



**COMMISSION
NINETEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Da Nang City, Vietnam
28 November to 3 December 2022

**SUMMARY OF REPORTING RECEIVED BY WCPFC UNDER CMM 2010-05
and CMM 2015-02: SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE**

**WCPFC19-2022-IP07
14 November 2022**

Paper by Secretariat and SPC-OFP

Purpose

1. This paper presents for the information of WCPFC19 a summary of reporting received by the Commission under CMM 2015-02 on South Pacific Albacore and its predecessor.

CMM 2015-02 on South Pacific Albacore

2. CMM 2015-02 requires that CCMs not increase the number of their fishing vessels actively fishing for south Pacific albacore in the Convention Area south of 20°S above 2005 levels or recent 2000-2004 levels (para 1). This limit does not apply to small island developing State and Territory CCMs in the Convention Area (para 2).

3. Additionally, at WCPFC18 the Commission noted the ongoing work to review CMM 2015-02 through the SP Albacore Roadmap IWG and the concerns regarding the delayed process to implement an interim TRP adopted in 2018, and the need to take action to rebuild the stock to support the economic viability of fleets, and achieve a long-term TRP (WCPFC18, paragraphs 195 – 196). Considering these concerns, the Commission has agreed to an interim arrangement for South Pacific albacore as follows...

197. Given the urgency of these concerns, the Commission agreed that until a new CMM for South Pacific Albacore is adopted, each CCM is encouraged to take steps to implement interim controls on South Pacific albacore catch or effort across the convention area south of the equator.

i. CCMs are encouraged to limit commercial fishing of South Pacific albacore within EEZs to domestically applied catch or effort limits in recent years.

ii. Each CCM is encouraged to ensure that its flagged vessels for this species shall not exceed the high seas catch or effort (such as number of vessels) of South Pacific albacore by its flagged vessels in recent years.

198. These interim arrangements do not confer the allocation of rights to any CCM and are without prejudice to any future decisions of the Commission.

199. These interim arrangements shall not prejudice the legitimate rights and obligations under international law for small island developing State and Participating Territory CCMs in the Convention Area for whom South Pacific albacore is an important component of the domestic tuna fishery in waters under their national jurisdiction, and who may wish to pursue a responsible level of development of their fisheries for South Pacific albacore in their EEZs or adjacent high seas.

4. Paragraph 4 of CMM 2015-02 requires that CCMs report the annual catch levels taken by each of their fishing vessels that have taken South Pacific albacore, as well as the number of vessels actively fishing for South Pacific albacore, in the Convention area south of 20°S. Catch by vessel shall be reported according to the following species groups: albacore tuna, bigeye tuna, yellowfin tuna, swordfish, other billfish, and sharks. Initially this information will be provided for the period 2006-2014 and then updated annually. CCMs are encouraged to provide data from periods prior to these dates.

5. Table 1 (below) collates information with respect to reporting by CCMs to the Secretariat and/or SPC-OFP in response to paragraphs 1 of CMM 2010-05 or paragraph 1 of CMM 2015-02, and paragraph 4 of CMM 2015-02.

Recommendation

6. WCPFC19 is invited to note the paper.

Table 1: Reporting by CCMs against paragraphs 1 and 4 of CMM2015-02. (as at 14 November 2022)

		CMM 2015-02 Para. 4													
		2006-2014		2015			2016			2017			2018		
	GEAR	Vessels	Catch	Vessels	Catch by vessel	Catch	Vessels	Catch by vessel	Catch	Vessels	Catch by vessel	Catch	Vessels	Catch by vessel	Catch
AUSTRALIA	LL	YES	YES	36	YES	585	34	YES	715	36	YES	687	53	YES	608
CHINA	LL	YES	YES	70	YES	6,504	76	YES	3,945	63	YES	6,676	37	YES	4,960
COOK ISLANDS	LL	YES	YES	2	YES	58	3	YES	81	11	YES	232	8	YES	371
EUROPEAN UNION	LL	YES	YES	4	YES	2	4	YES	0	3	YES	2	3	YES	2
FIJI	LL	YES	YES	49	YES	1,498	72	YES	2,572	65	YES	3,456	73	YES	3,538
FRENCH POLYNESIA	LL	YES	Partial	42	YES	518	73	YES	636	53	YES	561	42	YES	275
JAPAN	LL	YES	YES	NO	NO	851	2	YES	835	2	YES	974	27	YES	608
	PL	NO	NO	NO	YES	0	3	YES	7	2	YES	2	1	YES	39
KIRIBATI	LL	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEW CALEDONIA	LL	YES	YES	26	YES	1,003	17	YES	1,527	16	YES	1,137	18	YES	1,271
NEW ZEALAND	LL	YES	YES	34	YES	207	32	YES	242	32	YES	189	34	YES	239
	TR	YES	YES	139	YES	2,425	137	YES	1,669	115	YES	1,952	148	YES	2,271
NIUE	LL	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	LL	NO	NO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
SOLOMON ISLANDS	LL	YES	YES	5	YES	49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CHINESE TAIPEI	LL	YES	YES	YES	YES	3,264	44	YES	4,947	61	YES	7,517	65	YES	8,393
TONGA	LL	...	...	5	YES	31	4	YES	46	6	YES	22	5	YES	19
TUVALU	LL	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
USA	LL	YES	YES	3	YES	14	2	YES	3	3	YES	7	0	YES	0
	TR	YES	YES	7	YES	156	9	YES	300	15	YES	555	12	YES	433
VANUATU	LL	YES	YES	21	YES	3,132	16	YES	2,262	26	YES	3,792	24	YES	4,549

	CMM 2015-02 Para. 4												CMM 2015-02 Para.1		NOTES
	GEAR	2006-2014		2019			2020			2021			# Vessels (avg. 2000-2004)	# Vessels (2005)	
		Vessels	Catch	Vessels	Catch by vessel	Catch	Vessels	Catch by vessel	Catch	Vessels	Catch by vessel	Catch			
AUSTRALIA	LL	YES	YES	34	YES	646	34	YES	842	32	YES	844		132	5
CHINA	LL	YES	YES	81	YES	4,464	35	YES	3,594	46	YES	2,156		70	2, 10
COOK ISLANDS	LL	YES	YES	7	YES	264	6	YES	286	3	YES	184		n/a	4
EUROPEAN UNION	LL	YES	YES	3	YES	2	3	YES	4	7	YES	4		EU - not specified	5
FIJI	LL	YES	YES	61	YES	2,518	61	YES	3,083	56	YES	2,571		n/a	4
FRENCH POLYNESIA	LL	YES	Partial	41	YES	229	48	YES	335	43	YES	292		n/a	4
JAPAN	LL	YES	YES	27	YES	567	21	YES	952	23	YES	694		not specified	1, 7
	PL	NO	NO	1	YES	25	0	YES	0	1	YES	227		not specified	1, 7
KIRIBATI	LL	...	...	-	-	-	2	YES	16	4	YES	285		n/a	4
NEW CALEDONIA	LL	YES	YES	19	YES	1,211	22	YES	1,472	18	YES	1,208		n/a	4
NEW ZEALAND	LL	YES	YES	28	YES	650	28	YES	165	28	YES	78		270	5
	TR	YES	YES	145	YES	2,320	142	YES	2,859	151	YES	3,383		combined with LL	5
NIUE	LL	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		n/a	6
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	LL	NO	NO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		not specified	6
SOLOMON ISLANDS	LL	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		n/a	6
CHINESE TAIPEI	LL	YES	YES	50	YES	6,057	102	YES	9,255	32	YES	2,569		81	9
TONGA	LL	...	...	6	YES	22	5	YES	12	4	YES	8		n/a	4
TUVALU	LL	...	...	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	YES	60		n/a	4
USA	LL	YES	YES	0	YES	0	0	YES	0	0	YES	0		not specified	3, 5
	TR	YES	YES	9	YES	876	18	YES	1,912	21	YES	1,908		not specified	3
VANUATU	LL	YES	YES	15	YES	3,449	26	YES	3,518	30	YES	3,486		n/a	4

NOTES

- Japan provided 2006-2014 vessels and catch according to CMM 2015-02 Para 4. requirements on 31st October 2016. Japan provided 2015-2021 vessels and catch in their SC18 AR Part 1 (July 2022).
- China provided 2015 vessels and catch according to CMM 2015-02 Para 4. requirements on 4th November 2016.
- USA provided 2006-2014 vessels and catch according to CMM 2015-02 Para 4. requirements on 10th June 2017. USA also provided 2015-2021 vessel catch and vessel numbers.
- Operational data submitted to SPC (as a member country) on a regular basis since 2000 and therefore satisfies the requirement for producing breakdowns of catch and vessel numbers by year.
- Operational data submitted to WCPFC for years 2015-2021, and therefore satisfies the requirement for producing breakdowns of catch and vessel numbers by year.
- These fleets do not appear to have been active in the WCPFC Area south of 20°S for years 2015 onwards.
- Operational data submitted to WCPFC for 2016-2021, and therefore satisfies the requirement for producing breakdowns of catch and vessel numbers by year. Operational data provided for 2015 does not cover the area south of 20°S while there is evidence of catch.
- Cells with 'Partial' mean that coverage of the catch by vessel data was evaluated to be < 80% but > 40%. Cells with 'NO' mean that coverage of the catch by vessel data was evaluated to be < 40%.
- Chinese Taipei provided 2006-2014 vessels and catch according to CMM 2015-02 Para 4. requirements on 31st December 2016. Chinese Taipei also provided 2015 vessel catch and vessel numbers on this date. The 2016 catch has been determined from aggregate catch/effort data provided by Chinese Taipei. The 2017-2021 catch and vessels has been determined from operational data provided to the WCPFC by Chinese Taipei and coastal states.
- Operational data submitted to WCPFC for years 2015-2021, which would normally satisfy the requirement for producing breakdowns of catch and vessel numbers by year, but coverage is not 100%. However, China also provided separate summaries of annual catch by vessel for the WCPFC area south of 20°S (according to CMM 2015-02 Para 4.) which represents 100% coverage.