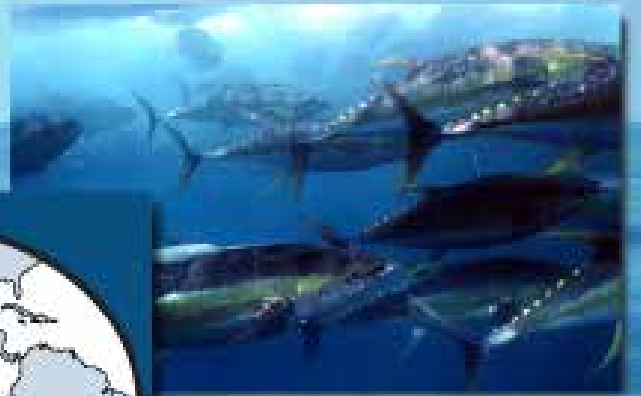


Comisión Interamericana del Atún Tropical
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission



Terms of Reference and Logistics of the External Review

1st External review of modelling aspects in stock assessments of tropical tuna in the eastern Pacific Ocean
6 - 10 Nov 2023 - Videoconference

Outline

- Terms of reference
 - § Goals and objectives
 - § Review panel responsibilities
 - § Public comment
 - § Requests for additional analyses
 - § Panel report
- Main areas of focus
- Logistics

Goal

- To provide information to the assessment team to improve the inputs into the stock assessments and consequently the assessments and management advice



Objectives



- a) Identify the best available science for the EPO tropical tuna stock assessments;
- b) Provide an independent review of the stock assessment approach;
- c) Provide advice on future research and data collection that will improve the assessments and management advice.

Panel responsibilities

To perform an adequate technical review of the stock assessment approach.

- a) Be familiar with the ToR;
- b) Review relevant background docs, data, and analytical methods, along with other relevant information (e.g. previous documents and Review reports);
- c) Discuss the technical merits and deficiencies of the stock assessment approach, work with the IATTC staff to correct deficiencies, and, when possible, suggest new tools, analyses, and data collection methods to improve future assessments; and
- d) Draft a report of the meeting, to document the discussions and recommendations.



Public comment

- Time will be allocated during the meeting for public comment
- The Panel will take these comments into consideration when developing its report, as appropriate



Requests for additional analyses

- The panel may request additional details on the data and methods presented, further analyses of alternative assumptions, or additional model runs
- Requests must be clear, explicit, be practical in terms of time available, submitted in writing (alexdasilva@iattc.org, mmaunder@iattc.org)
- Listed in Panel's report, along with rationale and staff's response
- To the extent possible, requests should be completed by staff during the meeting



Panel report

The Panel's report should be drafted and approved shortly after the meeting. The report writing process will follow these steps:

- a. Panel outlines report at meeting;
- b. Panel writes and agrees draft report;
- c. Panel provides draft report to IATTC staff for comment on technical accuracy; and
- d. Panel reviews staff comments, and modifies report as necessary.

The report will include:

- a. Names and affiliations of Panel members;
- b. Brief overview of the meeting (location, agenda, main recommendations by Panel, *etc.*);
- c. Brief summary of current methods used in the assessment;
- d. List of analyses requested by the Panel, rationale for each request, and brief summary of the response;
- e. Comments on technical merits and/or deficiencies in the assessment approach and recommendations for remedies;
- f. Unresolved problems and major uncertainties, *e.g.*, any special issues that complicate the use of the data or the analyses conducted;
- g. Data, fishery or analysis related issues raised by the public; and
- h. Prioritized recommendations for research and data collection for the subsequent assessments.

The Panel and the IATTC staff will strive to resolve any differences of opinion that may arise regarding the contents of the report. Any unresolved differences of opinion must be documented and reflected in the report, which will be published as an IATTC Special Report.



Main topics

List of topics:

1. Comparisons of the assessments for the 3 species
2. Risk analysis approach and hypotheses for the risk analysis for bigeye tuna
3. Hypotheses for the risk analysis for yellowfin tuna
4. Spatial structure (stock structure, areas as fleets – fishery definitions)
5. Selectivity
6. Time step of the model, number of age classes
7. Initial conditions and start year (why we choose a particular start year)
8. Recruitment
9. Growth
10. Natural mortality
11. Indices of abundance
12. Data weighting
13. Model diagnostics
14. Model weighting
15. Estimation of management quantities and associated uncertainty

Doc with key references (click [here](#))

CIAT IATTC



Questions