




CCAMLR PO BOX 213 NORTH HOBART, TASMANIA 7002 AUSTRALIA
181 MACQUARIE STREET, HOBART, TASMANIA 7000 AUSTRALIA
Website: www.ccamlr.org

Phone: (61) 3 6210 1111
Fax: (61) 3 6224 8744
Email: ccamlr@ccamlr.org

Our Ref.: 5.15

4 May 2006

Dr Nicky Grandy
Secretary of the Commission
IWC
The Red House
135 Station Road
Histon, Cambridge CB4 4NP
United Kingdom


Dear Dr Grandy,

Joint CCAMLR-IWC Workshop

As you are undoubtedly aware, CCAMLR has embraced the idea of holding a joint CCAMLR-IWC Workshop to review information required for ecosystem models being developed to provide management advice on krill predators in the Antarctic marine ecosystem. I have been tasked with corresponding with you to extend an invitation to the IWC Scientific Committee to join the CCAMLR Scientific Committee in organising this workshop. In order to provide the necessary background, I am also attaching the full record of the CCAMLR Scientific Committee's deliberations on the matter at its most recent meeting at the end of October 2005.

I look forward to this project coming to fruition.

As always, all my personal best wishes.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Denzil G.M. Miller
Executive Secretary

EXTRACT FROM
THE REPORT OF THE TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING
OF THE CCAMLR SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Joint CCAMLR-IWC workshop

13.44 The Scientific Committee noted the discussion by WG-EMM (Annex 4, paragraph 6.55) on the work being undertaken in a variety of forums to model the Antarctic marine ecosystem, particularly modelling of krill predators to provide advice on management issues in the region by the Scientific Committees of CCAMLR and the IWC. It also noted the request by WG-EMM for a proposal to be developed for consideration by the Scientific Committee for a joint CCAMLR-IWC workshop (Annex 4, paragraphs 6.33 to 6.37), which was provided in SC-CAMLR-XXIV/BG/31.

13.45 The Scientific Committee noted that:

- (i) SC-CAMLR is the leading body to collect, collate and utilise knowledge of krill predators and their interactions with krill and other parts of the ecosystem for the purposes of providing advice on the management of the Antarctic marine ecosystem;
- (ii) the Scientific Committee of the IWC (SC-IWC) is the leading body to collect, collate and utilise knowledge of the abundance of whales and utilises these estimates and other knowledge of the Antarctic marine ecosystem for the purposes of providing management advice;
- (iii) Members of both Scientific Committees are now developing models of the Antarctic marine ecosystem which could form the basis for providing management advice;
- (iv) it would be useful for both Scientific Committees to utilise knowledge of krill predators in a consistent way, such knowledge would be estimates of abundance, trends in populations and parameters for key ecological processes, in particular the physical environment and food-web dynamics.

13.46 The Scientific Committee agreed that a workshop would be useful ‘to review the state and characteristics of information, including knowledge on abundance, trends in populations and parameters, required for ecosystem models being developed to provide management advice on krill predators in the Antarctic marine ecosystem.’ Also, it would be desirable for this workshop to be jointly coordinated by the Scientific Committees of CCAMLR and the IWC.

13.47 The Scientific Committee agreed to establish a Steering Committee to develop a work program leading to a workshop in 2008. The terms of reference for the workshop were agreed to be:

1. Consider the types of information needed for models on the Antarctic marine ecosystem that could be developed for providing management advice.

2. Consider how the information could be used in modelling the Antarctic marine ecosystem, the quality of the information and key gaps needing to be resolved before such information might be used in the development of those models.
3. Consider metadata, rather than reviewing individual datasets and undertaking analyses to summarise the data, where the metadata would comprise information on the estimates of abundance, population trends and parameters, their data sources and methods used to estimate them.

13.48 The Scientific Committee requested the Steering Committee liaise, as needed, with data owners about how to report on the information to be used in the workshop that arises from their data.

13.49 The Scientific Committee agreed that experts in the development of Antarctic marine ecosystem models generally, such as in GLOBEC, ICED, should be involved in the workshop in order to help facilitate discussion on the types and quality of information needed in developing models for the provision of management advice.

13.50 In undertaking its work, the Steering Committee should consider, *inter alia*:

- (i) the Report of the Workshop on Plausible Ecosystem Models for Testing Approaches to Krill Management (SC-CAMLR-XXII, Annex 4, Appendix D);
- (ii) reviewing the state and characteristics of information, including knowledge on abundance, trends in populations and parameters, required for ecosystem models being developed to provide management advice on krill predators in the Antarctic marine ecosystem;
- (iii) summarising the types of information, including knowledge on abundance, trends in populations and parameters, used to model the Antarctic marine ecosystem for providing management advice, where such information might include, *inter alia*:
 - (a) the key physical and biological elements of the models defined at appropriate spatial and temporal scales;
 - (b) production and life history characteristics of the key taxa;
 - (c) functions dealing with movement and space;
 - (d) trophic relationships, including predator–prey relationships and competition;
 - (e) initialising biomasses (current or historical);
- (iv) reviewing the relative state of existing information (in terms of extent and quality), with emphasis on the guild of krill predators in the Antarctic food web, including fish, squid, penguins, flighted seabirds, seals and whales, including:
 - (a) abundance, trends and temporal and spatial structure of populations;

- (b) parameters used in capturing relationships between the distribution and behaviour of predators with sea-ice, bathymetry and oceanography;
- (v) reviewing the parameters needed to model top-down or bottom-up influences on krill biomass;
- (vi) identifying key knowledge gaps;
- (vii) the relative importance of the information required to appropriately explore the role of krill predators in the Antarctic marine ecosystem.

13.51 The Scientific Committee recommended that the SC-IWC be invited to join SC-CAMLR in organising this workshop and requested:

- (i) the Secretariat correspond with the IWC Secretariat to inform them of this invitation;
- (ii) the CCAMLR observer to the IWC, Dr Kock, work with the Steering Committee to correspond with the Chairs of the IWC and the SC-IWC to initiate communication between the two Scientific Committees, with the view to having this invitation considered at the next meeting of the SC-IWC.

13.52 The Scientific Committee requested that the Steering Committee develop a work plan and initiate subgroups to begin preparations of materials for the workshop in 2008 over the intersessional period and provide next year a consolidated proposal for the workshop, including details of a work plan over 2007–2008, a venue and budget. It was agreed that the new CCAMLR Headquarters would be an appropriate workshop venue pending consideration of timing, budget and the availability of the Secretariat.

13.53 The Scientific Committee agreed for the Steering Committee to initially comprise Drs A. Constable (Convener), M. Goebel, K. Kovacs, J. Pierre, P. Trathan and C. Southwell. The Scientific Committee requested that Members participate in the development of the work program and asked that the Steering Committee update, and obtain feedback from, Members during this work.
