

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, 20 December 2021

ICCAT CIRCULAR # 9261/2021

SUBJECT: 2022 SKIPJACK TUNA DATA PREPARATORY MEETING
(Online, 21 - 25 February 2022)

I would like to inform you that the *2022 Skipjack tuna Data Preparatory meeting* of the Tropical Species Group will be held online between 21 and 25 February 2022.

Attached please find the tentative agenda of the meeting 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 meeting. This announcement will also be published on the [current meetings page](#) of our website.

In order to organize the online meeting in advance of the session, in particular, regarding the number of participants, you are kindly requested to send to the Secretariat a list of delegates who will participate in the meeting by **11 February 2022**. Participants must also register for the meeting using the online registration form available on the [current meetings page](#) of our website by **11 February 2022**.

Please receive the assurances of my highest consideration.

Executive Secretary

Camille Jean Pierre Manel

DISTRIBUTION:

– **Commission Officers:**

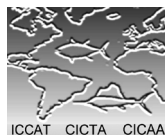
Commission Chair:	R. Delgado
First Vice Chair:	S. Depypere
Second Vice Chair:	Z. Driouich
Chairs Panels 1 to 4	
SCRS Chair:	G. Melvin

COC Chair:	D. Campbell
PWG Chair:	N. Ansell
STACFAD Chair:	H.A Elekon
SCRS Vice Chair	R. Coelho

– **Head Delegates/HScientists**

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

Attachment: Tentative Agenda and information for participants.



2022 SKIPJACK TUNA DATA PREPARATORY MEETING (Online, 21 – 25 February 2022)

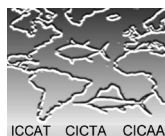
Objectives

The SCRS will include data up to 2020 during the 2022 assessment of skipjack tuna. The assessment models Surplus production (JABBA) and Catch statistical models (SS3) will be used in 2022. Updates of relevant biological parameters and relative abundance indices are requested for the new assessment including data until 2021 when available.

Tentative Agenda*

1. Opening, adoption of Agenda, and meeting arrangements
2. Review of historical and new data on skipjack biology (including analysis of AOTTP data)
 - 2.1. Age and growth
 - 2.2. Natural mortality
 - 2.3. Reproduction and sex-ratio
 - 2.4. Length-weight relationship and its variability
 - 2.5. Movement and stock structure
3. Review of fishery statistics
 - 3.1. Task 1 (catches) data
 - 3.2. Task 2 (catch-effort and size samples) data
4. Fishery indicators
 - 4.1. Average weight by gear type
 - 4.2. Spatial distribution of catches with special attention to FAD closures
5. Estimation of catch at size and catch at age
6. Indices of relative abundance
 - 6.1. For individual fleets
 - 6.2. Combined indices
7. Specifications of data inputs required for the different assessment models and advice framework
8. Research recommendations
9. Responses to the Commission
10. Other matters
11. Adoption of the report and closure

* An annotated agenda will be circulated by the Chair during the week before the start of the meeting, which will include the schedule for the different agenda items.



Additional information for participants

1. Date and venue

The meeting will be held online between 21 and 25 February 2022. Meeting hours will be from **11:00 - 16:30 CET (Madrid Time)** to account for time zone differences.

2. Contact information

Chair of the meeting: Dr. David Die (ddie@rsmas.miami.edu)
Cooperative Institute of Marine and Atmospheric Studies
University of Miami, 4600 Rickenbacker Cswy, 33149, Miami USA
Tel: +1 305 421 4607

Co-chair of the meeting: Rodrigo Sant'ana (rsantana@univali.br)
Laboratório de Estudos Marinhos Aplicados - LEMA Ecola do Mar, Ciência e Tecnologia - EMCT,
Universidade do Vale do Itajaí - UNIVALI, Rua Uruquai, 458 - Bloco E2, Sala 108 - Centro, Itajaí, CEP
88302-901 Santa Catarina, Itajaí
Tel: +55 (47) 99627 1868

Secretariat contact: Dr. Mauricio Ortiz (mauricio.ortiz@iccat.int)
International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)
C/ Corazón de María 8, 6th floor, Madrid 28002, Spain
Tel: +34 91 416 5600; Fax: +34 91 415 2612

3. Language

The working language for the meeting will be English, as no simultaneous interpretation can be provided. Scientific documents can be written in English, Spanish or French.

4. Call for scientific papers and presentations

Participants are encouraged to submit relevant scientific papers. In order to better organize the meetings, in 2014 the SCRS established deadlines for submitting documents, which were revised in 2015. These deadlines provide the rapporteurs with valuable information to better fit the meeting timetable as well as allow the Secretariat to make the documents available to participants in advance of the meeting. In 2015 and 2019 the SCRS "*proposed that a new deadline for the submission of SCRS documents and presentations should be implemented; these documents/presentations should be provided in their entirety at least one week before the meeting in which they are to be presented to facilitate their review by participating scientists prior to these meetings*". As such the full documents and presentations for this meeting should be provided to info@iccat.int or mauricio.ortiz@iccat.int by **11 February 2022**. Documents and presentations provided after the latter deadline will not be accepted unless previously authorized by the Chair. Authors are reminded to closely follow the *Guidelines for Authors of Scientific Documents for the ICCAT SCRS and Collective Volume Series*. Furthermore, the original documents (text, tables, and figures) should be prepared in WORD or compatible software.



5. Provision of data

CPCs are requested to submit Task 1 or Task 2 data (including estimations of *faux poisson*) up until the year 2020, two weeks before the beginning of the meeting (**4 February 2022**).

Main bait and boat, purse seiners and other surface fleets are requested to update standardized skipjack CPUE indices until 2020. Since the Working Group on Stock Assessment Methods (WGSAM), established standard criteria to evaluate standardized catch rates, it is recommended that authors of documents on standardized CPUEs follow the instructions defined by the WGSAM describing the information required to facilitate the appropriate construction and evaluation of CPUE series. Parties should submit the indices of abundance one week before the meeting. In this way, the authors of CPUEs together with the Chair and the Secretariat will prepare a tentative CPUE evaluation table in advance of the meeting. Additionally, combined CPUE standardizations across CPC's are strongly encouraged, following other examples already observed within ICCAT.

6. Registration

Participants are kindly requested to register for the meeting by **11 February 2022** at the latest. Early registration is essential for the Secretariat to ensure the setting up of the online platform. **Online registration** must be completed through the ICCAT [current meetings page](#) or [Registration form](#). All delegates from CPCs wishing to attend the meeting must notify in advance their Head Delegate or Head Scientist to ensure that they are included in the official list that must be sent to the Secretariat by **15 February 2022**.

7. Online settings

The Secretariat is using the Zoom application for the online meetings. You can find the hardware requirements to join an online meeting at the following link: [Zoom Hardware requirements](#). We strongly suggest using headphones with a microphone to be able to hear and speak comfortably during the meeting.

A brief and clear introduction of the application can be found at [Zoom-overview](#), if you have further questions, please contact the Secretariat for support. All participants duly registered **will receive an e-mail** through the online platform **with a link to join the meeting**.