

**Minutes of the Sustainable Blue Swimming Crab Resource Management Committee
Meeting No. 3/2022.**

Date 29 November 2022 at 01.30-04.30 p.m.

**at Pakpian Conference Room, 5th floor, Chulabhorn Building, Department of Fisheries
and online Zoom meeting system.**

List of attendees.

1. Mr. Amnuay Kongprom, Director of Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division. Chairman
2. Mr. Soramat Chalowattana, Representative of Director of the Fisheries Inspection Division.
3. Ms. Kamolthip Pradubtham, Representative of Director of Fisheries Resources Management and Measures Determination Division.
4. Miss Sukanya Charoenwai, Representative of Director of Legal Affairs Division.
5. Mr. Tuanthong Jutagate, Lecturer of the Faculty of Agriculture, UbonRatchathani University.
6. Mr. Pawarot Noranattrakul, Head of Fisheries Resource Assessment Group, Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division.
7. Mrs. Krisana Chankaew, Director of Fisheries Commodity Standard System and Traceability Division.
8. Mrs. Veeraporn Suksomchit, Head of Traceability System Development Group, Fisheries Commodity Standard System and Traceability Division.
9. Mr. Phon Krishna Poonsaen, Head of Production Quality System Development Group, Fisheries Commodity Standard System and Traceability Division.
10. Ms. Wantana Jenkitkosol, Head of Fisheries Development and Restoration Group, Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division.
11. Mr. Narupon Darumas, Fisheries Specialist, Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division.
12. Mr. Kanet Rodyam, Fisheries Officer, Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division.
13. Ms. Saraporn Hunsuan, General Administration Officer, Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division.
14. Mr. Trisorn Thammeesup, Fishery Officer, Fisheries Resources Management and Measures Determination Division.

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| 15. Mr. Anucha Inthana, | Fisheries Officer,
Fisheries Commodity Standard System and
Traceability Division. |
| 16. Ms. Niramon Upatham, | Fisheries Officer,
Fisheries Commodity Standard System and
Traceability Division. |
| 17. Mr. Pramook Takiankam, | Thai Frozen Foods Association. |
| 18. Ms. Rachit Penglee, | Thai Frozen Foods Association. |

Participants via Zoom.

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| 1. Mrs. Suchitra Wannapat, | Representative of Director of Fisheries Development
Policy and Strategy Division. |
| 2. Ms. Pensri Muangyao, | Representative of Director of Coastal Aquaculture
Research and Development Division. |
| 3. Ms. Rattana Chusri, | Representative of Thai Food Processors Association. |
| 4. Mr. Treerat Chaowthawee, | Representative of Thai Frozen Foods Association. |
| 5. Mr. Chumpol Sae-lim | Representative of Thai Fisheries Association. |
| 6. Mr. Weerapol Titipongtrakul, | Fisheries Officer,
Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division. |
| 7. Mr. Teerasate Bunsanekulthawat, | Lawyer, Legal Affairs Division. |
| 8. Miss Jitlada Srirakul, | Economist, Fisheries Development Policy, and Strategy
Division. |
| 9. Ms. Paweenuch Tepin, | Fisheries Officer,
Fisheries Development Policy, and Strategy Division. |
| 10. Ms. Darika Intarayotha, | Fisheries Officer,
Fisheries Development Policy, and Strategy Division. |
| 11. Ms. Kachaporn Pornsipak, | Fisheries Officer,
Fish Quarantine and Fishing Vessels Inspection Division. |
| 12. Mr. Methat Raksri, | Fisheries Officer,
Fishing and Fleets Management Division. |
| 19. Ms. Saowanee Thapliang, | Fisheries Officer,
Fisheries Commodity Standard System and
Traceability Division. |
| 13. Miss Waraporn Praeprasert, | Thai Fisheries Association. |

The meeting started at 1:30 p.m.

Agenda 1 Matters the chairman informed the meeting.

Mr. Bancha Sukkaew, Deputy Director-General of the Department of Fisheries, the chairman of the committee was on an urgent mission, so he assigned Mr. AmnuayKongprom, director of the Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division, Vice Chairman of the Board acting as the

chairman of this meeting. This meeting was held to consider the results of the project, public hearing meeting on (draft) the action plan which conducted by the Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division and asked the committee to consider on measures and guidelines included in the agenda of the meeting.

Resolution of the meeting: Acknowledge the details that the Chairman informed to the meeting.

Agenda 2 Appovement of the minutes of the 2/2022 meeting of the Sustainable Blue Swimming Crab Fishery Management Committee of Thailand.

The secretary of the meeting has already circulated the minutes of the meeting on August 25, 2022. There was a request to amend the minutes of the meeting from Fisheries Development Policy and Strategy Division and presented to the meeting to approve the minutes of the meeting.

Resolution of the meeting: Approve the minutes of the meeting.

Agenda 3 Matters to acknowledgment.

3.1 The results of the project, public hearing meeting on (draft) the action plan which conducted by the Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division.

Ms. Wantana Jenkusolkit, Assistant Secretary, presented comments on the action plan that the Department of Fisheries has completed a public hearing in all 22 coastal provinces in accordance with the action plan, which has representatives of local fishermen, commercial fishermen and stakeholders who involved in BSC fisheries attended the meeting to express their opinions. Most of the results of the meeting agreed with the plan, which can be summarized as follows.

Topic/Objectives	Summary of comments
Issues, main problems and causes of problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Degradation of blue swimming crab resources and habitats of young blue swimming crabs. - Lack of integration in management and law enforcement throughout the supply chain - The livelihoods of local fishermen who fish BSCs are low quality. - Management information is insufficient.

<p>Objective 1: To control the level of blue swimming crab fishing effort in line with the appropriate reference point.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It is proposed to determine MSY of blue swimming crabs separately by province. - To limit the efficiency of blue swimming crab fishing gear (crab gill nets, crab traps, trawlers), different measures should be taken for each type of gear. - The fishing days of commercial fishing vessels should not be limited.
<p>Objective 2: Reduce the catch of young blue swimming crabs and berried blue swimming crabs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fisheries guidelines for small BSCs and berried BSCs should be established. - The size of the BSC catch should be determined.
<p>Objective 3: Rehabilitation of BSC resources by promoting crab bank activities and release of young BSC breeds into the wild.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guidelines for the release of BSCs should be established and proposed to be more than 1,000,000 crabs/year. - Guidelines for developing the efficiency of crab banks and define blue swimming crab conservation areas should be established. - The development of aquaculture blue swimming crabs, young crabs, to be released into nature.
<p>Objective 4 Promote/Support Fishermen in responsible BSC fishing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase the number from 200 peoples/year to more than 200 peoples/year. - Raising awareness in BSC fishing should be a mandatory measure / all fishermen should attend training. - Proposed to regulate the purchase of small BSCs and berried BSCs. - Support for raising awareness among youth.
<p>Objective 5 Strengthen the MCS system to monitor, control and surveillance blue swimming crab fishing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCS guidelines, support and enforcement of law & regulation (MCS system) is difficult. - Proposed to raise awareness instead of taking measures.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create volunteer fishery mechanisms at the village and provincial levels.
Objective 6 Develop/Improve traceability system for Thai BSC products.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Accelerate actions to enable traceability, such as accelerating the issuance of artisanal fishing licenses / supporting and recording the results of artisanal fisheries. - Additional measures traceability of BSC and frozen BSC imports.
Objective 7 Promote/Support and increasing the sanctuary area of blue swimming crabs in the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased the number from 2 areas to more than 2 areas. - A crab refuge area should take into account both natural and human factors.
Objective 8 Promote/Support and maintain the habitat of young crabs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased the number from 10 areas to more than 10 areas. - Guidelines for marine debris Problems in young Crab's Habitat.
Objective 9 Promote/Support BSC fishing and promoting the strength of fishing communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased from 22 communities/year to more than 22 communities/year - Supporting eco-tourism/using the right fishing gear - Continue to develop the same local fishing community groups/organizations. to strengthen.
Objective 10 Promote/Support increasing the value of blue swimming crab fishery products at the local level	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Should encourage fishing communities to be certified with other relevant standards, such as the FDA. - There should be marketing promotion. Promotion of fishery products through online channels.
Objective 11 Promote/Support Driving the development of blue swimming crab fishery products with the BCG Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Propose additional agencies related to the measure, such as universities in the area. - There should be a guideline for transferring BCG model knowledge to fishing communities. - Adding more public relations measures for BCG.

Objective 12: To manage BSC resources for sustainable use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Propose additional agencies related to measures such as the private sector and local agencies. - There should be a guideline for BSC resource management that covers all coastal provinces.
Objective 13: Improve the law to be in line with fishing conditions and sustainable utilization of blue swimming crab resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There should be a consultation with fishermen before issuing measures or law enforcement. - The government sector considers legal issues in line with academic information.
Other issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Define coastal sea zones to be appropriate in each area. - Proposes a review of the enforcement of measures on all types of trawlers. - Government agencies should be integrated for convenience to the people and fishermen.

Resolution of the meeting: Acknowledge the result of the public hearing meeting.

3.2 Schedule for indicator assessment by assessors from MRAG by Thai Frozen Foods Association.

Mr. Pramook Takiankham, representative of the Thai Frozen Foods Association (TFFA), reported on the progress of the Thai Blue Swimming Crab Fisheries Improvement Project, consisting of activities during September-October 2022 as follows:

1. LB-SPR Analysis Workshop.
2. Submit proposals for the Small-scale Vessel on Social Assessment project for labor assessment in the Thai BSC supply chain.
3. Report project progress and budget plans to the NFI Crab Council.
4. Coordinate with the MRAG for 2022 assessment of the project via online during January 2023.

The TFFA will provide progress information to the MRAG by December 16, 2022, some of which are currently being translated into English. In addition, TFFA has informed that the MSC standard has been revised from version 2.0 to version 3.0 and the FIP expanded area (Nakhon Si Thammarat province) will be proposed in 2023.

The chairman of the meeting commented that expanding the project area would benefit and create opportunities for fishermen in the future. However, ask the TFFA to coordinate and plan together with the Department of Fisheries to prepare information.

Resolution of the meeting: Acknowledgement.

Agenda 4 Matters to Consideration.

4.1 Improving the (draft) action plan according to the comments obtained from the public hearing meeting.

The committee considered in detail the topics with different comments, disagreements, and additional suggestions which the secretary viewed additional suggestions are action plan that does not affect the measures of the FMP. For issues that do not agree, ask the committee to consider ways to adjust measures in accordance with the suggestions from the hearing or maintain measures if it is deemed that suggestions for measures do not affect the objectives and goals set.

Topics/Objectives	Conclusion of the Committee
Issue, Main problem, Cause of problem.	Maintained, because there was no conflict in this issue.
Objective 1 Control the level of effort in BSC fishing in accordance with the appropriate reference point.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measure 1 There are some who disagree with measures to control the number of fishing vessels of commercial fishing vessels, the Committee was review that the measures were in accordance with the goals and did not need to specify areas or reference points. Therefore, it can be concluded that the predetermined measures must be maintained and will adjust the indicator to the BSC fishing effort at a level with risk that does not exceed the specified reference point. - Measure 2 All areas agree no conflict. - Measure 3 The allocation of catch and number of days in blue swimming crab fishing are different between commercial and local fishing gear. It may be difficult in practice, but measures 1 can be used, so the committee agreed to cut off measure 3.
Objective 2: Reduce the catch of Young BSC and Berried BSC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suggestions: Adjust the objectives to prohibit catching small young BSC. There may be a practical problem. It is seen that catching bans is the one way to reduce the catch of young BSC or to use other indirect measures to reduce accidental catch on all controllable fishing gear. It is proposed to extend the enforcement period for imposing measures prohibiting fishing of certain size fish. Both at the level of fishing vessels and buyers and sellers. - Objective 2, Measure 3, Measure 6 are maintained as the targets for the utilization of small aquatic resources are different from objective 1.

Objective 3 Restoration of BSC resources by promoting BSC bank activities and release of young BSC breeds into the nature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mostly agree. - The Committee suggest that the promotion of productivity should be continued and increases the efficiency of the BSC Bank. Therefore, separate measures 2 into 2 measures, which are to release young BSCs from BSC banks and produce young BSCs for release into the nature, by indicator approximately 500,000 young BSCs per year.
Objective 4 Promote/Support Fishermen in responsible BSC fishing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mostly agree, therefore the secretary proposed - Measure 2 cut the word voluntary because it was suggested that raising awareness in fishing should be a compulsory measure. - Measure 4 Correct the text to be Preparation of guidelines to prevent the purchase of small BSCs and Berried BSCs according to the suggestion to control the purchase of small BSCs and Berried BSCs. - Increase the measure 5 to raise awareness among the public besides fishermen and stakeholders.
Objective 5 Strengthen the MCS system to monitor, control and watch out BSC fishing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Measure 4: Edit the text to Supporting surveillance and knowledge of illegal BSC fishing in coastal areas by local fishermen communities. - There is no additional measure for compulsory fishing net producers because the DOF already has measures to control and inspect the size of fishing nets.
Objective 6 Develop/improve the traceability system for Thai BSC products.	There are no additional measures on inspection procedures for imported BSCs sold in local markets that are already covered in Measure 1.
Objective 7 Promote/support and increase refuge areas of young BSCs in Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree with no correction. - It is proposed to add sub-agencies in the DOF to complete each measure.
Objective 8 Promote/support and maintain the habitat of young BSCs.	- There are no additional measures. It is seen that the management of marine debris is already in the measure 2, but local agencies are added as support agencies.
Objective 9 Promote/support BSC fishing and promote the strength of the fishing community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agree. - Maintain Measure 4; adjust indicators to establish at least 5 community enterprises of local fishing community organizations per year.
Objective 10 Promote/support the increase of product value from BSC fishing at the local level.	- Agree with no correction.
Objective 11 Promote/support the development of BSC fishery products with the BCG model.	- This is in accordance with the policy of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. Be able to transfer knowledge of BCG model to fishing communities and add university agencies to support the development of BCG technology.

Objective 12 Manage BSC resources for sustainable utilization.	- There is no need to modify the name of the measure based on disagreements but to change the name of the measure by specifying the details of administration in each province to reduce conflicts.
Objective 13 Improve laws to be in accordance with fishing conditions and sustainable utilization of BSC resources.	Measure 1 The proposal is consistent with the specified measures. Measure 2: It is recommended to increase clarity as a measure for the accidental capture of aquatic animals from BSC fishing. Measure 4 deals with the issue of conservation areas and refuge areas. Therefore, it is proposed to cut this measure, which can be implemented in accordance with Measure 1 in order not to be duplicated.
Other issues	- Coastal sea zone designation to be appropriate in each area. - Proposes a review of the enforcement and measures on all types of trawlers. - Government agencies should be integrated to provide convenience for the peoples and fishermen.

From the consideration of the committee, the assistant secretary will update the scorecard details to be appropriate and will prepare a complete action plan for the committee to know.

Thai Frozen Foods Association suggest that if the committee approves and sends it to TFFA within a week. This may be able to translate into English and submit to the MRAG for the assessment by December 16, 2022.

Mrs. Suchitra Wannapat, representative of Fisheries Development Policy and Strategy Division commented that because the committee was appointed by the Director-General of the DOF and the comments of this FMP was already in accordance with the national fisheries policy plan. Therefore, the committee can endorse this FMP and propose to the Director-General of the DOF for approval without having to go through the Fisheries Development Policy and Strategy Division. However, Fisheries Development Policy and Strategy Division would like to coordinate details with the Secretariat before proposing this FMP to the Director-General.

Resolution of the meeting: Agreed in principle and asked the secretary to revise the FMP from the suggestions of the committee and circulate the meeting report and a final FMP to the committees. The secretary will propose this final FMP to the Director-General of the Department of Fisheries for approval in the next order.

4.2 Annual Evaluation 2022: Information Preparation Plan

As the Thai Frozen Foods Association has sent a letter to the Department of Fisheries on the request for information on activities progress reports under the Sustainable Blue Swimming Crab Resource Management Action Plan in Thailand to be used in the activity progress report for the Annual Evaluation 2022 in mid-December 2022 and has assigned Fisheries Commodity Standard

System and Traceability Division and the Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division. Initially, the Department of Fisheries has circulated requests for assistance from agencies within the Department of Fisheries to collect and prepare to send to the Thai Frozen Foods Association.

Thai Frozen Foods Association informed that for the fishing ground of all size of BSC fishing vessels, the received information showing fishing sites in Surat Thani Province from the Department of Fisheries and ask for more details of the geographic coordinate (Latitude/Longitude) of fishing ground.

Mr. Pawarot Noranattrakul, Marine Fisheries Research and Development Division, informed that he would coordinate and submit additional files as requested by the Thai Frozen Foods Association.

Resolution of the meeting: Agrees that the TFFA will continue to send information to the assessors and report the results to the committee next time.

Agenda 5 Other Matter (If any)

No matter.

Meeting Closed: 04.30 PM

Mrs. Weerapon Suksomjit
Traceability system development group leader
Meeting Minutes Auditor

Ms. Saowanee Tabliang
Fishery Biologist, Practitioner Level
Meeting Minutes Summator