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CATCHES OF BIGEYE AND YELLOWFIN TUNA IN “OTHER FISHERIES”

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Paper prepared by

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The Commission's Conservation and Management Measure 2005-01 made the following request of the Scientific Committee:

The second meeting of the Scientific Committee will review the catch of bigeye and yellowfin in other commercial fisheries in the Convention Area and provide advice to the Commission so that conservation and management measures can be developed.

The reference to “other fisheries” here is interpreted to mean those fisheries not addressed specifically by CMM 2005–01, i.e. fisheries other than longline and tropical (20°N–20°S) purse seine. These other fisheries are specified in Table 1 in terms of gear type and flag.

Catches provided in Table 1 are taken from annual catch estimates as given in the Tuna Fishery Yearbook (<http://www.spc.int/oceanfish/Docs/Statistics/TYB.htm>), updated and revised as appropriate based on recent submissions of annual catch estimates.

Table 1. Estimates of total annual catches of bigeye and yellowfin tuna in the WCPFC Statistical Area for fisheries other than longline and tropical purse seine

GEAR	FLAG	BIGEYE					YELLOWFIN				
		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Handline	Indonesia	881	951	835	0	(0)	9,368	10,104	8,875	1,041	(1,041)
	Philippines	4,204	5,021	6,402	6,518	11,930	44,682	53,362	68,038	69,275	67,111
	Total	5,085	5,972	7,237	6,518	11,930	54,050	63,466	76,913	70,316	68,152
Pole-and-line	Fiji	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	44	(44)	(44)	(44)	(44)
	Indonesia	972	1,048	921	5,194	(5,194)	8,744	9,432	8,285	11,449	(11,449)
	Japan	1,377	1,757	857	3,379	(3,379)	3,136	3,375	2,868	3,022	(3,022)
	French Polynesia	0	0	0	0	0	348	406	280	509	344
	Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	(0)	153	405	655	257	(257)
	USA	0	0	0	0	(0)	2	2	23	23	(23)
	Total	2,349	2,805	1,778	8,573	8,573	12,427	13,664	12,155	15,304	15,139
Purse seine	Japan	801	963	1,341	1,114	339	2,549	2,289	3,555	2,668	1,492
Ringnet	Philippines	523	624	796	811	1,484	4,758	5,683	7,246	7,377	7,146
Troll	USA	226	586	237	521	(521)	881	637	735	756	(756)
Unclassified	Indonesia	6,275	6,768	5,945	12,027	(12,027)	56,472	60,913	53,504	18,215	(18,215)
	Japan	211	162	142	109	(109)	3,137	2,841	3,065	2,594	(2,594)
	Philippines	716	856	1,090	1,111	2,034	6,444	7,696	9,813	9,991	9,679
	Total	7,202	7,786	7,177	13,247	14,170	66,053	71,450	66,382	30,800	30,488
Total "other fisheries"		16,186	18,736	18,566	30,784	37,017	140,718	157,189	166,986	127,221	123,173
Percentage of total WCPFC-SA		14	14	16	20	23	33	38	37	33	29

Notes:

1. Catch estimates in parentheses have been carried over from previous years.
2. French Polynesia 'pole-and-line' catches include the *bonitier* and *poti marara* fleets; both use various gear types (pole-and-line, troll, handline, harpoon, gill net).
3. Japan purse seine is north of 20°N.
4. Unclassified Indonesian catches of yellowfin in 2004 are considerably reduced because these catches were attributed to other gear types, mainly purse seine. This may suggest that unclassified catches prior to 2004 also contain large components by purse seine.