

Management Strategy Evaluation

Work reference (contract, meeting, ...)

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1 Executive Summary

2 Introduction

2.1 Stock Overview

- Map distribution

2.2 Commercial exploitation

2.3 Scientific advice

- Catch limits or other management measures
- Compliance

2.4 MSE Background

- Process
- Decisions
- Work carried out & presented

2.5 Objectives

- Management objectives
- Tuning objectives
- Secondary objectives

3 Methods

3.1 Simulation and Evaluation Framework

- ADD MSE simulation workflow

3.2 Operating Models (OMs)

- DESCRIBE OM structure
- TABLE OMs tested

3.2.1 Conditioning

- DESCRIBE input data

3.2.1.1 Operating model update

- New dataset for (IOTC 2025) assessment
 - Updated annual nominal catch series from 2010
- Differences in catch not large enough to affect productivity estimates, thus no full re-conditioning
- **PLOT** Comparison SS3 runs

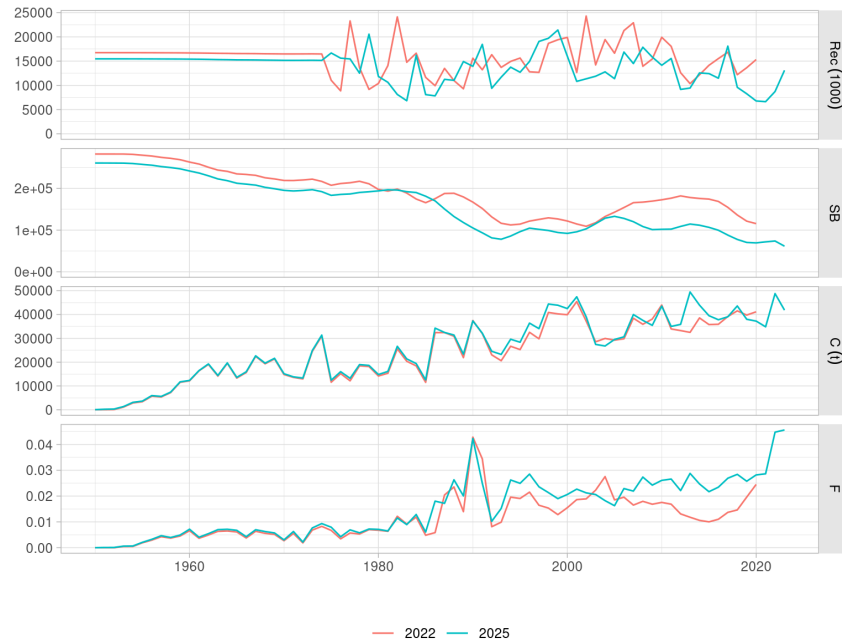


Figure 1: Time series of annual recruitment, spawning stock biomass, catch and fishing mortality estimated by the 2022 and 2025 NW LLCPU stock assessment model runs for Indian ocean albacore tuna.

- 2025 SS3 model not fully endorsed, problems.

- Conditioned OM updated to 2024 by
 - Projecting forward using the new catch series 2010:2024
 - Recruitment deviances from the conditioned OM used in 2022 assessment, on top of SRR with new SSB 2010-2020, and from future deviances (LM, sigmaR and rho by sample) 2021-2024
 - Proportions by quarter kept as in projection set up, no changes between the two datasets, constant in time (Figure 2)

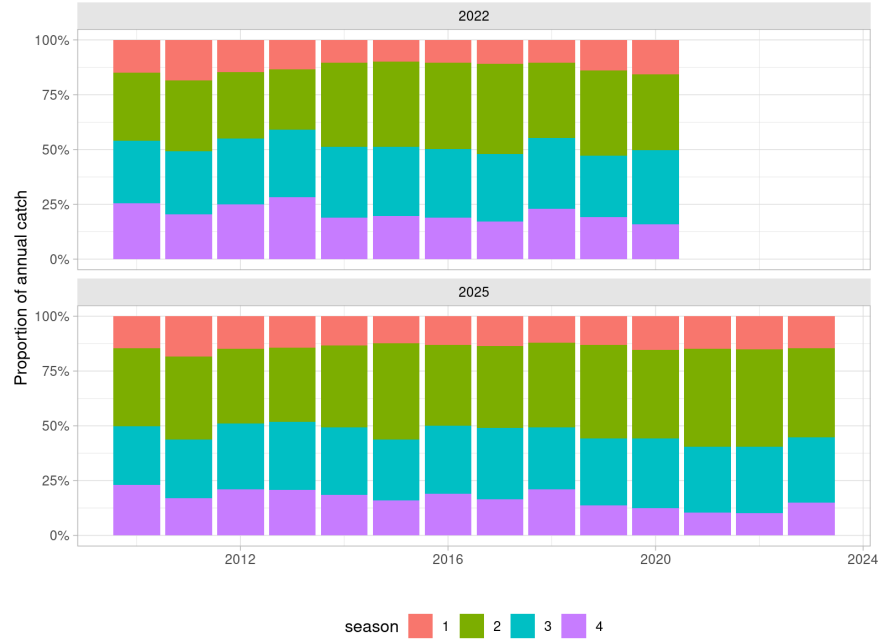


Figure 2: Annual proportion by season of the total catch for Indian ocean albacore tuna, obtained from the inputs to both the 2022 and 2025 stock assessment model runs.

- Updated observations of abundances and indices
- **PLOT** Comparison updated and original OMs
- **PLOT** Comparison updated and original indices

3.2.2 Reference set

- DESCRIBE om5b
-

3.2.3 Robustness set**3.2.4 Climate change****3.3 Observation Error Model (OEM)****3.4 Future Projections****3.5 Candidate Management Procedures (MPs)****3.5.1 Estimation Methods****3.5.2 Harvest Control Rules****3.5.2.1 HCR A**

- HCR diagram

3.5.3 # Implementation System**3.6 Implementation Error Model****3.7 Simulations****3.7.1 Experimental Setup****3.7.2 Performance statistics**

- SB , Spawner biomass.
- $SB/SB[0]$, Spawner biomass relative to unfished.
- $\min(SB/SB[0])$, Minimum spawner biomass relative to unfished.
- $SB/SB[MSY]$, Spawner biomass relative to SB_{MSY} .
- R , Recruitment.
- HR , Annual relative harvest rate, computed as an seasonal average of the sum of the harvest rates by fishery over the HR at MSY reference point, $\sum_{f=1}^6 HR_f/HR_{MSY}$.
- $P(Green)$, Probability of being in Kobe green quadrant, $SB > SB_{MSY} \wedge HR_{MSY} < 1$.
- $P(Orange)$, Probability of being in Kobe orange quadrant, $SB > SB_{MSY} \wedge HR_{MSY} \geq 1$.
- $P(Yellow)$, Probability of being in Kobe yellow quadrant, $SB \leq SB_{MSY} \wedge HR_{MSY} < 1$.
- $P(Red)$, Probability of being in Kobe red quadrant, $SB \leq SB_{MSY} \wedge HR_{MSY} \geq 1$.
- $P(SB \geq SB[MSY])$, Probability of SB greater or equal to SB_{MSY} .
- $P(SB > SB[limit])$, Probability that spawner biomass is above 10% SB_0 .
- C , Total catch.
- C/MSY , Proportion of MSY.
- $AAV(C)$, Annual variability in catch.
- $IAC(C)$, Percentage inter-annual change in catch, $(C_{y-1} - C_y)/C_y$.
- $P(shutdown)$, Probability of fishery shutdown, taken to be when catch falls below 1% of MSY.

4 Results

4.1 MP Performance

5 Discussion

5.1 Management Implications

5.2 Limitations

5.3 Conclusions

6 References

7 Appendix A: Operating model

7.1 Parameter definitions

7.2 Age-structured dynamics

7.3 Stock-recruitment relationship

7.4 Length-at-age

7.5 Length-weight relationship

7.6 Maturity

7.7 Biomass quantities

7.8 Exploitation rate

7.9 Survey indices

8 Appendix B: Harvest Control Rules

8.1 HCR A

Exploration

IOTC. 2025. “Report of the 15th Session of the IOTC Working Party on Temperate Tunas: Assessment Meeting.” IOTC-2025-WPTmT09(AS)-R[E]. Indian Ocean Tuna Commission.