

2014/2/SSGIEOM15 The **Workshop on scrutinisation procedures for pelagic ecosystem surveys** (WKSCRUT), chaired by Matthias Schaber*, Germany, will be established for a single meeting and will meet in Hamburg, Germany, 7–11 September 2015 to:

- a) Compare, evaluate and harmonize echogram scrutinisation and post-processing procedures currently applied by different participants of pelagic surveys coordinated by WGIPS;
- a) Document recommended methods to be followed by survey participants to produce acoustic density values by species and sampling units from raw acoustic energy data, and implement data requirements needed for a move to a new database for the storage of disaggregated survey data.
- b) Update the WGIPS survey manual with the recommended methods.

WKSCRUT will report by 1 December 2015 (via SSGIEOM) for the attention SCICOM, ACOM, WGISDAA, WGFAS, WGIPS and HAWG.

Supporting information

Priority	The aim of the workshop is to compare, evaluate and harmonize echogram scrutinisation and post-processing procedures currently applied by participants of the 29 pelagic surveys currently coordinated by WGIPS. In light of the process to harmonise ICES pelagic survey methods, description of methods in a common manual, and production of data output with a common format, the WK will initiate harmonization of procedures at the very start of the data chain.
Scientific justification	<p>Term of Reference a)</p> <p>The scrutinisation of echograms (allocating quantities of acoustic energy to fish species) is to a large extent subjective. However, it largely determines the outcome and abundance estimation from acoustic survey data. Therefore it is very important that all scientists responsible for the scrutitinisiation are following the same general procedures.</p> <p>Term of Reference b)</p> <p>A manual for ICES coordinated pelagic surveys is being drafted. As it will rely on documentation of common processing procedures, there is a need to produce these for the echogram scrutinisation procedure as well. Currently the procedures (interpretation of echograms, applied post-processing software,etc...) differ even between participants of international coordinated surveys surveying the same area and species. Such differences will be evaluated, best practices selected and common procedures recommended and documented. The ouput should be an updated survey manual.</p>
Resource requirements	Participants are expected to prepare and provide example raw acoustic data from their respective surveys and areas. Different software tools will need to be provided by the participants.
Participants	The Workshop will be attended by acoustic scientists participating in surveys coordinated by WGIPS and other pelagic ICES surveys.
Secretariat facilities	None.
Financial	None.
Linkages to advisory committees	ACOM
Linkages to other committees or groups	This work is relevant to WGISDAA, WGFAS, WGIPS and HAWG.

Linkages to other organizations None.
