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**NORTHERN COMMITTEE**

**Twenty-First Regular Session**

14 – 15 July 2025

Toyama, Japan (Hybrid)

**Compiled information on Pacific bluefin tuna**

**(fishing effort and catch in the WCPO)**

**WCPFC-NC21-2025/WP-02 (Rev.01)**

**(IATTC-NC-JWG10-2025/WP-01 (Rev.01))**

**Secretariat**

According to Paragraph 9 of the WCPFC CMM 2024-01, fishing efforts and the catch of Pacific bluefin tuna are compiled based on WCPFC Members' reports, which are annexed in Tables 1 and 2.

1. *CCMs shall report to the Executive Director by 15 June each year their fishing effort and <30 kg and >=30 kg catch levels, by fishery, for the previous 3 years, 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 the *Delegation Proposals and Papers* folder at [Tenth Joint IATTC-NC Working Group Meeting on PBF Management | WCPFC Meetings](https://meetings.wcpfc.int/meetings/jwg-10)

**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[[1]](#footnote-1)** | **Baseline fishing effort****(Para 2, CMM 2024-01)** | **Fishing effort****(Para 9, CMM 2024-01)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2002** | **2003** | **2004** | **2002-2004****Average** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| **Canada** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not applicable |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **China** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Cook Islands** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longline |  | Unknown | Unknown | 0 |  | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Fiji** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longline | No. of vessels | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Japan** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Purse Seine | No. of vessels | 69 | 60 | 59 | 63 | 44 | 42 | 45 |
| Longline Dist. & Off. | No. of vessels | 654 | 632 | 613 | 633 | 383 | 378 | 366 |
| Longline Coastal | No. of vessels | 399 | 422 | 386 | 402 | 303 | 298 | 300 |
| Artisanal fisheries | No. of vessels | Unknown | Unknown | Unknown |  | 17,408 | 16,878 | 16,863 |
| Set Net | No. of licenses | 1,876 | 1,956 | 1,956 | 1,929 | 1,784 | 1,688 | 1,688 |
| **Korea** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| large-scale purse seiners | No. of vessels | 32 | 29 | 29 | 30 | 19 | 19 | 19 |
| **Philippines** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| **Chinese Taipei** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longline | No. of vessels | 684 | 659 | 632 | 658 | 485 | 486 | 486 |
| **U.S.A.** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable | Not applicable |
| **Vanuatu** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longline | No. of vessels  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Australia** | Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **New Zealand** | Not applicable |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**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 2024-01)** | **All catches****(Para 9, CMM 2024-01)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2002** | **2003** | **2004** | **2002-2004****Average** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** |
| **Australia[[2]](#footnote-2)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longline | - | 6 | 0 | 12 | - | 10 | - | 9 | - | 9 | - | 27 |  - | 27 |
| **Canada** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Troll | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **China** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Cook Islands** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longline | 0 | 1.789 | 0 | 2.94 | 0 | 1.35 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Fiji** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longline | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| **Japan[[3]](#footnote-3)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Purse Seine | 5,174 | 3,730 | 4,995 | 774 | 3,466 | 4,792 | 4,545 | 3,099 | 1,010 | 3,676 | 757 | 3,779 | 558 | 4,050 |
| Longline Dist.&Off. | 0 | 52 | 0 | 97 | 0 | 240 | 0 | 130 | 0 | 723 | 0 | 745 | 1 | 730 |
| Longline Coastal | 0 | 794 | 0 | 1,152 | 0 | 1,616 | 0 | 1,187 | 98 | 825 | 98 | 749 | 81 | 780 |
| Artisanal fisheries | 2,607 | 0 | 2,060 | 0 | 2,445 | 0 | 2,371 | 0 | 919 | 160 | 969 | 186 | 1,146 | 245 |
| Set Net | 1,008 | 92 | 648 | 191 | 660 | 235 | 772 | 173 | 1,471 | 655 | 1,338 | 547 | 1,071 | 579 |
| Others | 521 | 210 | 249 | 241 | 214 | 432 | 328 | 294 | 232 | 314 | 268 | 318 | 236 | 377 |
| Recreationalfisheries |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 | 28 | 0 | 46 |  | 42 |
| ***Total*** | ***9,310*** | ***4,878*** | ***7,952*** | ***2,455*** | ***6,785*** | ***7,315*** | ***8,016*** | ***4,883*** | ***3,731*** | ***6,381*** | ***3,430*** | ***6,370*** | ***3,094*** | ***6,804*** |

**(Japan continued)**

Catches (mt) in management year[[4]](#footnote-4) 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** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| **<30 kg** | **≥30 kg** | **<30 kg** | **≥30 kg** | **<30 kg** | **≥30 kg** |
| Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries | Purse Seine | 1,010 | 3,676 | 757 | 3,779 | 558 | 4,050 |
| Longline Dist.&Off. | 0 | 723 | 0 | 745 | 1 | 730 |
| Other fisheries | Longline Coastal | 97 | 846 | 93 | 719 | 80 | 852 |
| Artisanal fisheries | 892 | 121 | 1,043 | 205 | 1,052 | 300 |
| Set Net | 1,401 | 553 | 1,157 | 481 | 1,189 | 563 |
| Others | 228 | 310 | 278 | 335 | 229 | 402 |
| Recreational fishery | 0 | 28 | 0 | 46 |  | 44 |
| ***Total*** | ***3,628*** | ***6,257*** | ***3,328*** | ***6,311*** | ***3,110*** | ***6,939*** |
| ***Catch limit[[5]](#footnote-5)*** | 4,258 | 6,789 | 4,095 | 6,846 | 3,757 | 7,434 |

| **Fishery** | **All catches****(Para 2, CMM 2023-02)** | **All catches****(Para 9, CMM 2024-01)** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **2002** | **2003** | **2004** | **2002-2004****Average** | **2022** | **2023** | **2024** |
| **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** | **<30kg** | **≥30kg** |
| **Korea** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Purse seiner | 932 |  | 2,601 |  | 773 |  | 1,435 | 0 | 144.7 | 509.0 | 124.8 | 323.1 | 39.3 | 399.5 |
| Set net |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 214.7 | 6.7 | 201.3 | 14.0 | 285.3 | 21.5 |
| Others |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 6.4 | 0.0 | 5.2 | 0.0 | 22.5 | 0.0 |
| ***Total*** | ***932*** |  | ***2,601*** |  | ***773*** |  | ***1,435*** | ***0*** | ***365.8*** | ***515.7*** | 331.3 | 337.1 | ***347.1*** | ***421.1*** |
| **New Zealand[[6]](#footnote-6)** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longline | 0 | 56.86 | 0 | 40.77 | 0 | 43.6 | 0 | 47.08 | 0 | 34.27 | 0 | 104.58 | 0 | 109.56 |
| Handline | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22.2 | 0 | 7.40 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Troll | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1.6 | 0 | 0.53 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| ***Total*** | ***0*** | ***57*** | ***0*** | ***41*** | ***0*** | ***67*** | ***0*** | ***55*** | ***0*** | ***34*** | 0 | 105 | 0 | 110 |
| **Philippines** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Artisanal Handline or Hook-and-Line fisheries |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 | 2.392(9 pcs at approx 250kgs each) | 0  | 4.436 (9 pcs at approx 149-455 kgs each) | 0 | 3.517(14 pcs at approx 141-463 kgs each) |
| **Chinese Taipei** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longline | 0 | 1,523 | 0 | 1,863 | 0 | 1,714 | 0 | 1700 | 0 | 1,496 | 0 | 2,117 | 0 | 2,258 |
| Other coastal fisheries | 0 | 4 | 0 | 21 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 4 |
| ***Total*** | ***0*** | ***1527*** | ***0*** | ***1884*** | ***0*** | ***1717*** | ***0***  | ***1,709*** | ***0*** | ***1,498*** | ***0*** | ***2,122*** | ***0*** | ***2,262*** |
| **U.S.A.**[[7]](#footnote-7) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| American Samoa LL | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| USA LL | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 |
| *Total* | ***0*** | ***4*** | ***0*** | ***0*** | ***0*** | ***1*** | ***0*** | ***1*** | ***0*** | ***1*** | ***0*** | ***1*** | ***0*** | ***3*** |
| **Vanuatu** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Longline[[8]](#footnote-8) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

1. e.g., sets, fishing days, vessels [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Australia catches 2002-04 are based on logbooks, and 2021-24 are based on landings data [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Catches (mt) in a 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) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. **Management year is as follows.**

	* 2022 management period: January 2022 - December 2022 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries,April 2022 - March 2023 for Other fisheries.

	* 2023 management period: January 2023 - December 2023 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries,April 2023 - March 2024 for Other fisheries. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. **Catch limit is as follows.**

- 2022 small fish: 4,007 tons – 429.9 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 681.1 tons (carry over from the previous management year)

large fish: 5,614 tons + 617.9 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 527.0 tons (carry over from the previous management year)

- 2023 small fish: 4,007 tons – 542.0 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 629.8 tons (carry over from the previous management year)

large fish: 5,614 tons + 730.0 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 501.7 tons (carry over from the previous management year)

- 2024 small fish: 4,007 tons – 931.0 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 681.1 tons (carry over from the previous management year)

large fish: 5,614 tons + 1,368.5.0 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 451.2 tons (carry over from the previous management year) [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Refer to JWG10-DP-13 for detailed computation on annual catch limits and annual catches. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Pacific bluefin tuna catches are reported on longline logsheets for the American Samoa fishery, however the species may be misidentified. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. These small catches are bycatch only. Vanuatu does not target PBF at all. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)