

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

Kushiro, Hokkaido, Japan  
10 – 13 July 2024

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

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IATTC-NC-JWG09-2024/WP-01  
(WCPFC-NC20-2024/WP-02)  
[17 June 2023](#)

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

<sup>1</sup> 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
<b>Canada</b>														
Troll	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
<b>China</b>														
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Cook Islands</b>														
Longline	0	1,789	0	2,94	0	1,35	0	2	N/A	N/A	0	0		
<b>Fiji</b>														
Longline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
<b>Japan<sup>2</sup></b>														
Purse Seine	5,174	3,730	4,995	774	3,466	4,792	4,545	3,099	962	3,230	1,010	3,676		
Longline Dist.&Off.	0	52	0	97	0	240	0	130	80	562	0	723		
Longline Coastal	0	794	0	1,152	0	1,616	0	1,187	101	912	98	825		
Artisanal fisheries	2,607	0	2,060	0	2,445	0	2,371	0	557	96	919	160		
Set Net	1,008	92	648	191	660	235	772	173	1,319	423	1,471	655		
Others	422	210	205	241	82	432	236	294	147	176	232	314		
Recreational fisheries									0	20	0	28		
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>9,310</u></b>	<b><u>4,878</u></b>	<b><u>7,952</u></b>	<b><u>2,455</u></b>	<b><u>6,785</u></b>	<b><u>7,315</u></b>	<b><u>8,016</u></b>	<b><u>4,883</u></b>	<b><u>3,165</u></b>	<b><u>5,419</u></b>	<b><u>3,731</u></b>	<b><u>6,381</u></b>		

<sup>2</sup> 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 year<sup>3</sup> 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		
	Longline Dist.&Off.	80	562	0	723		
Other fisheries	Longline Coastal	114	926	97	833		
	Artisanal fisheries	713	141	887	114		
	Set Net	1,312	554	1,401	553		
	Others	174	172	233	329		
Recreational fishery			0	20	0	28	
<b><i>Total</i></b>		<b><i>3,107</i></b>	<b><i>3,355</i></b>	<b><i>5,604</i></b>	<b><i>3,629</i></b>	<b><i>6,257</i></b>	
<b><i>Catch limit<sup>4</sup></i></b>		<b><i>4,238</i></b>	<b><i>4,238</i></b>	<b><i>6,162</i></b>	<b><i>4,258</i></b>	<b><i>6,789</i></b>	

<sup>3</sup> **Management year is as follows.**

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

<sup>4</sup> **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
<b>Korea</b>														
Purse seiner	932		2,601		773		1,435	0	365.6	56.6	144.7	509.0		
Set net									83.1	1.1	214.7	6.7		
Others									3.1	0.0	6.4	0.0		
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>932</u></b>		<b><u>2,601</u></b>		<b><u>773</u></b>		<b><u>1,435</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>451.8</u></b>	<b><u>57.7</u></b>	<b><u>365.8</u></b>	<b><u>515.7</u></b>		
<b>Philippines</b>														
Artisanal Handline or Hook-and- Line fisheries									0	2 pcs (~220 kgs + ~270 kgs)	0	2.392 (9 pcs at approx.. 250kgs each)		
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>														
Longline	0	1,523	0	1,863	0	1,714	0	1700	0	1,478	0	1,496		
Other coastal fisheries	0	4	0	21	0	3	0	9	0	1	0	1		
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1527</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1884</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1717</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1,709</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1,479</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1,497</u></b>		
<b>U.S.A.</b> <sup>5</sup>														
American Samoa LL	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0		
USA LL	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1		
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>	<b><u>0</u></b>	<b><u>1</u></b>		
<b>Vanuatu</b>														
Longline <sup>6</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0.17	0		

<sup>5</sup> Pacific bluefin tuna catches are reported on longline logsheets for the American Samoa fishery, however the species may be misidentified.

<sup>6</sup> These small catches are bycatch only. Vanuatu does not target PBF at all.