

Provisional Agenda
Sixteenth Operating Model and Management Procedure Technical Meeting
Seattle, USA, 22-26 June 2026

Terms of Reference

- Review data inputs and prepare for the full SBT stock assessment to be presented at ESC31.
- Continue training members in the use of the new SBT software developed by Dr. Darcy Webber using RTMB.

Provisional Agenda

- 1. Review of stock assessment data inputs**
 - 1.1 Gene tagging
 - 1.2 Close-kin data: POPs and half-sibling pairs
 - 1.3 CPUE
 - 1.4 Size composition of catches and size composition of CPUE index
 - 1.5 Unaccounted sources of mortality
- 2. Review of changes to the operating model specification and software upgrade**
- 3. Conditioning model runs: diagnostics, likelihood weights**
- 4. MCMC performance and structure of MCMC grid**
 - 4.1 Choice of steepness values and evaluation of estimability of ψ .
Note: OMMP14 concluded that a reduced grid of four values of steepness would be appropriate for running MCMC using SparseNUTS implemented in RTMB. The parameters $M0$, $M10$, and ψ , previously included as grid dimensions in the reference set of models used for the 2023 stock assessment, would be estimated together with the other model parameters. However, estimating ψ proved difficult when the full range of steepness values was tried.
 - 4.2 MCMC diagnostics
 - 4.3 Method used to combine MCMC runs
- 5. Evaluation of uncertainty calculated from the MCMC grid compared to results obtained by sampling the old reference set of models**

6. Projections using Cape Town Procedure

a. Simulation of selectivities

Note: Can we use estimated correlations to smooth transitions?

b. Simulation of recruitment deviates

Note: AR(1) and ARIMA models are available. Simulations may start after last year informed by data

c. Simulation of GTs, HSPs, and POPs.

d. Projection results: impacts of model changes and use of MCMC on estimated stock risks.

7. Specification of sensitivity runs to be presented to the ESC31

8. Model and software documentation

9. Workplan