

Working Group on the Value of coastal Habitat for Exploited Species (WGVHES)

2018/MA2/HAPISG06 The Working Group on the Value of coastal Habitat for Exploited Species (WGVHES), chaired by Olivier Le Pape, France, and David Eggleston, 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 2019	24–28 June	Rome, Italy		
Year 2020	29 June – 3 July	by corresp/ webex		physical meeting cancelled - remote work
Year 2021	21–25 June	Online meeting	Final report by 1 September to SCICOM	

ToR descriptors

TO R	DESCRIPTION	BACKGROUND	SCIENCE PLAN CODES	DURATION	EXPECTED DELIVERABLES
a	Review the application of the nursery habitat concept in management of exploited species and assess the need for refinement of the definition	There is a need for a quantifiable definition in science and a pragmatic definition in management	1.4; 5.2	year 1–2	Review manuscript
b	Review and report on evidence that hard bottom and biogenic habitats support commercially important species	Lack of information on the value of structured habitats; continuation of ongoing work by expanding to additional habitat types and new aspects	1.4; 5.2	1, 2, 3	Review manuscript(s) and report to ICES
c	Collate and document lessons learned on conservation of habitat for exploited species using experiences from different countries	Many countries are defining essential fish habitat and using experiences from various countries will increase efficiency and consistency of its application in management	5.2; 6.1; 6.2	1, 2, 3	Report to ICES and perspectives manuscript
d	Analyse the contribution of juvenile abundance indices in forecasting stock recruitment to better utilize available information	There is an interest to integrate juvenile abundance indices in short-term forecasts to improve advice in stock assessment.	5.2	1, 2	Manuscript

Summary of the Work Plan

Year 1	Continue the work on ToR a and begin the writing process. Finalise the review of hard-bottom habitats and continue ToR b with the inclusion of biogenic habitats and other aspects. Initiate the work on ToR c and continue the work on ToR d, following comprehensive scoping during the previous year.
Year 2	Complete the work on ToR a and continue the work on ToR b, c and d.
Year 3	Finalise the ongoing work in ToR b, c and d and identify future research priorities or management needs

Supporting information

Priority	The current activities of this EG will lead ICES into issues related to the importance of coastal habitat for fisheries management.
Resource requirements	The research programmes which provide the main input to this group are already underway, and resources are already committed. The additional resource required to undertake additional activities in the framework of this group is negligible.
Participants	The Group is normally attended by 10–15 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 committees or groups	There are no obvious direct linkages.
Linkages to other organizations	There are no obvious direct linkages.
