



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia
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Management Plan for Longline Fisheries Targeting Sharks

WCPFC-SC15-2019/EB-IP-06

Japan

In accordance with Paragraph 2 of the Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks (CMM 2014-05), Japan developed *Management Plan for Longline Fisheries Targeting Sharks* for 2016-2020 and submitted to the Eleventh Regular Session of the Scientific Committee (SC11-EB-IP-14). Japan hereby submits an implementation report of the Management Plan for its 3rd year.

2018 Implementation report of the Management Plan for Longline Fisheries Targeting Sharks

- 1) Time period of the plan
5 years, starting in January 1st, 2016
(Time period for this implementation report; from January 1st to December 31st, 2018)
- 2) Fleets conducting the plan
Offshore surface longline fleets based at Kesenuma fishing port (The list of longline boats are shown in Table 1.)

Table 1. Name of the fleet

| Vessel name | Vessel size | Call sign | Fresh/Frozen |
|---------------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| Toyo-maru No.1 | 147 | JE3104 | Fresh |
| Yahata-maru No.11 | 119 | JE3113 | Fresh |
| Fukuyo-maru No.27 | 119 | JD2675 | Fresh |
| Fukuyo-maru No.17 | 148 | JE3127 | Fresh |
| Taiki-maru No.81 | 119 | 7JOB | Fresh |
| Shintoku-maru No.28 | 119 | JE3103 | Fresh |
| Kinei-maru No.37 | 119 | 7JNS | Fresh |
| Shinei-maru No.17 | 119 | JE3114 | Fresh |
| Yuki-maru No.77 | 119 | JE3102 | Fresh |
| Yuki-maru No.17 | 119 | JD3108 | Fresh |
| Shoryo-maru No.7 | 145 | JD3068 | Fresh |
| Koei-maru No.31 | 149 | JD2294 | Fresh |
| Kifuku-maru No.51 | 149 | JM6090 | Fresh |

- 3) Operational area
Subtropical and temperate north Pacific
- 4) License for the pelagic longline operation
Licenses of the offshore surface longline fleet for the pelagic longline operation were issued by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.
- 5) Total annual landing for sharks with landing limit
 - Blue shark: 4,527 tons (Landing limit is 7,000 tons.)
 - Shortfin mako shark: 420 tons (Landing limit is 600 tons.)
- 6) Measures to conserve stocks of depleted tropical sharks
 - Prohibition of the use of shark line

- Sharks landed to the port were limited to blue shark, shortfin mako shark, salmon shark and thresher sharks. All other sharks were released in a way to maximize their survival.

7) Other measures

- Shark fins were attached at the time of landing.
- Shortfin mako sharks smaller than 1m PCL were released in a way to maximize their survival, except for retaining as scientific sample for biological study.

8) Annual landing of all sharks in 2018 (January 1st – December 31, 2018)

| species | Annual landing (kg) |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Blue shark | 4,527,385.0 kg |
| Shortfin mako shark | 420,487.6 kg |
| Salmon shark | 144,268.0 kg |
| Thresher sharks | 21,790.0 kg |

All sharks were landed at Kesenuma fishing port in 2018.