



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE  
FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia  
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**Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06<sup>1</sup>**

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**WCPFC-SC15-2019/MI-IP-01**

**WCPFC15**

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<sup>1</sup> As refined and adopted at the Fifteenth Regular Session of the Commission, Honolulu, United States of America 10-14 December 2018.



**COMMISSION FIFTEENTH  
REGULAR SESSION** Honolulu,  
Hawaii, USA  
10 – 14 December, 2018

## **Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06<sup>1</sup>**

### **2018 update**

Some key changes and things to note for this update of the workplan include:

1. Completed items are in grey. Bold items are the six elements that are referred to in CMM 2014-06 (Objectives, Reference Points, Acceptable Levels of Risk, Monitoring, Harvest Control Rules and MSE). Items in brackets are related to harvest strategy development, are part of the plan, but are not one of these six elements.
2. Deferred 2019 commencement of MSE work on bigeye and yellowfin tuna noting capacity and resource limits of the science service provider;
3. Addition of three items for 2019:
  - a. South Pacific albacore—Identifying a range of alternative catch pathways to the interim TRP and timeframes that achieve this;
  - b. Skipjack—SC to advise on required analyses to support TRP review;
  - c. Science Service Provider to review potential options to capture multi species issues under the HS process;
4. Regarding the need for clarity on whether decisions on harvest strategy elements are “interim”. The proposed approach is for the workplan to not state whether a future decision will be interim or otherwise but to simply schedule the decision and then let the Commission determine its interim nature;
5. A more substantial review of the Harvest Strategy Workplan, with inclusion of more detail, is anticipated during SC15 and WCPFC16.

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<sup>1</sup> As refined and adopted at the Fifteenth Regular Session of the Commission, Honolulu, United States of America 10-14 December 2018.

	South Pacific Albacore	Skipjack	Bigeye	Yellowfin
2015	SC provided advice on implications of a range of Target Reference Points for South Pacific albacore.	<b>Commission agreed an interim Target Reference Point (b).</b>	Commission tasked SC to determine a biologically reasonable timeframe for rebuilding bigeye tuna to [or above] its limit reference point.	
Commission agreed to workplan for the adoption of harvest strategies under CMM 2014-06 [WCPFC12 Summary Report, Attachment Y]				
	South Pacific Albacore	Skipjack	Bigeye	Yellowfin
2016	<p>Commission considered management objectives for the fishery or stock (a).</p> <p>Performance indicators and Monitoring strategy (d).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC provided advice on a monitoring strategy to assess performance against reference points.</li> <li>SC provided advice on a range of performance indicators to evaluate performance of harvest control rules.</li> <li>Commission tasked SPC/SC to develop interim performance indicators to evaluate harvest control rules.</li> <li>[Commission agree to a <b>monitoring strategy</b> to assess performance against reference points.]</li> </ul>	<p>Commission considered management objectives for the fishery or stock (a).</p> <p>Performance indicators and Monitoring strategy (d).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC provided advice on a monitoring strategy to assess performance against reference points.</li> <li>SC provide advice on a range of performance indicators to evaluate performance of harvest control rules.</li> <li>Commission agreed interim performance indicators to evaluate harvest control rules. [see WCPFC13 Summary Report Attachment M]</li> <li>[Commission agree to a <b>monitoring strategy</b> to assess performance against reference points.]</li> </ul>	<p>Commission considered management objectives for the fishery or stock (a).</p> <p>Commission agreed timeframes to rebuild stock to limit reference point. [see page 8 of HSW]</p>	<p>Commission considered management objectives for the fishery or stock (a).</p>
Commission agreed on interim maximum acceptable risk level for breaching the LRP (c). [see page 8 of HSW]				

	<b>Commission agreed to a refined workplan for the adoption of harvest strategies under CMM 2014-06 [WCPFC13 Summary Report Attachment N]</b>
	<p><b>Progress Summary:</b>  Recognised the need for some harvest strategy elements to be adopted as ‘interim’ noting that they be reconsidered as the harvest strategy process develops.  Considered management objectives for the fisheries or stocks and made progress on identifying performance measures for tropical purse seine fisheries. For South Pacific albacore acknowledged the benefit of SPC adapting the same list of indicators to further similar work for south Pacific albacore. Commenced some early discussions on the relationship between harvest strategies for the different species and multispecies issues.</p>

	South Pacific Albacore	Skipjack	Bigeye	Yellowfin
2017	<p><b>Performance indicators and Monitoring strategy (d).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provided advice on a range of performance indicators for the Southern Longline Fishery to evaluate performance of harvest control rules.</li> <li>• Commission noted performance indicators for the Southern Longline Fishery to evaluate harvest control rules.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on candidate harvest control rules based on agreed reference points (ongoing).</li> <li>• Commission consider advice on progress towards <b>harvest control rules</b> (ongoing).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Performance indicators and Monitoring strategy (d).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on a range of performance indicators for the Tropical Longline Fishery to evaluate performance of harvest control rules.</li> <li>• Commission noted performance indicators for the Tropical Longline Fishery to evaluate harvest control rules</li> </ul> <p>[SC report on BET status following updated assessment.]</p> <p>[SC and SPC provide advice to the Commission on the likely outcomes of revised tropical tuna measure.]</p>	<p><b>Performance indicators and Monitoring strategy (d).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on a range of performance indicators for the Tropical Longline Fishery to evaluate performance of harvest control rules.</li> <li>• Commission noted performance indicators for the Tropical Longline Fishery to evaluate harvest control rules</li> </ul>
<b>Consider management objectives for stocks and fisheries (a).</b>				
<p><b>Progress Summary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted candidate performance indicators for the Southern Longline Fishery and the Tropical Longline fishery to evaluate harvest control rules.</li> <li>• Agreed on actions to prioritise the development and adoption of a Target Reference Point for south Pacific albacore at WCPFC15.</li> <li>• Recognized the importance of developing harvest strategies for key stocks in the WCPO. The Commission recognized that this work requires the consideration of fisheries managers and scientists at different stages. The Commission notes that the time required for harvest strategy discussions is substantial but will also vary from year to year and the Commission recognized the need for this to be accommodated.</li> <li>• Agreed to reprioritise as needed the annual agenda of the Commission and Scientific Committee to allow sufficient additional time for consideration of harvest strategy issues. In addition WCPFC recognised that there may also be a need for a dedicated science/management dialogue.</li> </ul>				

	South Pacific Albacore	Skipjack	Bigeye	Yellowfin
2018	<p><b>Agree Target Reference Point (b).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission agree a TRP for south pacific albacore.</li> </ul> <p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>Commission consider advice on progress towards <b>harvest control rules</b>. (ongoing).</li> </ul> <p>[SC updated advice on SP albacore status.]</p>	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>Commission consider advice on progress towards <b>harvest control rules</b>. (ongoing).</li> </ul>	<p>[SC updated advice on BET status.]</p> <p>[SC and SPC provide advice to the Commission on the likely outcomes of revised tropical tuna measure.]</p> <p>[SC and Commission discussion of management objectives for fisheries and/or stocks, and subsequent development of candidate TRPs for BET and YFT.]</p>	<p>[SC and Commission discussion of management objectives for fisheries and/or stocks, and subsequent development of candidate TRPs for BET and YFT.]</p>
	<b>Consider management objectives for stocks and fisheries (a).</b>			
	<p><b>Progress Summary:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An interim target reference point (TRP) for south Pacific albacore (0.56 SBF=0) was agreed.</li> <li>The Commission agreed to hold a 6-day annual meeting in 2019 with additional time devoted for the Commission to discuss harvest strategies.</li> </ul>			

	South Pacific Albacore	Skipjack	Bigeye	Yellowfin
2019	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>• TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>• Commission consider advice on progress towards <b>harvest control rules</b>. (ongoing).</li> </ul> <p>[Science Service Provider tasked with identifying a range of alternative catch pathways to the interim TRP and timeframes that achieve this]</p>	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>• TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>• Commission consider advice on progress towards harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> </ul> <p>["TRP shall be reviewed by the Commission no later than 2019" – CMM 2015-06]</p> <p>[Updated stock assessment considered by SC15]</p> <p>[SC to advise on required analyses to support TRP review]</p>	<p><b>Agree Target Reference Point (b).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on potential Target Reference Points for bigeye.</li> <li>• Commission agree a TRP for bigeye.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Agree Target Reference Point (b).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on potential Target Reference Points for yellowfin.</li> <li>• Commission agree a TRP for yellowfin.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Consider management objectives for stocks and fisheries (a).</b>            NB: SC may need to reassess acceptable levels of risk for 3 key stocks. SKJ won't need to be reassessed given process with HCR work.</p> <p>[Science Service Provider to review potential options to capture multi species issues under the HS process.]</p>			
	<p><b>Progress Summary:</b></p>			

	South Pacific Albacore	Skipjack	Bigeye	Yellowfin
2020	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>• TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>• Commission consider advice on progress towards <b>harvest control rules</b>. (ongoing).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules.</li> <li>• TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules.</li> <li>• Commission consider advice on progress towards harvest control rules.</li> </ul> <p><b>Adopt a Harvest Control Rule</b></p>	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>• TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>• Commission consider advice on progress towards harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>• TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> <li>• Commission consider advice on progress towards harvest control rules. (ongoing).</li> </ul>
	<b>Consider management objectives for stocks and fisheries (a).</b>			
	<b>Progress Summary:</b>			



	South Pacific Albacore	Skipjack	Bigeye	Yellowfin
2021	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules.</li> <li>• TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules.</li> <li>• Commission consider advice on progress towards <b>harvest control rules</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Adopt a Harvest Control Rule.</u></b></p>	<p><b>Harvest Strategy for Skipjack in place</b></p>	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules.</li> <li>• TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules.</li> <li>• Commission consider advice on progress towards harvest control rules.</li> </ul> <p><b>Adopt a Harvest Control Rule</b></p>	<p><b>Develop harvest control rules (e) and Management strategy evaluation (f)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SC provide advice on performance of candidate harvest control rules.</li> <li>• TCC consider the implications of candidate harvest control rules.</li> <li>• Commission consider advice on progress towards harvest control rules.</li> </ul> <p><b>Adopt a Harvest Control Rule</b></p>
	<b>Consider management objectives for stocks and fisheries (a).</b>			
	<b>Progress Summary:</b>			

