



NORTHERN COMMITTEE
FOURTEENTH REGULAR SESSION
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COMPILED INFORMATION ON PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA
(FISHING EFFORT AND CATCH)

WCPFC-NC14-2018/WP-02 [\(Rev.02\)](#)

Note:

1. Fijian catch corrected; averages of 2002-2004 are inserted.

Secretariat

According to Paragraph 2-4 of the CMM 2017-08, fishing effort and catch of Pacific bluefin tuna are compiled based on Member's reports, which are annexed as Table 1 and 2, respectively.

2. *CCMs shall take measures necessary to ensure that:*
 - (1) *Total fishing effort by their vessel fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna in the area north of the 20° N shall stay below the 2002–2004 annual average levels.*
 - (2) *All catches of Pacific bluefin tuna less than 30 kg shall be reduced to 50% of the 2002–2004 annual average levels. Any overage of the catch limit shall be deducted from the catch limit for the following year.*
3. *CCMs shall take measures necessary to ensure that all catches of Pacific Bluefin tuna 30kg or larger shall not be increased from the 2002-2004 annual average levels¹. Any overage of the catch limit shall be deducted from the catch limit for the following year. However, in 2017, 2018, 2019, and 2020 CCMs may use part of the catch limit for Pacific bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg stipulated in paragraph 2 (2) above to catch Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger in the same year. In this case, the amount of catch 30 kg or larger shall be counted against the catch limit for Pacific bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg. CCMs shall not use the catch limit for Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger to catch Pacific bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg. The ISC is requested to review, in its work referred to in Section 5 of Harvest Strategy, the implications of this special provision in terms of PBF mortality and stock rebuilding probabilities in 2020. Based on that review, in 2020 the Northern Committee will determine whether it should be continued past 2020, and if so, recommend changes to the CMM as appropriate.*
4. *CCMs shall report their 2002–2004 baseline fishing effort and <30 kg and >=30 kg catch levels for 2013 and 2014, by fishery, as referred to in paragraphs 2 and 3, to the Executive Director by 31 July 2015. CCMs shall also report to the Executive Director by 31 July each year their fishing effort and <30 kg and >=30 kg catch levels, by fishery, for the previous 3 year, accounting for all catches, including discards. 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.

¹ CCMs with a base line catch of 10 t or less may increase its catch as long as it does not exceed 10 t.

**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 ²	Baseline fishing effort (Para 2, CMM 2017-08)				Fishing effort Para 4, CMM 2017-08		
		2002	2003	2004	2002-2004 Average	2015	2016	2017
Canada								
Not applicable								
China								
Not applicable								
Cook Islands								
Longline		Unknown	Unknown	0		0	0	0
Fiji								
Not available Longline	No. of vessels	0	0	0		0	0	0
Japan								
Purse Seine	No. of vessels	69	60	59	63	35	37	53
LonglineDist.&Off.	No. of vessels	654	632	613	633	567	536	514
Longline Coastal	No. of vessels	399	422	386	402	317	316	325
Pole & Line	No. of vessels	146	140	137	141	91	89	89
Artisanal fisheries	No. of vessels	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown		24,086	24,044	22,557
Set Net	No. of licenses	1,876	1,956	1,956	1,929	1,816	1,816	1,816
Others	No. of vessels	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown		Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Korea								
large-scale purse seiners	No. of vessels	32	29	29	30	24	24	24
Philippines								
Not applicable								
Chinese Taipei								
Longline	No. of vessels	684	659	632	658	483	504	559
U.S.A.								
Not applicable								
Vanuatu								
Not available	sets						634	
Australia								
Eastern tuna and billfish fishery	No. of hooks					7,340	12,086	

² 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 4, CMM 2017-08)								All catches Para 4, CMM 2017-08					
	2002		2003		2004		<u>2002-2004 Average</u>		2015		2016		2017	
	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
Canada														
N/A														
China														
N/A														
Cook Islands														
Longline	0	1.789	0	2.94	0	1.35	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	0	0.4	0	0.70	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Fiji														
Longline	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>			<u>0</u>	<u>0.293</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0.271</u>
N/A														
Japan³														
Purse Seine	5,174	3,730	4,995	774	3,466	4,792	<u>4,545</u>	<u>3,099</u>	931	2,714	2,069	3,027	<u>1,266</u>	<u>3,274</u>
Longline Dist.&Off.	0	52	0	97	0	240	<u>0</u>	<u>130</u>	0	15	1	16	<u>0</u>	<u>28</u>
Longline Coastal	0	794	0	1,152	0	1,616	<u>0</u>	<u>1,187</u>	188	418	181	461	<u>264</u>	<u>602</u>
Pole & Line	99	0	44	0	132	0	<u>92</u>	<u>0</u>	7	0	45	0	<u>86</u>	<u>0</u>
Artisanal fisheries	2,607	0	2,060	0	2,445	0	<u>2,371</u>	<u>0</u>	394	19	756	23	<u>569</u>	<u>34</u>
Set Net	1,008	92	648	191	660	235	<u>772</u>	<u>173</u>	843	424	654	573	<u>1,717</u>	<u>538</u>
Others	422	210	205	241	82	432	<u>236</u>	<u>294</u>	127	280	238	269	<u>290</u>	<u>375</u>
Total	<u>9,310</u>	<u>4,878</u>	<u>7,952</u>	<u>2,455</u>	<u>6,785</u>	<u>7,315</u>	<u>8,016</u>	<u>4,883</u>	<u>2,490</u>	<u>3,870</u>	<u>3,944</u>	<u>4,369</u>	<u>4,192</u>	<u>4,85</u>
Korea														
Purse seiner	<u>932</u>		<u>2,601</u>		<u>773</u>		<u>1,435</u>	<u>0</u>	675.1	0.7	554.7	469.1	<u>661.0</u>	<u>72.86</u>
Set net									0.8	0.3	1.7	0.05	<u>3.39</u>	<u>0.06</u>
Others									0.4		3		<u>5.81</u>	
Total	<u>932</u>		<u>2,601</u>		<u>773</u>		<u>1,435</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>676.3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>559.4</u>	<u>469.1</u>	<u>670.2</u>	<u>72.92</u>

³Catch limit for purse seine fishery is managed on a calendar year basis, while that for coastal fisheries is managed on a fishing year basis (1 July – 30 June). Catches on a fishing year basis is as follows.

- 1st management period (January 2015 – December 2015 for purse seine fishery, January 2015 – June 2016 for coastal fisheries)
 <30kg: 3,096t;
 ≥30kg: 3,871t
- 2nd management period (January 2016 – December 2016 for purse seine fishery, July 2016 – June 2017 for coastal fisheries)
 <30kg: 4,341t;
 ≥30kg: 4,368t

Fishery	All catches (Para 4, CMM 2017-08)								All catches Para 4, CMM 2017-08					
	2002		2003		2004		<u>2002-2004 Average</u>		2015		2016		2017	
	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
Philippines														
Artisanal Handline or Hook-and-Line fisheries						0			0	2 pcs (smallest: 250 kg)		1 pc (~215 kg)	0	<u>2 pcs</u> (~350 kgs, + ~215 kgs)
Chinese Taipei														
Longline	0	1,523	0	1,863	0	1,714	<u>0</u>	<u>1700</u>	0	552	0	454	<u>0</u>	<u>415</u>
Other coastal fisheries	0	4	0	21	0	3	<u>0</u>	<u>9</u>	0	26	0	<u>+26</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>±</u>
Total	<u>0</u>	<u>1527</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1884</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1717</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,709</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>578</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>480</u>		
U.S.A.⁴														
American Samoa LL	0	3	0	0	0	1	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	0	6	0	0	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
USA LL	0	1	0	0	0	1	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	0	0	0	0	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
Vanuatu														
N/A											0.109		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Australia														
Eastern tuna and billfish fishery											0.781	0.924		

⁴ Pacific bluefin tuna catches are reported on longline logsheets for the American Samoa fishery, however the species may be misidentified.