

WGSSSE - Working Group on Size and Species Selection Experiments

2020/FT/EOSG02 A Working Group on Size and Species Selection Experiments (WGSSSE), chaired by Haraldur Arnar Einarsson*, Iceland/FAO, and Michael Pol*, USA will work on ToRs and generate deliverables as listed in the Table below.

	MEETING DATES	VENUE	REPORTING DETAILS	COMMENTS (CHANGE IN CHAIR, ETC.)
Year 2020	10 December	By video conference		Follow-up breakout day in second week of January 2021
Year 2021	October	Iceland		
Year 2022	TBD	Rome	Final report by 1. December to EOSG	

ToR descriptors¹

TOR	DESCRIPTION	BACKGROUND	SCIENCE PLAN CODES	DURATION	EXPECTED DELIVERABLES
a	Review historic and newly developed analytical and statistical methodology to estimate size and species selection in towed and static fishing gears including consideration of environmental covariates (both instantaneous and modelled).	Estimates of selectivity are important to management through both the assessment process and the development of more selective management measures. A common understanding of the pros and cons of different methods of estimating selectivity is vital to making progress.	5.4	1 year (2020-21)	
b	Write guidelines for field data collection, including covariates which may affect size and species selection..	Knowledge of the data requirements of the different methods will result in more consistent data collections across studies even if conducted by non-experts	5.4	1 year (2020-21)	

c	Develop comprehensive guidelines for accurate estimation of size selection for a global audience	Wileman, et al. (1996) published a manual on the methodology for estimating retention, or selectivity WGFTFB members see a need to update the methodological information and augment it to include additional gears.	5.4	2 years (2020-2022)
d	Compile the guidelines on field data collections and methods for accurate estimation of fishing gear size selectivity into a technical report for ICES and FAO	WGFTFB has been seeking to produce a much-needed updated manual to estimate selectivity but struggled with time and resource issues to produce this. This WG, consisting of members of WGFTFB aims to resolve this issue.	5.4	1 year (2022-23) CRR

Summary of the Work Plan

Year 1	Meet to identify areas, develop an outline of the new manual, and create thematic subgroups
Year 2	Bring text together for group editing and approval
Year 3	Produce final draft

Supporting information

Priority	The activities of this group will provide a much-needed update to a primary reference document, ICES Cooperative Research Report No. 215: Manual for Methods of Measuring the Selectivity of Towed Fishing Gears. The Manual is now nearly 25 years old, and was developed before the availability of open-source statistical software and newer statistical methodology accessible due to computing power. ICES Report No. 215 is a foundational document for gear technologists.
Resource requirements	No resource requirements for ICES. Additional resources to undertake these activities is minimal, and will be drawn from members' institutions
Participants	The Group is expected to consist of at least 10 members, mostly drawn from WGFTFB
Secretariat facilities	Standard support
Financial	Publication of CRR
Linkages to ACOM and group under ACOM	There are no obvious direct linkages.
Linkages to other committees or groups	Annual or more frequent updates to WGFTFB are planned
Linkages to other organizations	FAO Fishing Operations and Technology Branch (NFIO)