

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR THE MONITORING, CONTROLLING, AND SURVEILLANCE OF PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA

Conservation and Management Measure 2024-02

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC):

Noting that, Conservation and Management Measure CMM2023-02 establishes annual catch limit of Pacific bluefin tuna for the management of the species,

Also noting that, Conservation and Management Measure CMM2023-02 paragraph 11 requires CCMs, to the extent possible, take measures necessary to prevent commercial transaction of Pacific bluefin tuna that undermine the effectiveness of the CMM,

Further noting that, Conservation and Management Measure CMM2023-02 paragraph 13 requires CCMs to take measures necessary to strengthen monitoring and data collecting system for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and farming,

Adopts, in accordance with Article 10 of the WCPFC Convention that:

Objectives

- 1. The purpose of this Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) is to establish a regime for the monitoring and control of the conservation and management of the Pacific bluefin tuna fishery in the WCPO set out in CMM 2024-01.
- 2. Each CCM that has Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming shall report to the Executive Director by 15 June each year on the implementation of its monitoring and control measures it has taken in the previous calendar year to ensure its compliance with CMM2024-01 that include the following components:
 - (1) Monitoring and control measures for fisheries
 - a. Registration of commercial fishing vessels that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (including the WCPFC RFV in accordance with CMM 2018-06 on WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels and Authorization to Fish)
 - b. Registration of set nets that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (including registration scheme, number of registered set nets)
 - c. Allocation of catch limits by fishery within the CCMs, where such allocation exist
 - d. Reporting requirements for catches for fisheries (targeted, incidental, and discards)

- e. Measures to monitor catch (e.g. landing receipts, landing inspection, observer program, etc.)
- f. Measures to monitor landings (including CMM 2017-02 on Minimum Standards for Port State Measures)
- g. Measures to monitor domestic transactions
- (2) Monitoring and control measures for farming
 - a. Registration of farms that are authorized to farm Pacific bluefin tuna (including registration scheme, number of registered farms, number of registered 'holding pens' or 'cages')
 - b. Reporting requirements for caging of fish
 - c. Reporting requirements for harvest of farmed fish
 - d. Measures to monitor farming activities (including Rules, standards, and procedures to monitor transfer and caging activities)
- 3. CCMs that do not have Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming, shall report to the WCPFC Secretariat annually any by-catches of Pacific bluefin tuna under paragraph 9 of CMM 2024-01.

Review

- 4. The Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC) and the Northern Committee (NC) shall separately review the implementation of monitoring, control and surveillance measures reported by CCMs in accordance with this CMM by 2026 and based upon the results of such review, provide recommendations to the Commission.
- 5. CCMs shall coordinate with the IATTC through the Joint IATTC-WCPFC NC Working Group and discuss any additional MCS measures, as appropriate, at their upcoming meetings.

Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS)

6. WCPFC shall consider the establishment of a catch documentation scheme (CDS) for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries in the WCPO compatible with other CDSs for Pacific bluefin tuna by 31 December 2026. This CDS should build, inter alia, on the outcomes of the Joint IATTC-WCPFC Northern Committee Working Group.