



Provisional Agenda
Thirteenth meeting of the Ecologically Related Species Working Group
28 – 31 May 2019
Canberra, Australia

1. Opening

- 1.1 Adoption of the Agenda
- 1.2 Adoption of Document List
- 1.3 Appointment of Rapporteurs

Members will be asked to nominate rapporteurs for agenda items 4-6. In addition, presenters of papers will be asked to provide a brief paragraph for papers they have presented (excluding annual reports) for inclusion in the report of the meeting.

2. Annual reports

Members will prepare and provide annual reports to the ERSWG in accordance with the [agreed template which was revised in March 2017](#) to update Table 1 of the template. Reports are expected to contain all information specified in the template. It will be assumed that reports have been read by participants prior to the meeting, so this agenda item will be reserved for questions of clarification regarding the reports.

2.1 Members

2.2 Secretariat report on the ERSWG Data Exchange

The Secretariat will provide summaries of the data from the annual ERSWG Data Exchange¹. As agreed at ERSWG 12, this item has been placed earlier in the agenda as it is considered to contain useful information for later agenda items. This agenda item also provides an opportunity to consider changes in relation to the data exchange process and associated information.

3. Reports of meetings and/or outcomes of other organisations relevant to the ERS Working Group

All organisations with long terms observer status for CCSBT ERSWG meetings (see <https://www.ccsbt.org/en/content/attendance-meetings-observers>) will be invited to attend and to present a report to the meeting. Members may also present relevant reports from organisations not present at the ERSWG meeting. In cases where information from other organisations is relevant to specific later agenda items, the detailed information should be presented at the later specific agenda items instead of here.

4. Review of progress with the work program from ERSWG 12

*The work program from ERSWG 12 is provided at **Attachment A**. It is anticipated that discussion of progress with the work program will take place within the ERSWG 13 agenda items identified in **Attachment A**. Consequently, there may be little or no discussion at this agenda item.*

¹ Members that wish to conduct their own analysis of these data can obtain an amalgamated spreadsheet of these data from the "ERSWG Data Exchange" section of the "General Private Area" of the CCSBT website. A highly aggregated public version of the data is available at https://www.ccsbt.org/userfiles/file/data/ERSWG_Data.xlsx.

5. Information and advice on ERS

*This is the key agenda item to progress the assessment of the risks to ERS posed by fishing for SBT and the effects of ERS on the condition of the SBT stock, and to provide advice on any measures that might be needed for the mitigation of risks. **Members and observers are requested to develop and submit papers in advance of the meeting on the following agenda items.***

5.1 Seabirds

5.1.1 Information on stock status

In accordance with standing instructions, the Secretariat will request ACAP and Birdlife International to provide updated information on the seabirds likely to be caught by SBT fisheries, including population status summaries and reviews of mitigations measures.

5.1.2 Estimates of ERS mortality and associated uncertainty

This agenda item provides an opportunity to consider methods for estimating total seabird mortality and for reviewing any mortality estimates provided by Members.

5.1.3 Ecological risk assessment

CCSBT 25 considered that the ERSWG 13 agenda should include risk assessments of seabirds. Members are therefore specifically requested to prepare and present papers on this topic for consideration by the ERSWG. In addition, the ERSWG 12 workplan specified that the following work should be conducted:

- (1) Analysis to identify potential high-risk areas, using method 3A from CCSBT-ERS/1703/12; and*
- (2) A second iteration of the seabird Ecological Risk Assessment, including additional data from CCSBT Members and tuna RFMOs and including other fishing methods operating within the southern hemisphere.*

The ERSWG will review the outcome of this work.

5.1.4 Assessment and advice on mitigation measures

This is a standing item on the ERSWG agenda for the ERSWG to review current measures and provide advice on any changes that might be needed. In addition, the ERSWG 12 workplan specified that collaborative analyses should be conducted to identify the reasons for large differences in bycatch rates between fleets. The ERSWG will review the outcome of any such analyses.

5.1.5 Seabird species identification

Updates on any improvements in seabird identification practices or methodology.

5.1.6 Multi-year seabird strategy

The ERSWG 12 workplan specified that a draft multi-year strategy should be developed for consideration by ERSWG 13 in relation to seabirds that identifies research, monitoring needs, and actions to reduce uncertainty and associated risks. The ERSWG will discuss the strategy.

5.2 Sharks

5.2.1 Shark species of relevance to the CCSBT

ERSWG 12 agreed that Members would provide catch details of the 12 shark species that CMS-Sharks² considered “CCSBT relevant” (see CCSBT-ERS/1703/Info15). The Secretariat will provide a summary of the information provided by Members for consideration by the ERSWG.

² Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals and the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of Migratory Sharks

5.2.2 Information on stock status

Members should provide information on the stock status of shark species relevant to the CCSBT, which may or may not be the same species considered relevant by CMS-Sharks above. In accordance with the ERSWG 12 workplan, ERSWG 13 will also review the final report of the Porbeagle assessment from the shark component of the ABNJ Tuna Project³.

5.2.3 Estimates of ERS mortality and associated uncertainty

This agenda item provides an opportunity to consider methods for estimating total shark mortality and for reviewing any mortality estimates provided by Members.

5.2.4 Threat assessment

CCSBT 25 considered that the ERSWG 13 agenda should include a threat assessment of sharks. Members are therefore specifically requested to prepare and present papers on this topic for consideration by the ERSWG. This could include presenting threat assessment or risk assessment work undertaken by other RFMOs which might highlight priority shark species for which CCSBT fisheries may have an impact.

5.3 Other ERS

Members and observers are encouraged to present information concerning the impacts of fishing for SBT on ERS such as sea turtles and marine mammals etc. The Secretariat will provide the meeting with any relevant new information from the IOSEA Marine Turtle Memorandum of Understanding (IOSEA-Turtles).

5.4 Trophic interactions

The ERSWG 12 workplan specified that work should continue on trophic relationships with SBT. Members should report on the outcomes of this work.

6. Education and public relations activities

This is a highly important agenda item to ensure full implementation of agreed mitigation measures. Education and public relation activities conducted by Members should be covered under agenda item 2, so they should not need to be discussed here. This agenda item is intended for discussion of any new activities that should be conducted by the CCSBT to enhance mitigation and/or data collection in relation to ERS. The October 2018 Compliance Committee meeting recommended that the Secretariat work with Members and BirdLife to develop a proposal to enhance the implementation of ERS measures through outreach/education and to verify compliance with measures. An update will be provided on progress with this proposal.

7. Compliance information

The Secretariat will prepare a paper containing (1) Information provided in Members' annual reports to the Compliance Committee on the types of information collected on bycatch mitigation measures; (2) An update to the CCSBT's Resolution on Minimum Standards for Inspection in Port to include information on compliance with seabird bycatch mitigation measures for longline vessels; and (3) A proposal from HSI and Birdlife International to the Compliance Committee to insert an additional ERS subsection on monitoring usage of bycatch mitigation measures into the annual Compliance Committee reporting template. The ERSWG will consider this information and any other relevant issues of a compliance nature.

8. Future work program

The ERSWG will develop an updated work program from matters raised during the previous agenda items together with any additional work items that need to be considered.

9. Other business

³ A draft final report was circulated to the ERSWG email group on 1 August 2017 with a request for any comments by 31 August 2017. No comments were received. An addendum to the report was submitted to the group on 23 August 2017. The final report will be provided to ERSWG 13 as a meeting document.

10. Referral of ERS matters for consideration by CCSBT subsidiary bodies
This agenda item is for matters that the ERSWG considers should be specifically referred to other subsidiary bodies of the CCSBT.
11. Recommendations and advice to the Extended Commission
The ERSWG will develop a list of recommendation and advice to the Extended Commission from matters raised during the previous agenda items.
12. Conclusion
 - 12.1. Adoption of meeting report
 - 12.2. Recommendation on timing of the next meeting
 - 12.3. Close of meeting

Attachment A

ERSWG 12 Workplan

(an additional column has been added to the workplan to indicate where each item will be discussed within the ERSWG 13 Agenda)

Activity	Approximate Period	Resource	Proposed ERSWG 13 Agenda Item
Determine the extent to which CCSBT effort data is reported to other tRFMOs and advise Birdlife of the outcome to assist with the production of a global tuna fisheries effort map that will be needed for the planned Common Ocean ABNJ Tuna Project to conduct a joint assessment with national scientists of the effectiveness of seabird mitigation in tuna RFMOs.	May 2017	Secretariat	2.2
Secretariat to liaise with Members to obtain meta data on the nature of the source of information for the ERS Data exchanged. In particular whether the data is sourced from observers, electronic monitoring (EM), log books with random EM verification, or a different source. The metadata is to be stored on the database and included in summaries of the data provided to the ERSWG.	July 2017	Secretariat and Members	2.2
Progress an analysis to identify potential high risk areas, using method 3A from CCSBT-ERS/1703/12.	October 2017	New Zealand	5.1.3
Undertake a second iteration of the seabird Ecological Risk Assessment, including additional data from CCSBT Members and tuna RFMOs and including other fishing methods operating within the southern hemisphere.	Late 2017	New Zealand lead with collaboration from other Members and Secretariat	5.1.3
Actively contribute to and participate in the project planned by Birdlife International under the Common Ocean ABNJ Tuna Project to conduct a joint assessment with national scientists of the effectiveness of seabird mitigation in tuna RFMOs.	2017 to 2019	Members	5.1
Continue work on trophic relationships with SBT.	2017 to ERSWG 13	Japan lead, collaboration from interested Members	5.4
Conduct collaborative analyses to identify the reasons for large differences in bycatch rates between fleets.	Before ERSWG 13	New Zealand lead with collaboration from all Members	5.1.4
Develop a draft multi-year strategy for consideration by ERSWG 13 in relation to seabirds that identifies research, monitoring needs, and actions to reduce uncertainty and associated risks.	Before ERSWG 13	Australia lead with collaboration from all Members	5.1.6

Activity	Approximate Period	Resource	Proposed ERSWG 13 Agenda Item
For future ERSWG meetings, place the Secretariat's summary report of the Data Exchange under the agenda item for Annual Reports as this is considered to be useful information for later agenda items and it should be considered at an early time in the meeting.	When drafting the Provisional ERSWG 13 Agenda	Secretariat and Chair	n/a <i>(has been implemented for the ERSWG 13 Draft Provisional Agenda)</i>
Provide details to the Secretariat on which of the 12 "CCSBT Relevant" sharks species in Table 2 of paper CSBT-ERS/1703/Info15 have been caught by the Member's SBT fishery (i.e. in shots in which SBT was targeted or caught by CCSBT authorised vessels). Members may choose whether to provide presence/absence information or catch quantities. It is suggested that data be provided per year for at least the last 3 years. The Secretariat will compile this information for presentation to ERSWG 13.	3 months before ERSWG 13 (for the information provided to the Secretariat)	All Members and Secretariat	5.2.1
Review the CCSBT's progress against the modified SMMTG recommendations in Attachment 4 of the Report of ERSWG 11.	Before ERSWG 13	Secretariat with assistance from Members	5.1
Secretariat to analyse Members' reports to the ERSWG Data Exchange and produce a simple summary of shark species that have been reported by Members as being caught.	Before ERSWG 13	Secretariat	5.2.1
Review the final report of Porbeagle assessment from the shark component of the Common Oceans (ABNJ) Tuna Project.	ERSWG 13	ERSWG 13	5.2.2