



North Pacific Fisheries Commission

NPFC-2021-SC06-WP04

Scientific projects

Abstract: The intent of this document is to put together scientific projects for 2021-2022 fiscal years. The status of the existing projects #1 (GIS), #2, #3, #9 (meetings), #7 and #8 (external experts), #10 (fish id guide) and #6, #11 and #12 (cooperation with NPAFC and PICES) has been updated. One new project (#13 PICES workshop) which requires a funding decision has been added for consideration by the SC. The project on VME taxa ID guide has been concluded but may require funding in future, after testing by observers.

#	Project	Time	Status	Next step: activities, required funds
1.1	GIS database/module as a part of NPFC database management system for spatial management of bottom fisheries and VMEs	2018-	<i>In progress</i> A map of bottom fishing footprint has been deployed on UAT website for members' review and input.	Further development of the map. <i>2022 FY: 0,55mln JPY (5,000USD).</i> <i>Source: SC fund.</i>
1.2	Joint spatial/temporal map of Members' catch and effort on Pacific saury with a spatial resolution of one-degree grids and a temporal resolution of one month	2018-	<i>In progress.</i> Spatial/temporal map of Members' Pacific saury catch and effort has been updated up to 2020.	Update the map up to 2021. <i>2022 FY: 0,15mln JPY (1,500USD).</i>
2	Pacific saury stock assessment meeting (meeting costs)	Every year	<i>TWG PSSA meetings: Feb 2017, Dec 2017, Nov 2018, Mar 2019.</i> <i>SSC PS meetings: Nov 2019, Nov 2020.</i>	SSC PS09 meeting, Dates TBD 2022. <i>2022 FY: 1.65mln JPY (15,000USD)</i> <i>Source: SC fund.</i>
3	Chub mackerel stock assessment meeting (meeting costs)	Every year	<i>TWG CMSA meetings: Dec 2017, Mar 2019, Nov 2020.</i>	TWG CMSA05 meeting, 16-19 May 2022. <i>2022 FY: 1.65mln JPY (15,000USD)</i> <i>Source: SC fund.</i>

4	Expert to review Pacific saury stock assessment (consultant fee and travel costs)	TBD	Under consideration. SSC PS: to determine time and format.	<i>2021-2022 FY: No funds required.</i>
5	Observer Program	2018-	<i>In progress</i> A study on the existing observer programs of Members and those of other RFMOs has been done. Scientific data which can be collected and/or validated by at-sea observers, fishermen, electronic reporting systems and other means for Pacific saury have been reviewed.	Identify data gaps which can be fulfilled by an observer program. <i>2021-2022 FY: No funds required.</i>
6	Promotion of cooperation with NPAFC including macro-scale multinational survey in the North Pacific in 2022	2021-2022	<i>In progress.</i> The SC has provided suggestions to the research program of the NPAFC/IYS pan-Pacific survey which will be held in winter-spring 2022.	<i>2022 FY: No funds required.</i>
7	Invited expert for the development of the operating model for chub mackerel stock assessment (consultant fee and travel costs)	2020-	An external expert has been contracted to support the TWG CMSA in testing candidate stock assessment models.	<i>2022 FY: 1,1mln JPY (10,000USD)</i> <i>Source: SC fund.</i>
8	Invited expert to stock assessment meetings of Pacific saury (consultant fee and travel costs)	2019-	<i>External expert attended TWG PSSA/SSC PS meetings in 2019, 2020 and 2021.</i>	<i>2022 FY: 1,1mln JPY (10,000USD)</i> <i>Source: SC fund.</i>

9	International Course for NPFC observers for VME indicator taxa identification (consultant fees and travel costs for two lecturers, meeting costs)	2022	<i>In preparation. PICES committed to 15,000USD to support the meeting logistics, travel support for 1-2 experts and travel support for ~10 students (subject to the format of the meeting).</i>	Time and location: 3-4 days. Russia, Vladivostok. 2022 FY: 1,65mln JPY (15,000USD). Source: SC fund.
10	Standardization of bycatch species list and fish species identification guides (translation of the existing fish ID guide from Japanese to additional languages)	2019-2020	<i>In progress. Bycatch species list has been compiled. The translation and review of the fish ID guide is in progress.</i>	Printing costs. 2022 FY: 1.1mln JPY (10,000USD). Source: SC fund.
11	2022 PICES Annual meeting	Every year		<i>Travel support to a participant of the SC or its subsidiary bodies.</i> 2022 FY: 0.45mln JPY (4,000USD) Source: SC fund.
12	PICES-ICES-FAO Small Pelagic Fish Symposium, 7-11 November 2022, Lisbon, Portugal.	2022	Funds have been remitted to PICES. Three NPFC experts TBD.	2021 FY: 1.65mln JPY (15,000USD) to the organizers for the symposium logistics 2022 FY: 1.3mln JPY (12,000USD) for travel support for three NPFC experts to attend the symposium. Source: SC fund.

13	Two-day workshop on “Distributions of pelagic, demersal, and benthic species associated with seamounts in the North Pacific Ocean and factors influencing their distributions”, PICES-2022 meeting, Busan, Korea.	2022	<i>Proposed.</i> Invited expert TBD.	<i>2022 FY: 0,55mln JPY (5,000USD) to the organizers for the travel support of an invited expert and workshop logistics.</i> <i>Source: SC fund.</i>
14	A topic session “Environmental variability and small pelagic fishes in the North Pacific: exploring mechanistic and pragmatic methods for integrating ecosystem considerations into assessment and management”, PICES-2022 meeting, Busan, Korea.	2022	<i>Proposed.</i> Invited speaker TBD.	<i>2022 FY: 0,45mln JPY (4,000USD) for the travel support of an invited speaker.</i> <i>Source: SC fund.</i>
	Total			<i>2022 FY: 11.7mln JPY</i>

Past projects

#	Project	Time	Status	Next step: activities, required funds
1	NPFC/FAO VME workshop	2018-2019	<i>Concluded.</i>	

2	Workshop to address data requirements and data sharing for SAI assessment and other tasks identified in the Work Plan by SSC VME and SSC BF	2018	<i>Concluded.</i>	
3	Workshop on biological reference points (BRP), harvest control rule (HCR) and management strategy evaluation (MSE)	2019	<i>Concluded.</i>	
4	Literature review of target and limit reference points used in pelagic species fisheries by other general RFMOs and other fishery management bodies	2018	<i>Done. Available on the NPFC website.</i>	
5	Joint PICES-NPFC workshop (W11) on <i>The influence of environmental changes on the potential for species distributional shifts and subsequent consequences for estimating abundance of Pacific saury</i>	2019	<i>Concluded.</i>	
6	VME taxa identification guide	2017-2022	<i>Concluded.</i> VME taxa ID guide has been printed out and distributed to Members.	Test the VME taxa ID guide by observers and revise if needed.