



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE
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**Draft Conservation and Management Measure for the
Monitoring, Controlling, and Surveillance of Pacific Bluefin Tuna**

WCPFC-NC20-2024/DP-02

JAPAN

Commission for the Conservation and Management of
Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

NORTHERN COMMITTEE
Resumed Meeting of the Twentieth Regular Session

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Online

Draft Conservation and Management Measure for the
Monitoring, Controlling, and Surveillance of Pacific Bluefin Tuna

CMM 2024-XX

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC):

Noting that, Conservation and Management Measure CMM2023-02 establishes annual catch limit of Pacific bluefin tuna for the management of the species,

Also noting that, Conservation and Management Measure CMM2023-02 paragraph 11 requires CCMs, to the extent possible, take measures necessary to prevent commercial transaction of Pacific bluefin tuna that undermine the effectiveness of the CMM,

Further noting that, Conservation and Management Measure CMM2023-02 paragraph 13 requires CCMs to take measures necessary to strengthen monitoring and data collecting system for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and farming,

Adopts, in accordance with Article 10 of the WCPFC Convention that:

Objectives

1. The purpose of this Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) is to establish a regime for the monitoring and control of the conservation and management of the Pacific bluefin tuna fishery in the WCPO set out in CMM 2024-xx.

12. Each CCM that has Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming shall report to the Executive ~~Secretary~~ Director by 15 June each year on the implementation of its monitoring and control measures it has taken in the previous calendar year to ensure its compliance with CMM ~~2023-02~~ 2024-xx that include the following components:

(1) Monitoring and control measures for fisheries

a. Registration of commercial fishing vessels that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (including the WCPFC RFV in accordance with CMM 2018-06 on WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels and Authorization to Fish) ~~and~~

b. Registration of set nets that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (including registration scheme, number of registered set nets)

~~b.c.~~ Allocation of catch limits by fishery within the CCMs, as appropriate where such allocation exist

~~c.d.~~ Reporting requirements for catches for fisheries (targeted, incidental, and discards)

~~e.~~ Measures to monitor catch (e.g. landing receipts, landing inspection, observer program, etc.)

f. Measures to monitor landings (including CMM2017-02 on Minimum Standards for Port State Measures)

~~eg.~~ Measures to monitor domestic transactions

(2) Monitoring and control measures for farming

a. Registration of farms that are authorized to farm Pacific bluefin tuna (including registration scheme, number of registered farms, number of registered 'holding pens' or 'cages')

b. Reporting requirements for caging of fish

c. Reporting requirements for harvest of farmed fish

d. Measures to monitor ~~farmed fish (e.g. stereovideo camera)~~ farming activities (including Rules, standards, and procedures to monitor transfer and caging activities)

3. CCMs that do not have Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming, shall report to the WCPFC Secretariat annually any by-catches of Pacific bluefin tuna under paragraph x of CMM 2024-xx.

Review

~~24. The Joint IATTC-WCPFC NC Working Group~~ The Northern Committee (NC) shall review the implementation of monitoring, control and surveillance measures reported by CCMs in accordance with ~~paragraph 1 and the outcomes of the review~~ this CMM by 2026. ~~The NC shall be reported~~ receive any considerations from the Joint IATTC-WCPFC NC Working Group on the implementation of this CMM and provide recommendations to the Commission ~~Northern Committee for their consideration on necessary revisions~~ including on possible amendments to this CMM and CMM 2024-xx of WCPFC Conservation and Management Measures for Pacific Bluefin Tuna.

5. CCMs shall coordinate with the IATTC through the Joint IATTC-WCPFC NC Working Group and discuss any additional MCS measures, as appropriate, at their upcoming meetings.

Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS)

6. WCPFC shall consider the establishment of a catch documentation scheme (CDS) for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries in the WCPO compatible with other CDSs for Pacific bluefin tuna by 31 December 2026. This CDS should build, inter alia, on the outcomes of the Joint IATTC-WCPFC Northern Committee Working Group.

CMM2013-06 Criteria

In accordance with CMM2013-06 (Conservation and management measure on the criteria for the consideration of conservation and management proposals), the following assessment has been undertaken.

a. Who is required to implement the proposal?

CCMs that have Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries are required to implement the obligations, although currently there is no Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries in SIDS.

Paragraph 3 (reporting requirement of by-catches) applies to CCMs that do not have Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries, but this requirement is already existent in CMM2023-02, so there is no new requirement for those CCMs.

b. Which CCMs would this proposal impact and in what way(s) and what proportion?

This Japan's proposal will have an impact on CCMs fishing Pacific bluefin tuna. However, as described above, currently there is no Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries in SIDS.

c. Are there linkages with other proposals or instruments in other regional fisheries management organizations or international organizations that reduce the burden of implementation?

No.

d. Does the proposal affect development opportunities for SIDS?

No.

e. Does the proposal affect SIDS domestic access to resources and development aspirations?

No.

f. What resources, including financial and human capacity, are needed by SIDS to implement the proposal?

No additional resources are required for SIDS to implement this proposal.

g. What mitigation measures are included in the proposal?

No mitigation measures are included since this proposal does not impact fisheries by SIDS.

h. What assistance mechanisms and associated timeframe, including training and financial support, are included in the proposal to avoid a disproportionate burden on SIDS?

No assistance mechanisms are included since this proposal does not impose any disproportionate burden on SIDS.

Audit Points Checklist for Proposed New or Amended Obligations (“Audit Points Checklist”)

(To be completed by proponents of new and amended measures. This checklist should not be confused with the “2013-06 Checklist”, which is specific to impacts of new or amended proposals on SIDS.)

1. To whom does the obligation apply? Set out any proposed exceptions or exclusions.

All CCMs Flag CCMs Some CCMs - if so, which CCMs?

2. What is the scope of the new obligations (i.e., does it apply to a particular geographical area, fishery, stock, species of special interest?)

Pacific bluefin tuna

3. Are there existing obligations that should be assessed in combination with any of the proposed new obligations? If so, name the CMM and paragraph(s), or other Commission obligation.

CMM2023-02 (~~Japan proposes~~ [NC20 recommended](#) amendment on this CMM).

4. Which proposed new obligations will require submission of Reports (R) or Implementation Statements (I), impose Limits (L), or have Deadlines (D)? Please fill out the relevant section(s) for each of the proposed new obligations.

I. Deadline

Specify what is required and by what deadline.

Following reporting obligations are included in this proposal.

~~1. Each CCM [that has Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries] shall report to the Executive Secretary by 1 June each year on the implementation of its monitoring and control measures it has taken in the previous calendar year to ensure its compliance with CMM2023-02 that include the following components:~~

~~(1) Monitoring and control measures for fishing~~

~~a. Registration of fishing vessels and set nets that are authorized to fish Pacific bluefin tuna~~

~~b. Allocation of catch limits by fishery within the CCMs~~

~~c. Reporting scheme for catch~~

~~d. Monitoring measures for reported catch (e.g. landing inspection, observer program)~~

~~e. Monitoring measures for domestic transactions~~

~~(2) Monitoring and control measures for farming~~

- ~~a. Registration of farms that are authorized to farm Pacific bluefin tuna~~
- ~~b. Reporting scheme for the caging of fish~~
- ~~c. Reporting scheme for the harvest of farmed fish~~
- ~~d. Monitoring measures for farmed fish (e.g. stereovideo camera)]~~

2. Each CCM that has Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming shall report to the Executive Director by 15 June each year on the implementation of its monitoring and control measures it has taken in the previous calendar year to ensure its compliance with CMM2024-xx that include the following components:

(1) Monitoring and control measures for fisheries

- a. Registration of commercial fishing vessels that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (including the WCPFC RFV in accordance with CMM 2018-06 on WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels and Authorization to Fish)
- b. Registration of set nets that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (including registration scheme, number of registered set nets)
- c. Allocation of catch limits by fishery within the CCMs, where such allocation exists
- d. Reporting requirements for catches for fisheries (targeted, incidental, and discards).
- e. Measures to monitor catch (e.g. landing receipts, landing inspection, observer program, etc.)
- f. Measures to monitor landings (including CMM2017-02 on Minimum Standards for Port State Measures)
- g. Measures to monitor domestic transactions

(2) Monitoring and control measures for farming

- a. Registration of farms that are authorized to farm Pacific bluefin tuna (including registration scheme, number of registered farms, number of registered 'holding pens' or 'cages')
- b. Reporting requirements for caging of fish
- c. Reporting requirements for harvest of farmed fish
- d. Measures to monitor farming activities (including Rules, standards, and procedures to monitor transfer and caging activities)

3. CCMs that do not have Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming, shall report to the WCPFC Secretariat annually any by-catches of Pacific bluefin tuna under paragraph x of CMM 2024-xx.

II. Report

Specify the type of information that is required, including any specific formats or templates to be used, and whether the information must be complete (100%) or a sub-set of information is sufficient to meet the proposed objective.

The required information is stipulated above.

The current CMM has similar reporting obligations, and they are reported through the Annual report and meeting documents for the Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group. CCMs may report the required information through meeting document of the Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group.

Is this information already provided wholly or in part through any other data submission requirement, i.e. operational level catch and effort data?

As explained above, the current CMM has similar reporting obligations. The obligations are reported through the Annual report and meeting documents for the Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group. CCMs may report the required information through meeting document of the Joint IATTC and WCPFC-NC Working Group.

If no, specify the proposed reporting mechanism to be used for submission of new required information (i.e., Annual Report Part 1, Annual Report Part 2, direct to WCPFC Secretariat, other)

N/A

Can the information provided be verified through another source? If yes, specify what other data or information source should be used.

Annual Report Part 2 can be used for verification.

III. Implementation

In addition to the required Implementation Statements, list any additional information required to demonstrate CCM's implementation with the proposed new requirement.

Describe any data or other information that can be reviewed by the WCPFC Secretariat to confirm or verify implementation.

IV. Quantitative Limit

Specify the proposed CCM-level or Collective limit.

Specify what verifiable data shall be provided by CCM to confirm its adherence to the limit.

Specify what data sources are available to the WCPFC Secretariat to review and confirm CCM's reported limit.

V. Other

If none of the other categories are appropriate:

Specify the nature of the obligation.

Specify how compliance is to be assessed.

Process for considering proposed audit points alongside new proposals

The purpose of the checklist is for proponents of new obligations to identify what they see as being the appropriate criteria or performance standard by which compliance should be assessed against new or amended obligations. This process will assist in identifying data gaps, potential duplication of reporting, and existing measures that might be linked to new or amended obligations.

The process for considering proposed audit points for proposed new obligations is as follows:

Step 1: Proponent of the proposed new or amended obligation(s) submits a completed AP Checklist at the same time as the proposed new or amended obligation(s) is submitted.

Step 2: Where proposed new or amended obligation(s) undergoes further discussion and negotiation, the AP Checklist remains attached to the proposal and is also considered throughout the iterative process.

Step 3: If proposed new or amended obligation(s) reaches the stage of finalization for adoption, the lead CCM on finalizing the proposed new or amended obligation(s) also updates the AP Checklist to reflect the final proposed new or amended obligation(s).

Step 4: The proposed audit points for the proposed new or amended obligation(s) are adopted as part of the final proposed new or amended obligation(s) and attached to the final CMM, or in the case of a Commission decision that is not reflected in a CMM, the proposed audit points are posted on the appropriate section of the WCPFC website associated with the decision or outcome.

Proposed audit points for the new proposal

Paragraph	Obligation	Draft Audit Point
<p>1. Each CCM that has Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming shall report to the Executive Secretary by 1 June each year on the implementation of its monitoring and control measures it has taken in the previous calendar year to ensure its compliance with CMM2023-02 that include the following components:</p> <p>(1) Monitoring and control measures for fisheries</p> <p>a. — Registration of commercial fishing vessels and set nets that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna</p> <p>b. — Allocation of catch limits by fishery within the CCMs, as appropriate</p>	<p>Report</p>	<p>The Secretariat confirms receipt of a report by the CCM on implementation of its monitoring and control measures including subparagraph (1) and/or (2) of the CMM.</p>

~~e.—Reporting requirements for catches for fisheries (targeted, incidental, and discards)~~

~~d.—Measures to monitor catch (e.g. landing receipts, landing inspection, observer program, etc.)~~

~~e.—Measures to monitor domestic transactions~~

~~(2) Monitoring and control measures for farming~~

~~a.—Registration of farms that are authorized to farm Pacific bluefin tuna~~

~~b.—Reporting requirements for caging of fish~~

~~c.—Reporting requirements for harvest of farmed fish~~

~~d.—Measures to monitor farmed fish (e.g. stereovideo camera)~~

2. Each CCM that has Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming shall report to the Executive Secretary by 15 June each year on the implementation of its monitoring and control measures it has taken in the previous calendar year to ensure its compliance with CMM2024-xx that include the following components:

(1) Monitoring and control measures for fisheries

a. Registration of commercial fishing vessels that are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (including the WCPFC RFV in accordance with CMM 2018-06 on WCPFC Record of Fishing Vessels and Authorization to Fish)

b. Registration of set nets that

are authorized to fish for Pacific bluefin tuna (including registration scheme, number of registered set nets)
 c. Allocation of catch limits by fishery within the CCMs, where such allocation exists
 d. Reporting requirements for catches for fisheries (targeted, incidental, and discards).
 e. Measures to monitor catch (e.g. landing receipts, landing inspection, observer program, etc.)
 f. Measures to monitor landings (including CMM2017-02 on Minimum Standards for Port State Measures
 g. Measures to monitor domestic transactions)

(2) Monitoring and control measures for farming
 a. Registration of farms that are authorized to farm Pacific bluefin tuna (including registration scheme, number of registered farms, number of registered 'holding pens' or 'cages')
 b. Reporting requirements for caging of fish
 c. Reporting requirements for harvest of farmed fish
 d. Measures to monitor farming activities (including Rules, standards, and procedures to monitor transfer and caging activities)

3. CPCs that do not have Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and/or farming, shall report to the WCPFC Secretariat annually any by-catches of Pacific bluefin tuna under paragraph x of CMM 2024-

Report

The Secretariat confirms receipt of a report by the CCM on bycatch.

<u>xx.</u>		
<p><u>5. CCMs shall coordinate with the IATTC through the Joint IATTC-WCPFC NC Working Group and discuss any additional MCS measures, as appropriate, at their upcoming meetings</u></p>	<p><u>N/A (non-binding since a qualification is included)</u></p>	
<p><u>6. WCPFC shall consider the establishment of a catch documentation scheme (CDS) for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries in the WCPO compatible with other CDSs for Pacific bluefin tuna by 31 December 2026. This CDS should build, inter alia, on the outcomes of the Joint IATTC-WCPFC Northern Committee Working Group.</u></p>	<p><u>N/A (task to the WCPFC itself)</u></p>	