



**RUSSIAN FAR EAST CRABS**  
**RFE CRAB CATCHERS ASSOCIATION (CCA) AND SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES PARTNERSHIP (SFP)\***  
**PLAN OF WORK ON THE FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (FIP)\*\***  
**2014-2016**

Work category	Work description	Resources	Implementation	Timetable
<b>I. General</b>				
1. Access to stock assessment and fishery data including information on fisheries monitoring and control	<p>Launch the CCA website</p> <p>Prepare and publish the following information on the CCA web site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) TAC and reported catches for the period 2009-2016.</li> <li>b) Summary description of commercial crab species and their fisheries in areas of prime importance for the FIP.</li> <li>c) The origin-of-catch certification and its use by Russia for export of crab products to North Pacific trade partners within a framework of bilateral agreements on the reduction of trade in IUU-originated seafood.</li> <li>d) A joint work with fisheries research institutes on deployment of their scientists on board CCA vessels for conducting scientific research, in particular, crab stock assessment.</li> </ul>	CCA	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Bilateral agreements on the issue of certificates and port-control procedures are published on the CCA website</p> <p>TAC establishment information is presented annually on TAC public hearings and published by TINRO research institute</p>	<p>Jan 2014</p> <p>By Dec 2016</p> <p>End of 2014</p> <p>By Oct 2015</p> <p>Completed annually and continued</p>
2. Supply chain analysis	Analyze a supply chain of Russian crab products officially traded to North Pacific countries.	CCA/SFP	Ongoing	2014 – 2016

	Consider opportunities for tracking of crab shipments extended from the country of first landing to the final destination by applying additional trade control documents.	CCA/SFP	Subject to framework of bilateral IUU trade prevention agreements, if and when required	Ongoing
	Publicize work of FIP in order to develop interest in improving the crab fishery by those crab-catching companies who are not members of CCA.	CCA	Four more companies joined the CCA for the period 2014 -2016	2014 – 2016
	Encourage all stakeholders being interested in FIP to publish in open sources their views in support of FIP or on their intention to cooperate with CCA in the project.	CCA/SFP	RFE Crab Supplier Roundtable established by SFP has two meetings in 2015 2016	2014 – 2016
3. CCA policy on sustainable fishing	Prepare and adopt a policy of the association in respect of sustainable fishing and a code of conduct for CCA vessel crews	CCA	In preparation	2016
<b>II. Stock status</b>				
4. Crab fisheries status	Conduct internal reviews of crab fisheries status and define further improvements required.	CCA	Improvement needs and FIP status reviewed annually	2014 – 2016
5. Status of crab stocks and harvest control rules	Work with fisheries research institutes and persuade them to standardize and apply up-to-date methodologies in crab stock assessment and management based on biological reference points and harvest control rules associated with them.	CCA/fisheries institutes/ regulatory bodies	Fisheries Agency is testing a new methodology in 2015 -2018. Also, a mathematical model method is now used in crab stock assessments.	2014 – 2016
<b>III. Fisheries environmental impact</b>				
6. Environmental impact of crab fisheries, including by-catches and discards	<p>Involve scientists to be deployed by research institutes on board CCA vessels in systematic collection of data on all types of by-catches and discards as well as any potential impact of crab pot fishing on habitat.</p> <p>Undertake analytical review of fisheries regulations, catch reporting requirements and availability of other sources for data on by-catches, including by-catch of non-target crab species and crabs during fishing for other than crab species. Collect and document information available on crab fishing impact on habitat.</p>	CCA/fisheries institutes	<p>Deployment of scientific observers on board CCA vessels continued from 2013 to present. The first report based on the observations conducted will be prepared in 2017</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>2014 – 2016</p> <p>2016</p>

<b>IV. Fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance</b>				
7. Estimation of current levels of IUU crab catches	Initiate collection of information and estimation of present levels of IUU crab fishing, for example, linked to incorrect reporting of catches and fishing areas as well as substitution in catch reports of high valued crab species by less valued species.	CCA/fisheries regulatory bodies	Periodical analysis and publications in open to public sources	2014 - 2016
8. National Plan of Action of Russia on IUU Fishing	Engage in the development of normative acts to be adopted in support of the NPOA-IUU implementation, in particular, in respect of crab fishing.	CCA/fishery regulatory bodies	Ongoing work	2014 - 2016

\* From 1 October 2016 the Crab Catchers Association of the Russian Far East has assumed full responsibility for the FIP implementation including, in particular, publication of FIP public reports. SFP assumed its role as FIP stakeholder.

\*\*If necessary, the plan can be adjusted.