

ORIGINAL : ENGLISH

SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION

SEVENTEENTH REGIONAL TECHNICAL MEETING ON FISHERIES

(Noumea, New Caledonia, 5 - 9 August 1985)

DETERMINING THE RESEARCH NEEDS FOR SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE

1. Following enquiries about the status of South Pacific albacore at earlier meetings of the SPC Regional Technical Meeting on Fisheries, increasing involvement and interest of a wide range of countries and research organisations, and the potential for development at surface fisheries based in the region, it seems timely to convene a scientific workshop to determine research priorities and explore arrangements for co-operation in research.
 2. The purpose of such research could be to optimise the return from the South Pacific albacore resource by determining:
 - (a) the interaction between longline fisheries and the expanding surface fisheries;
 - (b) distribution and catchability in relation to oceanographic features;
 - (c) migration pathways and movement patterns in the South Pacific;
 - (d) the potential of remote sensing to map oceanographic features associated with increased albacore catchability.
 3. The New Zealand delegation therefore seeks expressions of interest of participants in this meeting in a scientific workshop to be convened to determine research needs and co-operation for South Pacific albacore.
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