

**JOINT IATTC AND WCPFC-NC WORKING GROUP MEETING ON THE  
MANAGEMENT OF PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA  
FOURTH SESSION**

Portland, Oregon, United States of America  
3 – 5 September 2019

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**Mexico Statement of Catches and Regulations for Pacific Bluefin Tuna**

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**IATTC-NC-JWG04-2019/05**

**MEXICO**

Mexico has a pacific Bluefin tuna (PBF) fishery but does not fish in the western central Pacific Ocean. Its entire PBF fishery is in a region within the IATTC regulation area.

Mexico's catch of PBF has been regulated since the start of the fishery by national regulations and by IATTC resolutions since 2012. In that year, resolution IATTC C12-09 established a 10000 metric catch limit valid for 2012-2013. Resolution C13-02 determined a catch limit 5000 metric tons for 2014. After that year, catch limits where reduced based on stock assessment results. Resolutions C14-06, C16-08 and C18-01 established for Mexico a biannual limit of 6000 metric tons starting 2015 until 2020.

Table 1 shows Mexico's annual catch since 2012. In 2016, Mexico voluntarily released 195 tons from farming pens, aiming to promote stronger conservation measures in the WCPFC to improve PBF situation. In 2018 the amount of catch was higher than limit catch adopted, therefore an adjustment was done in the last resolution and imposed by Mexican authority. In 2019, catch was well below (20%.) the adjusted limits for 2019-2020, since Mexican authority decided to close this year the fishery to avoid any possibility of over catch based on fishery information. Mexican authorities are developing a process to avoid, as possible, further over catches. This year, although the catch limit was adjusted, Mexican authority ordered the release of 245 tons, from this year catch, of live PBF tuna as part of an internal process to address the accountable of the over catch.

Table 1. Mexican purse seine PBF catches 2012-2019.

year	tons
2012	6668
2013	3154
2014	4862
2015	3082
2016	2709
2017	3643
2018	2840
2019	2249