

**JOINT IATTC AND WCPFC-NC WORKING GROUP MEETING ON THE
MANAGEMENT OF PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA
TENTH SESSION (JWG-10)**

9 – 12 July 2025
Toyama, Japan (Hybrid)

Report on CMM 2024-02 (MCS of PBF)

IATTC-NC-JWG10-2025/DP-08.1

PHILIPPINES

From: Isidro Tanangonan <itanangonan@bfar.da.gov.ph>
Sent: Friday, June 20, 2025 8:49 PM
To: SungKwon Soh <SungKwon.Soh@wcpfc.int>
Cc: Joeren Yleana <jyleana@bfar.da.gov.ph>
Subject: Philippines PBF report for CMM 2024-02, MCS for PBF

Dear Dr. Soh,

Please find attached the Philippines report for CMM 2024-02 regarding MCS for Pacific Bluefin tuna.

Thank you.

Best regards,

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Report on CMM 2024-02 (MCS of Pacific bluefin tuna)

Philippines

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)

The Philippines does not have a targeted fishery for Pacific Bluefin Tuna (PBFT). Any PBFT caught in the Philippines is incidental to artisanal handline and hook-and-line fishing operations.

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

The Philippines does not have set net targeting Pacific Bluefin tuna and there are no historical records indicating the capture of PBFT using this fishing method.

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

The Philippines currently maintains an annual catch limit of 10 metric tons (MT) for Pacific Bluefin Tuna (PBFT). While recent years have shown a gradual increase in PBFT catch, the figures remain well below the established limit, with the highest recorded catch at 4.436 MT in 2023. The country continues to strengthen its monitoring efforts through the National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP), focusing on the identification and documentation of PBFT landings at key sites.

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

The Philippines does not have a targeted fishery for Pacific Bluefin Tuna (PBFT). Catches of this species are incidental and occur occasionally through artisanal handline or hook-and-line fisheries. The Philippines has significantly strengthened its monitoring and data collection efforts, deploying dedicated personnel at known PBFT landing sites. The collected data is reviewed annually in collaboration with other tuna-producing sites to ensure compliance with catch limits. In 2024, a total of 3.517 metric tons (MT) of PBFT was recorded from the handline fishery.

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

Since the first confirmed catch of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (PBFT) in 2015, the Philippines has significantly enhanced its monitoring and data collection efforts for this species, particularly in

the key landing sites of Aurora and Infanta, Quezon. Dedicated personnel have been deployed to these areas to ensure documentation of PBFT landings. The collected information is reviewed annually in coordination with other tuna-producing sites to ensure compliance with established catch limits.

f. Measures to monitor landings (including CMM 2017-02 on Minimum Standards for Port State Measures)

Under CMM 2017-02, two designated ports in the Philippines—Davao and General Santos Fish Ports—are authorized to receive landings from foreign-flagged fishing vessels. These ports have assigned Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) inspectors to monitor such landings. In contrast, landings from domestic fishing fleets are monitored through the National Stock Assessment Program (NSAP).

g. Measures to monitor domestic transactions

As landings of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (PBFT) in the Philippines are seasonal and occur rarely—typically from February to May—they are closely monitored and well-documented. Port authorities and NSAP enumerators record detailed information on each landing, including the source fishing ground, weight, quality, market price of the catch and destination.

(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’)

At present, there are no farms or individuals in the Philippines engaged in the farming or aquaculture of Pacific Bluefin Tuna.

b. Reporting requirements for caging of fish and c. Reporting requirements for harvest of farmed fish

At present, there are no farms or individuals in the Philippines engaged in the farming or aquaculture of Pacific Bluefin Tuna.

c. Measures to monitor farming activities (including Rules, standards, and procedures to monitor transfer and caging activities)

At present, there are no farms or individuals in the Philippines engaged in the farming or aquaculture of Pacific Bluefin Tuna.