

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p><b>Joint Thirteenth Meeting of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group and Ninth Meeting of the Population and Conservation Status Working Group</b></p> <p><i>Swakopmund, Namibia, 26 May 2026</i></p> <p><b>Progress on the Seabird Bycatch Risk Assessment and Discussions on Management Measures in the CCSBT ERS Working Group</b></p> <p><b><i>Daisuke Ochi and Sachiko Tsuji</i></b></p> <p><i>Fisheries Resources Institute, Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency</i></p>
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#### **SUMMARY**

Building on the finalized Spatially Explicit Fisheries Risk Assessment (SEFRA) model developed through international collaboration under the CCSBT and ACAP, the ERSWG meeting in March 2026 identified high priority seabird species and defined high-risk areas in the southern hemisphere. To address these risks, a "toolbox approach" was suggested, requiring CCSBT members to submit annual seabird bycatch mitigation plans from 2027, covering options such as enhanced monitoring, reduced fishing effort, and strengthened mitigation measures. ERSWG also discussed about collaboration with other regional tuna RFMOs and ACAP to support ongoing, regularly updated risk assessments and bycatch management approach.