



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE
Twentieth Regular Session**

15 – 16 July 2024
Kushiro, Japan (Hybrid)

**COMPILED INFORMATION ON PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA
(FISHING EFFORT AND CATCH IN THE WCPO)**

WCPFC-NC20-2024/WP-02 [\(Rev.01\)](#)
(IATTC-NC-JWG09-2024/WP-01 [Rev.01](#))

Secretariat

According to Paragraph 8 of the WCPFC CMM 2023-02, fishing efforts and the catch of Pacific bluefin tuna are compiled based on WCPFC Members' reports, which are annexed in Tables 1 and 2.

8. *CCMs shall report to the Executive Director by 31 July each year their fishing effort and <30 kg and ≥30 kg catch levels, by fishery, for the previous 3 year, accounting for all catches, including discards. CCMs shall report their annual catch limits and their annual catches of PBF, with adequate computation details, to present their implementation for paragraph 5 and 6, if the measures and arrangements in the said paragraphs and relevant footnotes applied. The Executive Director will compile this information each year into an appropriate format for the use of the Northern Committee.*

The information in the Tables below will be modified subject to any further updates from Members.

Individual Country Report is available at *Delegation Proposals and Papers* folder at <https://meetings.wcpfc.int/meetings/jwg-09>

**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 ¹	Baseline fishing effort (Para 2, CMM 2023-02)				Fishing effort (Para 8, CMM 2023-02)		
		2002	2003	2004	2002-2004 Average	2021	2022	2023
Canada								
Not applicable		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China								
		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cook Islands								
Longline		Unknown	Unknown	0		0N/A	0	0
Fiji								
Longline	No. of vessels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan								
Purse Seine	No. of vessels	69	60	59	63	51	44	42
Longline Dist. & Off.	No. of vessels	654	632	613	633	413	383	378
Longline Coastal	No. of vessels	399	422	386	402	328	303	298
Artisanal fisheries	No. of vessels	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown		17,412	17,408	16,878
Set Net	No. of licenses	1,876	1,956	1,956	1,929	1,784	1,784	1,688
Korea								
large-scale purse seiners	No. of vessels	32	29	29	30	19	19	19
Philippines								
Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Chinese Taipei								
Longline	No. of vessels	684	659	632	658	497	485	486
U.S.A.								
Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Vanuatu								
Longline	No. of vessels	0	0	0	0		0	0

¹ e.g., sets, fishing days, vessels

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 3, CMM 2023-02)								All catches (Para 8, CMM 2023-02)					
	2002		2003		2004		2002-2004 Average		2021		2022		2023	
	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
Australia²														
Longline	-	6	0	12	-	10	-	9	-	5	-	9	-	27
Canada														
Troll	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China														
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cook Islands														
Longline	0	1,789	0	2,94	0	1,35	0	2	ON/A	ON/A	0	0	0	0
Fiji														
Longline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan³														
Purse Seine	5,174	3,730	4,995	774	3,466	4,792	4,545	3,099	962	3,230	1,010	3,676	757	3,779
Longline Dist.&Off.	0	52	0	97	0	240	0	130	80	562	0	723	0	745
Longline Coastal	0	794	0	1,152	0	1,616	0	1,187	101	912	98	825	98	749
Artisanal fisheries	2,607	0	2,060	0	2,445	0	2,371	0	557	96	919	160	974	186
Set Net	1,008	92	648	191	660	235	772	173	1,319	423	1,471	655	1,339	549
Others	521 422	210	249 205	241	214 82	432	328 236	294	147	176	232	314	258	311
Recreational fisheries									0	20	0	28	0	46
Total	9,310	4,878	7,952	2,455	6,785	7,315	8,016	4,883	3,165	5,419	3,731	6,381	3,426	6,366

² Australia catches 2002-04 are based on logbooks and 2021-23 are based on landings data

³ Catches (mt) in calendar year basis, 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)

(Japan continued)

Catches (mt) in management year⁴ basis, 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		2021		2022		2023	
		<30 kg	≥30 kg	<30 kg	≥30 kg	<30 kg	≥30 kg
Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Purse Seine	962	3,230	1,010	3,676	<u>757</u>	<u>3,779</u>
	Longline Dist.&Off.	80	562	0	723	<u>0</u>	<u>745</u>
Other fisheries	Longline Coastal	114	926	97	833	<u>93</u>	<u>719</u>
	Artisanal fisheries	713	141	887	114	<u>1,043</u>	<u>205</u>
	Set Net	1,312	554	1,401	553	<u>1,156</u>	<u>481</u>
	Others	174	172	233	329	<u>268</u>	<u>321</u>
Recreational fishery		<u>0</u>	<u>20</u> <u>0</u>	<u>0</u> <u>20</u>	<u>28</u> <u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>46</u>
Total		<u>3,354</u>	<u>5,605</u>	<u>3,629</u>	<u>6,257</u>	<u>3,317</u>	<u>6,296</u>
Catch limit⁵		<u>4,238</u>	<u>6,162</u>	<u>4,258</u>	<u>6,789</u>	<u>4,258</u>	<u>6,789</u>

⁴ Management year is as follows.

- 5th management period: January 2019 - December 2019 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, April 2019 - March 2020 for Other fisheries.
- 6th management period: January 2020 - December 2020 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, April 2020 - March 2021 for Other fisheries.
- 2021 management period: January 2021 - December 2021 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, April 2021 - March 2022 for Other fisheries.

⁵ Catch limit is as follows.

- 2019 small fish: 4,007 tons - 250 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) / large fish: 4,882 tons + 250 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish)
- 2020 small fish: 4,007 tons - 450 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 681.1 tons (carry over from the previous management year)
large fish: 4,882 tons + 450 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 527.5 tons (carry over from the previous management year) + 300 tons (transfer from Chinese Taipei)
- 2021 small fish: 4,007 tons - 450 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 681.1 tons (carry over from the previous management year)
large fish: 4,882 tons + 450 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 829.9 tons (carry over from the previous management year)

Fishery	All catches (Para 3, CMM 2023-02)								All catches (Para 8, CMM 2023-02)					
	2002		2003		2004		2002-2004 Average		2021		2022		2023	
	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
Korea														
Purse seiner	932		2,601		773		1,435	0	365.6	56.6	144.7	509.0	124.8	323.1
Set net									83.1	1.1	214.7	6.7	201.3	14.0
Others									3.1	0.0	6.4	0.0	5.2	0.0
Total	<u>932</u>		<u>2,601</u>		<u>773</u>		<u>1,435</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>451.8</u>	<u>57.7</u>	<u>365.8</u>	<u>515.7</u>	<u>331.3</u>	<u>337.1</u>
New Zealand														
Longline	0	56.86	0	40.77	0	43.6	0	47.08	0	41.65	0	34.27	0	104.58
Handline	0	0	0	0	0	22.2	0	7.40	0	0	0	0	0	0
Troll	0	0	0	0	0	1.6	0	0.53	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	<u>0</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>105</u>
Philippines														
Artisanal Handline or Hook-and- Line fisheries									0	2 pcs (~220 kgs + ~270 kgs)	0	2,392 (9 pcs at approx.. 250kgs each)	0	4,436 (9 pcs at approx.. 149-455 kgs each)
Chinese Taipei														
Longline	0	1,523	0	1,863	0	1,714	0	1700	0	1,478	0	1,496	0	2,117
Other coastal fisheries	0	4	0	21	0	3	0	9	0	1	0	2	0	5
Total	<u>0</u>	<u>1527</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1884</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1717</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,709</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,479</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,498</u> 1,497	<u>0</u>	<u>2,122</u>
U.S.A.⁶														
American Samoa LL	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
USA LL	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1
Total	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Vanuatu														
Longline ⁷	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.17	0	0	0

⁶ Pacific bluefin tuna catches are reported on longline logsheets for the American Samoa fishery, however the species may be misidentified.

⁷ These small catches are bycatch only. Vanuatu does not target PBF at all.