



**COMMISSION
FOURTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Manila, Philippines
3 – 7 December 2017

**DRAFT BRIDGING CMM 2017-01 ON TROPICAL TUNAS (CHAIR'S DRAFT)
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

**WCPFC14-2017-30C
4 December 2017**

Proposal by WCPFC Chair

Chair's 2017-01 drafting proposals following December 4 Small
Working Group discussions

Chair's 2017-01 drafting proposals following December 4 Small Working Group Discussions

HARVEST STRATEGIES FOR BIGEYE, SKIPJACK, AND YELLOWFIN TUNA

7. This measure is to create a bridge to the adoption of a harvest strategy for bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna stocks and/or fisheries in accordance with the work plan and indicative timeframes set out in the Agreed Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06, which includes the development of management objectives and target reference points. Taking into account the bridging role of this measure and the uncertainty framework for evaluating the impact of management measures on the bigeye stock, the Commission shall work towards achieving and sustaining the aims in paragraphs [9 to 11].

Bigeye

9. Pending agreement on a target reference point the spawning biomass depletion ratio ($SB/SB_{F=0}$) is to be maintained at or above the average $SB/SB_{F=0}$ for 2012-2015.

Skipjack

10. The spawning biomass of skipjack tuna is to be maintained on average at a level consistent with the interim target reference point of [50%] of the spawning biomass in the absence of fishing, adopted in accordance with CMM 2015-06.

Yellowfin

11. Pending agreement on a target reference point the spawning biomass depletion ratio ($SB/SB_{F=0}$) is to be maintained at or above the average $SB/SB_{F=0}$ for 2012-2015.

PURSE SEINE FISHERY

FAD Set Management ¹

12. A three (3) months (July, August and September) prohibition of deploying, servicing or setting on FADs shall be in place between 0001 hours UTC on 1 July and 2359 hours UTC on 30 September each year for all purse seine vessels, tender vessel, and any other vessels operating in support of purse seine vessels fishing in exclusive economic zones and the high seas in the area between 20°N and 20°S.

12 bis. In addition to the three month FAD closure in paragraph 12, except for those vessels flying the Kiribati flag ~~flagged vessels which fish when fishing~~ in the high seas adjacent to the Kiribati exclusive economic zone, and Philippines' vessels operating in HSP1 under Attachment 2, it shall be prohibited to set on FADs in the high seas between 0001 hour UTC on 1 ~~April~~ October and 2359 hours UTC on ~~30 June~~ 31 December each year for all purse seine vessels fishing in the high seas.

Paragraph 12 bis would not apply in 2018 if, following consideration by SC14 of the uncertainty framework for evaluating the impact of management measures on the bigeye stock, the spawning biomass depletion ratio (SB/SBF=0) is at or above the average SB/SBF=0 for 2012-2015.

12 ter. The provisions of paragraphs 3 to 7 of CMM 2009-02 apply to the high seas FAD closures.

~~16 bis. A CCM, other than a SIDS, shall ensure that its purse seine vessels flying its flag whose average bigeye catch in the previous year was more than 500 mt per vessel are prohibited from setting on FADs for a total of 4 months (between 0001 hour UTC on 1 July and 2359 hours UTC on 30 October each year).~~

¹ Members of the PNA may implement the FAD set management measures consistent with the Third Arrangement Implementing the Nauru Agreement of May 2008.

LONGLINE FISHERY

37. As an interim measure, CCMs listed in Attachment 1, Table [2] shall restrict the level of bigeye catch to the levels specified in Table [2]. Where the limits in Table [2] have been exceeded, any overage of the catch limit by a CCM listed in Table 3 shall be deducted from the catch limit for the following year for that CCM.

A CCM listed in Attachment 1, Table [2], may make a single transfer of a portion of its bigeye tuna catch limit in the 2018 year to other CCMs that also have a bigeye tuna catch limit listed in Table [2], provided that the total transferred by any CCM does not exceed 30 percent of its catch limit. These transfers cannot be made to retroactively cover an overage of another CCM's catch limit. Both CCMs involved in a transfer shall, separately or jointly, notify the Executive Director 10 days in advance of the intended transfer. This notification shall specify the tonnage to be transferred. The Executive Director shall promptly notify the Commission of the transfer.

The CCM that receives the transfer shall be responsible for management for the transferred catch limit, including monitoring and monthly reporting of catch. A CCM that receives a one-time transfer of bigeye tuna catch limit in 2018 shall not retransfer that catch limit to another CCM. The amount of bigeye transferred shall be considered without prejudice by the Commission for the purposes of establishing any future limits or allocations.