

# 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

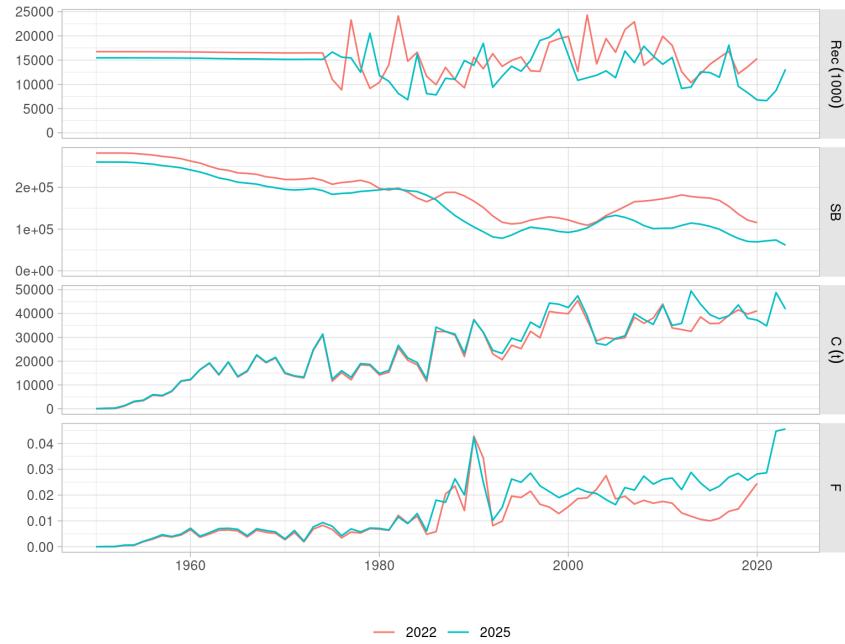


Figure 1: Time series of annual recruitment, spawning stock biomass, catch and fishing mortality estimated by the 2022 and 2025 NW LLCPUE stock assessment model runs for Indian ocean albacore tuna.

- 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)

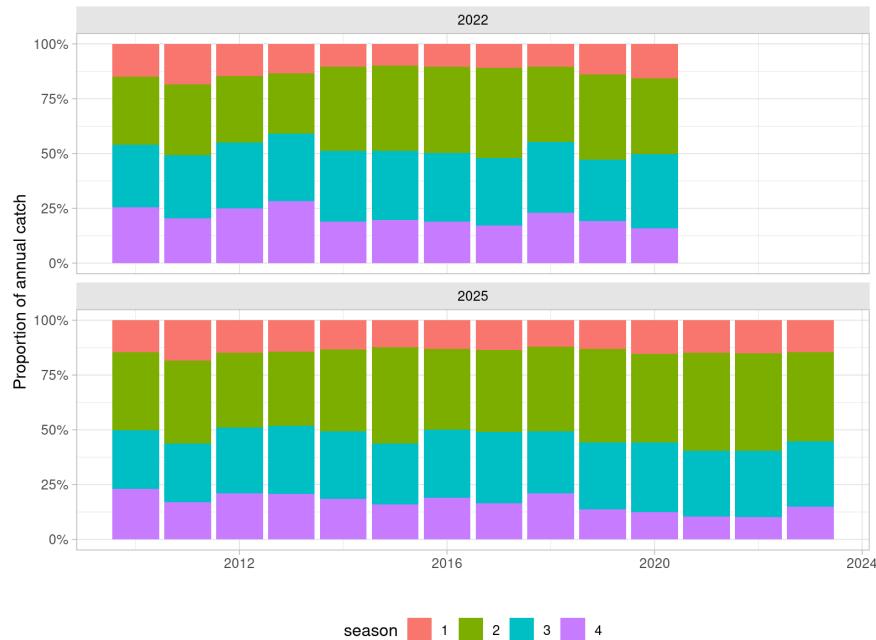


Figure 2: Annual proportion by season of the total catch for Indian ocean albacore tuna, obtained from the inputs to both the 2022 and 2025 stock assessment model runs.

- 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 SBMSY.
- $R$ , 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,  $\sum_{f=1}^6 HR_f/HR_{MSY}$ .
- $P(\text{Green})$ , Probability of being in Kobe green quadrant,  $SB > SB_{MSY} \wedge HR_{MSY} < 1$ .
- $P(\text{Orange})$ , Probability of being in Kobe orange quadrant,  $SB > SB_{MSY} \wedge HR_{MSY} \geq 1$ .
- $P(\text{Yellow})$ , Probability of being in Kobe yellow quadrant,  $SB \leq SB_{MSY} \wedge HR_{MSY} < 1$ .
- $P(\text{Red})$ , 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 SBMSY.
- $P(SB > SB[\text{limit}])$ , Probability that spawner biomass is above 10% SB0.
- $C$ , Total catch.
- $C/MSY$ , Proportion of MSY.
- $AAV(C)$ , Annual variability in catch.
- $IAC(C)$ , Percentage inter-annual change in catch,  $(C_{y-1} - C_y)/C_y$ .
- $P(\text{shutdown})$ , 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.