

2013/MA2/SSGESST03

The **Working Group on Fisheries Acoustics, Science and Technology (WGFAST)**, chaired by Verena Trenkel, France, will meet in Vigo, Spain 19–22 April 2016, to work on ToRs and generate deliverables as listed in the Table below.

	MEETING DATES	VENUE	REPORTING DETAILS	COMMENTS (CHANGE IN CHAIR, ETC.)
Year 2014	5–9 May	New Bedford, USA	Interim report by 30 June 2014 to SSGESST (SSGIEOM)	
Year 2015	29 May	Nantes, France	Interim report by 30 June 2015 to SSGIEOM, SCICOM & ACOM	
Year 2016	19–22 April	Vigo, Spain	Final report by 30 June 2016 to SSGIEOM, SCICOM & ACOM	

**ToR descriptors**

ToR	Description	Background	Science plan topics addressed	Duration	Expected deliverables
a	Produce a list of papers originating from the community of the WGFAST working group	The WGFAST community produces several papers every year, and an update on recent WGFAST activities that acknowledges ICES is important.		Year 1, 2 and 3	An updated list of references
b	Present recent work within the topics “Applications of acoustic methods to characterize ecosystem”, “Acoustic properties of marine organisms”, “Behaviour”, and “Emerging technologies, methodologies, and protocols”.	Create a venue for informing the group members on recent activities and seeking input to further development. An overview of the different contributions will be presented in the annual report.		1,2,3	Report
c	Write a review to showcase the work of WGFAST with particular emphasis on its relevance to the ICES/ACOM strategic plans	After three years a review paper will be written to showcase the work of WGFAST		3 year	Write a review paper showing the WGFAST contribution over the last 3 years
d	Organize international acoustic symposium	Organize the 8th international symposium with working title “Marine Ecosystem Acoustics – observing the ocean interior across scales in support of integrated management”		2015	Symposium and special issue in ICES Journal of Marine Science
e	Organize joint sessions at ICES ASC	Organize joint sessions with survey working groups to foster collaboration regarding the use of acoustics data and cross-fertilization		2 or, 3	Topic session at ICES ASC

## Summary of the Work Plan

Year 1	Produce the annual overview of recent developments within the field, including the list of contributions originating from the WGFAST community.
Year 2	Produce the annual overview of recent developments within the field, including the list of contributions originating from the WGFAST community. Organize the ICES international acoustics symposium (alternatively year 3). Organize a joint session at ICES ASC (alternatively year 3)
Year 3	Produce the annual overview of recent developments within the field, including the list of contributions originating from the WGFAST community. Produce a review paper to showcase the developments originating from WGFAST

## Supporting information

Priority	Fisheries acoustics and complementary technologies provide the necessary tools and methods to implement the ecosystem approach to fisheries management within ICES and research into their application and further development is vital.
Resource requirements	No new resources will be required. Having overlaps with the other meetings of the Working, Planning, Study and Topic Groups increases efficiency and reduces travel costs.
Participants	The Group is normally attended by some 60-70 members and guests.
Secretariat facilities	None.
Financial	No financial implications.
Linkages to ACOM and groups under ACOM	There are no obvious direct linkages.
Linkages to other committee or groups	The work in this group is closely aligned with complementary work in the WGTFB working group. The work is of direct relevance to the survey planning groups within SSGESST and WGISUR.
Linkages to other organizations	The work of this group is closely aligned with similar work in FAO, the Acoustical Society of America, the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization and the American Fisheries Society.