

INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE  
CONSERVATION OF ATLANTIC TUNAS



COMMISSION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA  
CONSERVATION DES THONIDES DE L'ATLANTIQUE

COMISION INTERNACIONAL PARA LA  
CONSERVACION DEL ATUN ATLANTICO

Madrid, 17 November 2021

## ICCAT CIRCULAR # 8651/2021

**SUBJECT: NORTHEASTERN ATLANTIC PORBEAGLE DATA COMPILATION WORKSHOP AIMING 2022 ICCAT-ICES STOCK ASSESSMENT (Online, 29 November – 3 December 2021)**

I would like to inform you that the Secretariat was recently notified that ICES has scheduled a meeting of their *Working Group on Elasmobranch Fishes* (WGEF), to be held online between 29 November and 3 December 2021. The schedule includes a Northeastern Atlantic porbeagle data compilation workshop on 29 November 2021, aiming an ICES:ICCAT assessment of this stock in 2022.

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

Please receive the assurances of my highest consideration.

*Executive Secretary*

Camille Jean Pierre Manel

### **DISTRIBUTION:**

– **Commission Officers:**

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SCRS Chair:	G. Melvin	SCRS Vice Chair:	R. Coelho

– **Head Delegates / Head Scientists**

– **Cooperating Parties, Entities, or Fishing Entities**

**Attachment:** Addition background information and ToRs for the Benchmark and Assessment meetings.



## NORTHEASTERN ATLANTIC PORBEAGLE DATA COMPILATION WORKSHOP

(Online, 29 November – 3 December 2021)

### Objectives

ICES and ICCAT aim to conduct in 2022 an assessment of the Northeastern Atlantic porbeagle stock, which was last updated in 2009 using a Bayesian Surplus Production (BSP) model, but the lack of CPUE data for the peak of the fishery was considered to add considerable uncertainty in identifying the status of the stock.

Accordingly, a Northeastern Atlantic porbeagle data compilation workshop has been scheduled for experts to check the available data (quality, coverage, fit for purpose), discuss if any inter-session work is needed on data in terms of further cleaning or testing of data sets and indices for the models and take decision on the input data for the stock assessment.

In addition, the following issues may also be briefly discussed aiming the planning of the Benchmark meeting: Stock identity and migration issues; fishery; current sampling levels for landings and discards; landings/catch time-series; Life-history data; dependent and independent abundance/biomass indices; any developments on stock assessment method/approach.

This data compilation workshop will be followed by a benchmark meeting (scheduled for 7-11 March 2022, Nantes, France), which will take decisions on methods to be used during the Northeastern Porbeagle assessment meeting. The latter is scheduled for 14-23 June 2022, tentatively in Lisbon (Portugal).

### Tentative Agenda

(29 November and 3 December 2021, 14:00-14:15 CPH TIME)

Gérard Biais (Stock leader)

14:00-14:15

Opening of the meeting, code of conduct, introduction participants & meeting ToRs.

14:15-15:30

**Porbeagle** (*Lamna nasus*) in the Northeast Atlantic and adjacent waters (por.27.nea) discussions – Category 6 stock

15:45-17:30

Plenary discussion and proposed workplan.



## **Additional information for participants**

### **1. Date and venue**

The meeting will be held online on **29 November and 3 December 2021**. Meeting hours will be from **14:00-14:15 CPH TIME** to account for time zone differences.

### **2. Registration and contact information**

For registration, experts are requested to send a message to Jette Fredslund ([jette.fredslund@ices.dk](mailto:jette.fredslund@ices.dk)) and the ICCAT Secretariat ([info@iccat.int](mailto:info@iccat.int)). Once experts are registered, they will be granted access to the SharePoint. In case new data or presentations are being prepared for the meeting (other than data submitted on the data call), experts need to communicate with the Chairs in advance.