



October 9, 2022

To: ICCAT Advisory Committee
 Re: Bluefin Tuna MSE – Improvement in starting TAC for West

Late last week, ABTA made a request to Drs. Butterworth and Rademeyer, developers of the BR CMP, to revisit C1 (starting TAC) values for the West stock to determine if it is possible to increase the TAC without negatively impacting other required parameters. This query – asking a developer to try to improve their MP’s performance in specific ways – is, in fact, the essence of the MSE stakeholder engagement exercise: Stakeholders are given the opportunity to interact with developers with a view toward enhancing an MP’s performance relative to stakeholder priorities. We have witnessed this taking place in connection with recommendations from stakeholders regarding parameters such as LD and PGK.

The result, as below, is that the BR CMP is able to increase the starting TAC for the West while at the same time meeting all necessary criteria. The new variant is labelled BR5d. Further, this change in starting TAC for the West will have no effect upon starting TAC for the East, as indicated below.

The BR CMP has been ranked by the SCRS as the best performing MP. With BR5d, it is clearly the best performing MP in all categories, including TAC.

We have heard from fishermen stakeholders at this week’s meeting that they are very concerned about the starting TAC for the West and we hope that BR5d addresses these concerns.

Therefore, we are urging the U.S. Delegation to ICCAT to introduce this development at the upcoming PA-2 meeting with a view toward BR5d being adopted as a viable CMP alternative for both East and West stocks. We feel certain that Japan and Canada will support this and we see no reason for East CPCs to oppose it.

BR5d does not change East TAC



	TAC Inter.	PKG	Br30	LD*15	LD*10	AvC30	C1	VarC
EAST								
BR5a	2	0.60	1.17 (0.44; 2.15)	0.45	0.38	41.42 (12.29; 75.35)	40.57	15.60 (8.73; 22.76)
BR5d	2	0.60	1.17 (0.44; 2.15)	0.44	0.38	41.41 (12.26; 75.34)	40.57	15.60 (8.72; 22.71)
WEST								
BR5a	2	0.60	1.25 (0.46; 2.37)	0.42	0.29	2.43 (0.90; 3.60)	2.69	8.81 (4.95; 21.38)
BR5d	2	0.60	1.24 (0.43; 2.37)	0.40	0.26	2.45 (0.93; 3.62)	2.96	8.53 (4.73; 21.40)



BR5d meets the LD threshold of 0.40



BR5d results in a slight increase in TAC overall



BR5d increases West TAC in Y1 to 2,960 MT

In the email to which this letter is attached, we have also attached a document from Drs. Butterworth and Rademeyer containing the above table as well as relevant plots.

Cordially,

David Schalit, President
American Bluefin Tuna Association