OBPS ENDORSEMENT REVIEW RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

This is a summary of reviewers assessment of whether the endorsement application has followed the OBPS endorsement process. The applicant is responsible for assessment of the technical content of the method proposed for endorsement.

Practice being submitted for OBPS Endorsement

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) (2024) *Biological Plankton Data. Version 3.* Copenhagen, Denmark, International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), 8pp. (ICES Guidelines and Policies - Data.). DOI: https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.25151648

Section 1 Endorsement Entity Description	Entity Input	Reviewer compliance decision Five Reviewers indicating either Yes or No				
		#1	#2	#3	#4	#5
Entity name	ICES Data and Information Group (DIG)	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Mission & background	The ICES mission is to advance and share scientific understanding of marine ecosystems and the services they provide and to use this knowledge to generate state-of-the-art advice for meeting conservation, management, and sustainability goals. ICES is a network of nearly 6000 scientists from over 700 marine institutes in 19 active member countries and beyond. DIG provides ICES with advice on all aspects of data management including data policy, data strategy, data quality, technical issues and user-oriented guidance. https://www.ices.dk/community/groups/Pages/DIG.aspx	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Administration / funding source	ICES is predominantly funded by its member countries, and via income from its products and services. It	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

	also receives income from other sources including projects, the ICES Journal of Marine Science, and contracted work. Individual participation in ICES expert groups is funded at national expense.					
Other partnering / supporting entities for practice	ICES works together with other scientific organizations on topics of mutual interest. This cooperation takes the form of joint working groups, co-sponsored theme sessions at annual science meetings, and co-sponsored science symposia. A strategic planning framework has been established specifically for the cooperation with the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES). Science cooperation agreements are also in place with more than 20 global and regional organisations. https://www.ices.dk/about-ICES/global-cooperation/Pages/Scientific-cooperation.aspx	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Section 2 Statement by Entity	**Entity input**	**Reviewer compliance decision (Yes or No)**				
		#1	**#2**	**#3**	**#4**	**#5**
1) qualifications to endorse a practice	The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) is an intergovernmental marine science organization, meeting societal needs for impartial evidence on the state and sustainable use of our seas and oceans. https://www.ices.dk/ The ICES Data and Information group (DIG) provides ICES with advice on all aspects of data management including data policy, data strategy, data quality, technical issues and user-oriented guidance.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

	https://www.ices.dk/community/groups/Pages/DIG.asp					
2) justification for the endorsement of the practice	ICES Data Guidelines exist to support and promote expert science and, when properly adopted, ensure data are more efficiently handled and accurately managed. DIG maintains guidelines to assist those involved in the collection, processing, quality control, and exchange of various types of data. These guidelines have been adopted by ICES Data Centre and are recommended to all data centres within the broader ICES community.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
3) the process used to develop the practice	These data guidelines were first established in 2001. In 2024 they were reviewed by experts in the ICES Working Group on Plankton and Microbial Ecology (WGPME) and DIG, and updated. As part of this process the format of the guidelines was also updated to bring them into line with the current ICES library publication standards	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
4) the review process that was used to prepare the endorsement recommendation .	As mentioned above the guideline itself was reviewed and updated in 2024. During the DIG meeting in September 2024 we agreed that, in principle, we wanted to endorse the ICES data guidelines. This is to increase the visibility of them in OBPS and make them more widely used. The DIG chair then met with OBPS representatives to discuss the endorsement process. A sub-group of DIG wrote and reviewed this endorsement recommendation, following the OBPS endorsement guidance.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Section 3 Endorsement Documentation	**Entity input**	**Reviewer compliance decision (Yes or No)**				
		#1	**#2**	**#3**	**#4**	**#5**

Date submitted for endorsement acceptance: YYYY-MON-DAY	2024-11-08	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Endorsed Practice document citation	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) (2024) *Biological Plankton Data. Version 3.* Copenhagen, Denmark, International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES), 8pp. (ICES Guidelines and Policies - Data.). DOI: https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.25151648	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Creators (all)	ICES	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Year	2024	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Title	Biological Plankton Data	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Publisher or Journal Ref	ICES Guidelines and Policies - Data	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Number of Pages	8	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Persistent identifier - eg. DOI, URI	https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.25151648	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Version Number (if applicable)	Version 3	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Section 4 Endorsement process and justification	**Entity input**	**Reviewer compliance decision (Yes or No)**				
		#1	**#2**	**#3**	**#4**	**#5**
1. have completed a rigorous and transparent community	YES - In recent years DIG started a process to review ICES data guidelines - this is documented in our annual reports (e.g. 2024: https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.26969044.v1 and 2023:	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

review whereby comments received are adjudicated by the author(s) and the dialogue is available upon request; community review includes invitations to relevant experts/organizations to participate in deliberations	https://doi.org/10.17895/ices.pub.23641119.v1) and GitHub (https://github.com/ices-eg/DIG/issues/6).					
2. has been successfully used by multiple organizations	YES - This guideline is used by the ICES Data Centre and other organisations within the ICES community. It has also be downloaded more than 40 times since February 2024 from OBPS.	Don't know	yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3. be approved by the leadership of the relevant network, expert team or organization;	YES - Chair of DIG	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
4. be shown as fit for the purposes it aims to fulfill;	YES - A review of the guidelines by subject matter experts (ICES Working Group on Plankton and Microbial Ecology WGPME) was performed.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
5. be available and identifiable within the OBPS repository	YES - https://repository.oceanbestpractices.org/handle/11329/245.2	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
6. be updated at	YES - DIG have the review and maintenance of data guidelines	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

relevant timeframes or have a maintenance plan for future updates;	within their Terms of Reference					
7. include description of estimating uncertainty or heterogeneity of a quantity (if applicable);	YES - The guideline addresses the data and metadata requirements of phytoplankton and zooplankton sampling. Although they do not address how to estimate uncertainty they do define that the description of procedures should include an estimate of the uncertainty in the data.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
8. follow recommendations for metadata standards and file formats for archiving in international data centers;	YES - The guideline states that data centres will supply a data format description fully detailing the format in which the data will be supplied.	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

Reviewers Recommendation	**#1 - YES**	**#2 - YES**	**#3 - YES**	**#4 - YES**	**#5 - YES**

Endorsement <u>Group</u> Decision:

Recommended for Endorsement

If Applicable: Reasons for non-approval (to be provided to the applicant): NA

If Applicable: Recommendations to address for re-submission (to be provided : to the applicant): NA

Decision Date…14 December 2024

Applicant Informed Date ……20 February 2025……..