



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE  
TENTH REGULAR SESSION**

1-4 September 2014  
Fukuoka, Japan

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**REPORT ON CMM 2013-09 (PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA)**

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**WCPFC-NC10-2014/DP-05**

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**





**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Pacific Islands Regional Office  
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July 24, 2014

Professor Glenn Hurry  
Executive Director  
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission  
P.O. Box 2356  
Kolonia  
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

Dear Professor Hurry:

The following information is provided to satisfy the reporting requirements of WCPFC Conservation and Management Measures 2012-06 and 2013-09 (in reference to Pacific Bluefin Tuna) with respect to calendar year 2013.

Paragraph 2: The United States does not have any vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna in the Convention Area north of 20 degrees north, so it does not need to limit fishing effort or catches of juveniles in any of its fisheries.

Paragraph 3: The United States does not have any Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries in the Convention Area, so it has not established any mechanisms to monitor recruitment of juveniles into fisheries.

Paragraph 6: Although the United States does not have any Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries in the Convention Area, it does have a system in place that collects data on the few incidentally caught Pacific bluefin tuna in its other fisheries (e.g. longline) in a timely and consistent manner.

Paragraph 8: The United States monitors the international trade of Pacific bluefin tuna through its Highly Migratory Species International Trade Permit (HMS ITP) program. All importers, exporters and re-exporters of Pacific bluefin tuna products are required to hold an HMS ITP. Domestic regulations (50 CFR 300 Subpart M) require that each import, export or re-export of Pacific bluefin tuna be accompanied by a bluefin tuna catch document (BCD) (please see attachment) containing information on area of harvest, product information, and trade information. Copies of BCDs and re-export certificates are required to be submitted to NOAA Fisheries within 24 hours of a trade. NOAA Fisheries maintains a database with information on imports, exports,



and re-exports of Pacific bluefin tuna. For calendar year 2013, the data show imports of 121 mt of bluefin tuna caught in the Pacific Ocean were imported to the United States, with 111 mt coming from Mexico and 10 mt from Japan. There were no exports or re-exports of bluefin tuna caught in the Pacific Ocean in 2013.

Paragraph 10: Not applicable.

Paragraph 11: At the IATTC annual meeting in July 2014, the United States proposed a resolution for Pacific bluefin tuna for 2015 and 2016. However, the IATTC has not yet been able to reach agreement on a resolution for Pacific bluefin tuna for 2015 and beyond. An Extraordinary Meeting of the IATTC is scheduled for October 2014 during which management of Pacific bluefin tuna will be discussed.

If you have any questions about this submission please contact Valerie Chan at +1 808-725-5034 or [valerie.chan@noaa.gov](mailto:valerie.chan@noaa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raymond J. Clarke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Raymond Clarke  
Fisheries Biologist

cc: William Gibbons-Fly, U.S. Department of State  
Ruth Matagi-Tofiga, American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources  
Arnold Palacios, CNMI Department of Lands and Resources  
Joseph Cameron, Guam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources