

## NORTHERN COMMITTEE FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION

Portland, USA 3–6 September 2019

## Proposed amendment to the current CMM 2005-03 for North Pacific Albacore

**WCPFC-NC15-2019/DP-15 (Rev.02)**

**Proposal by Canada and the United States of America**

**Explanatory note**

1. This proposal is to remove one reporting requirement in CMM 2005-03: the requirement in paragraph 3 to report catches of North Pacific albacore every six months. This twice-annual reporting provides no additional value with the annual reporting described in paragraph 4, and is effectively redundant.
2. The IATTC made a parallel change to its Resolution on North Pacific albacore (C-05-02) in 2018 with Resolution C-18-03, which eliminated a similar reporting requirement for IATTC CPCs. Thus, the proposed change would better align the conservation and management measures of the two Commissions, which is in keeping with paragraph 8 of the existing CMM.

## CMM 2013-06 Criteria

In accordance with CMM 2013-06 Conservation and Management Measure on the criteria for the consideration of Conservation and Management proposals the following assessment has been undertaken.

1. *Who is required to implement the proposal?*

Only fisheries authorities of CCMs that catch North Pacific albacore are required to implement the proposed change to the CMM.

1. *Which CCMs would this proposal impact and in what way(s) and what proportion?*

Only CCMs that catch North Pacific albacore are required to implement the proposed change to the CMM. The proposed change somewhat reduces the reporting requirements for these CCMs.

1. *Are there linkages with other proposals or instruments in other regional fisheries management organizations or international organizations that reduce the burden of implementation?*

The proposed change brings the CMM into better alignment with the IATTC’s Resolutions on North Pacific albacore.

1. *Does the proposal affect development opportunities for SIDS?*

No. The proposed change reduces reporting requirements.

1. *Does the proposal affect SIDS domestic access to resources and development aspirations?*

No.

1. *What resources, including financial and human capacity, are needed by SIDS to implement the proposal?*

None.

1. *What mitigation measures are included in the proposal?*

None are required.

1. *What assistance mechanisms and associated timeframe, including training and financial support, are included in the proposal to avoid a disproportionate burden on SIDS?*

None are required.



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## CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR NORTH PACIFIC ALBACORE

**Conservation and Management Measure 2019-XX**

The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC),

*Observing* that the best scientific evidence on North Pacific albacore from the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean indicates that the species is likely not overfished relative to the limit reference point adopted by the Commission (20%SSB current F=0) and overfishing is likely not occurring.

*Recalling further* Article 22(4) of the WCPFC Convention that provides for cooperation with the IATTC regarding fish stocks that occur in the Convention Areas of both organizations and

*Recognizing* that the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) adopted, at its 73rd meeting, conservation and management measures on North Pacific albacore, and that it adopted supplemental measures at its 85th meeting that were amended at its 93rd meeting;

Adopts, in accordance with the Article 10 of the WCPFC Convention that:

* 1. The total level of fishing effort for North Pacific albacore in the Convention Area north of the equator shall not be increased beyond current levels.
  2. The Members, Cooperating Non-Members and participating Territories (hereinafter referred to as CCMs) shall take necessary measures to ensure that the level of fishing effort by their vessels fishing for North Pacific albacore in the WCPF Convention Area is not increased beyond 2002-2004 annual average levels;
  3. ~~All CCMs shall report all catches of North Pacific albacore to the WCPFC every six months, except for small coastal fisheries which shall be reported on an annual basis. Such data shall be reported to the Commission as soon as possible and no later than one year after the end of the period covered.~~

~~4.~~3. All CCMs shall report annually to the WCPFC Commission all catches of albacore north of the equator and all fishing effort north of the equator in fisheries directed at albacore. The reports for both catch and fishing effort shall be made by gear type. Catches shall be reported in terms of weight.

Fishing effort shall be reported in terms of the most relevant measures for a given gear type, including at a minimum for all gear types, the number of vessel-days fished, using the template provided in Annex 1.

3bis. CCMs may choose to implement the effort limits of this management measure and those of the relevant IATTC Resolution (Resolution C-05-02 or its replacement measure) collectively, across the entire North Pacific Ocean, without regard to the boundary between the two RFMOs. If a CCM chooses to implement collective effort limits across the entire North Pacific Ocean, catch and effort information must be reported to reflect catch and effort in the Convention Area and in the North Pacific Ocean separately.

~~5.~~4. The Northern Committee shall, in coordination with International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean and other scientific bodies conducting scientific reviews of this stock, including the WCPFC Scientific Committee, monitor the status of North Pacific albacore and report to the Commission on the status of the stock at each annual meeting, and make such recommendations to the Commission as may be necessary for their effective conservation.

~~6.~~5. The Commission shall consider future actions with respect to North Pacific albacore based on recommendations of the Northern Committee.

~~7.~~6. The CCMs shall work to maintain, and as necessary reduce, the level of fishing effort on North Pacific albacore within the Convention Area commensurate with the long-term sustainability of the stock.

~~8.~~7. The WCPFC Executive Director shall communicate this resolution to the IATTC and request that the two Commissions engage in consultations with a view to reaching agreement on a consistent set of conservation and management measures for North Pacific albacore, and specifically, to propose that both Commissions adopt as soon as practicable uniform conservation and management measures and any reporting or other measures needed to ensure compliance with agreed measures.

~~9.~~8. The provisions of paragraph 2 shall not prejudice the legitimate rights and obligations under international law of those small island developing State Members and participating territories in the Convention Area whose current fishing activity for North Pacific albacore is limited, but that have a real interest in, and history of, fishing for the species, that may wish to develop their own fisheries for North Pacific albacore in the future.

~~10.~~9. The provisions of paragraph 8~~9~~ shall not provide a basis for an increase in fishing effort by fishing vessels owned or operated by interests outside such small island developing State Members or participating territories, unless such fishing is conducted in support of efforts by such Members and territories to develop their own domestic fisheries.

Annex I: Average annual fishing effort for 2002-2004 and annual fishing effort for subsequent years for fisheries directed at North Pacific albacore in the North Pacific Ocean

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| CCM | Area[[1]](#footnote-1) | Fishery | 2002-04 Average | | Year | | Year | | Year | | Year | | Year | | Year | |
| No. of vessels | Vessel days | No. of vessels | Vessel days | No. of vessels | Vessel days | No. of vessels | Vessel days | No. of vessels | Vessel days | No. of vessels | Vessel days | No. of vessels | Vessel days |
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1. If collective effort limits across the North Pacific Ocean, report Convention Area and North Pacific Ocean separately [↑](#footnote-ref-1)