

**JOINT IATTC AND WCPFC-NC WORKING GROUP MEETING ON THE
MANAGEMENT OF PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA
EIGHTH SESSION (JWG-08)**

Fukuoka, Japan
3 – 5 July 2023

Report on CMM 2021-02 (Pacific bluefin tuna)

IATTC-NC-JWG08-2023/DP-15

AUSTRALIA

From: Patterson, Heather <Heather.Patterson@aff.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2023 10:51 AM
To: SungKwon Soh <SungKwon.Soh@wcpfc.int>
Cc: Kertesz, Mat <Mat.Kertesz@aff.gov.au>; Van Meurs, James <James.VanMeurs@aff.gov.au>; Hughes, Neil <Neil.Hughes@aff.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Report on CMM 2021-02 (PBF) from Southern hemisphere [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi SK,

In accordance with reporting requirements for CMM 2021-02:

- Australia reports nil effort north of 20°N.
- Australia has not increased its catch of Pacific bluefin tuna above its 2002-2004 baseline.
- Australia does not catch juvenile Pacific bluefin tuna.
- Australia's Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery (ETBF) operates on a calendar year basis.
- Australia believes its fishing activities are consistent with the intentions of this CMM and do not undermine its effectiveness.
- Australia has strengthened its monitoring of catches of Pacific bluefin tuna by making e-monitoring systems compulsory on all tuna longliners fishing in the area of the WCPFC.
- Given Australia's longline fishery is a domestic fishery operating primarily inside Australia's EEZ situated in the western parts of the Convention Area, Australia generally does not engage in IATTC or with IATTC contracting parties bilaterally. Australia would of course be willing to engage with IATTC members to enhance the effectiveness of this CMM in the future if appropriate opportunities arose.

Attached please find Australia's PBT catch data for 2020, 2021 and 2022, catch data as requested. Please note that Australia reports nil effort north of 20°N and also had zero catch of juvenile PBT (<30kg).

I hope this is useful at the workshop.

Cheers
Heather

Australia's PBT catch data for 2020 – 2022:

Year	Catch (kg)	Fish<30kg	Discard	Hooks
2020	919	0	1	16,626
2021	5,254	0	22	76,337
2022	5,295	0	8	84,520