



CCSBT-EC/2310/12

Total Allowable Catch and its Allocation

PURPOSE

To provide relevant background information to support the Extended Commission's (EC) deliberations on:

1. Total Allowable Catch (TAC) determination for 2024 to 2026;
2. Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) for research projects in 2024 ; and
3. Allocation of the TAC.

(1) TAC Determination for 2024-2026

The primary decision to be made by the Extended Commission in relation to TAC determination is the setting of the TAC for the 2024 to 2026 period. Members were initially asked to determine a TAC for 2024-2026 at CCSBT 29 but elected to defer the decision to CCSBT 30. Deferring the decision beyond CCSBT 30 would result in the CCSBT not having a formally agreed TAC for the coming year.

Paragraph 2 of the Resolution on the Adoption of a Management Procedure states that "*The MP shall be used to guide the setting of the global total allowable catch (TAC) for 2021 and beyond*". The ESC ran the Cape Town Procedure (CTP) to recommend a TAC for 2024 to 2026. **The CTP recommended TAC for 2024-2026 is 20,647 tonnes**, which is an increase of 3,000 tonnes over the TAC for 2021-2023.

The 2023 ESC concluded that there is no evidence of exceptional circumstances and therefore confirmed the TAC recommended for 2024-2026 of 20,647 t/year.

CCSBT 26 noted that "*The decision on the TAC should also consider other information such as the sustainability of the SBT stock and fisheries as well as the papers and proposals that Australia will provide on SV and Japan will provide on markets.*". Furthermore, at CCSBT 26, "*New Zealand and the EU advised that at CCSBT 27, they would need to see that there had been real and measurable progress towards resolving current farm uncertainties and satisfactory progress on the market study proposal to investigate uncertainties before they could agree to any increased TAC that may be recommended by the MP*".

This is the first time that the MP has recommended an increase in the TAC since that discussion. Therefore, Members may wish to consider progress with resolving these uncertainties when they determine the TAC.

(2) Research Mortality Allowance (RMA) for research projects in 2024

At CCSBT 29, Members agreed to continue a six-tonne fixed deduction from the TAC for the 2024 – 2026 period. The Extended Commission must now make a decision whether to approve all or some of the RMA requested for research projects in 2024.

The ESC has endorsed the provision of the following amounts of RMA to cover research projects in 2023/2024:

- 1.5 tonnes for the CCSBT Gene Tagging Project;
- 1.0 tonne by Japan for an age-0 distribution survey and an age-1 trolling survey in Western Australia; and
- 0.5 t by Australia for the e-tagging project in the Great Australian Bight.

The EC should confirm whether it approves these requests for Research Mortality Allowance, totalling 3.0 t for 2023/2024.

(3) Allocation of the TAC

The Extended Commission is asked to determine what, if any, changes are to be made in relation to the allocation of the TAC:

The allocations to Members for 2021 to 2023 were agreed at CCSBT 27 as specified in the table below¹. The effective catch limits in the table below were also agreed at CCSBT 27.

Member	(1) Nominal Allocation	(2) Nominal Catch Proportion	(3) Effective Catch Limit (for 2021)
Japan	6165.068	0.355643	6197.4 ²
Australia	6165.068	0.355643	6238.4 ³
New Zealand	1088.273	0.062779	1102.5
Korea	1240.631	0.071568	1256.8
Taiwan	1240.631	0.071568	1256.8
Indonesia	1001.705	0.057785	1122.8 ⁴
European Union	10.883	0.000628	11
South Africa	422.741	0.024387	455.3 ⁵

The effective catch limit for Indonesia in the above table includes a special temporary allowance of 80 t in 2021. CCSBT 27 also noted that this is a temporary arrangement that does not affect the nominal catch level or nominal catch percentage levels within the Annex of the Resolution on the Allocation of the Global Total Allowable Catch.

The allocations of the TAC to Members are set in accordance with the CCSBT's [Resolution on Allocation of the Global Total Allowable Catch](#) (Allocation Resolution). If the MP recommended TAC of 20,647 t is agreed (including the agreed deduction of 6 t of RMA), then the TAC available for allocation to Members will be 20,641 t. Members' allocations of this available TAC in accordance with the current Allocation Resolution is provided in the table below.

¹ This assumes that there are no exceptional circumstances that cause the TAC to be revised.

² Includes a deduction of 21 t for Japan's voluntary transfer to Indonesia and a further 27 t for Japan's voluntary transfer to South Africa.

³ Includes a deduction of 7 t for Australia's voluntary transfer to Indonesia.

⁴ Includes voluntary transfers to Indonesia of 21 t from Japan, 7 t from Australia and a special temporary allowance of 80 t.

⁵ Includes a voluntary transfer of 27 t to South Africa from Japan.

Member	Allocation (tonnes)	Percentage of Allocation
Japan	7,341	35.5643%
Australia	7,341	35.5643%
New Zealand	1,296	6.2779%
Korea	1,477	7.1568%
Taiwan	1,477	7.1568%
Indonesia	1,193	5.7785%
European Union	13	0.0628%
South Africa	503	2.4387%

Indonesia and Japan have both indicated that they will put forward papers at CCSBT 30 (CCSBT-EC/2310/17 and CCSBT-EC/2310/18 respectively), which may seek to revisit the terms of the previously agreed allocations.