



SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION
Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
6-10 December 2010

PNA VDS REPORT

WCPFC7-2010-DP/23 Rev 1

2 December 2010

Paper Prepared by PNA



PARTIES TO THE NAURU AGREEMENT

Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) report to the Seventh Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC7)

(Revised 2 December 2010)

Prepared by the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA)

The following report on the VDS has been prepared by the Parties to the PNA in compliance with the reporting requirements detailed in paragraph 325 of the 'Summary Report' of the Fourth Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC4).

The VDS was implemented by the PNA on 1 December 2007 and generally limits total days fished in the EEZs of PNA members by purse seine vessels.

The following Table shows the days allocated and utilized for the second Management Year (MY2) of the VDS (1 January to 31 December 2009) as well as unused days. The unused days take into account the balance of days carried over from MY1.

Agreed PAE days, days used and balance or unused days for MY2 of the VDS (1 January - 31 December 2009)

Party	Agreed PAEs for MY2	Days Transferred from MY1	Days used in MY2	Unused days in MY2
FSM	6,154	1,719	4,591	3,282
Kiribati	6,485	2,736	5,687	3,534
Marshall	2,725	2,242	456	4,511
Nauru	1,418	59	1,507	-30
PNG	8,361	563	7,764	1,160
Palau	608	554	80	1,082
Solomon	2,961	260	2,202	1,019
Tuvalu	1,001	474	1,022	453
Total Party Allowable Effort (PAEs)	29,713	8,607	23,309	15,011
FSMA	3,907		3,435	472
US Treaty	3,004*		7,447	-4,443
Total Allowable Effort (TAE)	36,624		34,191	11,040

*** Note the allocation of fishing days provided to the US Treaty is a 'nominal allocation' and no hard limit restriction on fishing days applies to vessels fishing under the US Treaty.**

Currently, the VDS limits effort in PNA EEZs to 2004 levels in accordance with CMM 2008-01. The CMM 2008-01 in-zone purse seine effort limits do not apply to domestic vessels, but domestic vessels are covered by the VDS limits. The VDS does not apply to US vessels which operate within the limits of vessel numbers established in the Treaty between the United States and Pacific Island Parties.

The current Scheme text provides for the transfer of up to 100% of Parties' allocated PAEs (i.e. fishing days allocated annually) between years over a 3-year period (i.e. Management Period). Once a member of the PNA has utilized the PAEs allocated over each of the 3-years of a Management Period, the only mechanism available to have additional days fished within their waters is to have days transferred from other members of the PNA. Other members of the PNA may only transfer days from allocations that have not been fished in their waters.

The Purse Seine VDS is now in its third management year (MY3) and is under constant review to ensure that it is achieving its objectives. In this respect PNA is already implementing changes to improve the Scheme. The changes include the application of a hard limit of 28,469 days and no longer allowing Parties to transfer days between Management Years.