

**JOINT IATTC AND WCPFC-NC WORKING GROUP MEETING ON THE  
MANAGEMENT OF PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA  
NINTH SESSION (JWG-09)**

Kushiro, Japan  
10 – 13 July 2024

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**Report on CMM 2023-02 (Pacific bluefin tuna)**

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**IATTC-NC-JWG09-2024/DP-09**

**CHINESE TAIPEI**



農業部漁業署

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June 25, 2024

Ms. Rhea Moss-Christian  
Executive Director  
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission  
P. O. Box 2356, Kolonia,  
Pohnpei 96941,  
Federated States of Micronesia

Subject: Annual Report of Pacific Bluefin Tuna Measure

Dear Ms. Moss-Christian,

In accordance with paragraph 14 of Conservation and Management Measure for Pacific Bluefin Tuna (CMM2023-02), this is to provide a revised report of the annual measures we have taken to implement paragraph 2, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 16 of this CMM as well as the results of international trade of the products derived from Pacific Bluefin tuna that we monitored.

Best regards,

Ding-Rong Lin  
Director  
Distant water Fisheries Division  
Fisheries Agency of Taiwan

Encl.

# **Annual Report on the Implementation of the Conservation and Management Measure for Pacific Bluefin Tuna (CMM 2023-02)**

## **Chinese Taipei**

1. Specified in paragraph 2 of CMM 2023-02, to ensure the total fishing effort by our vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna in the area north of the 20 degrees north would not exceed the 2002-2004 annual average levels, we have imposed a regulation to limit the number of our vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna to stay below 660 and to require our fishing vessels to obtain prior approval to fish for this species since 2010.
2. The two requirements specified in paragraph 3 of CMM 2023-02 are satisfied by the following measures.
  - (1) Regarding the requirement of the catch limit of Pacific bluefin tuna less than 30 kg, please note that our catches of Pacific bluefin tuna are all larger than 30 kg. Besides, we have imposed a regulation to prohibit vessels from retaining on board, transshipping, storing on a fishing vessel, or landing any Pacific bluefin tuna less than 30 kg since 2015.
  - (2) Regarding the requirement of the catch limit of Pacific bluefin tuna larger than 30 kg, which requires CCMs to ensure the catches of Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger would not exceed 115% of the 2002-2004 average annual levels, a regulation has been imposed to limit the catches of Pacific bluefin tuna to stay below the level specified in the CMM since 2015. In 2023, the preliminary total catch of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (PBF) 30 kg or larger was 2,122 metric tonnes and is under our adjusted limit in accordance with Footnote 1 of CMM 2021-02 (Our catch of PBF 30kg or larger was 1,498 metric tonnes in 2022, the allowed limit to be carried over should be 334 metric tonnes.). Besides, the catches of our fishing vessels for PBF are solely adults.
3. For the reporting requirements specified in paragraph 8 of CMM 2023-02, our data are provided as attached.
4. For paragraph 11 of CMM 2023-02, to prevent the commercial transaction of Pacific bluefin tuna and its products that undermine the effectiveness of CMM 2023-02, our domestic regulation requires importers to get prior approval from the Agency. To apply for such approval, the importer is required to provide the catch documentation issued by exporting countries, or copy of the documentation validated by the country of last re-export if the catch or product is not imported from country of origin.

5. For paragraph 13 of CMM2023-02, the following measures have been taken to ensure the data quality of Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries.
  - (1) We have introduced Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) for the Pacific bluefin tuna. When Pacific bluefin tuna is caught, it shall be tagged appropriately, and the related information, such as the tag number, catch location, time, estimated weight and length shall be reported by the captain to fishery radio stations.
  - (2) Before the catch is landed, captains shall notify this Agency the estimated landing date and port via fishery radio stations so as to enable dispatch of staffs for the verification of catch and the related information at domestic fishing ports. Several on-site staffs are responsible for measuring the length and weight at landing sites in Taiwan for several years and most of the Pacific bluefin tuna landed in Taiwan have been checked by our authorized staffs. We can also verify the length and weight of the Pacific bluefin tuna landing in Palau via our authorized inspector since 2018. In addition, the Catch Documentation shall be validated before the catch is first sold, either to domestic or foreign market. Through this program, the data collection of individual weight and length of Pacific bluefin tuna has been significantly improved. The abovementioned scheme also applies to our other coastal fisheries that bycatch Pacific bluefin tuna incidentally. Besides, we have imposed a regulation in 2017 that the longline fishing vessels landed their catches shall be limited to 4 domestic ports.
6. For paragraph 16 of CMM 2023-02, our delegation has attended the meetings of IATTC and the WCPFC-IATTC joint meetings to exchange opinion and to discuss Pacific bluefin tuna issues with the IATTC contracting parties.
7. Finally, the international trade of the products derived from Pacific bluefin tuna is monitored, and the result provides that in 2023 around 1 metric tons of PBF were exported. About 1.1 metric tons of PBF were imported from other CCMs in the same year.

• **Compiled Information on Pacific Bluefin Tuna  
(Fishing Effort and Catch)**

**Table 1. Fishing effort by vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna in the area north of 20° N in the Convention Area**

Fishery	Unit of fishing effort <sup>1</sup>	Baseline fishing effort (Para 2, CMM 2023-02)			Fishing effort Para 5, CMM 2023-02		
		2002	2003	2004	2021	2022	2023*
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>							
Longline	No. of vessels	684	659	632	497	485	486

**Table 2. Catches (mt), including discards, of Pacific bluefin tuna in the Convention Area (include all the fisheries in the previous table, plus all other fisheries that catch any Pacific bluefin tuna)**

Fishery	All catches (Para 5, CMM 2023-02)						All catches Para 5, CMM 2023-02					
	2002		2003		2004		2021		2022		2023*	
	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>												
Longline	0	1,523	0	1,863	0	1,714	0	1,478	0	1,496	0	2,117
Other coastal fisheries	0	4	0	21	0	3	0	1	0	2	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,527</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,884</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,717</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,479</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,498</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,122</u>

\*: Preliminary estimation.

<sup>1</sup> e.g., sets, fishing days, vessels