



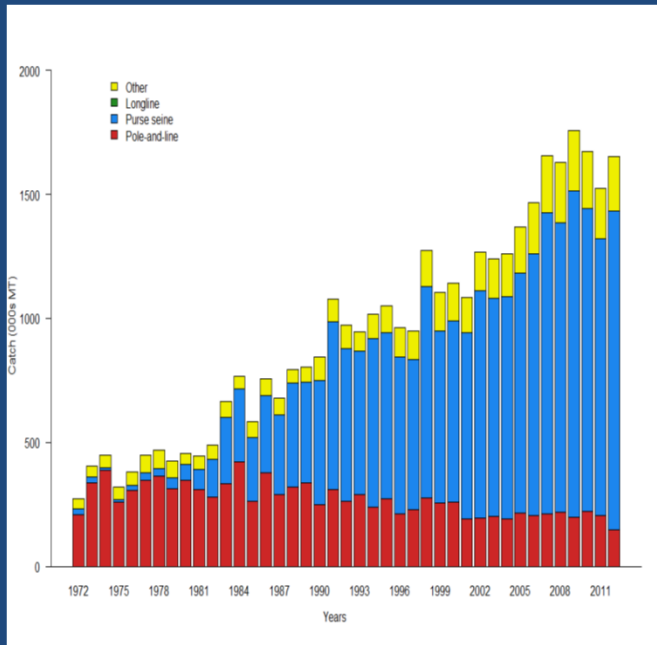
PNA and Tokelau Draft CMM On A Target Reference Point For Skipjack Tuna

DP12

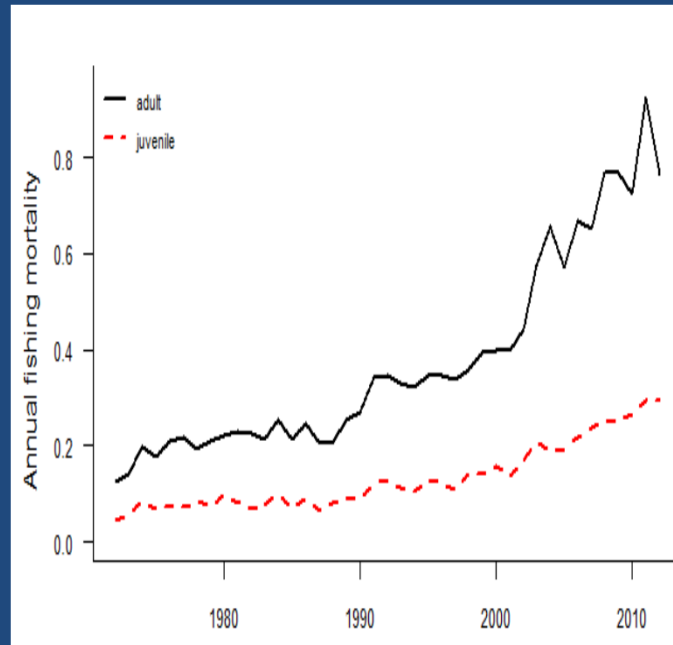
Background



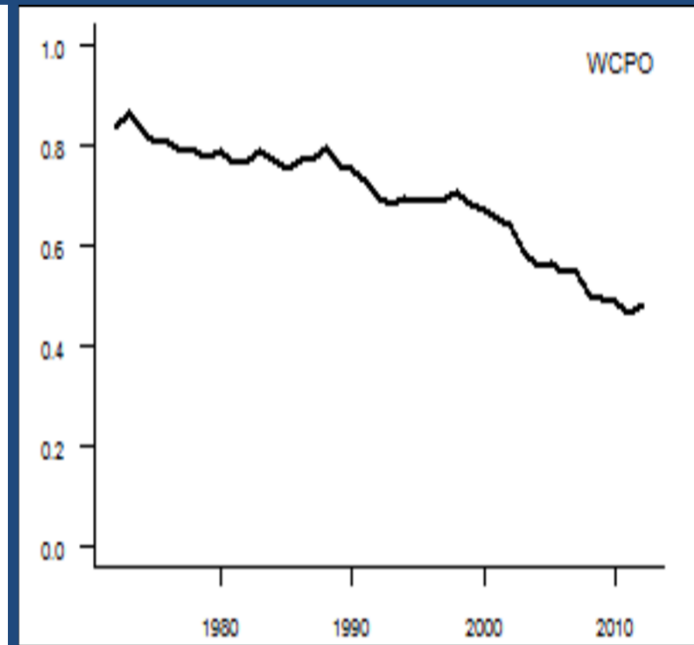
- Article 6 - *determine stock-specific reference points and the action to be taken if they are exceeded*



Skipjack Catches



Fishing Mortality



Spawning biomass depletion

WCPFC Context



- WCPFC adopted a hierarchical approach to LRPs – SB-based for skipjack
- WCPFC10 committed to adopt a TRP, and called for certain work
- Outcomes of that work
 - the spawning biomass of skipjack tuna is now around the 50% candidate TRP level (SC10)
 - that the proposed TRP is:
 - i. sufficiently distant from the LRP,
 - ii. broadly maintains recent patterns of fishing;
 - iii. Is projected to result in spawning biomass increasing slightly from 2012 levels;
 - iv. suggests purse seine catch rates are likely to remain at around current levels;
 - v. provides around 90% of MSY
 - evaluation of multi-species effects
 - summary of alternative TRPS (40%, 60%)

Meeting Objectives

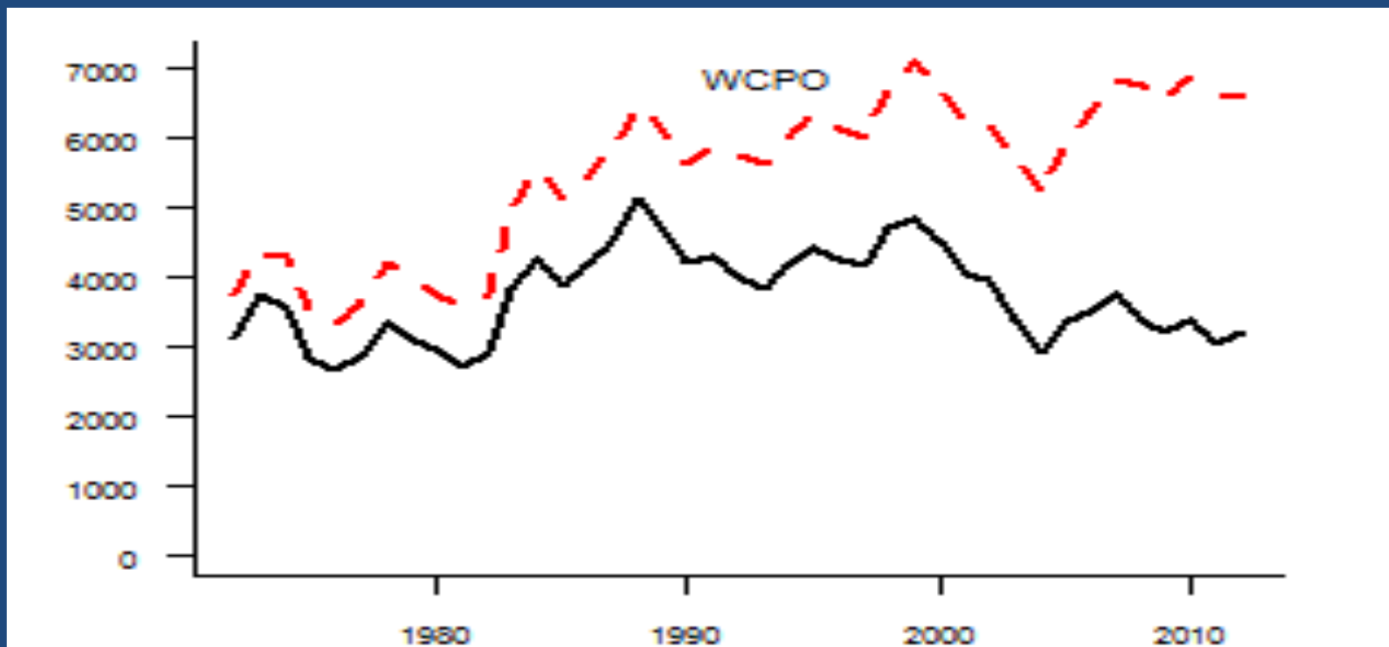


- resource sustainability, - LRP breach risk/ SB_{MSY}
- economic goals;
- Stability
- being risk adverse,
- avoiding additional impacts on other fisheries for skipjack
- avoiding additional impacts on other target stocks and non-target species

Approach



- The proposed target stock level is 50% of the estimated recent spawning biomass without fishing, $SB_{F=0,t1-t2}$
- Recent means estimated over the last ten years used in the most recent assessment
- E.g 2014 assessment, use 2002-2011



Spawning Biomass with and without Fishing



Some Final Points

- Will be applied in assessment of the stock and in reporting on management advice and implications for this stock
- Will provide a basis, with the adopted LRP for skipjack, for the Commission to proceed with the development of harvest control rules related to skipjack
- Expected to require moderate reductions in purse seine effort over time, at least to adjust for effort creep.
- Will set a new global standard for responsible management of sustainable tuna fisheries in a way that adds economic value to the WCPO skipjack tuna stock
- Simple, straightforward and powerful step

Suggested Working Group Issues



1. What are the key issues to be addressed in deciding whether to adopt :
 - a) a lower (40%) candidate TRP level; or
 - b) a higher (60%) candidate TRP level

2. Should the Commission:
 - a) Seize the opportunity to lock in a fundamental element for managing the tropical tuna fisheries; or
 - b) Frame any TRP that it adopts with some flexibility

3. What are the next steps to be taken using a skipjack Target Reference Point for improving the management of tropical tuna fisheries

4. What else should be discussed about the proposal?



- Where the Commission has already adopted target, trigger or limit reference points for particular tuna species, those agreed reference points shall be incorporated into the harvest strategy for that species, unless the Commission decides otherwise



Article 5b)

- Ensure that such measures are based on the best scientific evidence available and are designed to maintain or restore stocks **at levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield**, as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors, including the special requirements of developing States in the Convention Area, particularly small island developing States, and taking into account fishing patterns, the interdependence of stocks and any generally recommended international minimum standards, whether subregional, regional or global