

## YELLOWFIN RESEARCH GROUP ASSIGNMENTS

### Statistics

257. Statistical tasks for YRG are:

- \* Recover historical data on purse-seine fishing equipment (e.g. use of helicopter, bird radar, sonar, radio beacon on FADs weather FAX, depth and length of net, mesh size, etc.) and on purse-seine operations (e.g. Use of FAD and logs, scout vessels, etc.) for studies of changes in effective fishing effort. (A. Coan, Miyabe, Park, Sun)
- \* Recover historical data on longline equipment (e.g. type of line and hook, sonar, weather FAX, line shooter, etc.) and on longline operations (e.g. type of bait, set time, soak time, etc.) for studies on changes in effective fishing effort. (Miyabe, Park, Chang, Yen, Skillman, Ward, Etaix-Bonnin, Tuwai)
- \* Recover historical length-frequency data for the Philippines fisheries. (Hampton, Miyabe, Barut)
- \* Develop plan for recovery and verification of historical catch data for fisheries with missing or uncertain data. (SWG)
- \* Develop plan for implementing requirements for timely collection, processing and reporting of catch statistics for all fisheries. (SWG)

### Research Studies

258. Research tasks to be undertaken for YRG are:

- \* Conduct studies on age and growth, particularly to validate the assumption of one otolith increment per day for the otolith ageing technique, and to understand the causes of the apparent slow growth rate of tagged fish. (All)
- \* Conduct further analyses in application of the "habitat" method for estimating effective longline fishing effort. (Bigelow, Miyabe)
- \* Analyze observer and port sampling data for consistence in the yellowfin tuna-bigeye tuna composition in the U.S. purse seine data. (Sakagawa)
- \* Organize a workshop of experts (SCTB members and others) to evaluate the underlying structures (organization, equations, assumptions, control rule bias, etc.) of the MULTIFAN-CL model for accuracy in assessing the condition of the stocks and for estimating biological reference points, using document YFT-1 as reference. (YRG Chair; SCTB Chair)
- \* Complete final phase of stock structure study using otolith microchemistry and report results. (Gunn)
- \* Conduct studies on fishery-independent methods for monitoring stock abundance, such as acoustical methods, LIDAR, larval survey, etc. (All)

## **General**

259. General tasks related to the YRG are:

- \* Review the Chairman's proposed objectives for the YRG for relevance and acceptance and develop a time horizon for meeting the objectives. (All)
- \* Keep abreast of MHLIC's evolving requirements for scientific advice and develop a strategy for meeting MHLIC needs, including incorporating recommendations from SCTB's Workshop on the Precautionary Approach. (All)
- \* Continue efforts to assemble a complete database of historical information for conducting stock assessments. (All)