



SPRFMO

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Southern Hemisphere Porbeagle Stock Status Assessment

Dr Shelley Clarke, Common Oceans Tuna Project

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Programme: Since their start of work in August 2015, NIWA (New Zealand) has progressed through a number of tasks in the five-stage work plan for the southern hemisphere porbeagle stock status assessment. The first two tasks, develop a work plan and initiate indicator production with national participants, have been completed in 2015. Work now proceeds with synthesizing the initial indicator results into preliminary stock assessment and risk assessment models.

Progress: Through generous support from New Zealand's Ministry for Primary Industries, and in-kind support from Japan's Fisheries Research Agency, draft indicator series have been produced as the result of two weeks of collaborative work in Japan in November 2015. New Zealand will produce national indicators in February 2016, and Uruguay and Argentina have produced initial series and are currently working to finalize them. Chile and Korea have committed to indicators work over the next few months, and relevant data from Australia, SPRFMO, Kerguelen and the tuna RFMOs has been either obtained or identified. A stock assessment model framework has been developed in Stock Synthesis and work on the risk assessment approach will begin shortly.



Outlook: The work plan was designed with the intention of presenting the assessment results to either the next CCSBT ERSWG (not yet scheduled) or the WCPFC SC (next meeting 2-11 August 2016 (SC12)). If all national indicators series proceed on schedule to completion over the next four months, it may be possible to meet the submission deadlines for WCPFC's SC12. However, providing for some flexibility in the timeline might be worthwhile if it allows more of the national indicator series to reach a higher level of refinement and still provides for presentation of the assessment results at the CCSBT's ERSWG.



For additional information, contact:

- Dr Shelley Clarke, Common Oceans Tuna Project
Technical Coordinator-Sharks and Bycatch | shelley.clarke@wcpfc.int