more than 50% of the CATDIS will be based on unrealistic substitutions) to estimate CATDIS for these four species. Through a quick overview of the most recent SCRS catalogues (1995 to 2024 series), the SC-STAT agreed that it is still unfeasible to estimate CATDIS for these four species (SPF, BSH, SMA, and POR), even when reducing the CATDIS estimation to the last ten years. Having the major T2CE datasets with these four species in the species catch composition, is a required piece of information to obtain a useful CATDIS estimation.

The SC-STAT acknowledged the continued efforts made by the Secretariat to synchronize the CATDIS annual estimations with the publication of the Task 1 and Task 2 statistics adopted by the SCRS and the Commission, on the same dates (31 January each year), which has greatly benefited the SCRS and reduced the number of partial CATDIS updates required intersessionally (none made during 2025).

The EFFDIS estimations of Atlantic longline fisheries were first published on the ICCAT website in 2023 (period 2000-2021), as recommended by the SC-ECO. Since then, they have been updated in line with all the other ICCAT fishery statistics dissemination schedule. The latest update covered the period 2000-2023, reflecting the T2CE published on 31 January 2025.

The SC-STAT acknowledged the Secretariat efforts and encouraged the Secretariat to continue with the recovery and improvement of T2CE datasets, also inviting the ICCAT CPCs to play an active role in these T2CE recovery. For this purpose, the SC-STAT recalled that updates to their T2CE datasets beyond the "3 + 1 years" SCRS rule, must follow the standard SCRS requirements for the revision of historical data which include the provision of a SCRS paper providing details on the updates and the methods used for the data recovery and associated estimations.

3.2 CAS (catch-at-size) and CAA (catch-at-age)

The catch-at-size (CAS) management system has not changed in terms of database structures, and associated management tools. During 2025, no CAS estimations (updates or full revisions of any of the size species requiring CAS: ALB, BFT, BET, YFT, SKJ, SWO) were made.

4. Review of data deficiencies and ongoing data recovery plans pursuant to [Recommendation by ICCAT on compliance with statistical reporting obligations \(Rec. 05-09\)](#)

4.1 2024 Report cards with SCRS validation criteria (Filters 1 and 2)

During the last decade, the Secretariat has systematically applied the SCRS filtering criteria (Filter 1 and Filter 2), as described in Addendum 2 to the 2013 SCRS Report and updated by the SCRS in 2016 to validate and accept Task 1 (ST01–ST02) and Task 2 (ST03–ST05) statistics submitted through the official forms. These filtering criteria are also embedded in each of those forms.

The results of applying Filter 1 to 2024 data are presented in the SCRS Report Cards included in the 2025 Secretariat Report on Research and Statistics (Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, with a summary in Figure 1) [PLE-SCRS_07/2025], with more detailed results described in the report. The SCRS Report Cards remain one of the most important instruments to evaluate the correct adherence of CPCs to the ICCAT reporting requirements. This tool has proven to be very effective to impose strict reporting obligations and enforce minimum data quality standards to improve the work of ICCAT and the SCRS in the future.

4.2 SCRS Score cards and catalogues of major ICCAT species (last 30 years)

The SCRS catalogues are produced to comply with paragraph 1 of Rec. 05-09, which establishes clear processes and procedures to identify data gaps. In the 2025 Secretariat Report on Research and Statistics, the Secretariat presented the SCRS Task 1 and Task 2 data-availability catalogues for major ICCAT species, by stock, covering the last 30 years (1995-2024). The small tuna catalogues were also prepared and made available to the SCRS annual meeting. As recommended by the SCRS in 2020, the Secretariat continues to publish both catalogues on the ICCAT website (<https://www.iccat.int/en/accesingdb.html>), with the latest edition published in January 2025, summarizing information approved by the SCRS and the Commission in 2024.

An overview of the SCRS scorecards is presented in Table 7 of the 2025 Secretariat Report on Research and Statistics, covering all major ICCAT fisheries and species for the period 1995-2024.

Despite the multiple recommendations made by the SC-STAT and by the Species Groups, the reporting of total dead discards and live releases continues to be very poor, and this has a negative impact on the accuracy of the estimates of total biomass removals and total mortality needed to conduct robust stock assessments.

The Secretariat presented “Data deficiencies in ICCAT fisheries and biological data” (SCRS/P/2025/087). The presentation outlined the main tools available to the SCRS for detecting data gaps (form-embedded filters, the SCRS data-availability catalogues, and the SCRS scorecards) and provided an update on recent improvements. In 2025 all Task 1 Nominal Catches were classified into their corresponding Sampling Areas, and all records previously coded as Catches (C) were reclassified into Landings (L) and Dead Discards (DD). Outstanding issues identified include gear discrimination (e.g. UNCL, SURF, SPOR, LL*), species discrimination (e.g. KGX, TUN/TUX, PXX, CXX, SKH), and fishing-zone discrimination (e.g. EEZ, HSEAS). The Subcommittee took note of these improvements. The Secretariat also reminded the Subcommittee that estimates frequently produced by the Species Groups should be reviewed and formally submitted by CPCs for them to be recorded as reported data.

4.3 Documents relevant to statistics

Document SCRS/2025/209 reports on a project to strengthen data collection for ICCAT/HMS fisheries across several Caribbean countries (Belize, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Venezuela). The document describes literature reviews and historical data recovery, consultations with authorities and fishers, and the deployment of trained samplers using digital survey tools targeting priority species (e.g. yellowfin tuna, blue marlin). Two countries (Belize, Guatemala) were supported mainly through virtual coordination given their fleets’ activity largely outside the Caribbean, while six others advanced on-site sampling schemes and records recovery/digitization.

The authors note completed data recovery for Venezuela and Tobago; ongoing digitization of Costa Rica’s forms; five months of sampling completed for Tobago and Venezuela; approximately 80% completion for Dominica; and active sampling in the Dominican Republic (San Pedro de Macoris ~60% complete). Saint Vincent and the Grenadines replaced Grenada in the workplan, and the project end date was extended to

15 December 2025 (from 31 October 2025) to accommodate approvals and logistics. Overall, participating administrations have engaged positively, several requesting broader application of the approach. The authors recommend continued capacity building to improve coverage consistency, accelerate digitization/e-collection, and expand sampling sites so the region can deliver more accurate and timely statistics to support ICCAT assessments.

Document SCRS/2025/179 presents an updated length-weight (L-W) relationship for Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT-A) in the Cantabrian Sea, based on samples collected from June to August between 2001 and 2024. The study supports using a region- and season-specific model, as ICCAT's current L-W models tend to overestimate weight. In contrast, the new summer-specific model yields more accurate estimates, reflecting the lower condition factor of post-spawning ABFT migrating into the Bay of Biscay. Comparative analysis with ICCAT models (Rodríguez-Marín *et al.*, 2016; Lino *et al.*, 2021; Deguara *et al.*, 2017; Katavic *et al.*, 2018) highlights biases when regional variation is ignored. Adoption of this June-August Cantabrian-specific L-W relationship is recommended for estimating BFT-A biomass at farming time, exclusively for this region and purpose.

5. Review of ICCAT data collection forms and templates (statistics and tagging)

5.1 Forms and templates

SCRS/2025/034 An ST09 form to capture requirements of Rec. 22-12

The Secretariat proposed modifying ST09 to capture all requirements of Rec. 22-12 except associated photographs, for which no feasible solution currently exists; after raising questions and concerns, the Subcommittee agreed to trial this option.

The Secretariat gave a presentation on updates to the statistical forms. Following SCRS/2025/161 for ST01, replace GRT with GT where CPCs can provide it and replace CC with FHV, noting FHV applies only to purse seiners. The Subcommittee noted potential difficulties with reporting exclusively in GT, as some CPCs do not have those data readily available at source. It also recognized challenges in reporting effort in fishing days. For ST07, require one interaction per row, to prevent failure of import of data into ICCAT-DB. Decommission ST10 after comparison with ST02/ST04, as catches and sizes are already reported there at different aggregation levels. In line with Sharks Species Group advice, harmonize shark species codes across all forms, add 23 missing species, and remove aggregate or historically unlikely entries. The Secretariat also presented a CSV flat format for ST04 reporting; the Committee requested the establishment of a small working group to refine this proposal.

5.2 ICCAT coding system

Following document SCRS/2025/178 about the specifications and capture mechanism of the trapline (“meka-ring”) gear used in the Japanese tuna longline fishery, the Subcommittee emphasized the strong impact of this new fishing technique on CPUE and the need to collect related data as soon as possible. Three documents were presented at the Subcommittee of Ecosystems and Bycatch by EU-Portugal, EU-Spain and Japan. The Subcommittee did not reach a consensus on how to collect these data (new gear code, include or not the percentage of use of trapline, etc). This should be discussed during the SCRS plenary meeting.

The Subcommittee discussed merging the species SAI (Atlantic Sailfish) and SFA (Indo-Pacific Sailfish) as they have the same taxonomic name: *Istiophorus platypterus*. This question should be brought to the SCRS plenary meeting.

6. Brief overview of ICCAT Integrated Online Management System (IOMS) work

The IOMS implementation process is governed by the ICCAT Online Reporting Technology Working Group (WG-ORT), whose mandate was established under [Recommendation by ICCAT for the development of an](#)

online reporting system (Rec. 16-19) and extended through Recommendation by ICCAT to continue the development of an integrated online reporting system (Rec. 19-12).

In 2025, the Meeting of the Online Reporting Technology Working Group (WG-ORT) was held (see the [Report of the Meeting of the Online Reporting Technology Working Group \(WG-ORT\)](#)), where the existing workplan was reviewed and the next phases were planned. System development during the year focused on the final stages of the Vessel modules - including the Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange (FLUX) component - and the Form Manager, including their testing phases. On 1 August 2025, the Vessel Manager (without the FLUX component, which will continue to be developed in 2025 and 2026) and the Form Manager were released into production. The Form Manager can import all statistical forms (ST01-ST10) and the compliance forms (CP01, CP46, and CP53). Additionally, the development team continued to support and enhance the modules already delivered. The WG-ORT commended the progress made towards the main objectives of the IOMS: simplifying the data provision process and leveraging the information stored in the IOMS to produce high-quality reports and data summaries.

In 2025, the development team reached the final stages of development of the Port Manager. It also initiated the analysis and design of the T1NC (Task 1 nominal catches) Manager and the module responsible for managing the billfish/shark check sheets.

For 2025, a total of two workshops were held: one on the Form Manager module (May 6) and one on the Vessel Manager (June 30). These workshops were designed to help IOMS users become familiar with the developing modules and to allow the development team to address any issues that might arise during this testing phase.

For the IOMS development period 2024/2026, the European Union (EU) has provided two complementary contributions with an extraordinary budget to support the development of the IOMS vessel record module and the integration of the FLUX-TL system for managing EU vessels (and potentially other ICCAT CPC vessels), as well as a module dedicated to the management of Task 1 Nominal Catches (T1NC) and the associated compliance table, and to design and plan the initial steps of the module responsible for Task 2 Catch and Effort (T2CE). Additionally, the Global Environment Facility (GEF)/Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) Project to support the functionality of exchanging IOMS information with third parties by leveraging web services is continuing its work.

This Subcommittee has maintained a strong collaboration with the WG-ORT from the outset. The completion of the Form Manager module has enabled online reporting, provided users with an easier way to track the status of submissions, and reduced the email workload for CPCs and the Secretariat. In line with a WG-ORT decision, an overlap period is in effect through 30 November 2025, during which CPCs may submit statistical and compliance forms either by email or via the Form Manager; after this overlap period, online submission through the Form Manager will be the only reporting channel. Additionally, development of the Task 1 Nominal Catches (T1NC) module has begun and is expected to significantly improve understanding of CPC-reported information on this topic, thereby facilitating communication. This Subcommittee recognizes the crucial importance of the IOMS for the future of ICCAT and reiterates its full support for its continued implementation.

7. Ongoing Pilot project to test the use of stereoscopic cameras on BFT first transfer and the automation of video footage analysis

Document SCRS/2025/208 was presented at the Intersessional Meeting of the Bluefin Tuna Species Group (BFT SG) meeting. At this Subcommittee's request, the BFT Chairs provided information to this session. The paper describes a pilot project testing stereoscopic cameras during the first transfer of bluefin tuna and automating video analysis with AI. Results indicate robust length estimation and automatic counts reaching approximately 54-95% of manual counts depending on the scenario, with substantial analysis time savings; in the Adriatic, adjustments (gate size and camera setup) are needed due to dense schools. Overall, the findings support the technical feasibility of estimating numbers and weight and recommend further refinement of counting/tracking algorithms to achieve consistency across scenarios.

The group discussed that systematically storing purse-seine transfer videos for potential AI use could entail significant costs (storage/services, running the model, potential Secretariat workload). A comprehensive annual cost study was requested, and it was suggested to refer the matter to Plenary for guidance.

8. Responses to the Commission

The SCRS will advise the Commission on the suitability of the alternative approach proposed by CPCs, Rec. 16-14 para 4b.

Background: 4 b) *Notwithstanding paragraph a), for vessels less than 15 meters, where an extraordinary safety concern may exist that precludes deployment of an onboard observer, a CPC may employ an alternative scientific monitoring approach that will collect data equivalent to that specified in this Recommendation in a manner that ensures comparable coverage. In any such cases, the CPC wishing to avail itself of an alternative approach must present the details of the approach to the SCRS for evaluation. The SCRS will advise the Commission on the suitability of the alternative approach for carrying out the data collection obligations set forth in this Recommendation. Alternative approaches implemented pursuant to this provision shall be subject to the approval of the Commission at the annual meeting prior to implementation.*

Response

The Committee considers that decisions on the appropriateness of methodologies has to be decided by the WGSAM. The approved methodologies should then be directed to the Species Groups which, on the basis of a positive outcome (results of applying the methodology), will adopt the application of the method to the species of their concern. The Species Groups that approve new methodologies shall inform SC-STAT of these modifications in procedure.

The SCRS assisted the WG EMS in reviewing EMS domestic programme submitted, as well as the implementation of those programmes and suggested improvements and adjustment to such programmes, Rec. 23-18 para 17.

Background: *The WG EMS shall:*

- *review, with assistance of the SCRS where appropriate, the EMS domestic programme submitted pursuant to paragraph 15, as well as the implementation of those programmes and, if appropriate, suggest improvements and adjustment to such programmes to ensure that ICCAT scientific data collection and/or compliance monitoring requirements are met or that the EMS standards followed by the domestic programme are, with due consideration to the development status of CPCs, equivalent to those set out in this Recommendation.*

Response

The SCRS has the Technical Sub-group on Electronic Monitoring that has been addressing EMS related systems. This sub-group was created in 2021 to answer specific Commission requests from 2019 on EMS data collection. The Commission agreed the EMS minimum standards for pelagic longlines and purse seines in its 2023 meeting (Rec. 23-18).

One of the tasks from Rec. 23-18 is for the SCRS to assist in the revision of EMS domestic programmes submitted by CPCs. To date, the subgroup has not been informed of any submission of EMS domestic programmes. It is noted that the subgroup continues its work, with plans to focus over the next years on simplified EM Systems that could be used on smaller scale ICCAT fisheries.

This Committee did not receive from the Technical Sub-group on Electronic Monitoring any new information regarding data derived from domestic EMS programmes.

9. Workplan for 2026

Since 2017, the Secretariat has been developing the IOMS, released into production on 1 August 2021, a long-term, mission-critical project that requires full Secretariat commitment, and this work will continue throughout 2025-2026.

Additionally, the following tasks represent ongoing database improvements and maintenance that will continue throughout 2025 and beyond. Priority tasks for 2025/2026 include:

- ***Tasks (ICCAT Secretariat)***

- Finalize upgrade of all the ICCAT-DB system from Microsoft SQL Server 2016 to Microsoft SQL Server 2022.
- Improve the “client applications” that manage the databases of the ICCAT-DB system.
- Continue the development of the statistical/tagging dashboards (dynamic querying)
- Continue the tagging database development for both conventional and electronic tagging.
- Continue the Biological Sampling database development (includes data recovery/integration).
- Continue the standardization of the electronic forms (TG: tagging forms, CP: compliance forms).
- Extend the automatic data integration tools for the standardized electronic forms.
- Continue the development of the Geographic Information System (GIS) project (georeference all the pertinent ICCAT data available in ICCAT-DB).
- Continue the adaptation/migration of all the 50 databases of the ICCAT-DB system to the IOMS system.
- Continue the development of software libraries (in R and possibly Python) to standardize access and management of ICCAT public datasets.
- Continue the development of interactive applications to improve the dissemination of and simplify access to the core ICCAT public datasets through the web (T1 and T2 datasets, CATDIS, etc.).
- Study options to normalise in a single format (CSV) the existing agreed flat-form formats to provide Task 2 datasets (T2CE, T2SZ and T2CS). This work will provide preliminary guidance to the ad hoc Working Work on this subject.
- Review and develop proposals aiming to validate and potentially enrich Task 1, Task 2 and Task 3 datasets, using auxiliary information available at the Secretariat (Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), FAD deployment, ICCAT Record of Vessels, etc.) to address SCRS scientific request, following the ICCAT data dissemination policy.
- Initiate the planning, design, development and data compilation for a database to manage SCRS recommendations (from all subsidiary bodies) and the SCRS’s responses to the Commission, with the aim of facilitating traceability and improving effectiveness.

- ***Intersessional activities (ad hoc working groups and meeting)***

- Establish an ad hoc working group to standardize the T1NC tables included in the Executive Summaries.
- Establish an ad hoc working group to review and update the ICCAT Rules & Procedures on data protection, access, and dissemination, and to propose text amendments and an implementation timeline.
- Establish an ad hoc working group to define a standardized procedure for addressing reporting gaps via estimates (“carryovers”) and to produce guidance for Species Groups/Executive Summaries.
- Establish an ad hoc working group to modify form ST09 to include the minimum feasible subset of additional information requested by Rec. 22-12.
- Establish a small ad hoc working group to refine the Secretariat’s CSV flat-file proposal for ST04 (Size Samples), inviting Flag CPCs currently using specially agreed formats to participate, and to consider defining analogous flat-file specifications for ST05 (Catch-at-Size) and ST03 (Catch and Effort).
- The Convener of the Subcommittee proposes holding an intersessional online meeting in 2026 (last week of February?). Regarding the possibility of repeating this meeting bi-annually, the Subcommittee on Statistics agrees to hold this initial meeting and evaluate its usefulness.

10. Review and update of the *Rules and Procedures for the protection, access to, and dissemination of data compiled by ICCAT*

Document SCRS/2025/215, presented by the ICCAT Secretariat at the 2025 SCRS Plenary, reviews the Commission's *Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data* in light of evolving reporting obligations and current operational practices. It delineates confidentiality classes, minimum aggregation/anonymization needs, and dissemination pathways across ICCAT datasets (Tasks 1-3, conventional/electronic tagging, etc.), and frames the analysis against the ICCAT Basic Texts - particularly Articles IV and IX on the Commission's role in collecting, publishing, and disseminating scientific information.

The paper identifies priority gaps affecting transparency, timeliness, and reproducibility. Among them: the absence of an explicit confidentiality class for size-related Task 2 datasets (T2SZ/T2CS); a lack of classification as well for Task 3 (ST07–ST10); and the absence of minimum aggregation/anonymization standards for datasets. It also examines the interpretation of paragraph 2 of the Rules, warning that a strict "CPC authorization" reading may be in tension with Articles IV and IX of the Basic Texts, and notes ambiguities regarding data exchanges with non-RFMO entities.

Operationally, the paper proposes moving towards an audience-based disclosure model layered onto dataset-specific confidentiality classes, specifying for each dataset who may receive it, in what form (raw, aggregated, derived, summary), at what minimum aggregation/anonymization levels, and under what conditions (e.g. DUAs, embargoes). An illustrative *Dataset × Audience* matrix is provided as a practical tool to calibrate disclosures and aggregations consistently across CPCs and years.

As next steps, the paper recommends that the SCRS establish an ad hoc group to lead the revision; clarify the status of T2SZ/T2CS; define categories and standards for Task 3 datasets; propose uniform minimum aggregation/anonymization thresholds; specify modalities for exchanges with non-RFMOs; revisit the alignment of paragraph 2 with the Basic Texts; and institute a regular review cycle (e.g., every four years) to keep the framework aligned with new data types and reporting needs.

During the presentation, the Group discussed how to proceed during the interim period while the Rules and Procedures are being revised: specifically, whether datasets for which there is uncertainty about their classification/attribution should be treated provisionally as confidential, while maintaining the status quo for those with clear dissemination practices. Operationally, it was agreed that requests would be handled on a case-by-case basis under the current framework, balancing continuity of scientific work with appropriate information protection.

11. Recommendations (with special emphasis on those with financial implications)

11.1 Progress with prior year Recommendations endorsed by the Subcommittee

- The Subcommittee recommends that the Secretariat in coordination with the Species Groups prepare a draft proposal for a workplan to guide the development of the Task 3 Biological database that will be presented at the next meeting of the Subcommittee. **(Status: ONGOING)**
- The Subcommittee recommends continuing the development of the ICCAT Integrated Online Management System (IOMS) and the work of the Online Reporting Technology Working Group (WG-ORT) and requests the Commission's full support for this effort. **(Status: ONGOING)**
- The Subcommittee also noted that according to ICCAT data catalogue, several CPCs have not reported statistical data for Atlantic recreational fisheries, despite the allocated financial resources made by the Commission to African western CPCs. The Subcommittee recommends

investigating the difficulties and needs encountered by CPCs involved, aiming to improve the data collection and reporting. **(Status: ONGOING Slight improvements made by research programmes like SMTYP)**

- The Secretariat should continue its work on the data recovery and the inventory process of tagging data for small tuna species. This process will require active participation of the national scientists that hold such data. **(Status: ONGOING)**
- The Subcommittee recommends that it is important for CPCs to also report data on discards-at-size for swordfish, in T2 data. This information is needed to address ICCAT Rec. 19-04, para 3: "In the development of the operating models, the Commission would like the SCRS to allow for the evaluation of minimum size limits as strategies to achieve management objectives". **(Status: ONGOING)**
- Considering the implications for stock assessment and the MSE process, the Subcommittee recommends that CPCs statistical correspondents should inform the Secretariat and Swordfish Species Group about the methodology used for collecting swordfish length and if it changed over time (curved or straight LJFL). The Secretariat will confirm with the statistical correspondents on the types of measurements submitted for swordfish. **(Status: near COMPLETION)**
- The Subcommittee recommends that CPCs abide by the reporting obligation to report size samples collected by scientific observers using the ST04 form. **(Status: ONGOING)**
- The Subcommittee recommends that the Secretariat requests that CPCs identified as having reported T2CE datasets with incomplete information on effort (catches without effort), report revisions to ICCAT with the missing effort included and whenever possible the catches of the three major shark species (POR, BSH, SMA). The Secretariat should estimate the fractions of the total longline catches that do not have sufficient effort information in T2CE and estimate the impact of those datasets on the estimations of EFFDIS. These analyses completed with the gaps identified on the SCRS species catalogues should be presented at next meeting of the Subcommittee on Ecosystems. **(Status: ONGOING)**
- To complete catch data series, the Subcommittee recommends that ICCAT develop a process to obtain catch statistics information from countries that are not currently part of ICCAT. It recommends that the acquisition of these data (through collaboration with FAO, other regional fisheries bodies, and CPCs) be elevated and addressed by the Commission itself. **(Status: ONGOING)**
- The Subcommittee recommends that CPCs recover historical catch and effort data and apply the proper units of effort (i.e. number of hooks) and provide information on the type of longline gear deployed (i.e. American style or mesopelagic). **(Status: ONGOING)**
- The Subcommittee once again recommends that the Species Groups provide the Secretariat with the range of lengths and weights that are considered biologically acceptable for each species. **(Status: PENDING)**
- Noting that the catches of billfish species are scarce and largely under-reported in the Mediterranean Sea and taking into account that several CPCs had already implemented domestic observer programmes in BFT and SWO fisheries, the Subcommittee recommends the ICCAT CPCs with ICCAT fisheries in that area to duly provide their billfish catches (landings, dead discards and alive releases) for all species, including target, co-target and bycatch species. **(Status: ONGOING)**
- Statistical Correspondent and/or national scientists should revise, update, complete and submit their small tuna T1NC series to the Secretariat. This revision should consider PLE-SCRS_07 Appendix 1 (SCRS catalogues), the split of "unclassified" gear catches to specific gear codes, and

the completeness of Task 1 gaps identified. The Statistical Correspondent and/or National scientists of CPCs should correct inconsistencies identified in Task 2 datasets (T2CE: catch & effort; T2SZ: size samples). In addition, for the 13 species of small tuna, the T2SZ revision should follow the SCRS recommendation on the T2SZ stratification (month, gear, 1°x1° geographical squares for surface gears/up to 5°x5° squares for longlines, SFL size classes of 1 cm in lower limits). CPCs should further improve their estimates of total catches, as there are still important gaps in the basic data available. These data are required inputs for most of the data-limited stock assessment methods. **(Status: ONGOING)**

- The Subcommittee continues to note that there is a general lack of discard data reported by most CPCs, including dead discards and live releases. The Subcommittee reminds CPCs that the reporting of discards is required and is essential for assessing the stocks status. Such information is required to be provided by CPCs well in advance of the next stock assessment. The Subcommittee also strongly recommends that both dead and live discards be estimated by each CPC and reported to ICCAT, backwards in time as much as possible. **(Status: ONGOING)**

11.2 Review of Recommendations from 2025 intersessional meetings

The Subcommittee reviewed the recommendations for statistics from the 2025 intersessional meetings. The following recommendations were endorsed by the Subcommittee:

Billfish

- While the Group acknowledged the improvement in BIL statistics, it recognized that significant gaps still exist. Therefore, the Group reiterates once again the need for CPCs to report the required data (landings, dead discards, live discards) and make efforts to improve historical statistics.

Tropicals

- The Group recommends that CPCs reviewed their Task 2 Catch-and-Effort (T2CE) to identify data gaps and to ensure that historical data are reported using the proper spatial and temporal stratification.
- The Group noted that some of the available size frequency data are not fully representative of the dynamics of the ICCAT fleets and fisheries and that this could bias the results of the stock assessment.
- The Group recommends that the Secretariat propose an update colour-coded schema for the SCRS Catalogue Tables at the next meeting of the Subcommittee on Statistics given that submission of T2CS data is no longer mandatory.

Albacore

- The Committee reiterates its recommendation that an ad hoc group focus on the Mediterranean albacore fisheries statistics with the objective of having an overall and comprehensive review of the historical catch Task 1 and catch and effort Task 2 CE series. It should focus on historical catches associated with gears like purse seines, gillnets, etc., and consider catches that may have not been reported historically before monitoring programmes were in place. This ad hoc group will report to the Albacore Species Group on research projects, progress, and general recommendations on the historical series for the next assessment(s) of Mediterranean albacore, including potential alternative catch scenarios to be considered in future assessments or MSE efforts.

Sharks

- To include in the Appendices (section A4.4 – Conversion factors) of the [ICCAT Manual](#) and on the ICCAT webpage the length-length and length-weight equations for shortfin mako in the southwestern Atlantic presented in document SCRS/2025/045 by Albornoz *et al.* (2025).

As previously discussed by the Sharks Species Group, it was noted the importance of improving shark statistics in the Mediterranean Sea. During the 2023 blue shark stock assessment ([Anon., 2023](#)) and during this meeting, it was noted that it is not possible to conduct a traditional stock assessment with

the current available information. Therefore, the Group recommended establishing this issue as a priority and start working in a strategy to work with the CPCs operating in the Mediterranean Sea.

- The Group recommended trying to update the data for the 2026 assessment completion, making the terminal year for the updated model to be 2024.

Bluefin tuna

- The Committee notes that its determinations of stock status, exceptional circumstances and TAC advice require accurate estimates of the biomass of fish destined for farms at the time they are captured from the wild. Measuring fish as close as possible to capture eliminates back calculation of growth in farms, simplifying the process of monitoring and compliance for all involved parties. Recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI) now make this possible. To achieve this objective the Committee recommends:

100% of the original, unedited, stereo video footage be provided to a secure electronic server hosted by the Secretariat. This server would use validated AI algorithms to obtain independent and objective size estimates, available to each farm in near-real time.

Stereo-video measurements to be made at the time of transfer from the purse seine to the transport cage or, if at-sea conditions make this impractical, when transferred into the farm. These measurements would be provided to the server as soon as possible.

Small tunas

The Group reiterated its concerns regarding the persistent data gaps in the ICCAT fisheries statistics database for small tuna. Particularly, the Group expressed concerns that small tuna catches, although having a very high social importance as a source of protein for coastal communities, are systematically under reported to ICCAT. This fact is due to many reasons that makes their monitoring very challenging, including: the artisanal nature of many fisheries; the wide geographical dispersion and remoteness of landing sites; the limited coverage or absence of national monitoring programmes, which frequently prioritize species of higher commercial value; the lack of technical expertise in species identification and sampling protocols; and insufficient ICCAT funding available to assist developing countries in strengthening their monitoring systems. Considering these challenges, the Group recommended:

- Scheduling a dedicated discussion to explore strategies for addressing this issue, with the goal of developing a long-term plan to improve small tuna fisheries data collection in the Mediterranean, particularly along the northern African coast and in eastern Atlantic region.
- SCRS scientists proceed with data recovery/data-mining activities and present the results as SCRS documents to the Small Tunas Species Group and the Subcommittee on Statistics, aiming to improve the planned activities related to the upcoming stock assessments.

SC-STATS

- The Committee recommended continuing supporting Phase II of the ICCAT Regional Caribbean Data Collection Project.
- Considering the need for further developments (following the feedback provided by CPCs and the SCRS), as well as the necessity to deploy the new public data dissemination applications on a dedicated cloud infrastructure, the Committee recommended that additional funds are set aside specifically for these purposes.
- Holding a 3-day intersessional online meeting in 2026 (last week of February?). Regarding the possibility of repeating this meeting bi-annually, the Subcommittee on Statistics agrees to hold this initial meeting and evaluate its usefulness.
- For the Secretariat to work together with an ad hoc group to modify form ST09 to include the minimum feasible subset of additional information requested by Rec. 22-12, and to determine how to deal with potential discontinuities caused by changing the structure of form ST09. The result of the work of the

ad hoc group will be presented at the 2026 Meetings of the Subcommittee on Ecosystems and Bycatch and Subcommittee on Statistics.

- The Committee recommends that scientists of all CPCs interested in participating in the ad hoc group to modify the ST09 form to address the data requirement Rec. 22-12 to contact the Secretariat before the end of 2025.
- Establish an ad hoc working group to standardize the T1NC tables included in the Executive Summaries.
- Establish an ad hoc working group to review and update the ICCAT Rules and Procedures on data protection, access, and dissemination, and to propose text amendments and an implementation timeline.
- Establish an ad hoc working group to define a standardized procedure for addressing reporting gaps via estimates (“carryovers”) and to produce guidance for Species Groups/Executive Summaries.
- Establish a small ad hoc working group to refine the Secretariat’s CSV flat-file proposal for ST04 (Size Samples), inviting Flag CPCs currently using specially agreed formats to participate, and to consider defining analogous flat-file specifications for ST05 (Catch-at-Size) and ST03 (Catch and Effort).
- The Committee recommends that the L-W relationship for the Cantabrian Sea during June-August (SCRS/2025/179) be used to monitor quota consumption during farming activities in the Cantabrian Sea, and that it be added to the ICCAT list of L-W equations for farms.
- Following the BFT SG recommendation, the Subcommittee recommends that the BFT WG will review the conversion factors of GGWT to RWT during the intersessional meeting thoroughly and make specific recommendation on their validity and update if needed. Then in 2026, the Subcommittee on Statistics will be in a better position to take a decision. [In the meantime, according to document SCRS/2025/171 and for avoiding problems with the factors currently provided, it is recommended that the webpage update the text on the conversion factor to indicate the most recent one (RWT = $\beta \cdot \text{GGWT}$ RWT kg GGWT kg 1,16 ICCAT , 1997, indicating the correct geographic coverage of the Atlantic and Mediterranean.)]

12. Other matters

Document SCRS/2025/160 presented a revision and update of the catches of the Venezuelan large scale artisanal fleet (VAOS fleet) targeting ICCAT species using pelagic longline in the Caribbean Sea and West-Central Atlantic Ocean. The associated information was sent to ICCAT and adopted by the various species groups.

No other matters were discussed in this section.

13. Adoption of the Report

It was agreed that the report of the meeting would be adopted during the SCRS Plenary meeting.

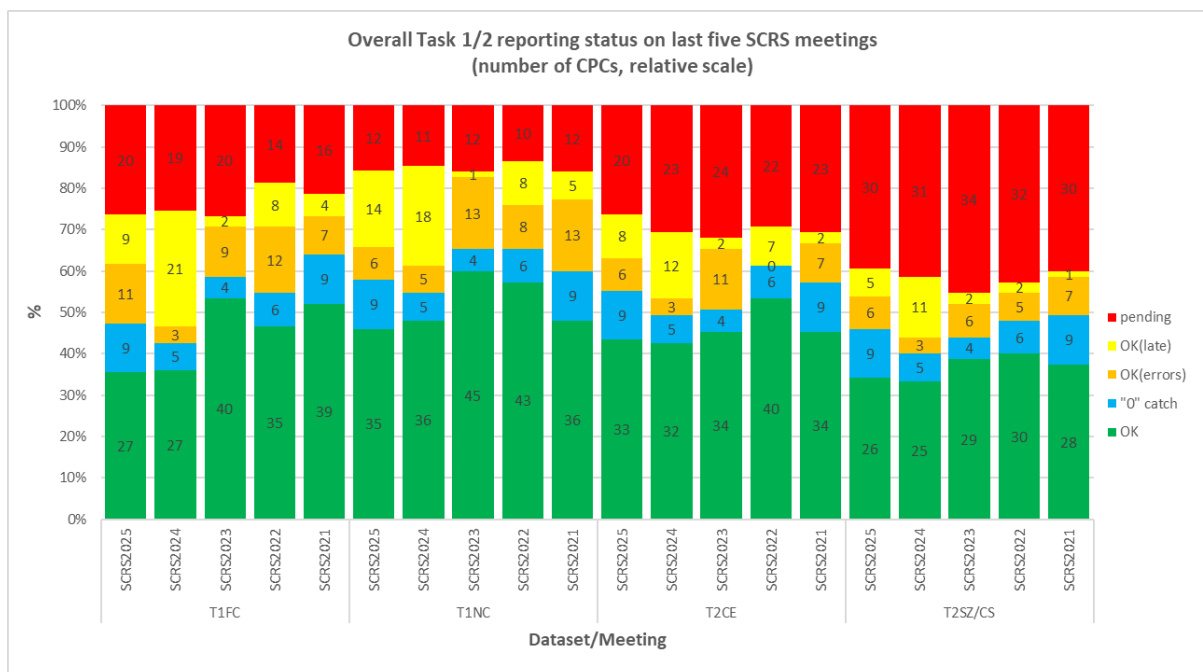


Figure 1. Overall evolution of the Task 1 (T1FC, T1NC) and Task 2 (T2CE, T2SZ/CS) reporting status (source: SCRS Report Cards) over the last five SCRS annual meetings (2021 to 2025), covering the provisions of Task 1 and Task 2 datasets for each terminal year, by default the previous year of the meeting (e.g., 2020 data in 2021 meeting, ..., 2024 data in 2025 meeting).

Agenda

1. Opening, adoption of agenda and meeting arrangements
2. Summary of fisheries and biological data submitted during 2025 (Tasks 1, 2 and 3), including historical revisions
3. Summary of ICCAT Secretariat's standard (yearly based) datasets estimations
4. Review of data deficiencies and ongoing data recovery plans pursuant to *Recommendation by ICCAT on compliance with statistical reporting obligations (Rec. 05-09)*
5. Review of ICCAT data collection forms and templates (statistics and tagging)
 - 5.1 Forms and templates
 - 5.2 ICCAT coding system
6. Brief overview of ICCAT Integrated Online Management System (IOMS) work
7. Ongoing Pilot project to test the use of stereoscopic cameras on BFT first transfer and the automation of video footage analysis
8. Responses to the Commission
9. Workplan for 2026
10. Review and update of the *Rules and Procedures for the protection, access to, and dissemination of data compiled by ICCAT*
11. Recommendations (with special emphasis on those with financial implications)
12. Other matters
13. Adoption of the Report

List of participants

CONTRACTING PARTIES**ALGERIA****Mennad**, Moussa

Ministère de la Pêche et des Ressources Halieutiques, Centre National de Recherche et de Développement de la Pêche et de l'Aquaculture (CNRDPA), 11 Boulevard Colonel Amirouche, 42415 Tipaza

Tel: +213 673 745 141, Fax: +213 243 26410, E-Mail: mennad.moussa@gmail.com

ANGOLA**Dos Santos Gourgel**, Ana Patricia

Head of Fisheries Data Management Department, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources of Angola, Complexo Administrativo, Clássico de Técnica, Rua do Mat 5 Edificio, 3 andar, Luanda

Tel: +244 916 633 799, E-Mail: patcristal2@gmail.com

Nunes, Marlene Manuel

Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources of Angola, Complexo Administrativo, Clássico de Técnica, Rua do Mat 5 Edificio, 3 andar, Luanda

Tel: +244 924 89 32 66, E-Mail: nunesmarlene913@gmail.com

BRAZIL**Comassetto**, Lucas Eduardo

UFRP/ Departamento de Pesca e aquicultura, Rua Dom Manuel de Medeiros, s/n - Dois Irmãos, 52171-900 Recife - Pernambuco

Tel: +55 95 98410 0919, E-Mail: lucas.comassetto@ifrr.edu.br

Leite Mourato, Bruno

Profesor Adjunto, Laboratório de Ciências da Pesca - LabPesca Instituto do Mar - IMar, Universidade Federal de São Paulo - UNIFESP, Rua Carvalho de Mendonça, 144, Encruzilhada, 11070-100 Santos, São Paulo

Tel: +55 1196 765 2711, Fax: +55 11 3714 6273, E-Mail: bruno.mourato@unifesp.br; bruno.pesca@gmail.com; mourato.br@gmail.com

Sant'Ana, Rodrigo

Researcher, Laboratório de Estudos Marinhos Aplicados - LEMA Escola Politécnica - EP, Universidade do Vale do Itajaí - UNIVALI, Rua Uruquai, 458 - Bloco E2, Sala 108 - Centro, CEP 88302-901 Itajaí, Santa Catarina

Tel: +55 (47) 99627 1868, E-Mail: rsantana@univali.br

Travassos, Paulo

Fisheries Manager, Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco - UFRPE, Laboratorio de Ecologia Marinha - LEMAR, Departamento de Pesca e Aquicultura - DEPAq, Avenida Dom Manuel de Medeiros s/n - Dois Irmãos, CEP 52171-900 Recife, Pernambuco

Tel: +55 81 998 344 271, E-Mail: pautrax@hotmail.com; paulo.travassos@ufrpe.br

CANADA**Duprey**, Nicholas

Senior Science Advisor, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 200-401 Burrard Street, Vancouver, BC V6C 3R2

Tel: +1 604 499 0469, E-Mail: nicholas.duprey@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Gillespie, Kyle

Aquatic Science Biologist, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 125 Marine Science Drive, St. Andrews, NB, E5B 0E4

Tel: +1 506 529 5725, E-Mail: kyle.gillespie@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Hanke, Alexander

Research Scientist, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 531 Brandy Cove Road, St. Andrews, NB E5B 2L9

Tel: +1 506 529 5912, E-Mail: alex.hanke@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Melvin, Gary

285 Water Street, St. Andrews, New Brunswick E5B 1B8

Tel: +1 506 651 6020, E-Mail: gary.d.melvin@gmail.com

CHINA, (P.R.)

Cheng, Xin

Shanghai Ocean University, 999 Hucheng Huan Rd, 201306 Shanghai
Tel: +86 199 170 81606, E-Mail: cx_shhy@163.com

Dong, Sisong

Shanghai Ocean University, 999 Huchenghuan Road, Pudong, Shanghai, 201306, No. 999 Huchenghuan Road, Pudong, 201306 Shanghai
Tel: +86 138 191 99187, E-Mail: dongsisong@126.com

Jiang, Mingfeng

College of Marine Living Resource Sciences and Management. Shanghai Ocean University, 999 Hucheng Huan Road, 201306 Shanghai
Tel: +86 156 767 66515, E-Mail: jmf822221@163.com

Zhang, Fan

Professor, Shanghai Ocean University, 999 Hucheng Huan Rd, 201306 Shanghai, REPÚBLICA POPULAR CHINA
Tel: +86 131 220 70231, E-Mail: f-zhang@shou.edu.cn

COSTA RICA

Pacheco Chaves, Bernald

Instituto Costarricense de Pesca y Acuicultura, INCOPECA, Departamento de Investigación, Cantón de Montes de Oro, Puntarenas, 333-5400
Tel: +506 899 22693, E-Mail: bpacheco@incopeca.go.cr; bernald.pacheco@gmail.com

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

Diaha, N'Guessan Constance

Chercheur Hydrobiologiste, Laboratoire de biologie des poissons du Département des Ressources Aquatiques Vivantes (DRAV) du Centre de Recherches Océanologiques (CRO), 29, Rue des Pêcheurs - B.P. V-18, Abidjan 01
Tel: +225 21 35 50 14; +225 21 35 58 80, E-Mail: diahaconstance@yahoo.fr; diahaconstance70@gmail.com; constance.diaha@cro-ci.org

EGYPT

Sayed Farrag, Mahmoud Mahrous

Associate Professor of Marine Biology, Zoology Department, Faculty of Science, Al-Azhar University, Assiut, 71511
Tel: +20 100 725 3531, Fax: +20 882 148 093, E-Mail: m_mahrousfarrag@yahoo.com

EUROPEAN UNION

Alzorriz, Nekane

ANABAC, Txibitxiaga 24 entreplanta, 48370 Bermeo, Bizkaia, Spain
Tel: +34 94 688 2806; +34 650 567 541, E-Mail: nekane@anabac.org

Arrizabalaga, Haritz

Principal Investigator, AZTI Marine Research Basque Research and Technology Alliance (BRTA), Herrera Kaia Portualde z/g, 20110 Pasaia, Gipuzkoa, Spain
Tel: +34 94 657 40 00; +34 667 174 477, Fax: +34 94 300 48 01, E-Mail: harri@azti.es

Báez Barrionuevo, José Carlos

Instituto Español de Oceanografía, Centro Oceanográfico de Málaga, Puerto Pesquero de Fuengirola s/n, 29640, Spain
Tel: +34 669 498 227, E-Mail: josecarlos.baez@ieo.csic.es

Champagnat, Juliette

IFREMER, Station Ifremer, avenue Jean Monnet, CS 30171, 34023 Sète, France
Tel: +33 499 573 235, E-Mail: juliette.champagnat@ifremer.fr

Coelho, Rui

Researcher, Portuguese Institute for the Ocean and Atmosphere, I.P. (IPMA), Avenida 5 de Outubro, s/n, 8700-305 Olhão, Portugal
Tel: +351 289 700 508, E-Mail: rpcoelho@ipma.pt

Di Natale, Antonio

Director, Aquastudio Research Institute, Via Trapani 6, 98121 Messina, Italy
Tel: +39 336 333 366, E-Mail: adinatale@costaeditainment.com; adinatale@acquariodigenova.it

Fernández Costa, Jose Ramón

Instituto Español de Oceanografía, Ministerio de Ciencia e Innovación - CSIC, Centro Costero de A Coruña, Paseo Marítimo Alcalde Francisco Vázquez, 10 - P.O. Box 130, 15001 A Coruña, Spain
Tel: +34 981 218 151, Fax: +34 981 229 077, E-Mail: jose.costa@ieo.csic.es

Floch, Laurent

Database Administrator, IRD, UMR, 248 MARBEC, Avenue Jean Monnet, CS 30171, 34203 Sète Cedex, France
Tel: +33 4 9957 3220; +33 631 805 794, Fax: +33 4 9957 32 95, E-Mail: laurent.floch@ird.fr

Jonusas, Stanislovas

Unit C3: Scientific Advice and Data Collection DG MARE - Fisheries Policy Atlantic, North Sea, Baltic and Outermost Regions European Commission, J-99 02/38 Rue Joseph II, 99, 1049 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +3222 980 155, E-Mail: Stanislovas.Jonusas@ec.europa.eu

Lino, Pedro Gil

Research Assistant, Instituto Português do Mar e da Atmosfera - I.P./IPMA, Avenida 5 Outubro s/n, 8700-305 Olhão, Faro, Portugal
Tel: +351 289 700508, E-Mail: plino@ipma.pt

Maxwell, Hugo

Sci/Technical Officer, Marine Institute, Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services, Newport, County Mayo, F28PF65, Ireland
Tel: +353 877 621 337, E-Mail: hugo.maxwell@marine.ie

Merino, Gorka

AZTI - Tecnalia /Itsas Ikerketa Saila, Herrera Kaia Portualdea z/g, 20100 Pasaia - Gipuzkoa, Spain
Tel: +34 94 657 4000; +34 664 793 401, Fax: +34 94 300 4801, E-Mail: gmerino@azti.es

Pascual Alayón, Pedro José

Investigador, Ministerio de Ciencia, Innovación y Universidades, Instituto Español de Oceanografía, C.O. de Canarias, Vía Espaldón, Dársena Pesquera, Parcela 8, 38180 Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Islas Canarias, Spain
Tel: +34 922 549 400; +34 686 219 114, Fax: +34 922 549 500, E-Mail: pedro.pascual@ieo.csic.es

Patrocínio Ibarrola, Teodoro

Instituto Español de Oceanografía-CSIC, 15001 A Coruña, Spain
Tel: +34 981 218 151, E-Mail: teo.ibarrola@ieo.csic.es

Poisson, François

IFREMER - Centre de Recherche Halieutique, UMR MARBEC (Marine Biodiversity Exploitation and Conservation), Avenue Jean Monnet, CS 30171, 34203 Sète, France
Tel: +33 499 57 32 45; +33 679 05 73 83, E-Mail: francois.poisson@ifremer.fr

Quelle Eijo, Pablo

Titulado Superior de Actividades Técnicas y Profesionales, Centro Oceanográfico de Santander (COST-IEO). Centro Nacional Instituto Español de Oceanografía (CN-IEO). Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC), C/ Severiano Ballesteros 16, 39004 Santander, Cantabria, Spain
Tel: +34 942 291 716, Fax: +34 942 275 072, E-Mail: pablo.quelle@ieo.csic.es

Ramos Alonso, M^a Lourdes

Instituto Español de Oceanografía (IEO), Centro Oceanográfico de Canarias, C/ Farola del Mar, 22 Dársena pesquera, 38180 Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain
Tel: +34 922 549400, Fax: +34 922 549 400, E-Mail: mlourdes.ramos@ieo.csic.es

Ramos Cartelle, Ana

Ministerio de Economía y Competitividad, Instituto Español de Oceanografía, C.O. De A Coruña, Paseo Marítimo Alcalde Francisco Vázquez, 10 - P.O. Box 130, 15001 A Coruña, Spain
Tel: +34 981 205 362; +34 981 218151, Fax: +34 981 229077, E-Mail: ana.cartelle@ieo.csic.es

Rouyer, Tristan

Ifremer - Dept Recherche Halieutique, B.P. 171 - Bd. Jean Monnet, 34200 Sète, Languedoc Roussillon, France
Tel: +33 782 995 237, E-Mail: tristan.rouyer@ifremer.fr

Rueda Ramírez, Lucía

Instituto Español de Oceanografía IEO CSIC. C.O. de Malaga, Explanada de San Andres Muelle 9, Puerto de Malaga, 29002 Málaga, Spain
Tel: +34 952 197 124, E-Mail: lucia.rueda@ieo.csic.es

Ruiz Gondra, Jon

AZTI-Tecnalía, Txatxarramendi z/g, 48395 Sukarrieta (Bizkaia), Spain
Tel: +34 94 6574000; +34 667 174 375, Fax: +34 94 6572555, E-Mail: jruiz@azti.es

Talijancic, Igor

Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries Split, Setaliste Ivana Mestrovica 63, 21000 Dalmatia, Croatia
Tel: +385 214 08047; +385 992 159 26, E-Mail: talijan@izor.hr

Thasitis, Ioannis

Fisheries and Marine Research Officer, Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment, Department of Fisheries and Marine Research, 101 Vithleem Street, 1416 Nicosia, Cyprus
Tel: +35722807840, Fax: +35722 775 955, E-Mail: ithasitis@dfmr.moa.gov.cy; ithasitis@dfmr.moa.gov.cy

Zuvic, Luka

Institute of Oceanography and Fisheries, Setaliste Ivana Mestrovica 63, 21000 Split, Croatia
Tel: +385 214 08000, Fax: +385 213 58650, E-Mail: zuvic@izor.hr

GABON**Angueko, Davy**

Chargé d'Etudes du Directeur Général des Pêches, Direction Générale des Pêche et de l'Aquaculture, BP 9498, Libreville Estuaire
Tel: +241 6653 4886, E-Mail: davyangueko83@gmail.com; davyangueko@yahoo.fr; dgpechegabon@netcourrier.com

THE GAMBIA**Jallow, Momodou S.**

Head of Fisheries Research and Development, Ministry of Fisheries, Water Resources and National Assembly Matters, Fisheries Department, 6 Marina Parade, Banjul
Tel: +220 791 0892, E-Mail: ms.underhil@gmail.com

GHANA**Dovlo, Emmanuel Kwame**

Director, Fisheries Scientific Survey Division, Fisheries Commission, P.O. Box GP 630, Accra, Tema
Tel: +233 243 368 091, E-Mail: emmanuel.dovlo@fishcom.gov.gh

GUATEMALA**Chavarría Valverde, Bernal Alberto**

Asesor en Gestión y Política pesquera Internacional, DIPESCA, Bárcena
Tel: +506 882 24709, Fax: +506 2232 4651, E-Mail: bchavarria@lsg-cr.com

GUINEA (REP.)**Soumah, Mohamed**

Responsable de Système d'Information Halieutique, Chef de Service Informatique du Centre National des Sciences Halieutiques de Boussoura (CNSHB), 814, Rue MA 500, Corniche Sud Madina, Boussoura, BP: 3738 Conakry
Tel: +224 622 01 70 85, E-Mail: soumahmohamed2009@gmail.com

JAPAN**Fukugama, Chika**

Assistant Director, International Affairs Division, Fisheries Agency of Japan, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 1-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8907
Tel: +81 3 3502 8460, E-Mail: chika_fukugama740@maff.go.jp

Ijima, Hirotaka

Scientist, Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fisheries Stock Assessment Center, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, 2-12-4 Fukuura, Kanazawa, Kanagawa Yokohama 236-8648
Tel: +81 45 788 7925, E-Mail: ijima_hirotaka69@fra.go.jp

Kiyofuji, Hidetada

Director, Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fisheries Stock Assessment Center, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, 2-12-4 Fukuura Kanazawa, Yokohama 236-8648
Tel: +81-45-788-7517, E-Mail: kiyofuji_hidetada20@fra.go.jp

Nakatsuka, Shuya

Deputy Director, Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fisheries Resources Institute, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, 2-12-4, Fukuura, Kanazawa Kanagawa, 236-8648
Tel: +81 45 788 7950, E-Mail: nakatsuka_shuya49@fra.go.jp

Ochi, Daisuke

Chief Scientist, Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fisheries Stock Assessment Center, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, 2-12-4 Fukuura, Kanazawa, Yokohama 236-8648
Tel: +81 45 788 7930, Fax: +81 45 788 7101, E-Mail: ochi_daisuke36@fra.go.jp

Semba (Murakami), Yasuko

Senior Scientist, Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fisheries Stock Assessment Center, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, 2-12-4, Fukuura, Kanazawa ward, Yokohama, Kanagawa 2368648
Tel: +81 45 788 7952, Fax: +81 45 788 5001, E-Mail: yasukosemba@gmail.com; semba_yasuko25@fra.go.jp

Tsuji, Sachiko

Technical Advisor, Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fisheries Stock Assessment Center, Fisheries Resources Institute, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, 2-12-4 Fukuura, Kanazawa-ku, Yokohama, Kanagawa 236-8648
Tel: +81 45 788 7931, Fax: +81 45 788 5004, E-Mail: sachiko27tsuji@gmail.com; tsuji_sachiko30@fra.go.jp

Tsukahara, Yohei

Senior Scientist, Highly Migratory Resources Division, Fisheries Stock Assessment Center, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, 2-12-4, Fukuura, Kanagawa, Yokohama, Shizuoka Shimizu-ku 236-8648
Tel: +81 45 788 7937, Fax: +81 54 335 9642, E-Mail: tsukahara_yohei35@fra.go.jp

Uozumi, Yuji

Advisor, Japan Tuna Fisheries Co-operation Association, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency, Tokyo Koutou ku Eitai 135-0034

MAURITANIA

Braham, Cheikh Baye

Halieute, Géo-Statisticien, Modélisateur; Chef du Service Statistique, Institut Mauritanien de Recherches Océanographiques et des Pêches (IMROP), BP 22 Nouadhibou
Tel: +222 2242 1038, E-Mail: baye.braham@gmail.com; baye_braham@yahoo.fr

MEXICO

Ramírez López, Karina

Instituto Mexicano de Pesca y Acuicultura Sustentables (IMIPAS), Centro Regional de Investigación Acuícola y Pesquera - Veracruz, Av. Ejército Mexicano No.106 - Colonia Exhacienda, Ylang Ylang, C.P. 94298 Boca de Río, Veracruz
Tel: +52 5538719500, Ext. 55756, E-Mail: karina.ramirez@imipas.gob.mx; kramirez_inp@yahoo.com

MOROCCO

Abid, Nouredine

Chercheur et ingénieur halieute au Centre Régional de recherche Halieutique de Tanger, Responsable du programme de suivi et d'étude des ressources des grands pélagiques, Centre régional de l'INRH à Tanger/M'dig, B.P. 5268, 90000 Drabed, Tanger
Tel: +212 53932 5134; +212 663 708 819, Fax: +212 53932 5139, E-Mail: nabid@inrh.ma

Baibbat, Sid Ahmed

Chef de Laboratoire des Pêches, Centre régional de l'INRH à Laayoune, Institut National de Recherches Halieutiques (INRH), 2, BD Sidi Abderrahmane, ain diab., 20100 Dakhla
Tel: +212 661 642 573, E-Mail: baibbat@inrh.ma; baibat@hotmail.com

Benziane, Meriem

Chef de laboratoire, Intitulé de poste Ingénieur halieute, Centre régional de INRH, LP-par intérim, Km 9 sur route, Tanger Méditerranée Cap Malabata
Tel: +212 672 333 266, E-Mail: benziane@inrh.ma

El Joumani, El Mahdi

Ingénieur Halieute, Institut National de Recherche Halieutique "INRH", Laboratoire de pêche au Centre Régional de l'INRH-Laayoune, Avenue Charif Erradi N 168 Hay el Ouahda 01, Laayoune
Tel: +212 661 114 418, E-Mail: eljoumani@inrh.ma; Eljoumani.mehdi@gmail.com

Ikkiss, Abdelillah

Chercheur, Centre régional de l'Institut national de Recherche Halieutique à Dakhla, Km 7, route de Boujdor, BP 127 bis(civ), Hay El Hassani No 1101, 73000 Dakhla
Tel: +212 662 276 541, E-Mail: ikkiss@inrh.ma; ikkiss.abdel@gmail.com

Layachi, Mostafa

Centre Régional de l'INRH, Boulevard Zerktouni. BP 493, 62000 Nador
Tel: +212 661 662 672, E-Mail: layachi@inrh.ma; mostafalayachi12@gmail.com

Serghini, Mansour

Institut national de recherche halieutique, Route Sidi Abderrahmane Club équestre Ould Jmel, 20000 Casablanca
Tel: +212 660 542 229, E-Mail: serghini@inrh.ma; serghini2002@yahoo.com; serghinimansour@gmail.com

PANAMA

Herrera Armas, Miguel Ángel

Deputy Manager (Science), OPAGAC, C/ Ayala 54, 2º A, 28001 Madrid, Spain
Tel: +34 91 431 48 57; +34 664 234 886, Fax: +34 91 576 12 22, E-Mail: miguel.herrera@opagac.org

Pino, Yesuri

Jefa encargada del Departamento de Evaluación de Recursos Acuáticos, Ministerio de Desarrollo Agropecuario, Autoridad de los Recursos Acuáticos de Panamá, Evaluación de los Recursos Acuáticos, Edificio Riviera, Ave. Justo Arosemena, Calle 45 Bella Vista, 05850
Tel: +507 511 6036, E-Mail: yesuri.pino@arap.gob.pa

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Kolomeiko, Fedor

Head of Department, Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO), Atlantic branch of VNIRO (AtlantNIRO), Regional Data Center Department, 5, Dmitriya Donskoy Str., 236022 Kaliningrad
Tel: +7 4012 21 56 45, Fax: +7 4012 21 99 97, E-Mail: kolomeyko@atlant.vniro.ru; atlantniro@vniro.ru

Nesterov, Alexander

Chief Researcher, Russian Federal Research Institute of Fisheries and Oceanography (VNIRO), Atlantic branch of VNIRO (AtlantNIRO), Laboratory ecology and assessment of stocks commercial populations, 5, Dmitriya Donskoy Str., 236022 Kaliningrad
Tel: +7 4012 925 389, Fax: +7 4012 219 997, E-Mail: nesterov@atlant.vniro.ru; atlantniro@vniro.ru

SÃO TOMÉ E PRÍNCIPE

Da Conceição, Ilair

Director das Pescas, Ministério da Agricultura, Desenvolvimento Rural e Pescas, Bairro 3 de Fevereiro - PB 59, Sao Tomé
Tel: +239 990 9315, Fax: +239 12 22 414, E-Mail: ilair1984@gmail.com

SENEGAL

Sow, Fambaye Ngom

Chercheur Biologiste des Pêches, Centre de Recherches Océanographiques de Dakar Thiaroye, CRODT/ISRA, LNERV - Route du Front de Terre - BP 2241, Dakar
Tel: +221 3 0108 1104; +221 77 502 67 79, Fax: +221 33 832 8262, E-Mail: ngomfambaye2015@gmail.com; famngom@yahoo.com

SIERRA LEONE

Mansaray, Mamoud

Principal Fisheries Officer, Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources (MFMR), 7th Floor Youyi Building, Freetown
Tel: +232 762 55590, E-Mail: mansaraymamoud85@gmail.com

SOUTH AFRICA

West, Wendy

Large Pelagics Researcher, Fisheries Research and Development, Inshore Research, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Foretrust Building, 9 Martin Hammerschlag Way, Foreshore, 8000 Cape Town
Tel: +27 21 4023120, E-Mail: WMWest@dffe.gov.za

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

Connell, Shamal

Fisheries Officer, Fisheries Division, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour, Government of St Vincent and the Grenadines, VC0100 Kingstown St Vincent and The Grenadines

TUNISIA

Hajjej, Ghailen

Maître Assistant de l'Enseignement Supérieur Agricole, Laboratoire des Sciences Halieutiques, Institut National des Sciences et Technologies de la Mer (INSTM), Port de pêche, 6000 Gabès

Tel: +216 75 220 254; +216 972 77457, Fax: +216 75 220 254, E-Mail: ghailen3@yahoo.fr; ghailen.hajej@instm.rnrt.tn

UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Allison, Sarah

Integrated Marine Manager, Marine Management Organisation (MMO), Miranda House, The Quay, Harwich, Essex, CO12 3HH

Tel: +44 739 287 9893, E-Mail: sarah.allison@marinemanagement.org.uk

Reeves, Stuart

Principal Fisheries Scientist and Advisor, Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), Pakefield Road, Lowestoft Suffolk NR33 0HT

Tel: +44 150 252 4251, E-Mail: stuart.reeves@cefasc.gov.uk; stuart.reeves@cefasc.co.uk

Wright, Serena

Fisheries Scientist, Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (Cefas), ICCAT Tagging Programme, St Helena, Pakefield Road, Lowestoft NR33 0NG

Tel: +44 1502 52 1338; +44 797 593 0487, E-Mail: serena.wright@cefasc.co.uk

UNITED STATES

Courtney, Dean

Research Fishery Biologist, NOAA Fisheries Service, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, 3500 Delwood Beach Road, Panama City Beach Florida 32408

Tel: +1 850 320 8775, E-Mail: dean.courtney@noaa.gov

Díaz, Guillermo

NOAA-Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Florida 33149

Tel: +1 305 361 4227; +1 305 898 4035, E-Mail: guillermo.diaz@noaa.gov

Die, David

Associate Professor, University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES), Department of Natural Sciences, Maryland 21853

Tel: +1 410 621 3444, E-Mail: djdie@umes.edu

Geddes, Katie

University of Miami, 4600 Rickenbacker Causeway, Miami, FL 33149

Tel: +1 770 655 2236, E-Mail: bkg39@miami.edu

Lauretta, Matthew

Fisheries Biologist, NOAA Fisheries Southeast Fisheries Center, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Florida 33149

Tel: +1 305 209 6699, E-Mail: matthew.lauretta@noaa.gov

Peterson, Cassidy

Fisheries Biologist, NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Centre, 101 Pivers Island Rd, Miami, FL 28516

Tel: +1 910 708 2686, E-Mail: cassidy.peterson@noaa.gov

Shivlani, Manoj

University of Miami, Department of Environmental Science and Policy, Miami, Florida 33149

E-Mail: mshivlani@miami.edu

Walter, John

Research Fishery Biologist, NOAA Fisheries, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, Sustainable Fisheries Division, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Florida 33149

Tel: +305 365 4114; +1 804 815 0881, Fax: +1 305 361 4562, E-Mail: john.f.walter@noaa.gov

URUGUAY

Forselledo, Rodrigo

Dirección Nacional de Recursos Acuáticos - DINARA, Laboratorio de Recursos Pelágicos, Constituyente 1497, CP 11200 Montevideo
Tel: +598 2400 46 89; +598 99 487 401, E-Mail: rforselledo@gmail.com; rforselledo@mgap.gub.uy

Domingo, Andrés

Dirección Nacional de Recursos Acuáticos - DINARA, Laboratorio de Recursos Pelágicos, Constituyente 1497, CP 11200 Montevideo
Tel: +5982 400 46 89, Fax: +5982 401 32 16, E-Mail: dimanchester@gmail.com

VENEZUELA

Arocha, Freddy

Asesor Científico, Instituto Oceanográfico de Venezuela, Universidad de Oriente, A.P. 204, 6101 Cumaná Estado Sucre
Tel: +58 424 823 1698; +58 412 692 8089, E-Mail: farochap@gmail.com

Evaristo, Eucaris del Carmen

Ministerio del Poder Popular de Pesca y Acuicultura, Corresponsal del Atlántico, Sector "EL Salado". Frente a la redoma El Ferry, edificio PESCALBA, Cumaná, Caracas
Tel: +58 416 883 3781, E-Mail: eucarisevaristo@gmail.com

Gómez, David

Analista DGPI, Ministerio del Poder Popular de Pesca y Acuicultura, Avenida Lecuna, Torre este, Piso 17. Parque Central, 1040 Caracas
Tel: +58 212 507 2900, E-Mail: mathias110390@gmail.com

Narváez Ruiz, Mariela del Valle

Lab. 34, Edif. Instituto Oceanográfico de Venezuela, Universidad de Oriente, Departamento de Biología Pesquera, Av. Universidad, Cerro Colorado, DBP-31 Laboratory, 6101 Cumaná Estado Sucre
Tel: +58 412 085 1602, E-Mail: mnarvaezruiz@gmail.com

Villamizar, Victoria

Ministerio del Poder Popular de Pesca y Acuicultura, Avenida Lecuna, Torre este, Piso 17. Parque Central, 1040 Caracas
Tel: +58 414 5007753, E-Mail: vikvillamizar79@gmail.com

Vivas Jiménez, Maria Daniela

Ministerio del Poder Popular de Pesca y Acuicultura, Parque Central. Piso 17, 1040 Caracas
Tel: 04242808103, E-Mail: minpescaven@gmail.com

OBSERVERS FROM COOPERATING NON-CONTRACTING PARTIES, ENTITIES, FISHING ENTITIES

CHINESE TAIPEI

Chang, Feng-Chen

Specialist, Overseas Fisheries Development Council, 3F., No14, Wenzhou St. Da'an Dist., 10648
Tel: +886 2 2368 0889 ext. 126, Fax: +886 2 2368 1530, E-Mail: fengchen@ofdc.org.tw; d93241008@ntu.edu.tw

Kuo, Ting-Chun

Associate Professor, Institute of Marine Affairs and Resource Management, National Taiwan Ocean University, No.2, Beining Rd., Zhongzheng Dist., Keelung City, 202301
Tel: +886 2 246 22192 Ext. 5603, E-Mail: tckuo@mail.ntou.edu.tw

Su, Nan-Jay

Associate Professor, Department of Environmental Biology and Fisheries Science, National Taiwan Ocean University, No. 2 Beining Rd., Zhongzheng Dist., 202301 Keelung City
Tel: +886 2 2462 2192 #5046, Fax: +886-2-24622192, E-Mail: nanjay@ntou.edu.tw

OBSERVERS FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL - BI**Wade, Helen**

Birdlife International - RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL, United Kingdom
Tel: +44 7896 758 995, E-Mail: Helen.Wade@rspb.org.uk

DEUTSCHE STIFTUNG MEERESSCHUTZ/GERMAN FOUNDATION FOR MARINE CONSERVATION - DSM**Ziegler, Iris**

Deutsche Stiftung Meeresschutz/German Foundation for Marine Conservation, Badstr. 4, 81379 Munich, Germany
Tel: +49 174 3795 190, E-Mail: iris.ziegler@stiftung-meeresschutz.org

MARINE STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL - MSC**Miller, Stefan**

MSC, 17-2476 Robie Street, Halifax B3K 4N1, Canada
Tel: +1 902 943 7945, E-Mail: stefan.miller@msc.org

Moniz, Isadora

Marine Stewardship Council - MSC, General Perón, 22 – 2º D, 28001 Madrid, Spain
Tel: +34 91 831 5963, E-Mail: isadora.moniz@msc.org

THE BILLFISH FOUNDATION - TBF**Weber, Richard**

South Jersey Marina, 1231 New Jersey 109, Cape May, New Jersey 08204, United States
Tel: +1 609 884 2400; +1 609 780 7365, Fax: +1 609 884 0039, E-Mail: rweber@southjerseymarina.com

OTHER PARTICIPANTS**SCRS CHAIRPERSON****Brown, Craig A.**

SCRS Chairman, Sustainable Fisheries Division, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, NOAA, National Marine Fisheries Service, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Florida 33149, United States
Tel: +1 305 586 6589, E-Mail: drcabrown@comcast.net; craig.brown@noaa.gov

SCRS VICE-CHAIRPERSON**Cardoso, Luis Gustavo**

SCRS Vice Chair, Italy Av. Km 8, 96217192 Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
Tel: +55 53 999010168, E-Mail: cardosolg15@gmail.com

EXTERNAL EXPERTS**Cass-Calay, Shannon**

United States

Tel: +1 305 775 8571, Fax: +1 305 361 4562, E-Mail: shannon.calay@calay-oss.com; shannon.calay@gmail.com

Dell, Matthew

Manager Bluefin Tuna Program - AQ1, 2 McKay Ave Glenorchy, 7010 Tasmania, Australia
Tel: +1 0419922887, E-Mail: mattdell@tpg.com.au

Palma, Carlos

ICCAT Secretariat, C/ Corazón de María, 8 – 6 Planta, 28002 Madrid, Spain
Tel: + 34 91 416 5600, Fax: +34 91 415 2612, E-Mail: carlos.palma@iccat.int

ICCAT GUEST**Muñoz Benavent, Pau**

Universidad Politécnica de Valencia – UPV, Cami de Vera, sn, 46022 Valencia, Spain
Tel: +34 635 280 787, E-Mail: pamuobe@upv.es

ICCAT Secretariat

C/ Corazón de María 8 – 6th floor, 28002 Madrid – Spain
Tel: +34 91 416 56 00; Fax: +34 91 415 26 12; E-mail: info@iccat.int

Manel, Camille Jean Pierre
Neves dos Santos, Miguel
Ortiz, Mauricio
Mayor, Carlos
Aleman, Francisco
Taylor, Nathan
Kimoto, Ai
Deprez, Bruno
De Andrés, Marisa
Campoy, Rebecca
Donovan, Karen
García-Orad, María José
Motos, Beatriz
Peyre, Christine
Pinet, Dorothée
Fúster, Álvaro
Gallego Sanz, Juan Luis
García, Jesús
Pagá, Alfonso
Peña, Esther
Tensek, Stasa

List of papers and presentations

<i>Doc Ref</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Authors</i>
SCRS/2025/012	Subcommittee on Statistics (SC-STATS) meeting	Anonymous
SCRS/2025/146	Report of the 1stICCAT-WECAFC Technical Workshop	Anonymous
SCRS/2025/160	Revisión y actualización de las capturas desembarcadas por la flota artesanal venezolana a gran escala (<i>VAOS fleet</i>) dirigida a la pesca de especies CICAA con palangre pelágico en el Mar Caribe y Océano Atlántico centro-occidental	Evaristo E., Miranda J., Narvaez M., Marín H., Arocha F.
SCRS/2025/178	Specifications and capture mechanism of the trap-line (“meka-ring”) gear used in Japanese tuna longline fishery	Ochi D., Shiode D., Matsushita H., Okamoto K., Ijima H., Kai M., Semba Y.
SCRS/2025/179	Determination of a length-weight relationships applicable to Atlantic Bluefin Tuna (<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>) caught in the Cantabrian Sea	Lastra P, Fraile I, Artetxe-Arrate I, Quelle P, Arrizabalaga H.
SCRS/2025/208	Pilot project to test the use of stereoscopic cameras during the first transfer of Bluefin tuna and the automation of video footage analysis	Muñoz-Benavent P., Martínez-Peiró J., Capó-Calabuig J., Andreu-García G., Morell-Monzó S., Puig-Pons V., Espinosa V.
SCRS/2025/209	Support for Regional Caribbean Data Collection to Improve Reporting and Data Analysis, Phase 2	Shivlani M., Arocha F., Die D., Geddes K., Fernandez M., Narváez M.
SCRS/2025/215	Revision of the Rules and procedure for the protection, access to, and dissemination of data compiled by ICCAT	ICCAT Secretariat
SCRS/2025/225	Size data collected under the Brazilian tuna fishing monitoring program (PMPA)	Travassos P., Duarte-Neto P., Comassetto L., Hamilton S., Sant’Ana R., Cardoso L.G.
SCRS/P/2025/034	An ST09 form to capture requirements of Rec 22-12	Taylor N.G.
SCRS/P/2025/083	Reporting Status 2025 including Tagging and pending Task 1 & Task 2 Submissions	ICCAT Secretariat
SCRS/P/2025/084	Summary of ICCAT Secretariat dataset estimations	ICCAT Secretariat
SCRS/P/2025/085	ST/TG forms and templates revisions for 2026	ICCAT Secretariat
SCRS/P/2025/086	IOMS 2025 status update	ICCAT Secretariat
SCRS/P/2025/087	Data deficiencies in ICCAT Fisheries & Biological Data	ICCAT Secretariat

SCRS Documents and Presentation Abstracts as provided by the authors

SCRS/2025/146 - Held in Panama City, 7-8 May 2025, this first joint workshop under the 2024 Exchange of Letters gathered 40 experts from 19 States, ICCAT and WECAFC Secretariats, and FAO staff to frame cooperation on improving fisheries data collection and reporting in the Caribbean. Participants reviewed current systems and obligations across ICCAT, WECAFC and FAO, discussed CWP reference harmonization, and considered establishing a minimum common set of variables to ease multi-reporting. The workshop approved a plan toward practical data interoperability grounded in best practices and standard models to facilitate reporting to both Organizations.

SCRS/2025/160 - La flota 'Artesanal a Gran Escala' (VAOS en inglés), opera en el Mar Caribe y aguas del Océano Atlántico adyacentes a Venezuela, dirige sus operaciones de pesca a especies CICAA como atunes y especies afines como los peces picudos (BIL), carites (KGM, BSR) y dorado (DOL). Está conformada por embarcaciones entre 11 y 18 m de eslora y usan entre 400 y 1040 anzuelos por lance con palangre pelágico. Con apoyo del programa ICCAT-JDMIP se recuperó por primera vez información de capturas y desembarques de istiofóridos desde finales de 1980 hasta 2013 de esta flota. En este documento se presenta una revisión y actualización de capturas desembarcadas de especies CICAA durante el periodo 2014-2024 de la flota VAOS. Esta revisión contó con el apoyo técnico del Proyecto ICCAT de Apoyo a la recopilación regional de datos del Caribe para mejorar la comunicación y el análisis de datos, Fase II. Los datos fueron proporcionados por INSOPECA. Se seleccionaron las especies de interés CICAA. Se revisaron los desembarques registrados como BIL y fueron desagregados por especie; la falta de datos en el 2018 en el estado de Nueva Esparta se estimó utilizando el promedio de los dos años anteriores y los dos años siguientes para cada especie y los altos valores de desembarque de atún blanco (ALB), se consideró como identificación errónea de la especie y fueron agregados a los desembarques de atún aleta negra (BLF).

SCRS/2025/178 - Specifications and capture mechanism of the meka-ring (trapline) gear used in Japanese pelagic longline fishery - describes a ring-loop terminal gear deployed on longline branchlines that uses multiple loops (≈ 10 ; ~ 40 – 60 cm diameter) made of nylon monofilament, wire and luminescent tubes, with blinking underwater LEDs as the attractor and no organic bait. Based on observer measurements and research-cruise photos, the paper details how swordfish are typically trapped with the head and pectorals inside the loops, which hook the rostrum, jaws and fins; the species' limited ability to fold the first dorsal and pectoral fins likely contributes to its selectivity. The authors note similarities to EU "trap line" variants but emphasize different attraction mechanisms (LEDs vs bait/lures), recommending that such differences be considered in any standardization of this terminal gear; current use in ICCAT waters appears very limited, and further evaluation of catch efficiency and bycatch effects is advised.

SCRS/2025/179 - Presents an updated length-weight (L-W) relationship for Atlantic bluefin tuna (BFT-A) in the Cantabrian Sea, based on samples collected from June to August between 2001 and 2024. The study supports using a region- and season-specific model, as ICCAT's current L-W models tend to overestimate weight. In contrast, the new summer-specific model yields more accurate estimates, reflecting the lower condition factor of post-spawning BFT-A migrating into the Bay of Biscay. Comparative analysis with ICCAT models (Rodríguez-Marín *et al.*, 2016; Lino *et al.*, 2021; Deguara *et al.*, 2017; Katavic *et al.*, 2018) highlights biases when regional variation is ignored. Adoption of this June-August Cantabrian-specific L-W relationship is recommended for estimating BFT-A biomass at farming time, exclusively for this region and purpose.

SCRS/2025/208 - Pilot project to test stereoscopic cameras during the first transfer of bluefin tuna and automation of video analysis. The paper tests the feasibility of estimating numbers and weights at first transfer using stereoscopic cameras and AI-based processing across three scenarios (Mediterranean purse-seine, Adriatic purse-seine, and traps). Manual measurements validated against caging/harvest data show robust length estimation, while automatic counting achieved 54-95% of manual counts in the Mediterranean and 74-135% in traps, with time savings of up to $\sim 90\%$; performance in the Adriatic was limited by dense schools and larger gates, requiring further trials and configuration adjustments. Overall, first-transfer weight estimation is technically feasible (aligned with Rec. 22-08 procedures), but improved tracking/counting algorithms and scenario-specific setups are recommended to achieve consistent results across fisheries.

SCRS/2025/209 - Reports on a project to strengthen data collection for ICCAT/HMS fisheries across several Caribbean countries (Belize, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Venezuela). The document describes literature reviews and historical data recovery, consultations with authorities and fishers, and the deployment of trained samplers using digital survey tools targeting priority species (e.g. yellowfin tuna, blue marlin). Two countries (Belize, Guatemala) were supported mainly through virtual coordination given their fleets' activity largely outside the Caribbean, while six others advanced on-site sampling schemes and records recovery/digitization. The authors note completed data recovery for Venezuela and Tobago; ongoing digitization of Costa Rica's forms; five months of sampling completed for Tobago and Venezuela; approximately 80% completion for Dominica; and active sampling in the Dominican Republic (San Pedro de Macoris ~60% complete). Saint Vincent and the Grenadines replaced Grenada in the workplan, and the project end date was extended to 15 December 2025 (from 31 October 2025) to accommodate approvals and logistics. Overall, participating administrations have engaged positively, several requesting broader application of the approach. The authors recommend continued capacity building to improve coverage consistency, accelerate digitization/e-collection, and expand sampling sites so the region can deliver more accurate and timely statistics to support ICCAT assessments.

SCRS/2025/215 - Review of the ICCAT Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data - assesses the current framework against evolving data obligations and operational practice, covering Tasks 1-3 and tagging datasets. The paper identifies key gaps - no explicit confidentiality class for T2SZ/T2CS, lack of defined categories/standards for Task 3 datasets, absence of codified minimum aggregation/anonymization thresholds, and ambiguity in the clause linking dissemination to CPC authorization vis-à-vis ICCAT Basic Texts (Arts. IV, IX). It proposes an audience-based disclosure approach (with a sample Dataset x Audience matrix) and recommends establishing an ad hoc group to draft revisions, clarify T2SZ/T2CS status, set Task 3 categories and thresholds, specify modalities for exchanges with non-RFMOs, align paragraph 2 with the Basic Texts, and institute a regular review cycle (e.g. every four years).

SCRS/2025/225 - Size data collected under the Brazilian Tuna Fishing Monitoring Programme (PMPA) - summarizes Brazil's 2024 size-sampling for ICCAT species from onboard observers and port monitoring at eight main landing sites, compiled for Task 2-Sizes (ST04/T2SZ). Between May-December 2024, 39,357 fish were measured; blue shark (BSH) and yellowfin (YFT) dominated the sample (10,173 and 10,133 fish, respectively), with gear patterns consistent with expectations (BSH mainly LL; YFT and BET primarily LL/HL; SKJ largely BB/HL). Length metrics followed ICCAT standards (FL, LJFL; inter-dorsal for sharks), and when needed, conversions were derived from Brazil's BNDA database; illustrative distributions show larger YFT and BET in LL and juvenile modes in HL, SKJ modes near ~50 cm FL, SWO 58-303 cm LJFL, BSH 82.9-304.1 cm FL, and ALB modal ~103 cm FL. The programme will continue in 2025, with updated ST04 submissions planned for 2026, supporting improved national reporting to ICCAT.

SCRS/P/2025/034 - The presentation maps each reporting element in Rec. 22-12 (items a-p) to existing ST09 subforms - ST09A (Fishing Activity), ST09B (Catch), ST09C (Sampling), and ST09D (Turtles) - showing where date, location, gear, species ID, size/weight, condition, FAD/bait/hook details, depth, target species/mode, anatomical hooking, entanglement, trailing gear, and gear-left fields fit within ST09; it notes that only the optional photographs field is not currently represented (subject to national confidentiality rules). The conclusion is that ST09 - especially ST09D - can be aligned closely with Rec. 22-12, with minor adjustments to cover photos, thereby enabling consistent turtle-interaction reporting across CPCs; a working ST09 template is referenced for use.

SCRS/P/2025/083 - The Secretariat reviewed the 2025 reporting framework and timelines (official deadline 15 July; report-card cut-off 31 August+24h; reporting period 1 Oct 2024-31 Aug 2025) and summarized submissions for Task 1 (T1FC, T1NC), Task 2 (T2CE, T2SZ/T2CS), and Task 3. Report-card tables by CPC showed Task 1 generally better than Task 2, persistent late/incomplete reporting, use of outdated e-forms in ~8% of cases (limiting Filter 1 validation), and several important datasets still pending. The Secretariat noted ongoing automation and integration work (IOMS alignment; new processing framework; dashboards), plus tagging statistics for the period (conventional/electronic releases and recoveries) and new GIS web tools.

SCRS/P/2025/084 - The Secretariat reviewed the status of the standard, annually updated derived datasets - CATDIS (1950–2023), EFFDIS (2000–2023), and CAS/CAA (species-dependent) - all built from Tasks 1-3. The latest CATDIS update for nine major tuna and tuna-like species was published on 31 January 2025 (CSV datasets and Statistical Bulletin Vol. 50); no intersessional updates were made, and several shark/small-tuna species remain pending due to insufficient T2CE coverage. A full 1950-2024 CATDIS update is planned for January 2026, alongside methodological and tool improvements (e.g. breakdowns by catch type, interactive products).

SCRS/P/2025/085 - The Secretariat outlined proposed updates across statistical (ST) and tagging (TG) forms: for ST01, define the measurement of Days Fished (incl. small-scale fleets), require vessel tonnage in GT only (deprecate GRT), and consider prioritizing Fish Hold Volume (FHV, m³)—potentially replacing or complementing Carrying Capacity (CC, mt) to avoid inconsistencies; for ST07, resolve records with multiple interactions by reporting one interaction per row; and reassess the need for ST10 given overlap with ST02+ST04 (noting differing units of reporting by vessel/date vs fleet/year/month). Recommendations from SG-SHK include aligning species lists across forms (TG01 vs ST02/03/04/09/10 & TG02/03), adding/removing/renaming specific shark taxa, and limiting aggregate or unlikely entries. The talk also referenced work on turtle reporting (ST09 vs ST12) and introduced a harmonized flat CSV structure for reporting size/weight frequencies as an alternative to electronic ST04/ST05, supporting multi-species submissions.

SCRS/P/2025/086 - The Secretariat outlined the IOMS scope and deployment (production, sandbox, and intranet environments) and reviewed development phases since 2019, noting that on 1 August 2025 both Form Manager and Vessel Manager were released to production, alongside the existing Annual Report and core services. Ongoing work covers Port Manager, Task 1 Nominal Catches (T1NC), Compliance Tables (COCT), and Sharks & Billfishes check-sheets, with Task 2 Catch & Effort planned to start in Phase 5. The update also described infrastructure and quality improvements (Azure, Kubernetes, managed MySQL, enhanced Dynamic Help, code-quality/unit tests) and the UN/FLUX component for Vessel Manager (vessel characteristics testing; FLAP nearly ready for testing).

SCRS/P/2025/087 - The Secretariat provided a concise overview of data gaps under Rec. 05-09 and the instruments used to detect and track them: form Filters F1/F2 (basis for the Report-Card tables), the SCRS scorecard (1995-2024, unified scoring for major species, with retrospective views), and the SCRS catalogues of data availability (1995-2024), now complemented by a new T1NC dashboard and a new catalogue dashboard prepared for intersessional use. The talk also summarized reporting status for T1NC, T2CE and T2SZ as reflected in the PLE-SCRS_07 tables.