

Interim steps for evaluating increases in bigeye longline catch limits under CMM 2023-01 - A discussion paper

Prepared by the Secretariat and SPC-OFP

WCPFC-SC20-2024-ST-WP-09

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Structure of the Paper & Purpose

SC20-2024-ST-WP-09



Purpose: to provide information to support SC20 and TCC20 consideration of advice and recommendations to the Commission related to interim steps to support future reviews of requirements for increased observer coverage in longline fisheries

2. Background
3. 2024 Notifications Received
4. Information to support interim TCC assessments in 2025
5. Proposed revisions to relevant Audit Points (for the interim period?)
6. Recommendations

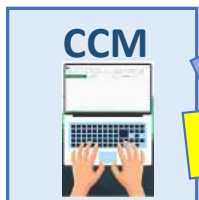
Option of up to 10% increase in bigeye longline catch limit

Footnotes to [CMM 2023-01 Attachment 1, Table 3](#)

Year x



Annual Notification



Data and annual reporting to be provided

Year x + 1

dCMR
Late July

Audit points



TCC SESSION
September



ANNUAL SESSION
December

- **Notification deadline:** end of February
 - Maintain 5% ROP coverage level
 - Commit to a proportionate increase in observer coverage level - up to 10% which can be achieved by human observer and/or EM coverage
- Eg 2.5% increase in observer + EM corresponds with a 5% increase in the catch limit

- **Failure to achieve required observer coverage level** assessed for year of increase in catch limits
 - Priority non-compliant through CMR process
 - Payback penalty of 110% of the increased proportion of catch limit in either of next two years



2024 – 2026: China, Japan, Republic of Korea, Indonesia and Chinese Taipei **may notify** to increase up to 10% their annual bigeye longline catch limit

2024: 2 notifications received

	CMM 2023-01 Att 1 Table 3 longline bigeye catch limit (CMM 2018-05 Annex C 06 minimum ROP coverage rate)	2024 adjusted longline bigeye catch limit (adjusted minimum longline observer coverage, including 5% ROP coverage)	Cumulative Monthly reporting (1 Jan – 30 Jun 2024)
Republic of Korea	13,942 MT (5%)	15,336 MT (10%)	8,212 MT
Chinese Taipei	10,481 MT (5%)	10,691 MT (6%)	5,093 MT

Information needs to support interim TCC assessments in 2025

- Recognise current stage of development of WCPFC's EM program
 - Interim approach should build on current practice and not pre-empt the outcomes of ERandEM IWG deliberations
 - Consider interim data submission standard for EM that is “equivalent” to 5% ROP Observer Coverage rate
- Interim additional reporting requirements should be considered for relevant Members, which includes
 - their plan to achieve the observer coverage over and above the minimum 5% ROP observer coverage rate; and
 - a supplementary report in AR Pt1, to the current CMM 2018-05 Annex C 06 (RP) which reports the observer coverage achieved over and above the minimum 5% ROP observer coverage rate.
- Agreement on updated audit points will be necessary to support CMR assessments in 2025
 - Draft revised Audit Point are provided in **Annex 1 Table 2** on **SC20-2024-ST-WP-09** pg 8

Draft revised Audit Points

could be applied on an interim basis to support TCC CMR assessments of CMM 2023-01 until the Commission's EM program and data standards are more fully developed

<p>Bigeye longline catch limit</p>	<p><i>CMM 2023-01 38 (QL)</i></p> <p><i>a. The CCM reported its total bigeye longline catch in its AR Pt2 and the Secretariat can verify the CCM's reported catch level <u>and where applicable, any allowed increase, and confirm that the allowable limit has not been exceeded.</u></i></p> <p><i>b. <u>The Secretariat confirms receipt by the CCM who notified that they would increase their bigeye longline catch limit by committing to a proportionate increase in observer coverage level, of</u></i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>i. <u>a plan to achieve the observer coverage over and above the minimum 5% ROP observer coverage rate; and</u></i> <i>ii. <u>a report in AR Pt1 related to the additional observer coverage achieved for the previous year, above the minimum 5% ROP observer coverage rate.</u></i>
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Draft revised Audit Points

could be applied on an interim basis to support TCC CMR assessments of CMM 2023-01 until the Commission's EM program and data standards are more fully developed

<p>ROP 5% Observer coverage</p>	<p><i>CMM 2018-05 Annex C 06 (RP)</i></p> <p><i>a. The Secretariat confirms receipt by the CCM in AR Pt1 of the required information contained in WCPFC11 reporting procedure of previous year longline observer coverage achieved using the chosen metric and in the agreed format, <u>and for each CCM who notified that they would increase their bigeye longline catch limit by committing to a proportionate increase in observer coverage level, of a report AR Pt1 of additional observer coverage (eg observer coverage + EM) achieved for the previous year, which is above the minimum 5% ROP observer coverage rate, and</u></i></p> <p><i>b. The Secretariat can verify, through ROP data received by WCPFC, that the CCM did meet the minimum observer coverage rate of 5% for its flagged, non-PS vessels <u>and any additional observer coverage (eg observer coverage + EM) achieved.</u></i></p>
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Guidance for an interim data submission standard for EM that is “equivalent” to 5% ROP Observer Coverage rate



Western and
Central Pacific
Fisheries
Commission

SC20-2024-ST-WP-09 paragraph 17 pg 5 - 6

- a. generate as many established ROP minimum data fields from EM as possible
 - Explain where this is not possible
- b. require same format for submission as ROP data submission
- c. strong expectation that key ROP data fields must be generated from EM
- d. reiterate that the directives within the ROP CMM would be relevant for EM data in the interim, including
 - EM data should be generated from all fishing sets and all catch events within the trip;
 - For compliance purposes, coverage would be determined based on the generated EM data received by the SSP as per ROP data
- e. Require that the relevant CCM would provide a report in AR Pt 1, of EM coverage achieved
 - based on one of the four metrics for reporting ROP coverage (Number of hooks, Number of Trips, Numbers of Days at Sea or Days Fished)
- f. if the EM data provided is a subset of the full trip, provide information about the approach used to subsample the raw footage

Recommendations

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20. SC20 is invited to consider the matters raised in this paper and to provide advice and recommendations to the Commission which could support the establishment of interim guidelines and audit points for CMR assessments of requirements for increased observer coverage in longline fisheries as is set out in CMM 2023-01 Attachment 1, Table 3.

21. SC20 is also invited to review the merits of items (a. to f.) listed in paragraph 17 page 5 of the paper

Guidance for an interim data submission standard for EM that is “equivalent” to 5% ROP Observer Coverage rate

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