



CCSBT-EC/0710/21

13. Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation

Purpose

To provide relevant background information to support the Extended Commission's deliberations on the setting of a total allowable catch (TAC) for 2007 and its distribution among the Members.

Recommendations of ESC12

The ESC12 made the following management recommendations.

1. The indicator analysis did not provide any appreciable signs of change in stock status and hence there is no basis to revise the SAG conclusions in 2006. The SAG will continue to monitor indicators in 2008.
2. Because the TAC has been set for 2007-2009 and no changes are anticipated until 2009, the SAG will need to consider available information in 2009 and use scenario modelling to evaluate the impact of different future catch levels on stock status.
3. To ensure a high probability of stock rebuilding, all unreported and under-reported catches must be eliminated, and a management procedure needs to be adopted as a basis to provide TAC advice in 2011 or 2012 when catch quotas will again be reconsidered by CCSBT. A work plan has been agreed to advance the development of an MP, with initial emphasis placed on re-conditioning the operating model and refining the scenarios used for testing different candidate decision rules, and the extent to which they will result in management objectives being achieved in the face of uncertainties.
4. While some progress has been made towards development of new historical CPUE series, further work is needed to reduce the uncertainty about historical catches (including that associated with possible bias in the 40-fish sampling used to estimate size composition and mean weight of the surface catch), and to evaluate the effect of market anomalies on CPUE and determine appropriate adjustments.
5. Previous MP development used LL1 CPUE and its age structure as the sole input. The ESC agreed that future MPs should be based on inputs from a broader range of indicators.
6. In terms of future data, accurate catch and effort estimates are critical to any stock assessment or management procedure. There needs to be assurance that these data are accurate through some combination of comparison of data from vessels with and without observers, and other monitoring and compliance measures, including the possibility of further market and farming monitoring. Increased levels and quality of observer coverage would increase the value of these analyses as well as the value of information from tagging programmes, though this needs to be considered in the light of cost and

benefit analyses. Also, monitoring of recruitment and of the spawning biomass must continue, and where possible, be improved.

Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and National Allocations

At CCSBT13 the Extended Commission agreed as part of interim management measures, to adopt a TAC based on binding allocated catch limits for 2007 – 2009 as follows:

	Nominal catch (tonnes)	Allocated catch (tonnes)
Japan	6065	3000 (2007 – 2011)
Australia	5265	5265 (2007 – 2009)
New Zealand	420	420 (2007 – 2009)
Korea	1140	1140 (2007 – 2009)
Taiwan	1140	1140 (2007 – 2009)

The Extended Commission agreed that each Member shall be bound to the allocated catch in column three above.

The TAC will only be reviewed if exceptional circumstances emerge in relation to the stock.

The Extended Commission agreed on interim catch allocations for Cooperating Non Members and observers for 2007, as follows:

	Allocated catch (tonnes)
Indonesia	750
The Philippines	45
South Africa	40
European Community	10

The Extended Commission noted that the new TAC will be 11,810t.

Except in exceptional circumstances, which have not been identified by the ESC, the TAC for Members for 2008 was set by CCSBT13

CCSBT13 set interim catch allocations to for Cooperating Non Members and observers only for 2007

For discussion

Prepared by the Secretariat