CCSBT-ESC/0509/07

7.1. Characterisation of SBT Catch

Purpose

To provide an update on catch reporting to the CCSBT.

Background

The total estimated catch of SBT by flag and gear up to 2004 inclusive was reported in paper CCSBT-ESC/0509/06, so it is not included here.

(1) Catch reporting by members and cooperating non-members

Members provide a fairly comprehensive historic set of catch effort, raised catch and catch at size data to the CCSBT. These data were updated to the end of 2004 as part of the 2005 data exchange. However, Korea had not provided its data when this report was prepared. In addition, the Philippines have not yet been requested to provide effort or size data.

Attachment A compares the compliance of the data provided with the fields of information that are required to be provided.

For the catch and effort data, there has been no improvement in compliance since last year. The main items that were not provided with the catch effort data are:

- Target species (AU, TW, JP, KR)
- Number of boats, days fished and sets (TW, KR)
- Weight retained (JP)
- Number retained (AU – surface fishery)
- Number discarded (TW, JP, NZ, KR), although this may be a consequence of zero discard policies
- Number of baskets (AU, TW, KR)

If these items of information are still deemed important by the Extended Scientific Committee, members should renew their efforts to collect or report this information.

There have been improvements in the provision of size data with both New Zealand and Taiwan now providing raised size data rather than just raw measurements. Provision of information on substitution (AU, TW, NZ) and raw frequency (AU – longline, TW) are the main items of outstanding information with these data.

(2) Catch reporting by non-members (excluding cooperating non-members)

The CCSBT received estimates of Indonesia's 2004 catch from the IOTC. Catch monitoring in Indonesia is considered under a separate agenda item, so it is not considered further here.

For other non-members, Japanese import statistics and the CCSBT trade information scheme (TIS) have been the major source of catch estimates. However, as of July 2005, Members and cooperating non-members are only permitted to accept SBT exports from members and

cooperating non-members[1]. So, from July 2005, Japanese import statistics and the TIS will cease to provide information on the catches of non-members.

The CCSBT has no other systematic mechanism in place for determining the catches from non-member countries. The Secretariat liaises with other tuna RFMO's (particularly the IOTC) regarding the catch of SBT and the Secretariat contacts any country where there is an indication of SBT catch. For last year's (2004) catches, the Secretariat requested South Africa to provide its SBT catch on two occasions, but there has been no response. The Secretariat also requested additional information from Spain on its reported 2003 SBT catch and any more recent SBT catch, but no response had been received from Spain at the time this paper was prepared[2].

It would be valuable for the Extended Scientific Committee to consider whether there are other mechanisms that would be useful to gain improved estimates of the global SBT catch.

Prepared by the Secretariat

[1] Because at this data, catches can only be accepted from vessels on the CCSBT authorised vessel list, and only member and cooperating non-member vessels are placed on that list.

[2] The 2003 SBT catch (3365kg) was reported by Spain to the IOTC in paper "IOTC_WPBY/05/14". This catch has been included in the global catch table of paper CCSBT-ESC/0509/06.

Comparisons of data items provided by members against data items that are required to be provided

Comparisons of the data items provided by members against the required data items have been provided for the two main data sets, these being:

(1) Catch and effort data
(2) Size data

Table 1: Comparisons for catch and effort data

The table below lists the required fields of catch and effort information and whether or not members have provided the required information[3]. For simplicity, this table has been restricted to the major SBT fishing gears (LL and PS) and the results shown are for recent years of data. It should be noted that despite being labelled as required fields, it is accepted that there are cases where the information cannot be provided because it has not been collected.

Required Fields	Australia	Taiwan	Japan	New Zealand	Korea[4]
Longline and Purse Seine					
Year	√	√	√	√	√
Month	√	√	√	√	√
Country	√	√	√	√	√
Fleet	√	√	√	√	√
Gear	√	√	√	√	√
Target species	×	×	×	√	×
SBT Statistical area	√	√	√	√	√
Latitude	√	√	√	√	√
Longitude	√	√	√	√	√
Number of boats	√	×	√	√	×
Number of days fished	√	×	√	√	×
Number of Sets/Shots	√	×	√	√	×
Catch species	√	√	√	√	√
Weight retained	√	√	×	√	√
Number retained	√ - *LL* × - *PS*	√	√	√	√
Number discarded	√	×	×	×	×
Conversion factor[5]	×	×	√	√	×
Scaling factor[6]	√	√	√	√	√
Longline specific					
Number of hooks	√	√	√	√	√
Number of baskets	×	×	√	√	×
Purse Seine Specific					
Gear length	√	-	-	-	-
Gear depth	×	-	-	-	-
Spotter type	×	-	-	-	-

[3] In cases where the required information has not been physically provided in the data, but the Secretariat was able to infer the required information, then the information is marked as having been provided. For example, the SBT statistical area can be calculated from the latitude and longitude.
[4] The information shown for Korea is based on its 2003 data because the 2004 data has yet to be received.
[5] Conversion factors are only relevant where weights originate from processed fish.
[6] Scaling factors are only relevant where the catch is estimated from a sub sample of fish. Where this has not been explicitly provided, the scaling factor is assumed to be one (no scaling).

Table 2: Comparisons for size data

The table below lists the required fields of size information and whether or not members have provided the required information[7].

Required Fields	Australia	Taiwan	Japan	New Zealand	Korea[8]
Year	√	√	√	√	√
Month	√	√	√	√	√
Country	√	√	√	√	√
Fleet	√	√	√	√	√
Gear	√	√	√	√	√
SBT Statistical area	√	√	√	√	√
Latitude	√	√	√	√	√
Longitude	√	√	√	√	√
Length Class	√	√	√	√	√
Weight	-	-	-	-	√
Class Size	√	√	√	√	-
Raw frequency[9]	× - *LL* √ - *PS*	×	√	√[10]	√
Raw converted frequency	×	×	√	√[10]	√
Adjusted frequency[11]	√	√	√	√	-
Substitution code[12]	×	×	√	×	-

[7] In cases where the required information has not been physically provided in the data, but the Secretariat was able to infer the required information, then the information is marked as having been provided.

[8] The information shown for Korea is based on its 2003 data because the 2004 data has yet to be received.

[9] There is some confusion over the meaning of this field for raised data. It was intended that this field would always contain the actual number of fish measured in a strata. However, for both Japan and Australia, this is often presented as a non-integer number, so something different appears to have been provided by these countries.

[10] This is contained in the past raw weight data and the current observer length data that New Zealand has provided.

[11] Only relevant when the size data is substituted and/or raised.

[12] Only relevant when the size data is substituted and/or raised.