

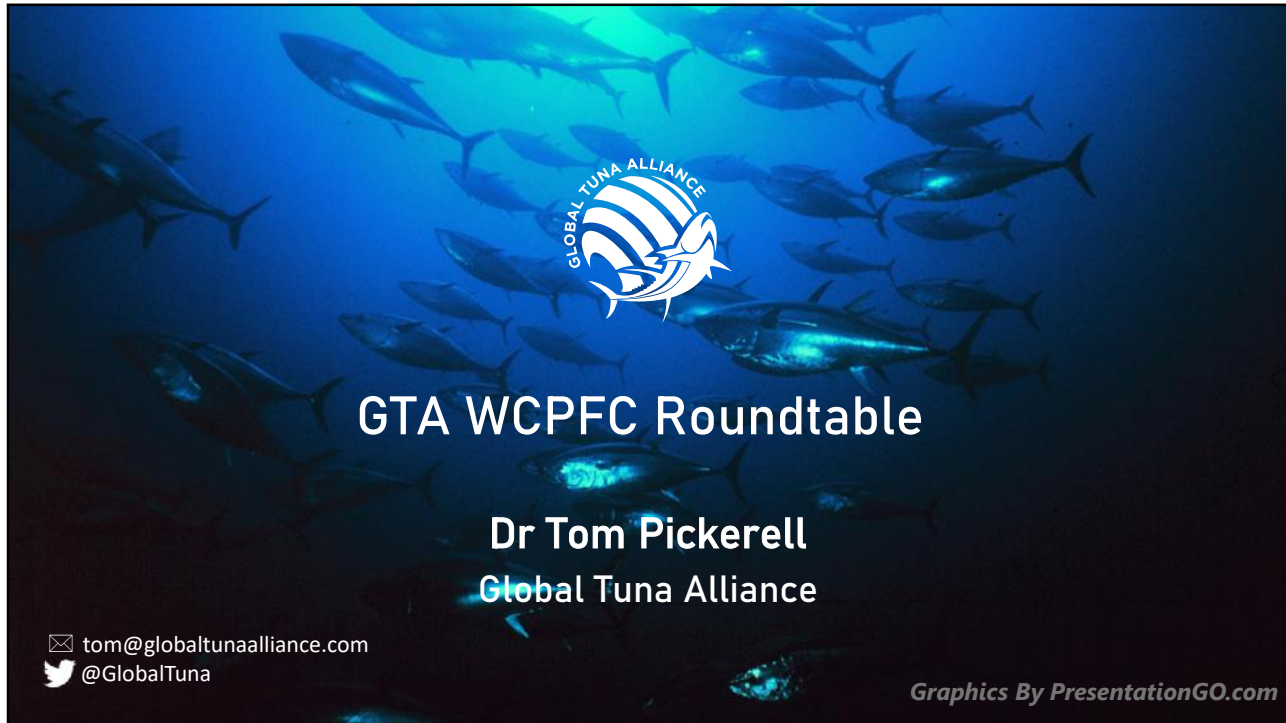



**COMMISSION
EIGHTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Electronic Meeting
1 – 7 December 2021

GTA AND WCPFC ROUNDTABLE PRESENTATION SLIDES

**WCPFC18-2021-OP11
27 November 2021**

Submitted by Global Tuna Alliance

GTA WCPFC Roundtable


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Global Tuna Alliance

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The Global Tuna Alliance



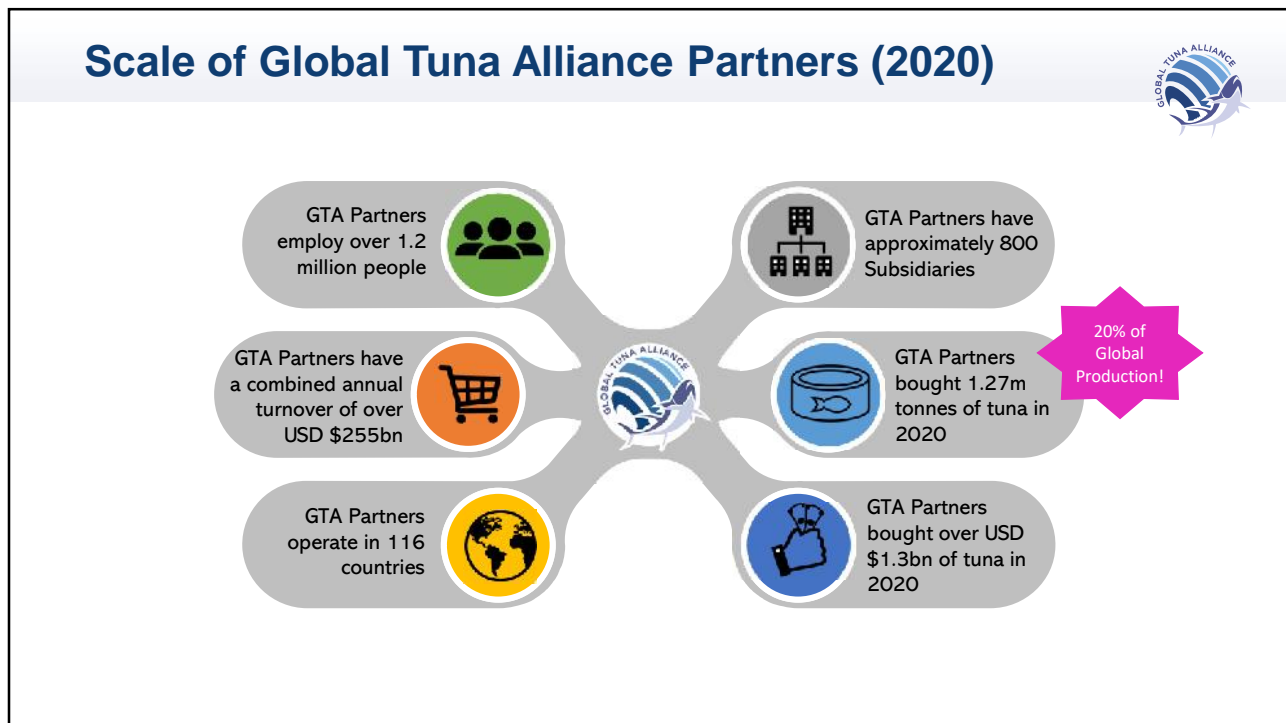
The Global Tuna Alliance is an independent group of retailers and tuna supply chain companies, who are committed to realising harvest strategies for tuna fisheries, avoidance of Illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU) products, improved traceability as well as environmental sustainability, and progressing work on human rights in tuna fisheries.

Vision - tuna ultimately meets the highest standards of environmental performance and social responsibility

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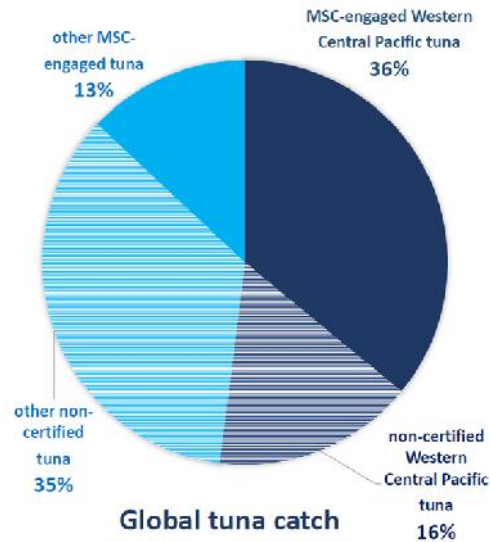
Importance of WCPO



Western Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) produces over half of the world's tuna

And **73%** of MSC certified global tuna catch.

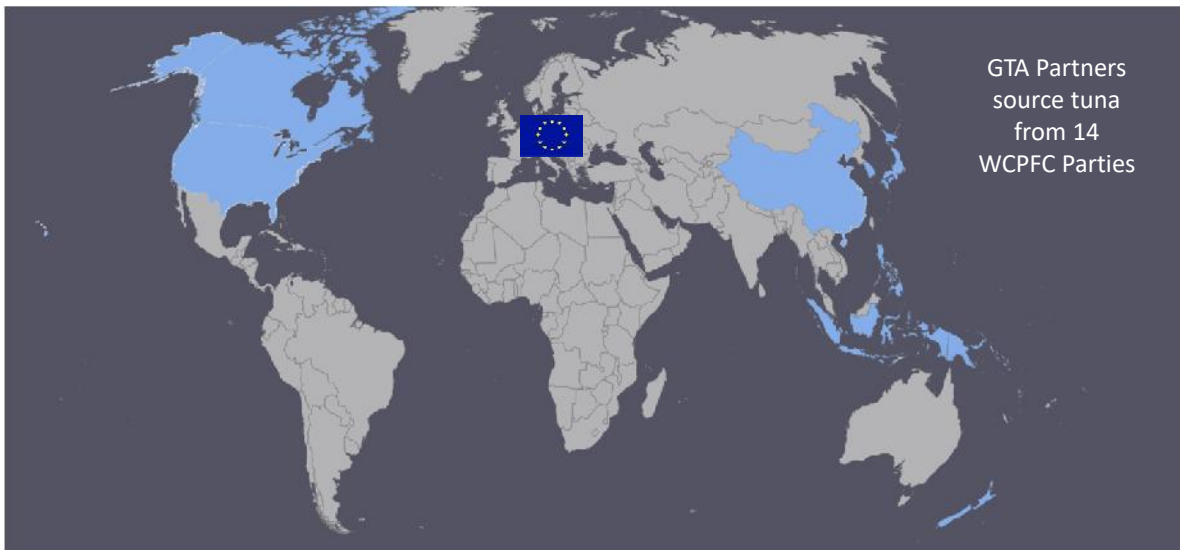
At least a quarter of labelled skipjack tuna sales are known to come from WCPO



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Importance of WCPO to GTA Partners



GTA Partners source tuna from 14 WCPFC Parties

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Our priority concern in the WCPO



- There are 27 MSC certified tuna fisheries in the region
- Plus 5 fisheries currently seeking MSC certification
- These represent over **two million** tonnes of certified and potentially certified WCPFC tuna.
- These certifications are at **high risk of suspension** from the MSC program

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Outreach: Collaborative Letter



112 Signatories!

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Outreach: GTA-led Advocacy



- Australia
- China
- Canada
- Cook Islands
- European Union
- Federated States of Micronesia
- Fiji
- France
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Kiribati
- Republic of Korea
- Marshall Islands
- Nauru
- New Zealand
- Niue
- Palau
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- Samoa
- Solomon Islands
- Chinese Taipei
- Tonga
- Tuvalu
- USA
- Vanuatu

GTA wrote to all delegations with our harvest strategies call to action (20/9) – no replies so far....

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Outreach: Press Coverage



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Too big to fail?



MSC certificates suspended for all North East Atlantic mackerel fisheries

January 31, 2019

The MSC certification for all North East Atlantic mackerel fisheries will be suspended on Saturday 2nd March 2019. This was announced today through the release of an expedited audit report for all North East Atlantic mackerel fisheries in the MSC program. Mackerel caught on or after 2nd March 2019 cannot be sold as 'MSC certified' or bear the blue MSC label. The suspension affects all 4 certificates, for fisheries across 8 countries.

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Today's Agenda



1. Overview of the MSC certification issue – Bill Holden (Senior Tuna Fisheries Outreach Manager)
2. View from GTA Partners:
 - New England Seafoods – Ruth Hoban
 - Princes – Chris Shearlock
 - Co-op – Aisla Jones
 - Morrisons – Joe Prosho
 - Waitrose – Andy Boulton
3. Wrap-Up – Tom Pickerell (GTA)

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WCPFC Roundtable- CAB Variation and current status


18 November 2021

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MSC CAB Variation Request and MSC response



- Timelines for P1 HCR and HS conditions will be aligned for all fisheries on the same stock
- Timelines will be based on the calendar year that RFMO workplans are due to be completed, for all stocks for which HS workplans exist
- Fisheries currently in assessment and new fisheries are not directly covered by the variation request, but CABs have committed to apply harmonized condition timelines
- Surveillance schedules of relevant tuna fisheries will be aligned (to the extent practical) so that annual progress can be assessed collectively by CABs



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Timelines for WCPO Tuna Fisheries prior to COVID



Stock	Mgmt objective	Deadline for Harvest Strategy Element			HCR adopted ¹	HS in place ¹
		Acceptable Level of Risk	LRP adopted	TRP adopted ²		
NFO ALB ⁶	Interim first adopted in 2011, amended in 2017	Not specified (general 0-20% risk of breaching LRP adopted in 2016) ³	Completed - first adopted in 2008 (WCPFC NC)	No deadline adopted by NC	2023 (CAB VR deadline) (NC has adopted a LRP rule ⁴)	2023 ⁷ No CAB VR deadline WCPFC14 adopted an interim HS
SPO ALB	WCPFC15 defined objective of interim TRP	Not specified (general 0-20% risk of breaching LRP adopted in 2016) ³	Completed - adopted in 2012 at SC8	Completed - interim adopted by WCPFC15 in 2018	2021 (CAB VR & WCPFC14 2017 HS workplan deadline)	2021 ⁷ No CAB VR or WCPFC HS deadline specified
WCPO SKJ	Interim defined in CMM 2018-01	Not specified (general 0-20% risk of breaching LRP adopted in 2016) ³	Completed - adopted in 2012 at SC8	Completed - interim adopted by WCPFC12 in 2015	2020 (CAB VR & WCPFC14 2017 HS workplan deadline)	2021 (CAB VR & WCPFC14 2017 HS workplan deadline)
WCPO YFT	Interim defined in CMM 2018-01	Not specified (general 0-20% risk of breaching LRP adopted in 2016) ³	Completed - adopted in 2012 at SC8	2019 (WCPFC14 2017 IIG workplan deadline)	2021 (CAB VR & WCPFC14 2017 HS workplan deadline)	2021 ⁷ No CAB VR or WCPFC IIG deadline specified
WCPO DCT	Interim defined in CMM 2018-01	Not specified (general 0-20% risk of breaching LRP adopted in 2016) ³	Completed - adopted in 2012 at SC8	2019 (WCPFC14 2017 HS workplan deadline)	2021 (WCPFC14 2017 HS workplan deadline)	2021 ⁷ No CAB VR or WCPFC HS deadline specified

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COVID Derogations



Due to the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020/2021, the MSC issued two derogations in acknowledgment of the difficulties faced by fishery certificate holders in making progress on conditions as a result of the impacts of Covid-19 on fisheries management systems to maintain client action plan timelines:

- 27 March 2020: Automatic six-month extension applied to all fishery certificates and associated timelines, including deadlines for client action plans, milestones and conditions. This means that the originally agreed deadlines for WCPO bigeye as per the CAB VR would also be extended by 6 months, to June 2022. The derogation can be seen here: <https://mscportal.force.com/interpret/s/article/Covid-19-pandemic-derogation-March-2020>
- 28 March 2021: Twelve-month extension to all existing deadlines for conditions raised against performance indicators, including 1.2.1 and 1.2.2 (see Table 1 in Derogation, available here: <https://www.msc.org/docs/default-source/default-document-library/for-business/program-documents/chain-of-custody-supporting-documents/msc-derogation-6-covid-19-fishery-conditions-extension.pdf>). This means that the previous deadline for June 2022 for WCPO bigeye has also been extended by one additional year, to June 2023.

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What if harvest strategy deadlines are not met?



CABs conduct expedited audits and suspend fisheries near-simultaneously



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Thank you

For more information, please contact:

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Ruth Hoban



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Chris Shearlock



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Aisla Jones



coop

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Joe Prosho




Morrisons

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Andy Boulton



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Take Home Message



- ✓ Adopt Target Reference Points for bigeye and yellowfin
- ✓ Adopt a list of candidate management procedures for skipjack & albacore
- ✓ Establish a scientist/manager dialogue group and agree to hold its first meeting in 2022

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