



Announcement

Pacific bluefin tuna Stock assessment peer-review

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE FOR TUNA AND TUNA-LIKE SPECIES IN THE NORTH PACIFIC

Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan

20 - 23 March 2026

Information Packet

Japan Fisheries Research and Education Agency (FRA) and the Chair of the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) Pacific Bluefin Tuna Working Group (PBFWG) invite ISC members, cooperating scientists, and Observers to attend the ISC Pacific Bluefin Tuna Stock Assessment Peer-Review Meeting, to be held at Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan, from 20 to 23 March 2026.

Following the peer-review meeting, the Intersessional PBFWG Meeting will be convened from 24 to 27 March 2026, also in Sapporo, at Hokkaido University.

To ensure sufficient time for meeting preparations and logistical arrangements, participants are kindly requested to register early and no later than the specified deadline.

This information packet includes details on the meeting schedule, registration procedures, accommodations, and other useful travel information. The meeting agenda and other relevant information will be provided during the course of meetings.

Meeting Schedule

2026 March

20th-23rd

PBF Stock Assessment peer-review meeting (Publicly accessible¹)

24th-27th

PBFWG intersessional meeting (closed session)

¹ The PBF stock assessment peer review is open to representatives from relevant non-ISC member countries, other RFMOs, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), fishing industry groups, and government agencies with an interest in scientific matters related to the ISC PBF assessment, as observers. The Chair of the peer-review meeting will allocate time at the end of each day for observers to provide technical comments and questions on ISC assessments. Interested parties may register via the peer-review meeting registration site to participate. Invitations to approved participants will be issued by the Chair in mid-February 2026.

Registration

Early registration is requested, even for those with tentative plans to attend. You can register for the PBF stock assessment peer-review meeting online at:

<https://forms.office.com/r/zhhTgAy5Sj>

Online registration will remain open until **February 4th, 2026**.

Meeting Venue

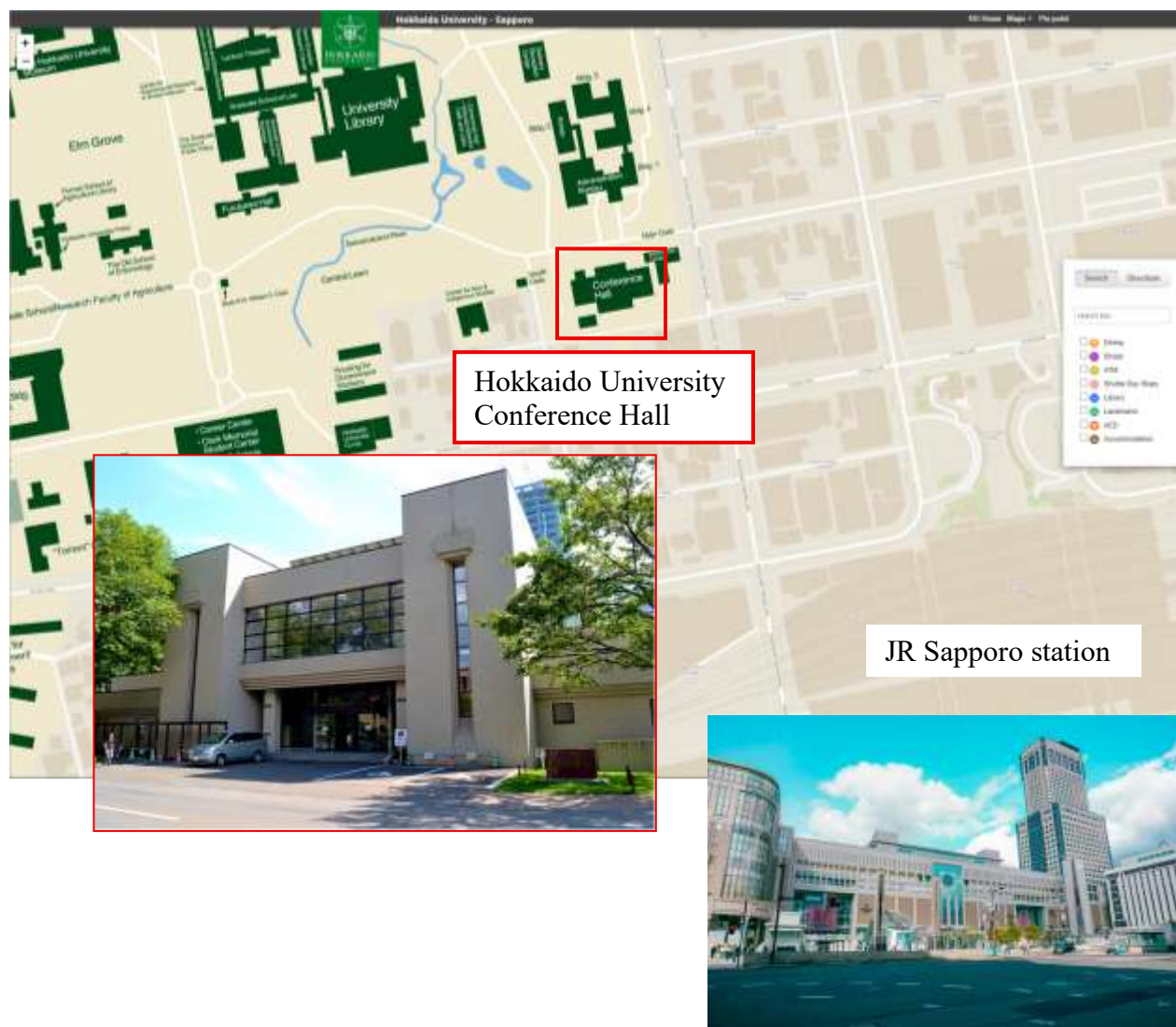
Hokkaido University, Conference Hall, Conference room #1

Some Cafeterias and shops in the university may be closed on weekends and holidays. Please be advised that March 20 is a national holiday in Japan. While shops, restaurants, and ATMs in the city will operate as usual, stores on the university campus will be closed.

The meeting venue is located approximately a 10-minute walk from Sapporo Station (Japan Railway, JR).

Address: Kita 9-jo Nishi 9-chome, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-8589, Japan

Map information: <https://www.global.hokudai.ac.jp/maps/place/13986>



Hotel Accommodations

There are many hotels around Sapporo station. There is no booking service provided by the host, so please make your own accommodation arrangement.

Additional Travel Information

Transportation

Access to Sapporo from New Chitose Airport

36 min by JR; Limited Express Train (One-Way Ticket / adult : 1,150 JPY)

70min by Bus; Hokkaido ChuoBus or Hokuto Kotsu (One-Way Ticket / adult : 1,100 JPY)

Passports and Visas

Details can be viewed at: https://www.mofa.go.jp/j_info/visit/visa/index.html.

Currency

The local currency is Japanese Yen (JPY). Most major currencies can be exchanged at the airport or at major banks. ATMs are available in many locations throughout the city.

Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted at hotels and restaurants. Contactless payment is becoming common, especially in convenience stores, subway stations, and major shops.

If you prefer using electronic money, the “Welcome Suica” or “Mobile Welcome Suica” can be convenient options for travel (such as JR trains, buses, and other transit systems) as well as for shopping.

Welcome Suica: <https://www.jreast.co.jp/multi/en/welcomesuica/welcomesuica.html>

Welcome Suica Mobile: <https://www.jreast.co.jp/multi/wsmlp/>

Electricity

The voltage in Sapporo is 100 V, 50 Hz. The power plugs and sockets are Type A as shown in the following pictures.



Time Zone

Japan is 9 hours ahead of GMT. Standard time is used throughout the year.

Dress and Climate

The meeting will take place in late winter, when daytime temperatures in Sapporo typically range from 0 to 5 degrees Celsius. Snow is common from December through March. Please wear warm clothing and shoes that are comfortable and suitable for walking in snowy or icy conditions. Attire for all meetings is casual, and ties are not required for men.