



FOURTH REGULAR SESSION

3-7 December 2007

Tumon, Guam, USA

SMALL GROUP REPORT ON BIGEYE MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

WCPFC4-2007/26

6 December 2007

At the evening session of WCPFC4 5 December, held to consider the draft conservation and management measure for yellowfin and bigeye, the Canadian delegation requested that SPC provide advice on the change in stock status for bigeye tuna that would result from two time area closures of the purse seine fishery, specially.

1. A three month closure of the purse-seine FAD fishery (assumed to include drifting FADs and log sets).
2. Two 6 week closures of the entire purse-seine fishery.
3. The FFA proposal of 25% reduction in longline catch and 3 month FAD closure.

These measures were compared to a baseline of the 2004 level of purse-seine associated sets and 2001-2004 average longline effort levels as described in SC3 paper SA WP 3. For the FFA proposal it is assumed associated purse-seine sets are all transferred to unassociated (school) sets.

Option	PS Assoc sets	PS Unassoc. Sets	Longline (effort)	Indonesia & Philippines domestic	Bigeeye F/Fmsy	Approx. reduction in SKJ PS catch (mt)
Baseline	100%	100%	100%	100%	1.30	0
Option 1	75%	100%	100%	100%	1.20	210,000
Option 2	75%	75%	100%	100%	1.20	300,000
FFA proposal	85%	120%	75%	100%	1.09	~ 0
+ID/PH 3 month closure	85%	120%	75%	75%	1.04	55,000