

10th MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

26 to 30 September 2022, Seoul, Korea

SC10 – Doc07

Secretariat's report on Scientific Committee related activities

Secretariat

1. Introduction

This paper informs SC10 about relevant activities conducted over the past year by the Secretariat. These activities include [external meetings](#), [project inputs](#) and data releases. This current paper continues on from the previous papers on this topic (most recently [SC9-Doc07](#)).

- SC10 is requested to note the contents of this paper

2. External meetings/workshops

- **Data Confidentiality (ANCORS/ Global Fishing Watch)** This virtual workshop organised by the Australian National Centre for Ocean Resources (ANCORS) and Global Fishing Watch consisted of an opening session to discuss the objectives of the workshop, multiple break-out sessions to allow participants to take a deeper dive into the topics and to raise different perspectives on the topic, and then a third wrap up session to discuss the general outputs from the workshop. All sessions occurred between May and June 2022. The Secretariat was represented by the Data Manager. The final report from this workshop should be made available soon, with hopes of publishing the workshop outcomes in a peer-reviewed journal.
- **CCAMLR** SPRFMO and CCAMLR staff met in April 2022 to discuss and operationalize the renewed MoU to ensure active collaboration and knowledge sharing between the organisations on topics of mutual interest. The meeting was attended by all SPRFMO Secretariat staff and with CCAMLR counterpart staff. Recently the SPRFMO Secretariat has shared details of releases and recaptures in the SPRFMO area with the CCAMLR Secretariat as foreseen in the MoU. The CCAMLR Secretariat informed that there are 2 releases from the SPRFMO Area that link with recaptures from the CCAMLR Area and another 2 releases from the CCAMLR Area which link with recaptures from the SPRFMO Area. A summary of toothfish tag recaptures (released or recaptured within the SPRFMO Area) has been provided by CCAMLR and is included in Annex 1.
- **CPPS** SPRFMO and CPPS have had an MoU in place for several years. Recently CPPS expressed interest in developing more scientific collaboration between the two organisations. A meeting was held in August 2022 between the Executive Secretary, Data Manager, and Communications Officer and the Director of Scientific Affairs and Fishery Resources in CPPS (Mr Marcelo Nilo) to highlight important areas of potential collaboration between the organisations and to outline a path to define components of possible workplan. The main areas of initial interest from the CPPS side were largely focused on research of cartilaginous fishes, but discussions also highlighted interest in advancing biodiversity research and the inclusion of oceanographic modelling into fisheries and habitat monitoring of the South Pacific. CPPS intends to put forth a proposal for a joint workplan under the



MoU to the SC10 for consideration.

3. External project inputs

February 2022 – The Secretariat identified inaccuracies with respect to reported SPRFMO observer coverage levels in a peer-reviewed paper ([Ewell et al. 2020](#)). The authors were contacted, and corrections were requested. A subsequent [Corrigendum](#) was published to correct the misinformation.

April 2022 – The Secretariat was invited to conduct a courtesy peer-review of a manuscript focussed on cetacean bycatch in RFMOs. The peer review provided an important opportunity to ensure that the SPRFMO CMMs were represented accurately in the document. Comments were incorporated into a revised manuscript, which is in the review process and has yet to be published.

June 2022 – The Secretariat identified additional inaccuracies in a published [report](#) relating to SPRFMO observer coverage levels, as this report cited Ewell et al. 2020. Authors were contacted with requested corrections, which were made in a timely manner.

July 2022 – The Data Manager consulted on a project related to developing standardized CPUE indices for a NZ purse seine fishery as part of a collaboration between Faber R & D, Dragonfly Data Science, and the Pacific Community (SPC).

August 2022 – The Data Manager served on an interview panel for CCAMLR's software developer position.

4. Data releases

- November 2021 – Annual catch data extract for SPRFMO Area by flag, year, area, fishing method, and species (KONTALI)
- December 2021 – Chile-flagged vessel ownership extract (Chile)
- January 2022 – Data summary of the number of squid transshipments, total squid catch transhipped, and number of vessels involved in the transshipments, by year (2019-2021) (WWF)
- February 2022 – Seabird effort data extract from the SPRFMO Area to conduct a seabird risk assessment (NIWA)
- March 2022 – Data extract about annual catch for CITES listed species in the SPRFMO Area reported by New Zealand (CITES)
- July 2022 – Data extract for annual landings data from the Eastern Pacific Ocean to ports in Ecuador, Peru, and Chile (PEW)
- July 2022 – Operational catch and effort data extract for the distant water fishing fleet operating in the jack mackerel fishery, to support the jack mackerel stock assessment (Jack Mackerel Working Group)
- July 2022 – Data related to interactions with marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, and other species of concern, from bottom fishing in the SPRFMO Convention Area during the 2020 and 2021 calendar years (New Zealand)

July 2022 – Annual catches from Australia-flagged vessels including a summary of orange roughy and all other species from FAO statistical area 81 and 51 (Australia)



5. Specific Requests to Secretariat

| Document | Request | Status |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| SC9-Report Para 34 | (Species profiles) The SC agreed that the Secretariat remove the outdated versions, finalise drafts based on expert review and load the new shorter versions to the website. The SC also requested longer species synopses (similar to those produced by FAO), which was added to the workplan. | Species profiles for CJM, MAS, GIS, BWA, BYS, ORY, JMC, and PJJ have replaced outdated versions on the SPRFMO website Species synopses have yet to be developed. |
| SC9-Report Para 198 | The SC recommended that the Secretariat maintain a dynamic document accessible to members, to be updated with dates, locales, reports (if completed), and other relevant information | A dynamic document was created and kept up to date by the SC intersessional meeting coordinator (Ms Marianne Vignaux). It is located in the SPRFMO SC10 Teams repository. |
| SC9-Report Paras 200-201 | Future meeting plans were discussed in SC9-Doc10. The Republic of Korea offered to host in 2022. The SC requested the Secretariat to contact Panama to see if there was interest in hosting a future SC meeting, due to the unfortunate circumstances that prevented them from hosting SC9. | Paragraph 131 of COMM10-Report welcomed Korea's offer to host SC10, and Panama's offer to host SC11 in 2023. |
| Workplan – Jack Mackerel assessment | SC Chair and Secretariat to coordinate SC and other funds to support experts during the benchmark and SC assessment | Dr Maite Pons, Dr Dan Ovaldo, and Dr Ricardo Amoroso were engaged to support the Jack Mackerel Data Workshop. Ms Lee Qi was engaged to support the jack mackerel benchmark workshop and stock assessment at SC-10. Ms Marianne Vignaux was contracted to contribute to the benchmark workshop report. |
| Workplan – Squid workshop | SQWG Chair/Secretariat coordinate a squid workshop including potential assessment techniques and appropriate measures of fishing effort (prior to SC10) | Six intersessional meetings of the squid working group were held in preparation for SC10. Two meetings were dedicated to effort measures, three to stock assessment techniques, and the sixth was focussed on squid genetics. |
| Intersessional Commission request | Secretariat to prepare a paper on the scope and application of the exploratory fishery CMM | This paper has been presented to the SC10 as SC10-Doc13. |

Annex 1: Summary of toothfish tag recaptures provided by CCAMLR

Table 1. Tagged toothfish release year and location mapped to the year and location of recapture. Numbers in the table represent the number of individual fish associated with that release/recapture combination.

| Year released | Release location | | Year recaptured | Recapture location | |
|---------------|------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------------|----------|
| | SPRFMO | CCAMLR | | SPRFMO | CCAMLR |
| 2005 | | 1 | 2020 | 1 | |
| 2007 | | 1 | 2016 | 1 | |
| 2016 | 2 | | 2017 | 2 | |
| 2016 | 1 | | 2019 | | 1 |
| 2019 | 1 | | 2019 | 1 | |
| 2019 | 4 | | 2020 | 4 | |
| 2019 | 1 | | 2021 | | 1 |
| 2020 | 1 | | 2022 | 1 | |
| Total | 10 | 2 | | 10 | 2 |



In total, 10 toothfish tagged in the SPRFMO Area have been recaptured, 8 in SPRFMO and 2 in CCAMLR. Two toothfish tagged in the CCAMLR Area have been subsequently recaptured in the SPRFMO Area.