

REVISED TIMELINE TO ASSIST IN THE PROCESS TO AGREE ANY REQUESTED CHANGES TO ASW STRIKE/CATCH LIMITS

Note: This is an updated version of Appendix 5 of the ASW Sub-Committee Report (IWC/67/REP/02) which was endorsed by the Commission at IWC67, revised to reflect (i) the potential for automatic renewal of strike/catch limits and (ii) a change to biennial meetings of the Scientific Committee (SC) meetings in light of the budget discussions at IWC68.

Note: for illustrative purposes this table assumes that the SC meets every 2 years in the same year as Commission.

Date	Scientific Committee activities	Contracting Government/Commission Activities
Ongoing		Secretariat works with ASW Contracting Governments to update Descriptions of Hunt when needed and make available on the IWC website.
Year 4 2022		
SC68D	met online 26 April – 8 May 2022	no Contracting Governments submitted any proposals for consideration of changed strike/catch limits (including carryover provisions) to the SC.
	SC reviewed new scientific information on ASW stocks. No early Implementation Reviews were required. Appropriate <i>Implementation Reviews</i> were completed. Progressed relevant activities under workplan (e.g., ongoing regular and early Implementation Reviews) and SC report published	SC advice on sustainability of ASW strike/catch limits proposals or its workplan to complete analysis of proposals is available in the SC reports 'Descriptions of the hunts' relevant to ASW strike/catch limit requests are available on the IWC website.
Year 5 2023		
	If SC meets 1) SC review of ASW strike/catch limits and related issues - if there is new information 2) Appropriate <i>Implementation Reviews</i> completed. 3) Activities under workplan if necessary 4) Publication of advice in SC report	No Commission Meeting
Year 6 2024		
Two weeks prior to 2024 SC meeting		Only in case of any proposed change in strike/catch limit ASW Contracting Governments submit any proposal for consideration of changed strike/catch limits (including carryover provisions) to the SC.

<p>April/ May</p>	<p>(1) SC reviews new scientific information on ASW stocks (2) For each stock, SC determines whether an early Implementation Review is required. (3) Appropriate <i>Implementation Reviews</i> completed. (4) Progress on relevant activities under workplan (e.g., ongoing regular and early Implementation Reviews) (5) Publication of advice in SC report</p> <p>If any proposal from an ASW Contracting Government is received in sufficient time before the 2024 SC meeting, the SC will evaluate it against the relevant agreed <i>Strike Limit Algorithm</i> and include advice in its report, or outline any further work and develop a workplan to be able to provide this advice by the 2024 SC meeting.</p>	<p>3 weeks after close of SC meeting: <u>Only in the case of any proposed changes to strike/catch limits</u>, Secretariat to send Circular Communication to IWC Contracting Governments and observers to highlight: (a) any proposed changes to strike/catch limit (b) SC advice on sustainability of ASW strike/catch limits proposals or its workplan to complete analysis of proposals; and, (c) availability of 'Descriptions of the hunts' relevant to ASW strike/catch limit requests on the website.</p> <p>The Circular will request written comments related to proposed strike/catch limits at least 30 days before the Biennial Commission plenary meeting and invite interested governments to attend the ASW Sub-committee meeting.</p>
<p>90 days before Commission plenary meeting</p>		<p><u>Only in case of any proposed changes in strike/catch limit or other proposed amendment to Schedule paragraph 13.</u> Proposed strike/catch limit and associated schedule amendments are provided by ASW Contracting Governments, made into Commission documents, and placed on meeting website. Updated Descriptions of Hunts published on website as needed</p>
<p>30 days before Commission plenary meeting [1]</p>		<p><u>Only in case of any proposed changes in strike/catch limit and/or other proposed amendment to Schedule paragraph 13.</u> Submission of written comments on proposed strike/catch limit changes from Contracting Governments and Accredited Observers. These may be made into documents for the ASW Sub-Committee meeting.</p>
<p>10 days before Commission plenary meeting</p>		<p><u>Only in case of any proposed changes in strike/catch limit and/or other proposed amendment to Schedule paragraph 13:</u> Written responses by ASW Contracting Governments to comments received above provided to IWC, made into ASW Sub-committee documents and placed on meeting website.</p>

Sept/Oct		<p>IWC 69: Commission evaluation of SC advice. ASW Contracting Governments identify if changes in the 'Description of the hunt' have been made and Commission reviews ASW catch limits in light of the approach agreed at IWC 68. Decision taken for block 2026-31. <u>Three potential scenarios may be envisaged.</u></p> <p>A. Status quo (no change in scientific advice or strike limit request) If the Commission determines that the current ASW catch limits <i>will not</i> harm the relevant stock(s), and the ASW Contracting Governments are not seeking a change in their catch or strike limits, then the relevant ASW catch limits are automatically extended for an additional six years from 2026 through 2031.</p> <p>B: No change in strike limit request but change in scientific advice If the SC is <i>unable to</i> advise that the existing ASW strike limits will not harm the relevant stock(s), then the <i>relevant</i> limits will not automatically be extended. A Commission decision on the relevant limit(s) will be required based upon SC advice on what is acceptable.</p> <p>C: Change in strike limit request: If a request for a change in any ASW limit is put forward then a Commission decision on the relevant limit(s) will be required based upon SC advice.</p>
2025 Year 7		
	(1) SC review of ASW limits and related issues - if new information (2) Appropriate <i>Implementation Reviews</i> completed.	New block for 2026-31 starts on 1 January 2026.

Notes:

[1] In accordance with Rule of Procedure J4 which states: "If a proposal to amend Schedule paragraph 13 is circulated to the Commissioners 90 days or more in advance of the Commission meeting during which the proposal is to be discussed, then Contracting Governments should endeavour to submit comments on the proposal for circulation to the Commissioners at least 30 days in advance of the meeting to facilitate consideration by the Commission. Any responses made to comments received should also be circulated to all Commissioners as soon as possible."