Australian Government
Australian Fisheries Management Authority

Annual Research Statement (Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery)

2022-23

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Contents

Fishery Annual Research Statement 2022/23

Currently Funded Research Projects (2021-24)

Title	Objectives and component tasks	Evaluation		
		Total cost (approx. only)	Priority/rank	Feasibility
Currently funded AFMA projects				
1. SBT Inter-sessional science 2021/24	This is essential work that provides ongoing scientific advice to the Southern Bluefin Tuna MAC and AFMA to support the adequate monitoring, implementation and success of management arrangements in the	AFMA - $ 840,000 CSIRO - $363,000	Essential	Yes

	Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery. 1.Provide scientific advice and support to AFMA and SBTMAC and participate in the relevant domestic and international meetings. Participate in planning and technical consultation meetings, CCSBT ESC and OMMP meetings, inter-sessional webinars, Scientific Research Program review and planning, and review of exceptional circumstances. 2. The main focus of the technical work program in 2021-22 will be review of the Japanese longline CPUE data and selection of a new or revised management procedure to resolve problems with the CPUE series adopted			

	in the Cape Town Procedure. 3. The technical work will include code preparation for running the new or revised MP at the 2022 ESC for setting the TAC for 2024-2026. 4. Participate in providing advice on development of the CCSBT's scientific research program, in addition to the regular review of meta-rules consideration of exceptional circumstances and data provided through the CCSBT data exchange.			
2. Routine otolith archiving, ageing and developing age-length keys for the Australian SBT	Age 100 SBT from the Australian surface fishery (2022/23 season). Provide direct age estimates to the CCSBT	Funded as part of inter-sessional science	Essential	Yes

surface fishery 2022/23	via the data exchange process Construct age-length keys and estimate the age distribution of SBT in the Australian fishery. Prepare working paper on the outcomes of the project to the CCSBT Scientific Committee (SC) meeting in 2022.			
CCSBT Funded Research				
2. Close-kin identification (POPs and HSP) and exchange. Analysis stage of CCSBT funded close-kin sample collection.	**Essential for provision of data for operating models and new management procedures.** To identify the kin: 1. genotyping and quality control of genotypes and 2. comparison of final genotypes among	Funded by CCSBT in 2021.	Essential	Yes

	individual samples to identify Parent-Offspring and Half-Sibling pairs.			
3. Close-kin collection and processing of samples in Indonesia and Australia	Essential collection of tissue samples and DNA extraction for the close-kin identification and exchange project (above).	Funded by CCSBT 2021.	Essential	Yes
4. SBT gene-tagging	Essential for juvenile abundance estimate for management procedure.	Funded by CCSBT 2021	Essential	Yes

Newly identified research priorities 2022-23

SBT Intersessional Science is currently funded until 2024. No new research outside of the intersessional science project has been identified for funding in 2022/23.

Priorities for potential FRDC funding in 2022/23

Priorities for potential FRDC funding in 2022/23				
Design Study to examine potential future electronic tagging programs to understand implications of changes in migration of SBT	Design Study – examine options, feasibility and cost-benefits of a variety of electronic tagging programs for SBT to understand changes in spatial and temporal movement, behaviour and migration through the GAB, Indian Ocean and Tasman Sea. Identify impacts for CPUE, gene-tagging and Australian Industry, to inform climate change adaptation strategies.	Costs to be provided. Step 1 design study estimate: ~75K	High	Yes