



TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE

Twentieth Regular Session

25 September to 1 October 2024

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia (Hybrid)

Scientific data gaps, relevant SC20 outcomes and NC20 outcomes related to WCPFC’s monitoring programmes

**WCPFC-TCC20-2024-24
23 September 2024**

Submitted by the Secretariat

List of [SC20 outcomes](#) relevant to TCC20:

SC20 Agenda Item 3 Data and Statistics Theme

3.1 Data gaps of the Commission

3.1.5 Minimum data reporting requirements (pages 3 - 4)

Additional Longline Operational Data Fields

1. SC20 again acknowledged the scientific value of the additional longline operational data fields described in [SC20-ST-WP-08](#).
2. SC20 recommended that TCC and the Regular Session of the Commission consider the possible inclusion of these data (Table ST-01) in the “Scientific Data to be Provided by the Commission (SciData)” as voluntary reporting items, taking into account the broad implementation concerns of several CCMs with respect to the collection of these data.

Table ST-01 Proposed new voluntary additional longline operational data fields

DATA FIELD	Suggested PROTOCOL for data collection				
Target species for the set	Record the primary target species, or group of species, for this set.				
Number of lightsticks used in set	Record the total number of lightsticks used in the set.				
Bait type used in set	Record the FAO code(s) ¹ for type of bait(s) used for the set. Example types:				
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>FAO Code</th> <th>Taxa/species categories</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>CLP</td> <td>HERRINGS, SARDINES, NEI</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	FAO Code	Taxa/species categories	CLP	HERRINGS, SARDINES, NEI
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CLP	HERRINGS, SARDINES, NEI				

¹ The taxa/species list in Table ST-01 represents the common bait types reported for the longline fishery, but see <https://www.fao.org/fishery/en/collection/asfis/en> for a complete list of FAO species codes.

DPT	DECAPTHURUS SP. - MUROAJI
MAX	MACKERELS NEI
MIL	MILKFISH
MSD	MACKEREL SCAD
PIL	EUROPEAN PILCHARD (=SARDINE)
SAP	PACIFIC SAURY
SQU	VARIOUS SQUIDS NEI
TUN	TUNAS NEI
OTHERS	Comment on bait type

Mainline length	Record the mainline length (in kilometers) used in the trip or set, as appropriate.
Length of branch line	Record the average length in meters of the branch lines in the trip or set. (The total length from the mainline to the hook).
Length of float line	Record the average length in meters of the float lines in the set. (The total length from the float to the mainline).
Vessel speed during setting	Record the average speed in knots of a vessel during line setting.
Speed of the line setter	Record the speed in knots of the line setter (i.e., the line shooter speed).

Additional code for the ACTIVITY field

3. **SC20** again acknowledged the proposal for the addition of a new activity code for any day when a "transshipment at sea occurs" within the operational data submitted to the Commission (as described in SC20-ST-WP-08). **SC20** recommended that this proposal be considered by TCC and the Commission.

Revisions to CMM 2018-04

4. SC20 noted the Commission tasking (WCPFC20 Summary Report, paragraph 754e) to review the Scientific Data to be provided to the Commission (SciData) requirements to capture turtle interaction requirements under CMM 2018-04, paragraphs 5c and 7e. SC20 noted that some CCMs have different interpretations of the requirements for those paragraphs, specifically as to whether the paragraphs require reporting through submission of operational level data or in a summary form, and **SC20** suggested that TCC and the Commission consider clarifying the requirements of these paragraphs to resolve any ambiguity.
5. Meanwhile, **SC20** requested SSP to prepare a paper for SC21 on possible sea turtle data reporting requirements for vessels to record during fishing operations, for longline and purse seine vessels, to be incorporated in the annual reporting of Scientific Data to be provided to the Commission (SciData).

**NC20 AGENDA ITEM 2 CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR THE
NORTHERN STOCKS**

2.1 Pacific bluefin tuna (CMM 2023-02) (pages 33 – 35)

1. The Co-Chairs of the Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group Meeting on the Management of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (JWG) presented the outcomes of the 9th JWG as outlined in the Chairs' Summary (Attachment C).
2. **The NC recommended that the Commission adopt the Conservation and Management Measure for PBF (Attachment D)².**
3. **The NC recommended that the Commission adopt the Conservation and Management Measure for the Monitoring, Controlling, and Surveillance of Pacific Bluefin Tuna in (Attachment E)³.**
4. **The NC recommended that the Commission endorse the letter of agreement between the IATTC/WCPFC and the SPC, (Attachment F)⁴.**

JWG/NC20 AGENDA ITEM 6 CATCH DOCUMENTATION SCHEME⁵

6.1 CDS (pages 33 – 34)

1. Mr. Shingo Ota (Japan), the Chair of the Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) Working Group, presented the outcomes of the 5th CDS Technical Meeting. The Chair's Summary Report of the meeting is included as **Annex F⁶**.
2. The JWG recommended that the NC and the IATTC review and endorse the draft agreement between the Pacific Community (SPC) and the WCPFC/IATTC (**Annex F, Appendix 2⁷**).
3. Mr. Ota explained that following the CDS Technical Meeting, he spoke with the JWG co-chairs regarding the cover letter to be sent to the IATTC explaining the proposed way forward on the CDS and they recommended that it should be sent from the JWG co-chairs rather than the CDS Technical Meeting Chair.
4. The JWG agreed that the cover letter on the proposed way forward on the CDS should be sent from the JWG co-chairs.
5. Co-Chair Miyahara informed the JWG that ahead of the next JWG meeting, the JWG co-chairs, in consultation with the CDS Technical Meeting Chair, will consider whether the next CDS Technical Meeting should be half a day or a full day based on the intersessional progress and circulate their recommendation to Members.

² [N20 Summary Report \(final\)](#), pages 49 - 52

³ [NC20 Summary Report \(final\)](#), page 69

⁴ [NC20 Summary Report \(final\)](#), pages 65 - 68

⁵ [NC20 Summary Report \(final\)](#), pages 33 – 34 and Annex F pages 59 - 68

⁶ [NC20 Summary Report \(final\)](#), pages 59 - 68

⁷ [NC20 Summary Report \(final\)](#), pages 65 - 68

6. The WCPFC Executive Director, Ms. Rhea Moss-Christian, expressed the WCPFC Secretariat's readiness to support the development of the electronic Pacific bluefin tuna CDS (ePBCD) and its intention to continue to review the roles expected of the WCPFC and IATTC Secretariats and the cost-sharing between the two RFMOs so as to ensure that the WCPFC Secretariat is positioned to support this work in the appropriate way.

7. The WWF welcomed the continued progress towards the establishment of the ePBCD and emphasized its importance as a monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) tool.

6.2 Other MCS measures (pages 34 – 35)⁸

8. Japan presented a proposal for the establishment of a new framework to strengthen MCS measures for PBF fisheries and farming in the WPO and the EPO, on the basis of the general requirements for CCMs to take measures to strengthen monitoring and data collecting system for Pacific bluefin tuna as stipulated in CMM 2023-02. The proposed framework consists of two components: 1) reporting requirements on the implementation of MCS measures that have been taken by each CCM, and 2) establishment of a review process whereby the JWG reviews the reports submitted by CCMs and considers necessary revisions of the relevant CMMs with a view to enhancing harmonized MCS measures for PBF fisheries and farms.

9. The JWG expressed support for the approach proposed by Japan of applying a harmonized framework across both sides of the Pacific and noted that the proposed framework would complement the establishment of an ePBCD.

10. The European Union (EU) presented a proposal for an IATTC Resolution on Monitoring and Control Measures for the PBF Fishery in the EPO with the aim of establishing minimum standards for the monitoring and control of PBF in accordance with paragraph 12 of Resolution C-23-01. The proposal was based on ICCAT's expertise and successful experience on bluefin tuna and establishes a number of minimum provisions to monitor and control the PBF fishery including a record of vessels and farms, catch and transshipment reports, general rules on by-catches, identification of designated ports, reporting of catches, and the future establishment of an observer program and a CDS. The EU suggested that it would be advisable to adopt consistent measures across the area of the distribution of the stock and that similar provisions could also be considered by the WCPFC.

11. The JWG noted that many elements of the EU proposal were already required under existing IATTC and WCPFC measures. They also noted the need to hold further discussions on several elements to better understand the rationale behind their inclusion in the proposal.

12. The JWG endorsed Japan's proposal for the establishment of a new framework to strengthen MCS measures for PBF fisheries and farming and agreed to forward it to the NC for review and recommendation to the WCPFC and to the IATTC for adoption (**Annex G**).

13. The JWG noted that if the proposal is adopted, Members would report their MCS measures to the next JWG meeting and the JWG would begin discussions on the establishment of unified MCS measures.

⁸ NC20 Summary Report (Final), pages 69 Annex G, Attachment E, pages 77 - 78

The JWG noted that it would also be able to consider the inclusion of elements of the EU proposal and encouraged the EU to participate in the next JWG meeting in person.