



NORTHERN COMMITTEE
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COMPILED INFORMATION ON PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA
(FISHING EFFORT AND CATCH IN THE WCPO)

WCPFC-NC22-2026-WP02
(IATTC-NC-JWG11-2026-WP01)
6 July 2026

WCPFC 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.

9. *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 [Eleventh Joint IATTC-NC Working Group Meeting on PBF Management | WCPFC Meetings](#)

**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	Baseline fishing effort (Para 2, CMM 2024-01)				Fishing effort (Para 9, CMM 2024-01)		
		2002	2003	2004	2002-2004 Average	2023	2024	2025
Canada								
Not applicable		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China								
		0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cook Islands								
Longline		0	0	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	42	45	42
Longline Dist. & Off.	No. of vessels	654	632	613	633	378	366	353
Longline Coastal	No. of vessels	399	422	386	402	298	300	338
Artisanal fisheries	No. of vessels	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown		16,878	16,863	19,661
Set Net	No. of licenses	1,876	1,956	1,956	1,929	1,688	1,688	1,688
Korea								
large-scale purse seiners	No. of vessels	32	29	29	30	19	19	18
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	486	486	502
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							

¹ e.g., sets, fishing days, vessels

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		2023		2024		2025	
	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
Australia²														
Longline	-	6	0	12	-	10	-	9	-	27	-	27	-	44
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	0.15
Cook Islands														
Longline	0	1,789	0	2,94	0	1,35	0	2	0	0,385	0	0	0	0,14
Fiji														
Longline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0,93
Japan³														
Purse Seine	5,174	3,730	4,995	774	3,466	4,792	4,545	3,099	757	3,779	558	4,050	589	4,721
Longline Dist.&Off.	0	52	0	97	0	240	0	130	0	745	1	730	0	1,104
Longline Coastal	0	794	0	1,152	0	1,616	0	1,187	98	749	81	780	114	1,079
Artisanal fisheries	2,607	0	2,060	0	2,445	0	2,371	0	969	186	1,146	245	1,068	467
Set Net	1,008	92	648	191	660	235	772	173	1,338	547	1,071	579	1,427	976
Others	521	210	249	241	214	432	328	294	268	318	236	377	280	604
Recreational fisheries									0	46		42		52
Total	9,310	4,878	7,952	2,455	6,785	7,315	8,016	4,883	3,430	6,369	3,094	6,804	3,478	9,002

² Australia catches 2002-04 are based on logbooks, and 2023-25 are based on landings data

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)

(Japan continued)

Catches (mt) in management year⁴ basis, including discards, of Pacific bluefin tuna *in the Convention Area* (including all the fisheries in the previous table, plus all other fisheries that catch any Pacific bluefin tuna)

Fishery		2023		2024		2025	
		<30 kg	≥30 kg	<30 kg	≥30 kg	<30 kg	≥30 kg
Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries		757	3,779	558	4,050	589	4,721
		0	745	1	730	0	1,104
Other fisheries		93	719	80	852	129	1,138
		1,043	205	1,052	300	1,302	488
		1,157	481	1,189	563	1,390	1,191
		278	335	230	402	320	638
Recreational fishery		0	46		44		71
<u>Total</u>		<u>3,328</u>	<u>6,310</u>	<u>3,111</u>	<u>6,939</u>	<u>3,730</u>	<u>9,350</u>
<u>Catch limit⁵</u>		<u>4,095</u>	<u>6,846</u>	<u>3,757</u>	<u>7,434</u>	<u>4,218</u>	<u>10,143</u>

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.
- 2024 management period: January 2024 - December 2024 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, April 2024 - March 2025 for Other fisheries.
- 2025 management period: January 2025 - December 2025 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, April 2025 - March 2026 for Other fisheries.

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 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 451.2 tons (carry over from the previous management year)
- 2025 small fish: 4,407 tons – 835.7 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 646.7 tons (carry over from the previous management year)
large fish: 8,421 tons + 1,227.0 tons (transfer from small fish to large fish) + 494.6 tons (carry over from the previous management year)

Fishery	All catches (Para 2, CMM 2023-02)								All catches (Para 9, CMM 2024-01)					
	2002		2003		2004		2002-2004 Average		2023		2024		2025	
	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
Korea														
Purse seiner	932		2,601		773		1,435	0	124.8	323.1	39.3	399.5	29.0	541.2
Set net									201.3	14.0	285.3	21.5	116.8	320.7
Others									5.2	0.0	22.5	0.0	5.1	0
Total	932		2,601		773		1,435	0	331.3	337.1	347.1	421.1	150.9	861.9
New Zealand⁶														
Longline	0	56.86	0	40.77	0	43.6	0	47.08	0	104.58	0	109.56	0	73.93
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	105	0	110	0	74
Philippines														
Artisanal Handline or Hook-and-Line fisheries									0	4.436 (9 pcs at approx 149-455 kgs each)	0	3.517 (14 pcs at approx 141-463 kgs each)	0	5.686 (24 pcs ranging from 120-400kgs each)
Chinese Taipei														
Longline	0	1,523	0	1,863	0	1,714	0	1700	0	2,117	0	2,258	0	2,339
Other coastal fisheries	0	4	0	21	0	3	0	9	0	5	0	4	0	0
Total	0	1,527	0	1,884	0	1717	0	1,709	0	2,122	0	2,262	0	2,339
U.S.A.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	3	0	3
Total	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	3
Vanuatu														
Longline ⁸	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

⁶ Refer to JWG10-DP-13 for detailed computation on annual catch limits and annual catches.

⁷ Pacific bluefin tuna catches are reported on longline logsheets for the American Samoa fishery, however the species may be misidentified.

⁸ These small catches are bycatch only. Vanuatu does not target PBF at all.

