

Commission for the Conservation of  
Southern Bluefin Tuna



みなまぐろ保存委員会

## **Report of the Special Meeting of the Commission**

**26-27 April 2004**  
**Busan, Republic of Korea**

**Report of the Special Meeting of the Commission**  
**26-27 April 2004**  
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**Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting and adoption of the agenda**

1. The Chair (Mr Ki Hiok Barng, Republic of Korea) welcomed participants and opened the meeting.
2. The meeting approved the Chair's proposed procedure for managing the Commission and Extended Commission Meetings.
3. The agenda was adopted and is included at **Appendix 1**.
4. The list of meeting participants is included at **Appendix 2**.

**Agenda Item 2. Approval of decisions taken by the Extended Commission**

5. The Commission approved the decisions taken by the Extended Commission for the Special Meeting of the Commission, which is at **Appendix 3**.

**Agenda Item 3. Other business**

6. There was no other business.

**Agenda Item 4. Adoption of report of meeting**

7. The report was adopted.

**Agenda Item 5. Close of meeting**

8. The meeting closed at 6:45pm, 27 April 2004.

## **List of Appendices**

### Appendix

- 1 Agenda
- 2 List of Participants
- 3 Report of the Special Meeting of the Extended Commission

**Agenda  
Special Meeting of the Commission  
26-27 April 2004  
Busan, Republic of Korea**

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of agenda
2. Approval of decisions taken by Extended Commission
3. Other business
4. Adoption of report of meeting
5. Close of meeting

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**Special Meeting of the Extended Commission**  
**26-27 April 2004**  
**Busan, Republic of Korea**

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みなまぐろ保存委員会

**Appendix 3**

# **Report of the Special Meeting of the Extended Commission**

**26-27 April 2004  
Busan, Republic of Korea**

## **Report of the Special Meeting of the Extended Commission**

**26-27 April 2004**

**Busan, Republic of Korea**

### **Agenda Item 1. Opening of meeting**

#### *1.1 Structure of meeting*

1. The Chair (Mr Ki Hiok Barng, Korea) welcomed members of the Extended Commission and the observers from Indonesia and opened the meeting.

#### *1.2 Adoption of agenda*

2. The agenda was adopted and is included at **Attachment 1**.
3. The list of documents submitted to the meeting is at **Attachment 2**.

#### *1.3 Opening statements*

4. Members of the Extended Commission and observers introduced their delegations and provided opening statements. The list of meeting participants is at **Attachment 3** and the opening statements are at **Attachment 4**.

### **Agenda Item 2. Presentation of the management procedure trial results from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Management Procedure Workshop**

5. The Chair of the Management Procedure Workshop introduced this item. He provided an outline of the important elements of the Report of the Meeting of the Third Management Procedure Workshop (MPWS3): Particularly:
  - Trade-offs critical to the selection of a management procedure (paragraph 18 of MPWS3 report).
  - Tables prepared for comparing management procedures on how well they performed to aid in selection of a reduced set of management procedures (Tables 3.1 and 3.2 of the MPWS3 report). The reduced set of management procedures was presented at paragraph 39 of the MPWS3 report.
  - The performance of the reference case model seemed to contradict the advice given by the Stock Assessment Group (SAG) in 2001 and the indicator analyses in 2002 and 2003. He indicated that more work was required to understand why the reference case projections appeared to be in conflict with this advice and highlighted the new information that needed to be considered before drawing conclusions about the performance of the operating model (paragraph 52 of the MPWS3 report). A terms of reference for SAG 5 was recommended by the MPWS3 (paragraph 58 of the MPWS3 report) to help progress this issue.

- Rules for dealing with exceptional circumstances were considered by MPWS3 and that Attachment 5 of the MPWS3 report provided a schematic presentation of the steps in this process.
6. The MPWS3 developed a presentation (Attachment 6 of MPWS3 report) to be given to the Special Meeting and Dr Hilborn presented these results to the meeting.
  7. Following the presentation, Commissioners asked a number of questions. These included:
    - What potential exists to manipulate the MP data inputs in a manner that damages the integrity of the MP?
    - Whether projections can be shown to provide an indication of recruitment risks under different MPs?
    - Whether the independent panel could offer guidance to Commissioners on practical management objectives for SBT?
    - Given the contradiction between the outcomes of the reference case and previous scientific advice provided to the Commission, is there still a fifty/fifty chance that the biomass will increase or decrease with current catch levels?
    - What assumptions have been made regarding future non-member catches and future fishing patterns (e.g. increasing catches by gears such as purse seine and by-catches)?
    - How could we get a better understanding of the uncertainty about the average in the management procedure projections? In other words, how in this process can we better assess the risk of ending up in extremes?
  8. In response to these questions, members of the Independent Panel and the Chair of MPWS3 commented that:
    - The data used by the decision rules are CPUE data from the Japanese fleet. An average of 5 CPUE series, including the raw Japanese CPUE series and 4 interpretations of this series are used and it is possible that different fishing behaviours could result in contrasting trends between some of these series. It is necessary to decide how to monitor and control the data quality to be used in the management procedure before implementation. It would be possible to design a metarule that could examine changes between these and or other CPUE series and respond accordingly.
    - The panel is not in a position to advise on practical management objectives as this is an issue for the Commission. However, we note that the probability of a management procedure achieving a specified target depends on the state of the stock at a particular point in time. If the state of the stock changes or the information used to assess the stock changes, then the probability of achieving a specified target will also change. An approach that adjusted the management procedure as new information was obtained could be used to maintain a consistent probability of achieving a specified target. However, such an approach removes the advantages of a management procedure in having predefined rules for future TAC setting.

- A contradiction has been detected between the reference case and past advice. However, a stock assessment has not been conducted since 2001 and until the stock assessment is conducted in September this year, we have no basis for providing new probabilities.
  - Future fishing practices are assumed to be similar to fishing patterns in recent years. Any major change in fishing practices would need to trigger a metarule. The management procedures also assume that the total catch can be controlled and that total removals will be the same as the TAC specified by the management procedures. Therefore, for a management procedure to work, any growth in non-member catches would need to be compensated by reduction in member and cooperating non-member catches.
9. Dr Hilborn provided definitions for the main terminology used in the management procedure discussions. These definitions are at **Attachment 5**.

**Agenda Item 3. Discussion of the results of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Management Procedure Workshop and the presentation from the Independent Panel**

10. Following independent consideration of results by members, the panel were asked to prepare further material in response to specific requests from members.
11. In discussing the list of additional material, questions were asked in relation to the expected time frame for addressing the inconsistency between the reference case and the previous stock assessment and indicator analyses. It was noted that work would be conducted at SAG 5 in September and this may resolve the issue. However, if the issue remains unresolved at that time, further exploration would be required after SAG 5 and this could require a further management procedure workshop. In this context, a decision on implementation of a management procedure could be delayed until CCSBT 12.
12. Dr Parma presented the material that the panel prepared in response to the requests from members at paragraph 10. The relevant figures are shown at **Attachment 6**. Considerable discussion occurred during the presentation, and points that arose during this discussion included:
- While the performance of the averages of runs for the 4 MPs are often similar, there are often differences in the performance for individual runs (e.g. in TAC stability or risk of low biomass).
  - Outcomes are more dependant on the level of stock productivity than differences between the 4 MPs.
  - The primary factor determining productivity in the model is the relationship between spawning stock and recruitment. Three hypothesis regarding stock and recruitment were developed by the MPWS and the group placed weightings on the likelihood of these three hypotheses<sup>1</sup> based on its experience and knowledge

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<sup>1</sup> The most likely hypotheses (middle productivity) receiving a probability weighting of 0.6 and the other two hypotheses (low and high productivity) each receiving weightings of 0.2.

of SBT. It was also noted that the unproductive (pessimistic) reference case was due to estimates of recruitments in the recent past rather than the stock recruitment relationship.

- Some management procedures applied TAC cuts earlier than other management procedures and there was a trade off between early TAC cuts and later TAC cuts. If TAC reductions were made later, they would need to be larger overall to achieve the same result.
- The current reference case has inevitable initial TAC decreases which contradict the last assessment. It is also predicting lower CPUE than those observed in 2001 and 2002, which is why the MPWS3 wishes to update the reference case.
- Many of the performance statistics were similar between runs with TAC changes restricted to 3 and 5 year periods. However, the maximum TAC decrease was considerably larger for runs that restricted TAC changes to a five yearly basis.
- Once a management procedure is implemented, the recommended three yearly stock assessment cycle would be established to check that the management procedure was working properly. TAC advice would come from the management procedure unless exceptional circumstances were detected by the assessment to trigger a metarule.
- Due to the dynamics of the SBT fishery, it was considered that there was not a need to conduct a full stock assessment for SBT more frequently than every 3 years. The recommended 3 year assessment cycle was also chosen to coincide with the 3 year management procedure TAC setting cycle.
- An important advantage of the management procedure approach is that it provides a pre-agreed basis for setting the TAC. This removes the conflict that arises when TAC decisions need to be made and alternate stock assessments with differing results are available.

#### **Agenda Item 4. Management objectives**

13. Members provided their general views on management objectives for the SBT fishery:

- All members agreed that the existing management objective was not feasible and that an achievable management objective was required. Most members also commented that progress towards the objective needed to be monitored and demonstrated.
- Australia and New Zealand both required an objective that would result in rebuilding of the stock and mentioned that this is a fundamental component of the current management objective.
- New Zealand requested that information be provided on the probability of reaching  $B_{MSY}$  by 2022, 2032 and reaching  $B_{1980}$  by 2022 and 2032

- The Fishing Entity of Taiwan preferred to have only gradual TAC reductions in the short term and sought a management objective compatible with a 0.9 tuning level.
  - Japan wish to have a management objective based on  $B_{MSY}$  levels.
  - Korea felt that a  $B_{MSY}$  or a  $B_{2002}$  objective was appropriate but that it was still considering the matter. Korea was also concerned about the uncertainty of determining  $B_{MSY}$  for the fishery.
14. The Commission provided guidance to scientists for further development of the management procedures:
- Most members preferred a three year TAC setting cycle, but Japan also requested results on a 5 year cycle.
  - All members required results for a starting year of 2008. In addition, Australia and New Zealand requested results for a starting year of 2006.
  - Australia requested further work be done to illustrate the risks associated with further declines in spawning biomass and of possible ways to minimise this risk.
  - Most members commented on the importance of metarules and that agreed metarules need to be built into the management procedure process.
  - New Zealand requested that frequency distributions of the spawning stock biomass at 2022 and 2032 for each of the management procedures be presented.
15. The Commission agreed that it wanted the Independent Panel to provide an evaluation of the updated operating model. Members agreed that national scientists and the panel should develop a terms of reference for the SAG5/SC9 meetings in relation to management procedure issues and a work plan for completion of the management procedure work. The terms of reference and work plan are at **Attachment 7**.

#### **Agenda Item 5. Relationship with non-members**

16. The Executive Secretary introduced this item and it was agreed to discuss progress on applications for cooperating non-member status first and then issues relating to linkages with the CCSBT resolution on IUU fishing.
17. As regards the Philippines, the Commission noted the advice of Japan that the Philippines was almost ready to accept a catch limit of 50 tonnes and it was agreed to write to the Philippines on this basis. The Commission observed that the Philippines was fishing by agreement in the Indonesian EEZ and that having the Philippines become a cooperating non-member would benefit the Commission's attempts to control fishing in the spawning ground.
18. The Commission noted that a basis for Indonesia to apply for cooperating non-member status has been agreed and that a formal application would be received in the near future.



19. Concerning South Africa, members presented a number of views on an approach to the South African application. Japan advised that it was unlikely that South Africa could develop a substantial SBT fishery unless operating outside its EEZ with the introduction of large scale vessels. Their view was that the current offer of 30 tonnes should stand with a review if the fishery develops. Australia supported this view or alternatively suggested there be no formal allocation made at this stage and that the CCSBT keep the fishery under review. New Zealand pointed out that South Africa was a range State with rights under international law and the Commission members have a duty to cooperate with South Africa. If South Africa was to apply for full membership a catch limit of more than 30 tonnes would be justified. New Zealand noted that information supplied by South Africa indicated historical catches in excess of 30 tonnes within the South African EEZ. New Zealand thought it important that the Commissions response did not alienate South Africa and affect cooperation. Also, Korea commented that there is a huge gap between the CCSBT's current offer and South Africa's response and that the Commission needs to develop a timeline to address this matter.
20. The Commission agreed to defer a decision on South Africa to CCSBT 11 and that the Executive Secretary should write to South Africa informing them of this decision and that members would continue to consult intersessionally.
21. Members discussed the situation of original Taiwanese vessels registered in Indonesia. The Fishing Entity of Taiwan indicated that as these vessels were exported to Indonesia it was not possible for the Fishing Entity of Taiwan to take action. Australia, New Zealand and Japan pointed out that this practice was contrary to the UN Fish Stocks Agreement and Article 15.2 and 15.3 of the CCSBT Convention and that The Fishing Entity of Taiwan was obligated to take action even though the vessels were registered in Indonesia.
22. In this context Indonesia advised that it needs assistance from The Fishing Entity of Taiwan if it is to address the problem in Indonesia and suggested that the CCSBT list of authorised vessels would make a difference after it was implemented.
23. The meeting noted that China had begun catching SBT and exporting the product to Japan (35 tonnes). It was noted that China had advised some members bilaterally that they do not intend to apply for full membership or cooperating non-membership of the CCSBT. It was agreed that the Executive Secretary would write to China asking them for advise on their intentions in relation to the SBT fishery and advising them of the implications of the IUU resolution.
24. Australia indicated that Spain appeared to have started an exploratory fishing program in the SBT fishing grounds. The European Commission had advised that they would investigate the legality of this arrangement if the CCSBT or Australia could provide the appropriate information. It was agreed to do this.
25. To avoid an ad-hoc approach to dealing with new members or cooperating non-members, it was agreed that the Secretariat would prepare a draft set of criteria for the admission of new members for development intersessionally.

**Agenda Item 6. Other business**

26. There was no other business.

**Agenda Item 7. Adoption of report**

27. The report was adopted.

**Agenda Item 8. Close of meeting**

28. The meeting closed at 6:40pm, 27 April 2004

## **List of Attachments**

### Attachment

- 1 Agenda
- 2 List of Documents
- 3 List of Participants
- 4 Opening Statements by Members
- 5 Definitions of terminology used to Discuss Management Procedures
- 6 Plots prepared by the Panel in Response to Requests from Members
- 7 Terms of Reference for SAG5/SC9 Meetings and Workplan for completion of MP work.

**Agenda**  
**Special Meeting of the Extended Commission**  
**26-27 April 2004**  
**Busan, Republic of Korea**

1. Opening of meeting
  - 1.1 Structure of meeting
  - 1.2 Adoption of agenda
  - 1.3 Opening Statements
2. Presentation of the management procedure trial results from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Management Procedure Workshop.
3. Discussion of the results of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Management Procedure Workshop and the presentation from the Independent Panel
4. Management objectives
5. Relationship with non-members
6. Other business
7. Adoption of report
8. Close of meeting

**List of Documents  
Special Meeting of the Extended Commission**

**(CCSBT/0404/ )**

01. Draft Agenda and the Annotation
02. List of Participants
03. Draft List of Documents
04. (Secretariat) Report of the Discussion with South Africa
05. (Secretariat) Report of the Discussion with Indonesia
06. (Secretariat) Report of the Discussion with Philippines
07. (Secretariat) South Africa's Request for a Country Catch Allocation
- 08 (Secretariat) Implementation of Resolution on IUU Fishing

**(CCSBT/0404/Rep )**

01. Report of the Tenth Annual Meeting of the Commission (October 2003)
02. Report of the Eighth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (September 2003)
03. Report of the Fourth Meeting of the Stock Assessment Group (August 2003)
04. Report of the Second Meeting of Management Procedure Workshop (April 2003)
05. Report of the Indonesian Catch Monitoring Review Workshop (April 2003)
06. Report of the Third Meeting of the Stock Assessment Group (September 2002)
07. Report of the First Meeting of Management Procedure Workshop (March 2002)
08. Report of the CPUE Modelling Workshop (March 2002)
09. Report of the Management Strategy Workshop (May 2000)

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**Special Meeting of the Extended Commission**  
**26-27 April 2004**  
**Busan, Republic of Korea**

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**Opening Statement by Australia**

Welcome to the CCSBT and good morning to you all. Good morning to my favourite interpreters. Congratulations Chair on your appointment, we have a number of challenges for the coming year and will appreciate your guidance. To my Korean hosts, thank you, you have selected an excellent location for this, the first CCSBT meeting to be held in Korea and I look forward to the Commission meeting later this year.

I note the attendance at this meeting of representatives of the tuna industries of member countries. It is good to see you here. I am sure we can make this meeting and the next Commission meeting interesting for you.

Welcome to Indonesia and again congratulations to you and your team for organising an exceptional and successful meeting of the Preparatory Conference for the soon to be established Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission last week in Bali.

The issue of finalising a management procedure for the CCSBT is important. Australia, while committed to the process is fully aware of the challenges that are ahead of us. As we move forward down this path it is important that we all move at the same pace and level of understanding, so that any decisions we reach can be agreed and applied with the full understanding and commitment of all members of the CCSBT.

Chair, in trying to understand this process it has reminded me of a book of my youth, '*A hitchhikers guide to the galaxy*'. It had an article in it on the construction of a random improbability generator and given the range of potential probabilities and improbabilities in the fishery maybe we should ask CSIRO to construct a CCSBT random improbability generator. Interestingly, the last book in the series was called '*So long and thanks for all the fish*'. I can only hope there is no link.

That's it from me chair. I look forward to a friendly and constructive meeting.  
Thank you.

**Opening Statement by the Fishing Entity of Taiwan**

On behalf of Taiwan, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Government of Korea as a host, the persons in charge and the staffs of the CCSBT Secretariat for their efforts in preparing this meeting.

For the purpose of establishing a clear and transparent mechanism of global Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of Southern Bluefin Tuna, Members of the CCSBT agreed to develop a Management Procedure at CCSBT8. This is scheduled to be completed in three workshops and is expected to be finalized at CCSBT11 on October 2004.

The first and the second workshops have been finished in 2002 and 2003, and the third was held in last week. Until now, the process is on schedule. Taiwan appreciates the significant contributions made by Dr. Penney, the Chair of the workshop, Dr Parma, the Technical Coordinator of the management procedure development process, the independent panel, and member scientists. Taiwan has also worked hard and tried our best to make positive contribution in developing MP.

In the light of the importance of economic issues raised by the consultants and SAG, Taiwan has made effort to incorporate economic considerations into the development of a management procedure.

Considering the management objectives, we think it is equally important for the sustainability of both the stock and the industry.

In addition, I would like to extend my appreciation to Australia, Japan, New Zealand and Korea as well as the Executive Secretary, Mr. Macdonald for opening discussions with South Africa, Indonesia, and the Philippines separately, concerning the CCSBT's invitation of these countries to accede to the Convention.

The consensus on Indonesia's application for cooperating non-member status has been reached, while South Africa and the Philippines need further discussion. We hope that agreement will be reached after further negotiations with these countries.

Finally, we expect we can fully exchange views on issues concerned and have fruitful outcomes in the next two days.

Thank you.

**Opening Statement by Japan**

(Translated by the Secretariat)

Thank you Chairman.

I am Tomofumi Kume, head of the Japanese delegation. I have taken over Mr. Nakamae's duties since last January. I am happy to work with you.

This is the first meeting of the CCSBT to be held in Korea. First of all, I would like to express my deep gratitude to Korean officials for this wonderful venue and the arrangements made for the meeting.

Because of member's cooperation and efforts, we have agreed on a TAC for the first time in seven years, taken action towards non-members and reached decisions on many other issues at CCSBT10. In this meeting, we will be discussing the development of a management procedure and actions towards non-members, which are most important for the Commission. I hope that the discussion will progress in the same good spirit as at the last annual meeting.

The development of the management procedure commenced in March 2002. To finalise this work according to our schedule, I have heard that a great deal of work was done by each member's scientists over a short period under the guidance of the advisory committee and independent chairs. Japan also deeply expresses its thanks and regards to not only the independent scientists, coordinator and programmer but also every national scientist who was in charge of this work. If we have sufficient information from scientists at this meeting, we think it is imperative that we give the appropriate directions to the Scientific Committee so that the Commission will be able to adopt the most appropriate management procedure at the next annual meeting.

On the other hand, in order to be effective in our management objectives, we think that actions towards non-members are getting even more important. In terms of catch management, we think that management procedures and actions towards non-members should be taken forwarded in one package. Although we have adopted resolutions relating to cooperating non-members and an IUU positive list, and there were great advances made at the last annual meeting, our concern over non-member catches has not been eradicated. Members should take strong action pursuant to these

resolutions, otherwise only members will be forced to take hard decisions and non-members will freely operate outside the CCSBT management scheme. The Commission has to ask non-members to join the CCSBT framework. Fortunately, Japan is the biggest market country and has significant experience in actions towards non-members. We would like to contribute positively according to these experiences.

Lastly, I would like to express my gratitude to the Secretariat and the Government of Korea, which have made significant efforts in preparing for this meeting.

Thank you.



**Opening Statement by New Zealand**

Good morning and thank you to our hosts, Korea, for your warm welcome.

New Zealand was greatly heartened by the outcomes of the Christchurch Commission meeting last year, in particular the agreement on a total allowable catch for members, national allocations and a TAC for cooperating non-members. Without this fundamental basis on which to manage the stock, the Commission could not hope to make substantive or meaningful progress on the other important issues currently on its agenda. It is two of these issues that we are here over the next two days to consider. One is discussion of a new management procedure for CCSBT, with all the implications that flow from that. The other is the manner in which we deal with non-members and how we successfully and fairly bring them into this Commission.

The main focus of this meeting, the reason we are all here, is to allow CCSBT members to discuss the outcomes of the third management procedure workshop as openly and constructively as possible. We, as managers and decision-makers are here to provide feedback to our scientists and the independent panel on their results and give guidance on the specific issues they will no doubt be raising with us. Our time is short and we should not underestimate the complexity of this task or its importance to this Commission and the future management of the SBT stock.

New Zealand is therefore ready to work with delegates and the independent panel over the next two days on furthering the development of a new management procedure for CCSBT. We are committed to the process that was begun two years ago and we have been impressed by the efforts of member scientists and the independent panel in bringing the work on the management procedure to this stage.

However, we are now at a critical point. If our aim is to adopt a management procedure at our Commission meeting in October then we have some complex material to work through and some potentially difficult issues to address. New Zealand urges all members to engage fully in the discussions over the next two days. We will certainly be working hard to increase our understanding of this process and the implications for the future management of this fishery.

Through the process of developing and refining potential management procedures, we

must be clear about our objectives for the SBT stock. It is crucial to moving the process forward that we discuss possible management objectives over the next few days. This Commission currently has an objective to rebuild spawning stock biomass to 1980 levels by 2020. In Christchurch we agreed that this objective was no longer feasible and we discussed alternative management objectives. Central to all our discussion was the sense of responsibility that we hold to ensure that the management of the SBT stock is carried out in a manner that balances our utilisation and our conservation objectives. We cannot hope to benefit from carefully managed utilisation of SBT in the decades ahead unless we continue to commit ourselves to uphold the Convention's conservation goals.

Let me be clear - New Zealand is committed to rebuilding this stock and any revised objective must reflect this commitment. Any objective that does not reflect the commitment to rebuild the stock would be contrary to the Convention and our international obligations. We do have some flexibility around the timeframe for achieving rebuilding, and will be interested in discussing potential timeframes and review periods with members, scientists and the independent panel.

There will be difficult decisions to be taken if we are to secure the long-term benefits that the excellent work of our scientists is making possible. In making those decisions we will need to make sure that the gains that result flow to the benefit of those who contribute to the rebuilding effort. We must work together against efforts by parties who remain outside this Commission to increase their catch of SBT.

We are also here to review progress with our discussions with non-members and New Zealand is particularly pleased to welcome observers from Indonesia to this meeting. We look forward to working closely with you to increase your involvement in this Commission. Without the full cooperation and involvement of all those with an interest in this fishery, including coastal states, we will not be able to effectively manage SBT throughout its global range or to effectively combat IUU activities.

Experience has shown us that the early engagement and accommodation of non-members who fish for SBT will ensure that, overall, catches are constrained. However, the benefits of membership of this Commission (either as a member or cooperating non-member) also bring with it obligations.

The responsibility for conservation must be borne by all and we would expect non-members show restraint and to fully commit themselves to meeting their

obligations under the Convention.

Mr Chairman, these are the key issues that New Zealand believes we have before us at this meeting and I look forward to working constructively, openly and in a spirit of cooperation, with you, and all delegates, over the next two days.

Thank you.

**Opening Statement by the Republic of Korea**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman

Good morning, distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen.

First of all, we, Korean delegation, welcome all the participants of CCSBT special meeting in Busan, Korea. We are especially pleased to host this meeting which is very important to the sustainable use of southern bluefin tuna.

Developing the management procedures of SBT is close to the final destination and I believe that we should make our best efforts to increase awareness until the final decision is made. To adopt successfully the new procedures in the nearest future, we should be open to discussion in this Special Meeting and the 11th annual meeting, as we made a great progress in the 6th Preparatory Conference of WCPFC held in Bali, Indonesia. Furthermore, through the discussion, I think we will have a good chance to review our current stance and promote mutual understanding among the participants.

Regarding the management objectives, I want to emphasize that those should be set in a sustainable, practicable, and mutually agreed manner.

Another important issue in this meeting is to discuss and develop the strategies to make non-members comply with the Convention and the conservation and management measures under it. One of the strategies is to introduce the concept of Cooperating Non-Member status and make them play in the framework of CCSBT. I expect we can advance to admit Indonesia, South Africa and Philippines as Cooperating Non-Members or Extended Members.

We should remind the IUU fishing is the most detrimental to the sustainable fisheries and it is most likely to happen by non-members. Finally, in addition to the thorough monitoring, control and surveillance against non-members, it is important to encourage them to get the cooperating status or extended membership.

I hope you can enjoy Korea's beauty during your stay in Korea. You can find many fantastic places not only in Busan but in its vicinities, such as Gyeongju or Cheju

Island.

Thank you

**Opening Statement by Indonesia**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and deliver appreciation to the CCSBT Secretariat to invite Indonesia in this important meeting. I would like also to thanks and congratulate to South Korea Government to host this meeting and provide the convenient venue.

Indonesia is ready to be received as a “Cooperating non member” and has submitted the application to the commission. Indonesia is looking forward to further implementation of cooperation with CCSBT in all aspects that produce a mutual benefits.

With the status of “cooperating non member”, Indonesia is expecting to be able to implement a better fisheries management, mainly the SBT. The issues relating to SBT management in Indonesia are include IUU fishing, the uncertainty of spawning ground of SBT in Indonesia waters, the lack of stake holders awareness regarding the conservation measure of SBT.

As a part of fisheries management improvement, Indonesia is now developing the VMS technology where in 2004 there are 1,500 VMS transmitters of Argos system is being installed on the medium and large scale fishing vessels including long liners.

Indonesia perceive that one of the key success for CCSBT to achieve the goals in SBT management is the understanding amongst the members and non members. Therefore, Indonesia is looking forward to a more realistic and constructive cooperation and I do hope the acceptance of Indonesia become cooperating non member will contribute a positive role to the commission.

## Definitions of Terminology Used to Discuss Management Procedures

### **Operating model:**

The operating model is used to represent the population dynamics of SBT based on fits to available data (to 2000). These estimates (and the uncertainty) are used as a set of simulations for stock and fishery trajectories in order to test management procedures.

*Nautical analogy: a simulation of ocean and vessel conditions*

### **Reference case:**

Is the main configuration of the operating model used for testing MPs as agreed at the 2003 SAG held in Christchurch.

*Nautical analogy: the best estimate of ocean and vessel conditions (and the associated unpredictability of the weather)*

### **Robustness trials:**

Tests conducted using more challenging scenarios than the reference set.

*Nautical analogy: course made good under real (planetary) magnetic anomalies... adding previously unspecified ocean currents...placing uncharted islands in the ocean...*

### **Decision rule:**

A rule that specifies how future TACs will change based on data collected. The decision rule specifies the TAC change but not the magnitude. An **Empirical decision rule** is driven by data directly. Example: CPUE goes up, TAC goes up. A **Model-based decision rule** uses a model (typically a simple model) to analyze the data and set TACs.

*Nautical analogy: the autopilot as purchased (before the voyage).*

### **Management Procedure:**

In our context, a MP is a decision rule that has a specified rebuilding target (on average). The MP fully specifies how TACs will be modified as a function of the new data.

Example: a decision rule adjusted to achieve a spawning biomass in 2022 that is 10% above current.

*Nautical analogy: The autopilot set to a specific course.*

### **Metarules:**

Rules for evaluating whether or not the implemented MP is performing as anticipated and, if not, what to do. It includes rules to apply when unexpected circumstances occur.

*Nautical analogy: an unexpected reef appears on the bow... The compass was found to be in error...*

Plots prepared by the Panel in Response to Requests from Members

Randomly  
selected run

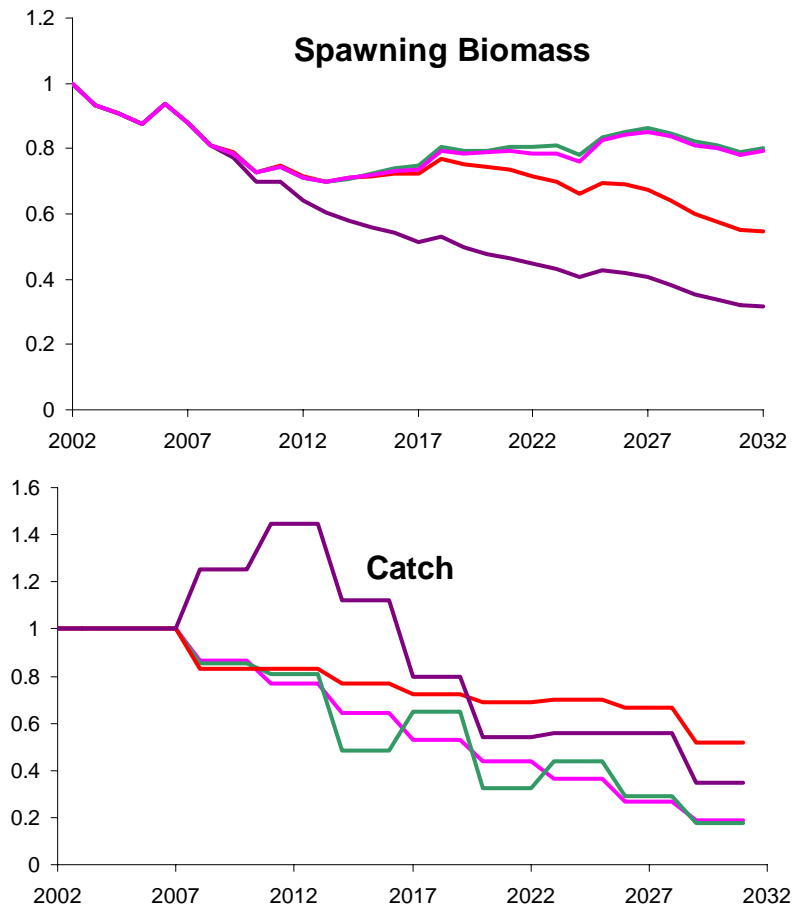


Figure 1a. Spawning biomass and catch trajectories for the 4 MPs for the first of three randomly selected runs from the reference set.



Randomly  
selected run

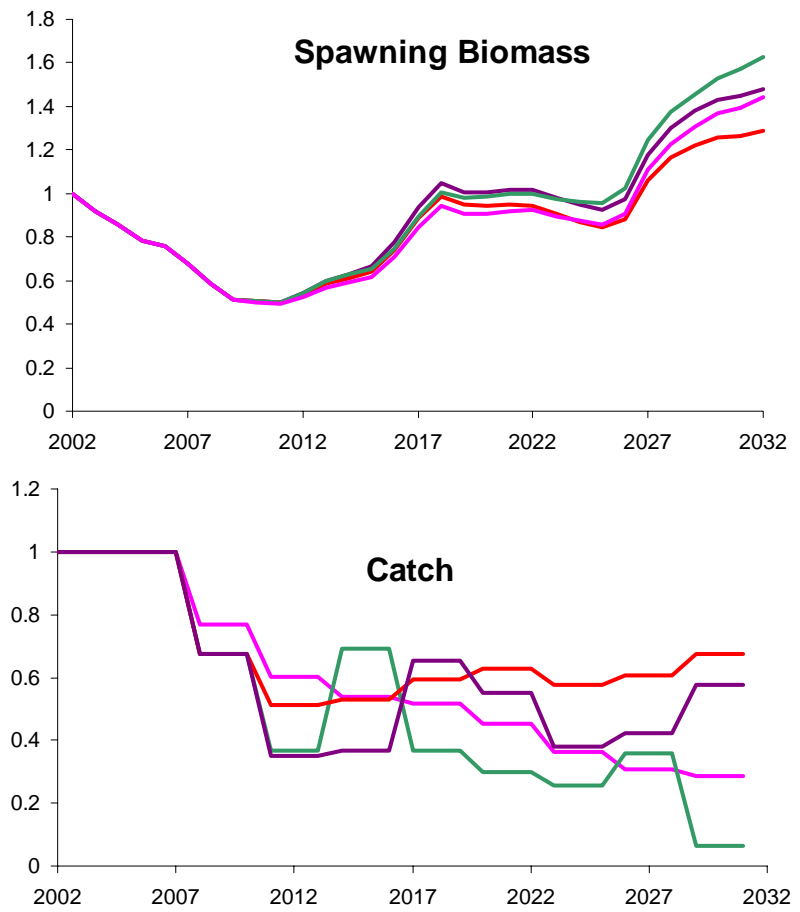


Figure 2b. Spawning biomass and catch trajectories for the 4 MPs for the second of three randomly selected runs from the reference set.

Randomly selected run

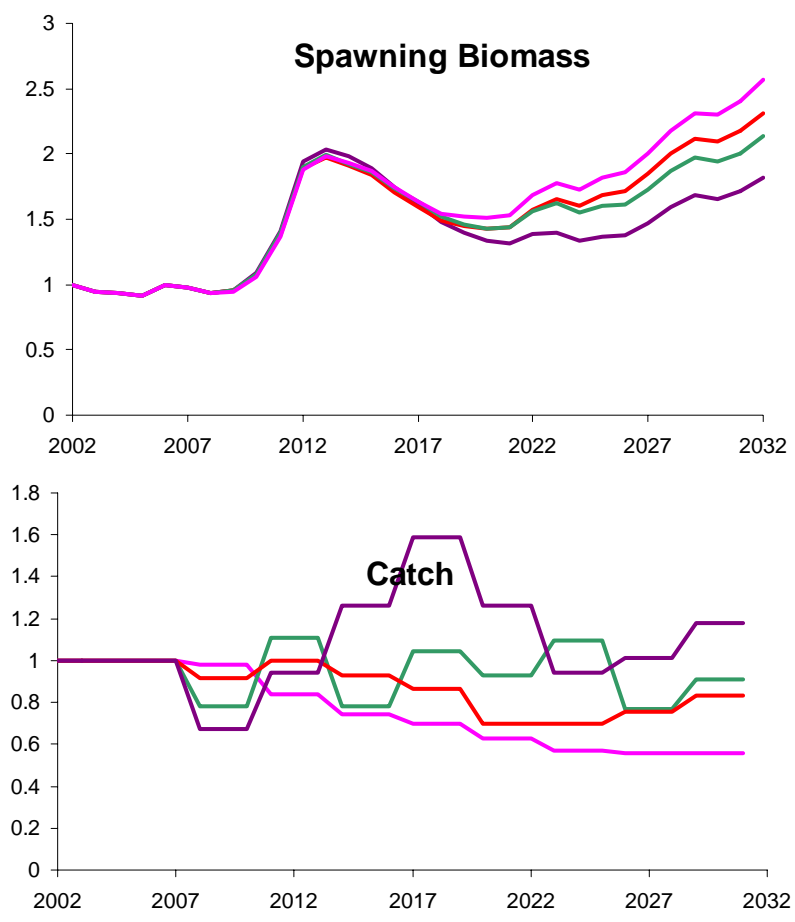


Figure 3c. Spawning biomass and catch trajectories for the 4 MPs for the third of three randomly selected runs from the reference set.

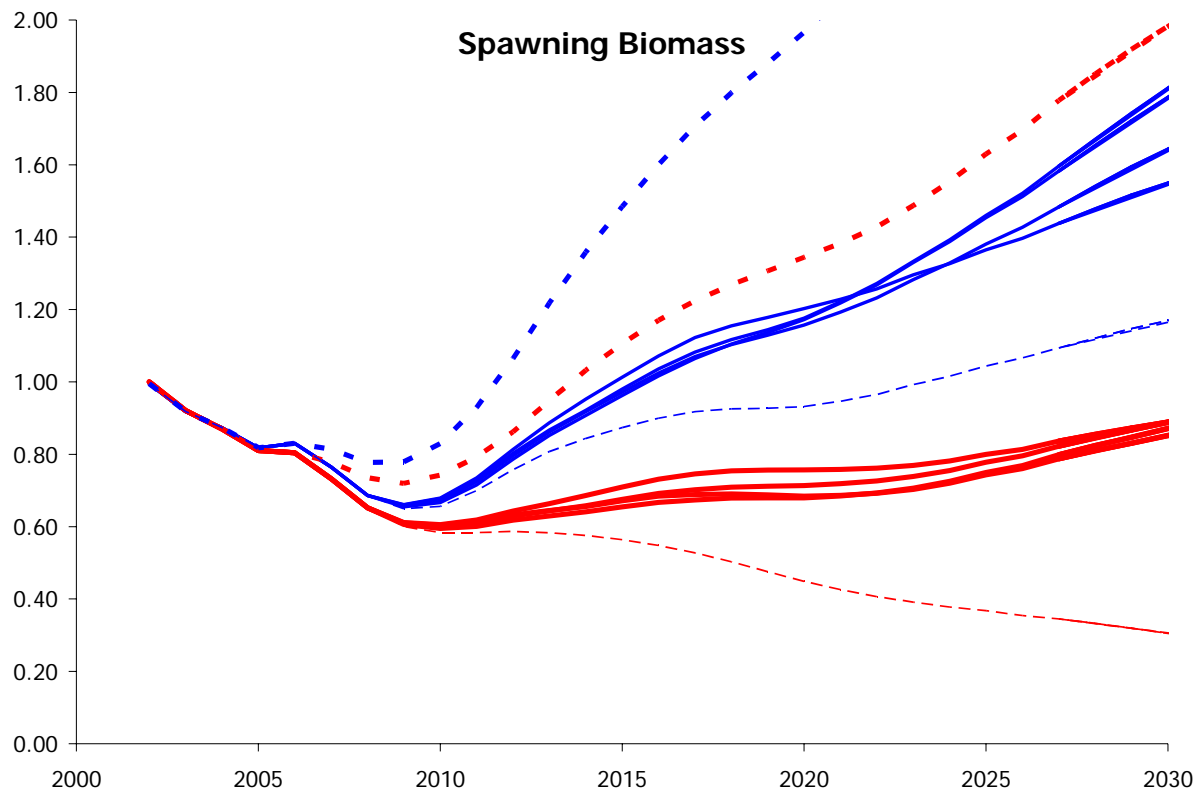


Figure 2. Average relative spawning biomass under low productivity scenarios (red lines) and high productivity (blue line) for four DRs tuned to 1.1. Dotted lines represent average relative stock size under constant current catch levels (lower lines) and under zero catch starting in 2008.

### Reference

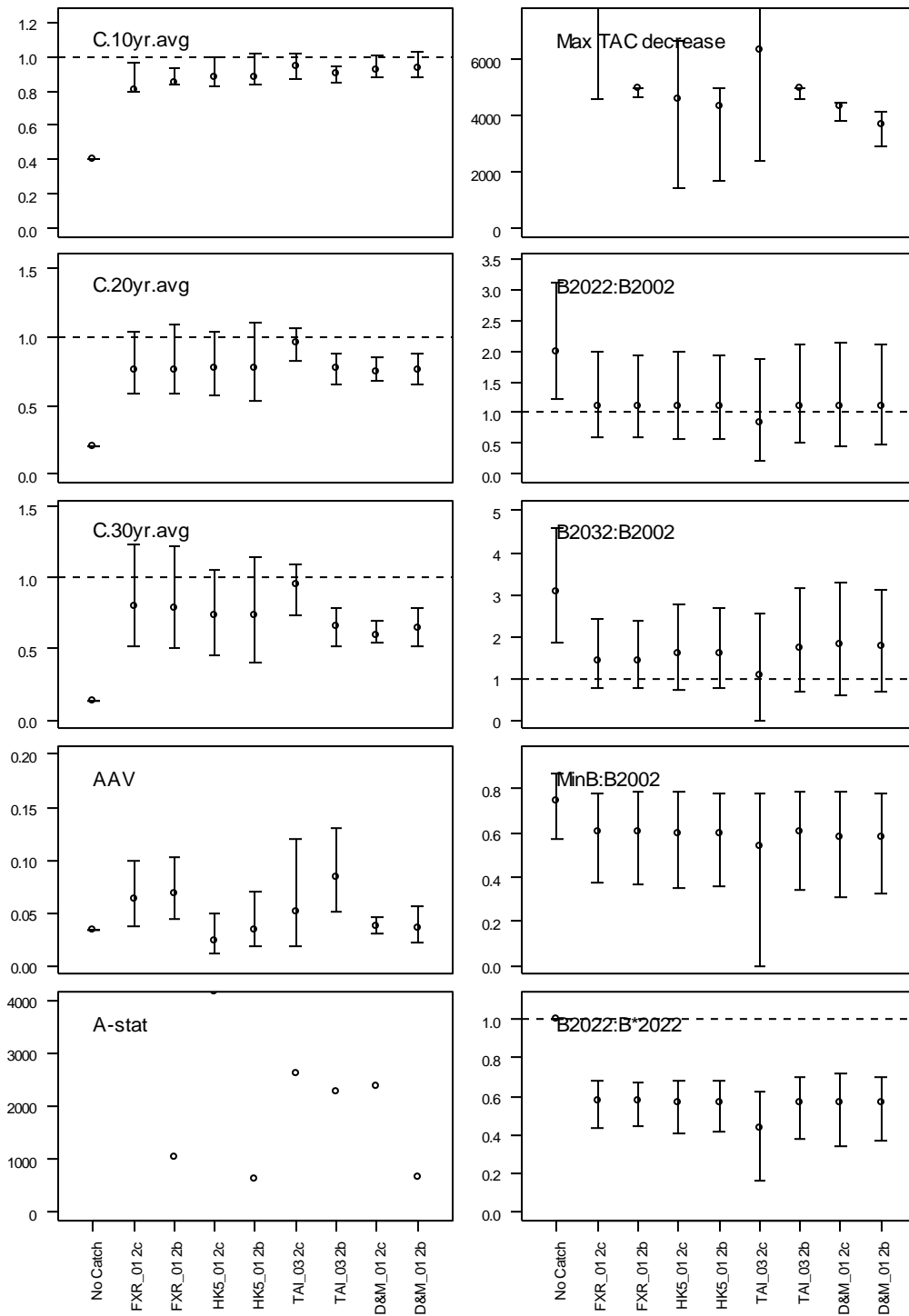


Figure 3. Performance statistics for 1.1 tuning level with 5-year (2c) and 3-year (2b) TAC changes using the reference model for the final 4 DRs. Note: By mistake, results presented for TAL\_032c correspond to the 0.9 tuning level.

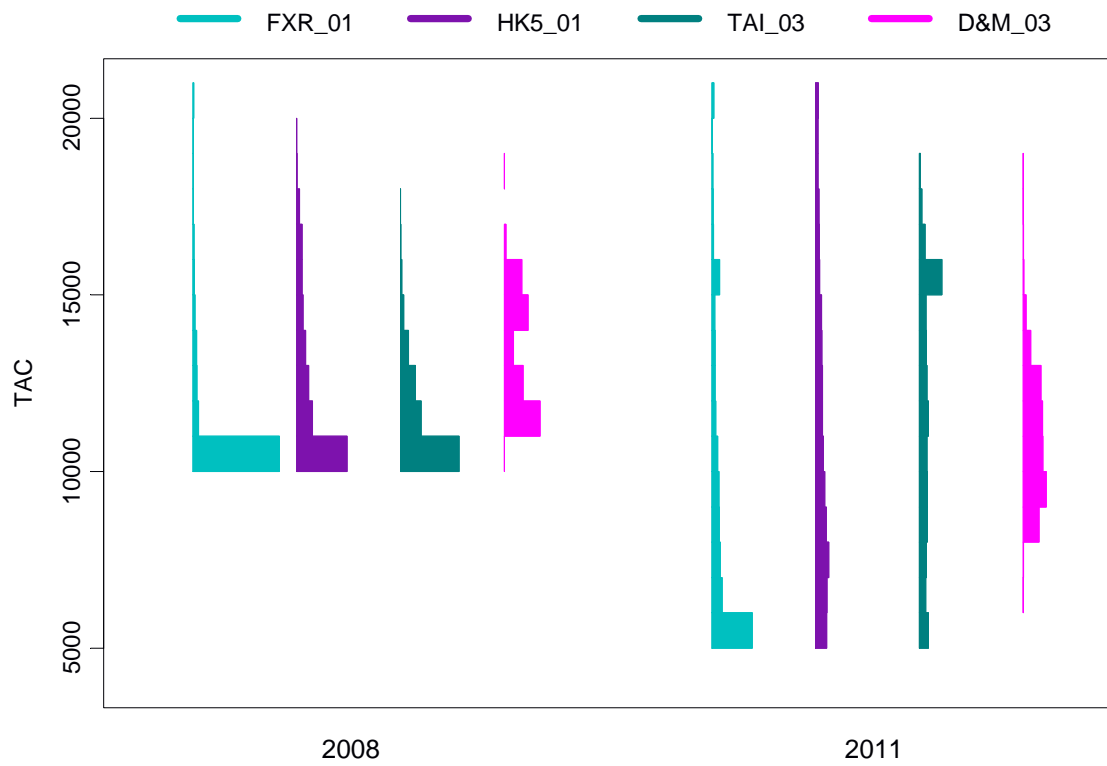


Figure 4. Frequency distribution of TAC's in 2008 and 2011 for the four DRs tuned to a rebuilding target of 1.1 under the Reference case operating model configuration with triennial changes in TACs beginning in 2008.



Figure 5. Frequency distribution of TAC's in 2008 and 2011 for the four DRs tuned to a rebuilding target of 0.9 under the Reference case operating model configuration with triennial changes in TACs beginning in 2008.

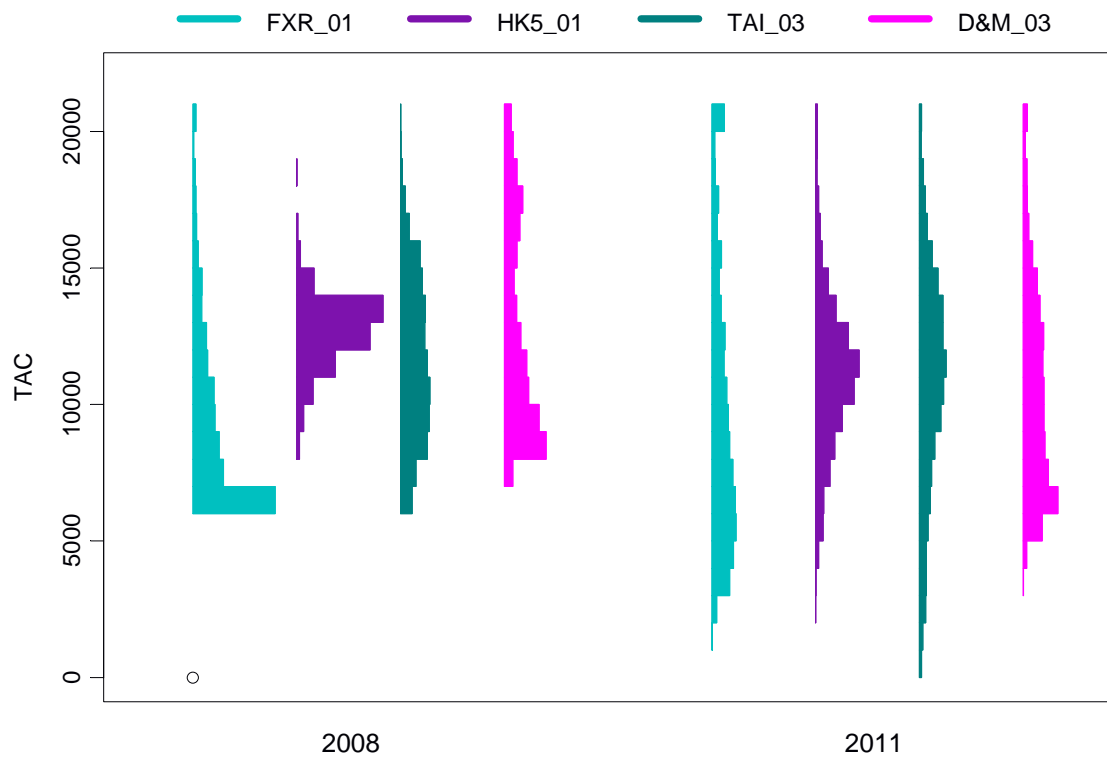


Figure 6. Frequency distribution of TAC's in 2008 and 2011 for the four DRs tuned to a rebuilding target of 1.1 under the Reference case operating model configuration with *annual* changes in TACs beginning in 2008.

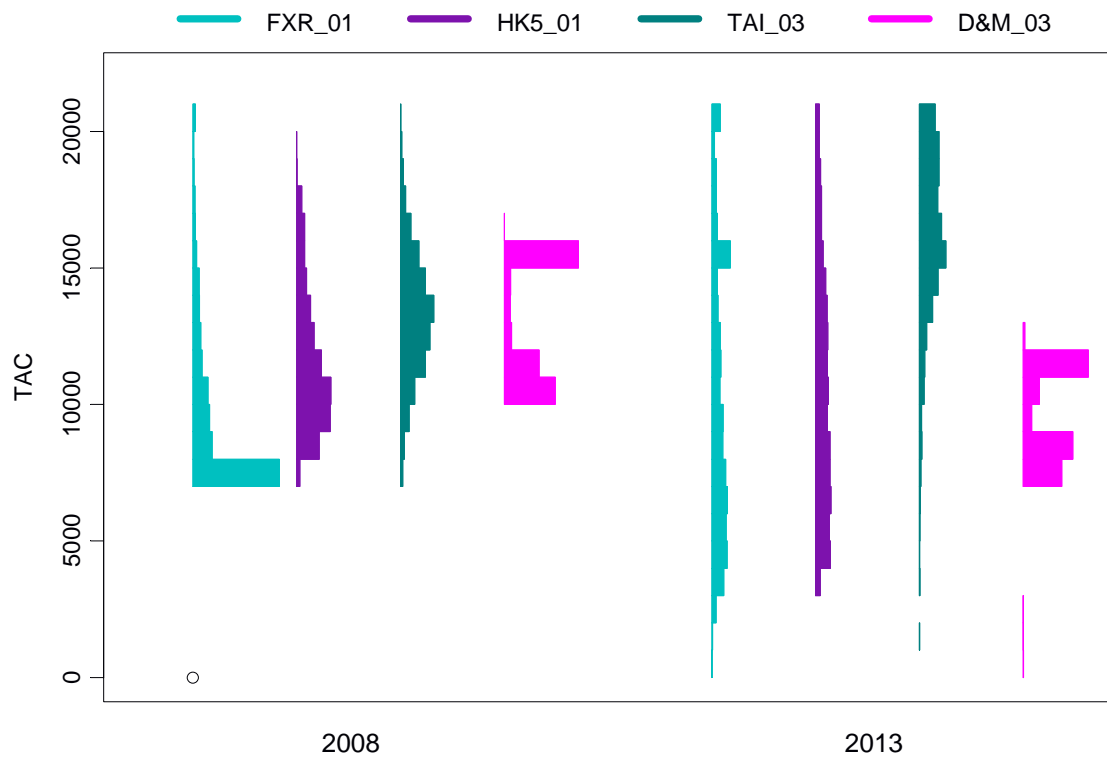


Figure 7. Frequency distribution of TAC's in 2008 and 2011 for the four DRs tuned to a rebuilding target of 1.1 under the Reference case operating model configuration with 5-year changes in TACs beginning in 2008.



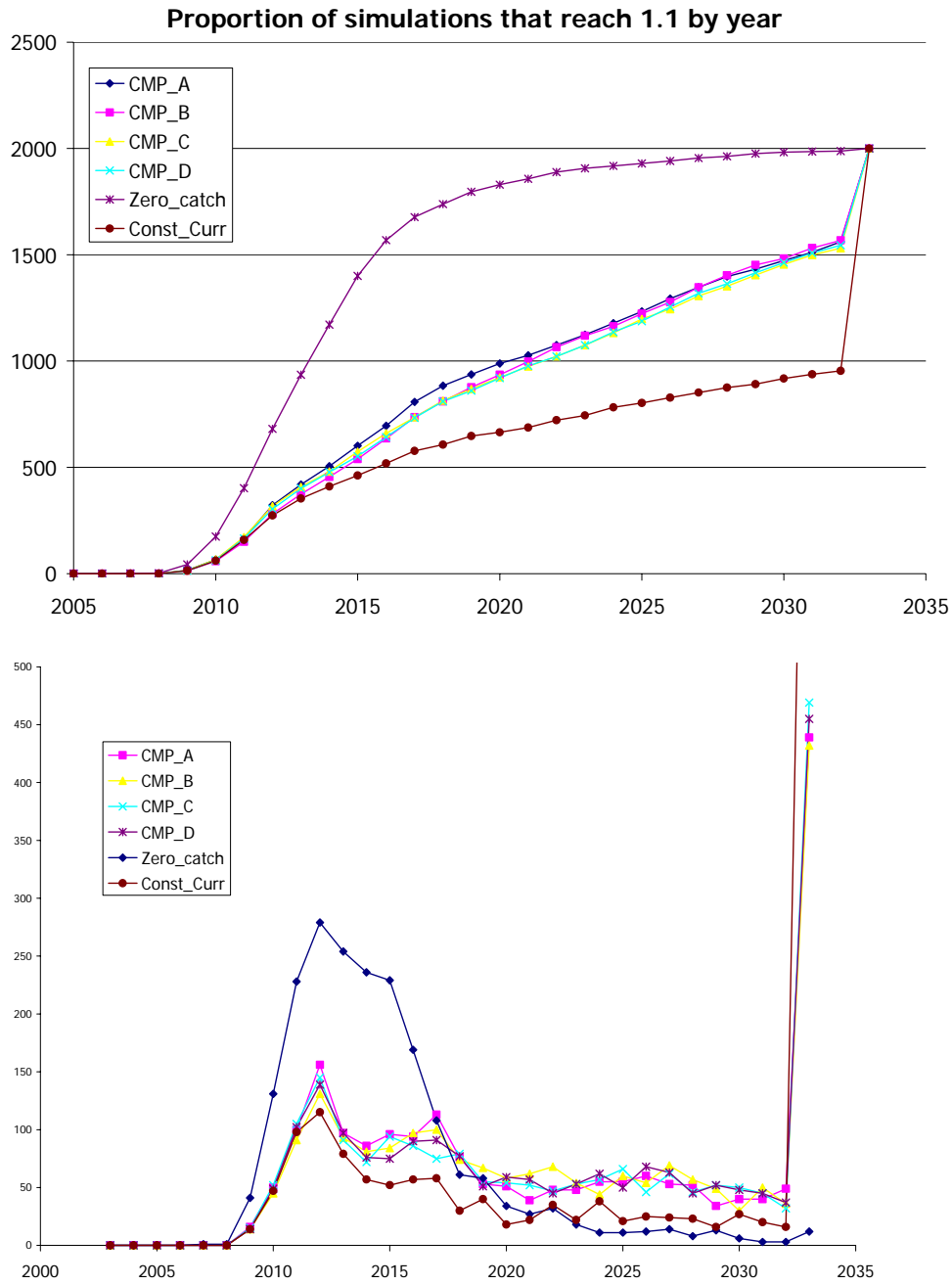


Figure 8. Distribution of time to rebuilding for the four DRs tuned to 1.1 and includes the distribution under constant current catch levels and zero catch (after 2008).

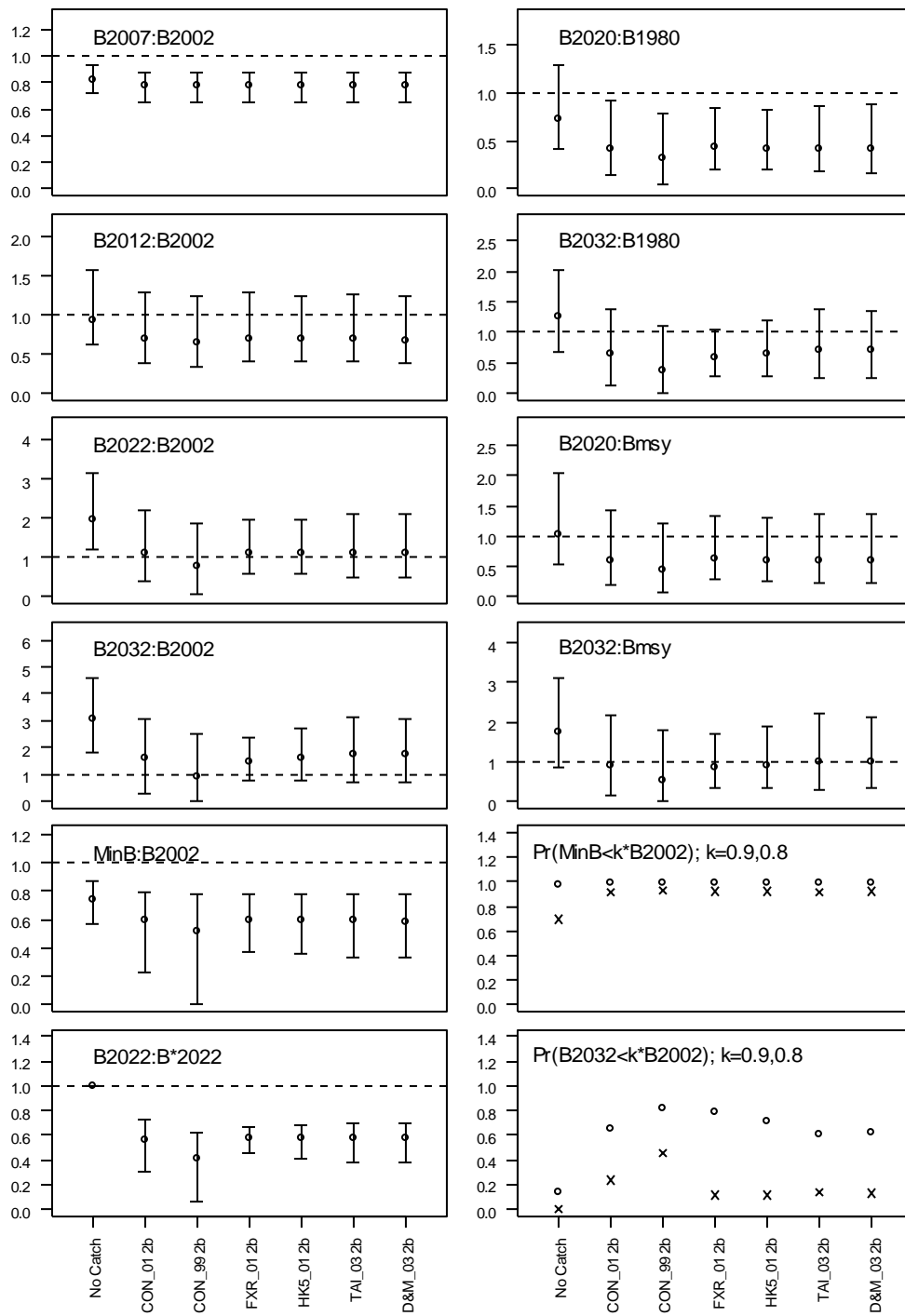


Figure 9. Performance statistics for 1.1 tuning level with 3-year TAC changes using the reference model for the final four DRs. (All original performance statistics included).

**Proposed Terms of Reference for SAG5 / SC9 Meetings and Workplan for completion of MP Work**

**Reevaluation of reference set:**

The group decided that in order to meet the current time table and present final results to CCSBT11, a final decision on the reference set needs to be made at the SAG. The panel agreed to update the current reference set model using data for 2001-2003 and, in addition, to conduct sensitivity analyses with the purpose of identifying some variant of the current reference set that may resolve some of the problems identified during MPW3. Variants to be explored include changing the weights given to the tagging data. Other issues were suggested such as exploring aspects of the ways in which to incorporate autocorrelation in the recruitment.

Sensitivity analyses will involve analysis of residual patterns as well as behavior in MCMC runs. The time available for such analyses is limited so the analyses will not be exhaustive. The panel will meet with Vivian Haist in Seattle in July to conduct these analyses, and will soon report back to the email discussion group on the progress made during the meeting. Member scientists may want to explore the issues further, but they should do so conscious of the fact that the SAG will not allow enough time for major revisions of the reference set.

**Further work on MPs:**

Once the reference set is chosen, the four decision rules selected during MPW3 will be retuned to the three rebuilding targets (0.9, 1.1 and 1.3). Scientists will attempt to do this tuning during the SAG or between the SAG and the SC to allow time for evaluating the results.

If the tuned MPs are found to perform consistently with the performance examined during MPW3, and no pathological features emerge as a result of having changed the reference set, then the process will proceed on schedule. A presentation of results will be prepared for CCSBT11. If the performance of the MPs under the new reference set is not considered adequate, then the Commission will be advised that further refinement of the MPs will be needed, which will add an additional workshop for evaluation to the process. This will also be needed if the tuning and examination of MPs cannot be completed during the SAG-SC.

**Start year and frequency of TAC changes:**

Three different schedules for TAC changes will be evaluated:

- a) First TAC change in 2008 and TAC changes every 3 years.
- b) First TAC change in 2006 and TAC changes every 3 years.
- c) First TAC change in 2008 and TAC changes every 5 years.

### **Discrepancy between TACs and actual catches:**

The question of whether the current catch estimate or the current TAC should be used in testing of decision rules that adjust TACs from the previous level was discussed. The choice of which initial value should be used could complicate the implementation of an MP that is based on incremental adjustments. The current operating model provides the current catch estimate to the MP code. It was decided that no changes would be introduced to the updated reference set and that resolution of this issue would be delayed until the SAG meeting in September.

### **Statistics on Risk:**

Australia expressed interest in a measure of risk from low spawning biomass. The group proposed the following statistics.

1. Calculate the spawning stock biomass as a fraction of a reference value, either estimated virgin biomass, B1980, B2002 or BMSY. We call this fraction value for year  $y$   $F_y$ .
2. Specify a “risk threshold” that is a value below which we have concern about risk of possible recruitment collapse. Call this threshold  $T$ .
3. Calculate the average annual risk as

$$R = \frac{1}{Tn} \sum_{y=1}^{y=n} [u_y (T - F_y)]$$

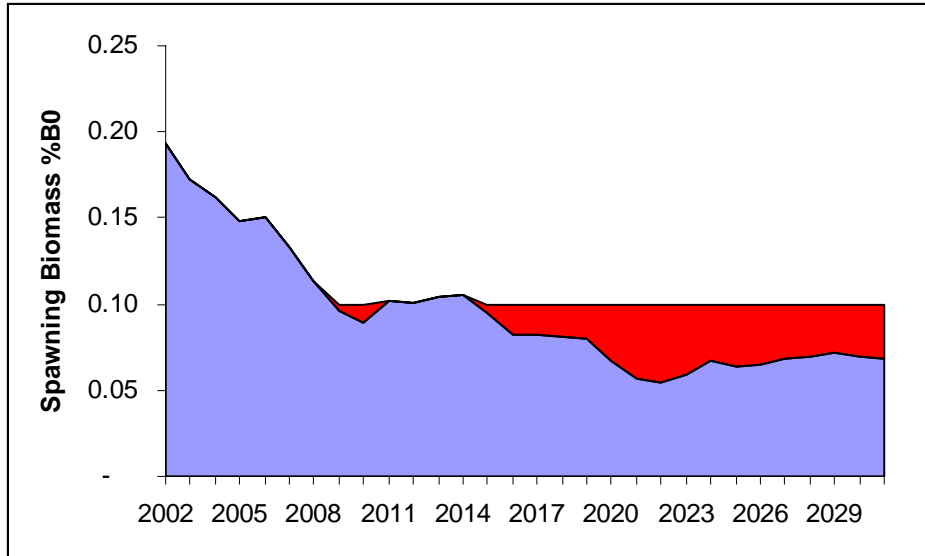
$$u_y = 0 \quad \text{if } T < F_y$$

$$u_y = 1 \quad \text{if } T \geq F_y$$

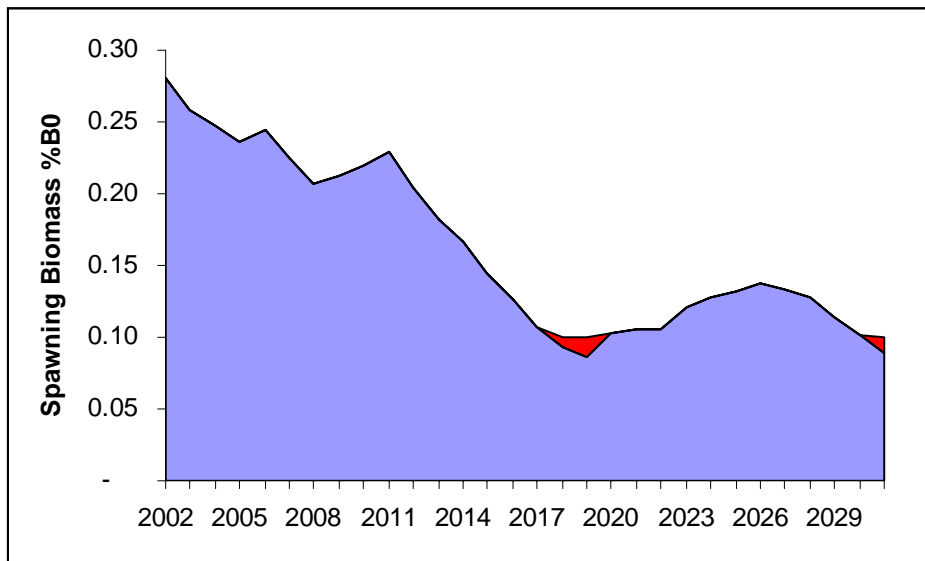
Thus the value of  $R$  can be interpreted as the fraction of the total possible risk that would occur if there was zero spawning biomass over the entire trajectory.

The two figures below illustrate graphically this area of “risk” and how it might differ in two scenarios of spawning biomass. The red area is the area of risk and the risk statistic  $R$  is simply the average size of the area.

In this scenario the value of  $R$  is 0.17



In the scenario below the value of R is 0.011



The above definition involves two decisions, what reference value to use, and what threshold value. At the SAG meeting in September members of the panel will present a brief paper on the appropriate choice of these two values.