

FIRST MEETING OF THE SC TASK GROUP ON HABITAT MONITORING

31 May - 1 June 2018, Valparaíso, Chile

(Submitted by François Gerlotto, Task Group Co-Chairperson)

INTRODUCTION

During its 5th meeting in Shanghai, China, 20-28 September, 2017, the SPRFMO Scientific Committee (SC) recommended to evaluate the possibility of constituting a dedicated group on the theme of "*Habitat Monitoring*" inside SPRFMO and has asked E. Yáñez and F. Gerlotto to co-chair a task group with the objective to prepare a proposal detailing the group structure, objectives, etc. (ref. paragraphs 106 and 189 of the SC Final Report SC-05).

The group is committed:

- **to constitute** a dedicated group on the theme of "*Habitat Monitoring*" inside SPRFMO, with Habitat synthetic indicator as a way to analyze the environmental information, with the following mid- and long term main objectives: defining habitat structure and dynamics; understanding (and forecasting) the changes in spatial distribution and abundance; producing elements that would allow introducing information on habitat and behavioral ecology in assessment models; defining protocols for the elaboration of data formats and data analyses; defining necessary research and projects to be undertaken for improving the data collection, processing and analysis, and the habitat characteristics; providing information that allows a better definition of population structure.
- **to use the Chilean Jack Mackerel** as a first case study, with the ambition of extending the activities of the group to the other species of interest inside the Convention area (demersal fish, jumbo flying squid) when available knowledge of fish habitat, biology and ecology becomes sufficient.
- **For the year 2018:** Dr. Eleuterio Yáñez (Chile) and Dr. Francois Gerlotto (EU) will co-chair a task group gathering all the scientists of SPRFMO member states who could be interested, with the objective to prepare a proposal detailing the group structure, objectives, scientific activities, etc.

ORGANISATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE TASK GROUP

These activities are related to those considered priority in the Work Plan of the Commission and approved during the 6th Meeting in Lima. In particular, "characterizing the CJM habitat and provide the Commission with a revision of seasonal and decadal changes of the marine ecosystem". It is also decided to perform during the period 2019-2020 the spatial-temporal mapping of distribution and density of CJM synthesizing the existing data provided by the acoustic surveys and the data collected on their own by the fishing fleets.

ACTIVITIES IN 2018

Two main activities will be developed: the organization of a workshop to organize the group and prepare the detailed terms of reference for the future; and work by correspondence during the year to prepare a report to be submitted at the 6th SC meeting of SPRFMO.

The first workshop of the group will be held in Valparaíso, Chile, 31 May - 1st June. It will be hosted by the "Subsecretaría de Pesca y Acuicultura" of the Chilean Government, with the following activities.

WORK PROGRAM

Day 1 (Thursday, 31 May)

09:00 - 09:30	Registration and Welcome
09:30 - 10:00	Introduction and approval of the agenda
10:00 - 10:30	Coffee break
10:30 - 12:30	Listing the sources of data and how they could be exploited
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30	Preparing a proposal detailing the group structure, objectives, activities and terms of reference, which will be presented at the 6th meeting of the SPRFMO SC in 2018.
15:30 - 16:00	coffee break
16:00 - 17:30	(cont.)
18:00 – 19:30	Vino de Honor

Day 2 (Friday, 1 June)

09:00 - 10:30	Preparing a proposal detailing the group structure, objectives, activities and terms of reference, to be presented at the 6th meeting of the SPRFMO SC in 2018 (cont.)
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee break
11:00 - 12:30	(cont.)
12:30 - 14:00	Lunch
14:00 - 15:30	Discussion on and definition of scientific projects to be submitted to funding agencies (EU, Chile, Peru, etc.).
15:30 - 16:00	coffee
16:00 - 17:30	General discussion and conclusions
17:30 - 17:40	Closure

INVITED PARTICIPANTS

The first meeting of the Task Group is open to any scientist from institutes belonging to SPRFMO member countries. At the end of the meeting, the creation of a smaller group involved in the future activities of the Task Group will be discussed.

Preliminary list of members of the Task Group:

1. Aquiles Sepúlveda (Head of INPESCA, Chile).
2. Mauricio Gálvez (Head of Fisheries Division IFOP, Chile), José Cordova (Hydroacoustics IFOP), Antonio Aranís, Gabriela Bohm (Fisheries Department, IFOP), Jaime Letelier (Head Oceanography Department, IFOP).
3. Miguel Níquen (Chair Department Pelagic resources and Oceanology, IMARPE, Peru), Ramiro Castillo (Chair technology and Detection, IMARPE), Jorge Tam, Dimitri Gutierrez, Jorge Csirke (IMARPE)
4. Mariano Gutierrez, Director Marine and Aquaculture Research Institute (IHMA, Peru)
5. Ricardo Bernales, Director of the Scientific Committee of National Fisheries Society (SNP, Peru)
6. Carlos Merino Director Center for Applied Research of the Sea (Iquique, Chile).
7. Guoping Zhu (Shanghai Ocean University, China)
8. Francois Gerlotto, Niels Hintzen, Martin Pastoors (EU)
9. Samuel Hormazabal, Claudio Silva, Eleuterio Yáñez (PUCV, Chile)