

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS



COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA
CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISIÓN INTERNACIONAL PARA LA
CONSERVACIÓN DEL ATÚN ATLÁNTICO

Madrid, 19 February 2021

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 1061/2021

SUBJECT: GBYP ELECTRONIC TAGGING WORKSHOP (*online, 15-16 March 2021*)

I would like to inform you that GBYP Electronic Tagging Workshop will be held online between 15 and 16 March 2021.

Attached please find the background, objectives and tentative agenda of the workshop and other relevant information about the organization. I would appreciate it very much if you could distribute this announcement to scientists who may contribute by participating in the workshop. This announcement will also be published on the [current meetings page](#) of our website.

In order to organize the online workshop, in particular, regarding the number of participants in advance of the session, I would also appreciate if you could send to the Secretariat a list of delegates who will participate in the workshop by **10 March 2021**. Participants shall also register for the meeting using the online registration form available on the [current meetings page](#) of our website by **8 March 2021**.

Please receive the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary

Camille Jean Pierre Manel

DISTRIBUTION:

- Commission Officers:

Commission Chair:	R. Delgado	COC Chair:	D. Campbell
First Vice Chair:	S. Depypere	PWG Chair:	N. Ansell
Second Vice Chair:	Z. Driouich	STACFAD Chair:	H.A Elekon
Panel 1-4 Chairs			
SCRS Chair:	G. Melvin	SCRS Vice Chair:	R. Coelho

- Head Delegates / Head Scientists

- Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities

Attachment: Objectives, Tentative Agenda and Information for participants.



GBYP Electronic tagging workshop *(online, 15-16 March 2021)*

Background

Recent compilation of all available electronic tags 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 organized in March 2020 an open workshop on Atlantic bluefin tuna tagging, aiming to reach a broad consensus on the strategic future planning and best use of the already available information. Unfortunately, this workshop had to be cancelled at the very last moment because of the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. This broad presential workshop will be organized and convened again when the situation allows it.

Meanwhile, the GBYP Steering Committee has considered it useful to hold an online workshop on this topic, aiming to provide recommendations to improve and optimize the BFT tagging campaigns that will be developed in the near future.

Objectives

The specific objectives are:

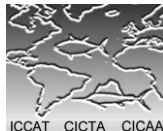
- to identify the main knowledge gaps on Atlantic Bluefin Tuna spatial patterns
- to update the status of ongoing BFT electronic tagging programs, aiming to find potential synergies among national and ICCAT programs
- to elaborate a list, defining priorities, of research needs related to BFT spatial patterns aiming to improve stock assessment and MSE related modelling
- to agree on the best electronic tagging methodologies (type of tags, tag deployment methods, tagging time and areas, target population fraction...) to fulfil the objectives derived from SCRS research needs.

Participants

The target participants are researchers with direct experience in BFT electronic tagging and/or familiar with the use of spatially explicit info within the framework of BFT assessment. However, it is open to any interested SCRS scientists.

Agenda (tentative)

1. Opening
2. Short presentations on current BFT tagging programs
3. Presentation on the use of electronic tagging data within the framework of BFT MSE modelling
4. Open discussion sessions on:
 - a) identification of main knowledge gaps on BFT spatial patterns.
 - b) identification of SCRS research needs in this field.
 - c) electronic tagging methodologies to address SCRS research needs
5. Elaboration of concrete recommendations for 2021 BFT tagging campaigns
6. Closure



Additional information for participants

1. Date and venue

The workshop will be held online between 15 and 16 March 2021. Meeting hours will be from **15:00 to 17:00 CET (Central European Time)** to account for time zone differences.

2. Contact information

Secretariat Contact: Francisco Alemany(francisco.alemany@iccat.int)
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
c/ Corazón de María 8, 6th floor
28002 Madrid, Spain
Phone: +34 91 416 5600; Mobile Phone +34 667561549; Fax: +34 91 415 2612

3. Language

The working language for the meeting will be English, as no simultaneous translation can be provided.

4. Registration

Participants are kindly request to register for the workshop by **8 March 2021** at the latest. Prior registration is essential for the Secretariat to ensure the setting of the online platform. **Online registration** shall be carried out on the ICCAT [current meetings page](#) or [Registration form](#). All delegates from CPCs willing to attend the meeting shall notify in advance their Head Delegate or Head Scientist to ensure they are included in the official list that shall be sent to the Secretariat by **10 March 2021**.

5. Online settings

All duly registered participants **will receive an e-mail** through the online platform **with a link to join the workshop**.