

Echebatar Sustainability Working Group
Thursday, May 27, 2024. 10.00 am (CET)
Minutes

PARTICIPANTS

- José Luis Jauregui (ECHEBASTAR)
- Pablo González (ECHEBASTAR)
- Ian Scott (ECHEBASTAR)
- Marga Andrés (AZTI)
- Ane Iriondo (ECHEBASTAR)

POINTS DISCUSSED:

- Despite achieving 100% coverage, in 2023, the percentage of sets with sufficiently high-quality data decreased, resulting in a lower proportion of registered sets. This decline can be attributed to various factors, including the absence of AZTI's permanent presence for enhanced data collection management.
ACC: Both Echebatar and AZTI will inform the relevant authorities about the necessity for more efficient and effective data collection practices.
Responsible: Ane and Marga.
- CTTF withdrew the objections to Echebatar previous to the oral hearing. Then, the 10 June 2024, the independent adjudicator presented the decision that the withdrawal was accepted and the objections is dismissed.
ACC: Publish independent adjudicator decision.
Responsible: Ane.
- Publish de PCR Recertification: Echebatar needs to determine the optimal approach: either publish the recertification during the first week of July or wait until the expiry date. The expire date for publication is 60 days after the Independent Adjudicator decision, 10 August.
ACC: It is decided to publish the PCR on 15 July 2024, inform Diego from BV.
Responsible: Ane
- IOTC resolutions accepted for 2024: There are two resolutions significantly impacting Echebatar MSC certification:
 - Resolution 24/02 on FADs: Echebatar will provide a summary of the relevant dates for each point impacting certification and will closely monitor the progress of necessary actions.
 - Resolution 24/07: Skipjack management procedure. ECH will closely monitor the development of this resolution. In October, there's an IOTC meeting on quota allocation, and ECH see how distribution is handled.**ACC:** Summary of main topics and deadlines of the resolution.

Responsible: Ane

- **SIOTI Progress** Update: Significant progress has been made with the new coordinator Carlos Palín's involvement. SIOTI members are actively responding, and ongoing updates are being posted on the SIOTI website. Fishery progress is diligently tracked there. By July, the goal is to publish comprehensive information and commence addressing action plan tasks.

- Assess the option ITM of MSC and if it could be an alternative to SIOTI. There was a related meeting on June 3, with CABs participation. Note that AGAC have ITM, and ECH will review the info. ISSF has also done some pre-evaluations.

ACC: ECH need to study which option is better: SIOTI or ITM.

Responsible: all.

- **FADWATCH:** In the next SIOTI meeting Echebatar will request to be added to first meeting as representing non-EU flag members.

ACC: to make the request in SIOTI meeting.

Responsible: Ane.

- **NEXT MEETING:**

MSC Echebatar AZTI ESWG

Tuesday, 6 August 2024, 10 am.