



Madrid, 23 December 2019

## ICCAT-GBYP CIRCULAR # 1368 / 2019

### SUBJECT: GBYP WORKSHOP ON BFT TAGGING. FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

I should like to inform you about the Workshop on Atlantic Bluefin Tuna Tagging, which will be organized within the framework of the Atlantic-Wide Research Programme for Bluefin Tuna (GBYP).

#### Background and rationale

Recent compilation of all available ETAGs for Atlantic bluefin as part of the MSE process has greatly informed knowledge of BFT movement and life history, yet numerous gaps remain and the field of bluefin science stands to gain from finding ways to work together to jointly analyze these compiled datasets.

To address this need the GBYP will organize an open workshop on Atlantic bluefin tuna tagging, aimed at reaching a broad consensus on the strategic planning of future and the best use of the already available information. The specific objectives of the workshop will be to identify gaps in movement transitions and life history that can be addressed by strategic ETAG deployments and to draft terms of reference for conducting joint analyses of the combined tagging datasets.

#### Provisional Agenda

1. Overview of available data
2. Plenary talks by invited key speakers (to be decided)
3. Gap analysis of key life history transitions that are not well informed
  - a) gaps in tag transitions in the current MSE mixing models (known unknowns)
  - b) gaps in knowledge (unknown-unknowns, what are we missing on life history?)
4. Draft design for further tagging to fill in gaps
5. Planning for joint analyses
  - a) draft MOU on joint analytical work
  - b) develop teams to conduct joint analysis of data

#### Logistics

The workshop will be held in Madrid, at the ICCAT headquarters, in principle on 11-13 March 2020. These dates are proposed taking into account a full SCRS meeting calendar. This workshop is open to any interested scientists. However, given the limited funds available, GBYP can only guarantee the financing of the travel costs of invited key speakers. Remaining funds, if any, may be used to cover the travel costs and/or per diem of other attendees. Attendees interested in obtaining GBYP funding should apply, submitting a short CV, statement of interest and purpose to the GBYP email ([gbyp@iccat.int](mailto:gbyp@iccat.int)). The applications will be evaluated by a Committee comprising the GBYP Steering Committee and ICCAT Secretariat staff. Preference will be given on the basis of contributions to GBYP electronic tagging, including provision of ETAG data to the compiled database.

Further information, including confirmation of dates, updated agenda and registration instructions, will be posted on the GBYP web page before 10 January 2020.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Executive Secretary*



M'Hamed Idrissi  
Compliance Coordinator

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