

**Working Group 32 Biodiversity of Biogenic Habitats  
Business Meeting Day 1, Draft Agenda  
Thursday, October 15, 2015; 9:00 – 18:00  
Hotel Shangri-La, Qingdao, China**

**Meeting objectives:**

To review the terms of reference (ToR), exchange information about data availability, and identify opportunities and challenges. WG-32 ToR and members are posted on the WG-32 web page at [https://www.pices.int/members/working\\_groups/wg32.aspx](https://www.pices.int/members/working_groups/wg32.aspx).

**9:00 Welcome, sign-in, and introductions** (see Appendix 1 for list of WG-32 Members)

**9:15 WG-32 Terms of Reference**

Review the Terms of Reference (see Appendix 2), and identify key opportunities and challenges. Develop a shared vision on how we carry forward with tasks in eastern, central and western North Pacific Ocean.

**9:45 Review and discussion of coral and sponge distribution modelling in the North Pacific Ocean**

- a) Introduction and overview of literature
- b) Technical issues related to habitat modelling (Kiyota)

**10:30 Break**

**11:00 Review of available data**

- a) Summarize previous studies, ongoing research, and the sources of species and environmental data available in the northeast Pacific Ocean to develop species distribution models for corals and sponges (Canada, USA to prepare short presentations).

**12:00 Lunch**

**1:30 Review of available data (Continued)**

- b) Summarize previous studies, ongoing research, and the sources of species and environmental data available in the northwest and central Pacific Ocean to develop species distribution models for corals and sponges (China, Japan, Korea, Russia, USA to prepare short presentations).

**15:30 Break**

**16:00 Identify scientific research questions of mutual interest for PICES WG-32 members**

Given discussions of available data, opportunities and challenges, discuss potential research avenues linked to the ToR that could be developed into a PICES Report and primary publication(s) of mutual interest.

**17:00 Linkages with FUTURE (Ian Perry)**

Review FUTURE plans and discuss opportunities for WG-32 to link with FUTURE activities.

**17:30 Review Agenda for WG-32 Meeting, Day 2 (October 17, 2015) and other matters**

**18:00 Meeting Adjourned**

**Evening WG-32 Dinner**

## **Appendix 1 List of WG-32 Members**

Dr. Janelle Curtis (Canada)  
WG-32 Co-Chair

Dr. Anya Dunham (Canada)

Dr. Anders Knudby (Canada)

Prof. Jianming Chen (China)

Dr. Hui Huang (China)

Dr. Masashi Kiyota (Japan)  
WG-32 Co-Chair

Dr. Takeo Kurihara (Japan)

Dr. Go Suzuki (Japan)  
(Attending instead of Dr. Kurihara)

Prof. Kwang-Sik Albert Choi (Korea)

Dr. Seonock Woo (Korea)

Dr. Tatyana Dautova (Russia)

Dr. Chris Rooper (USA)

Dr. John Guinotte (USA),  
(Attending instead of Dr. Watling)

Dr. Les Watling (USA)

## **Appendix 2 WG-32 Terms of Reference**

### **Year 1:**

- Compile data on the distribution of coral and sponge taxa, and associated fish and invertebrate assemblages in the North Pacific within National Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) and facilitate their submission to appropriate biodiversity databases (*e.g.*, Ocean Biogeographic Information System (OBIS));
- Compile data on key variables (temperature, velocity, ocean acidification, slope, aspect) hypothesized to influence coral and sponge distribution and diversity and catalogue sources of multibeam/swathe bathymetry data for distribution modeling within National EEZs;
- Hold a WG meeting, in conjunction with PICES Annual Meeting.

### **Year 2:**

- Review modeling approaches to predict the potential distributions of species and habitat suitability for corals and sponges (*e.g.*, MaxEnt, Boosted Regression Trees, or high resolution bathymetry-based models) within National EEZs;
- Identify environmental and ecological predictors of patterns in the distribution and biodiversity of coral, sponge and associated taxa within National EEZs;
- Convene a session on biogenic habitat distribution and diversity at PICES Annual Meeting;
- Hold a WG meeting, in conjunction with PICES Annual Meeting.

### **Year 3:**

- Review and propose potential indicators for assessing and monitoring diversity of biogenic habitats;
- Review and document associations between commercially important fish and invertebrate species and biogenic habitats;
- Prepare scientific reports for dissemination of results;
- Hold a WG meeting, in association with PICES Annual Meeting.