

**Spring Species Working Groups Meeting of the
Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to ICCAT**

March 9-11, 2016

DoubleTree Hilton Hotel
8727 Colesville Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Wednesday, March 9 (*Open to the Public*)

John Graves, Advisory Committee Chairman, presiding

6:00-7:00 pm Report out from the Bluefin Futures Symposium (Monterey, CA; January 2016)
and Informal Discussion by Advisory Committee and Technical Advisors

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Thursday, March 10 (*Open to the Public unless otherwise noted*)

John Graves, Advisory Committee Chairman, presiding

8:30 am Registration

9:00 1. Opening of Meeting (*Graves, unless otherwise noted*)

- A. Introductions
- B. Adoption of Agenda
- C. Briefing on Confidentiality Requirements (*Dept of State*)
- D. Appointment of Conveners and Rapporteurs

9:15 2. Report from NMFS' Office of International Affairs and Seafood Inspection (*Rogers*)

- Regulatory updates
- Legislative updates

9:45 3. HMS Research, including response to 2015 Species Working Group
Recommendations (*Schulze-Haugen; Diaz*)

10:15 Break

10:30 4. Overview of 2015 ICCAT Meeting Results (*Graves*)

11:15 5. 2016 SCRS Activities and U.S. Participation (*Diaz*)

12:00pm Lunch

1:00 6. Evidence of WBFT Spawning in the Slope Sea (*Richardson*)

2:00 7. Overview of 2016 ICCAT Intersessional Meetings

- A. Panel 2 Intersessional (*Blankenbeker*)
- B. Compliance Committee Intersessional (*Rijal*)
- C. Convention Amendment Working Group (*Blankenbeker*)
- D. E-BCD Technical Working Group (*Blankenbeker/Schulze-Haugen*)
- E. 2nd Meeting of the Ad Hoc FADs Working Group (*O'Malley*)

- F. Meeting of the Working Group on Integrated Monitoring Measures (*O'Malley*)
- G. Panel 2 Intersessional Meeting – July 2016 (*O'Malley*)

(Closed to the Public – IAC Members and Technical Advisors Only)

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3:00 8. Concurrent Meetings of Species Working Groups

- Bigeye, Albacore, Yellowfin, Skipjack (BAYS) Tunas
- Bluefin Tuna
- Swordfish & Sharks
- Billfish

6pm Adjourn

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Friday, (*Open to the public unless otherwise noted*)

8am 9. Review of Species Working Group Reports

8:30 10. Advisory Committee Business (*Graves*)

- A. Funding/Budget
- B. 2016 Advisory Committee Schedule
- C. Other Issues

8:45 11. Update on the work of the Presidential Task Force on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing (*Smith*)

12. Global Issues (*Smith*)

9:00 13. Report of SWG Discussions (*Conveners*)

- BAYS tuna
- Billfish

10:00 Break

10:15 14. Report of SWG Discussions, Continued (*Conveners*)

- Bluefin
- Swordfish/Sharks

11:15 15. Other Business (*Graves*)

- A. Production of Final Reports and Presentation to NMFS
- B. Other Business

11:30am Meeting Adjournment