

**NORTHERN COMMITTEE**

**FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Portland, WA, USA

3 – 6 September 2019

**Updated information on North Pacific albacore fishing effort**

(Reference: Attachment C/Annex A in NC7 Summary Report)

**WCPFC-NC15-2019/WP-01 (Rev.01)**

**Secretariat**

**Table 1.** Average annual catch of North Pacific albacore (metric tonnes)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CCM** | **Data pertain to WCPFC Area only or entire N Pacific?** | **Fisheries with ANY catch of NP albacore** | **"Fishing for" NP albacore? (Y/N)** | **2006-2010 average annual catch** |
| **Canada** | N Pacific total catches | Albacore troll | Y | 5,911  |
| Total catches for Canada: | 5,911  |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 5,911  |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 100 |
|  |
| **China** | N. Pacific | Longline | Y | 1,967 |
|  | N. Pacific | Longline | N | 98 |
| Total catches for China: | 1,967 |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 1,869 |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 95 |
| Note: Historically, there are 10 longliners seasonally operating in the high seas of Northern Pacific Ocean targeting albacore, which covered the Convention Areas of WCPFC and IATTC |
|  |
| **Cook Islands** | N Pacific total catches | Albacore troll | Y | 31 |
|  | N Pacific total catches | Longline | Y | 8 |
| Total catches for Cook Islands: | 39 |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 39 |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 100 |
|  |
| **Fiji** |  |  |  | 1.188mt |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Total catches for Fiji Islands: | 1.188mt |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | None |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | None |
|  |
| **Japan** | CA only | LL Coast | Y | 16,817 |
|  |  | LL DW | Y | 4,230 |
|  |  | PL Coast | N | 89 |
|  |  | PL DW | Y | 24,504 |
|  |  | PS Coast | N | 14 |
|  |  | PS DW | N | 1,841 |
|  |  | GN  | N | 430 |
|  |  | Troll | N | 505 |
|  |  | Set Net | N | 52 |
|  |  | Others | N | 36 |
| Total catches for Japan: | 48,518 |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 45,551 |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 94 |
|  |
| **Korea** | CA only | LL DW | Y | 18 |
|  | CA only | LL DW | N | 157 |
| Total catches for Korea: | 175 |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 18 |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 10 |
| NOTE: Three LL DW participated in fishing for NP Albacore in 2007 and 2008, and the catch was 87 tons. |
|  |
| **Philippines** | N Pacific | others | N | 75 |
| Total catches for Philippines (average for 2009-2011): | 75 |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 0 |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 0 |
| NOTE: Catches are mainly from artisanal Hook-and-Line Gear (non-targeting ALB) |
|  |
| **Chinese Taipei** | N Pacific | albacore LL | Y | 2,548 |
|  | N Pacific | LL others | N | 552 |
| Total catches for Chinese Taipei: | 3,100 |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 2,548 |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 82 |
|  |
| **United States** | N Pacific | Albacore troll | Y | 12,344 |
|  |  | Longline | N | 288 |
|  |  | Gillnet | N | 3 |
|  |  | Pole and line | N | 0 |
|  |  | Purse seine | N | 23 |
|  |  | Other | N | 577 |
| Total catches for United States: | 13,236 |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 12,344 |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 93 |
| NOTE: 1) These USA (2006-2010) data may not be confirmed from figures available to the Secretariat. 2) US response: See all our annual reports under CMM 2005-03, the latest of which is dated 30 April 2012. |
|  |
| **Vanuatu** | CA only | LL | Y | 2,660  |
| Total catches for Vanuatu: | 2,660  |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 2,660  |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 100 |
|  |
| CA |
| Note: Report is derived from Dorado report for CMM 05-03 of Catch of North Albacore North of the Equator |
| **Belize** | CA only | LL | Y | 95 |
| Total catches for Belize: | 95 |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 95 |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 100 |
| NOTE: catch unsegregated by area |
|  |
| **Federated States of Micronesia** | CA only | LL | N | 18 |
| Total catches for FSM: | 18 |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 0 |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 0 |
| NOTE: Commenced fishery in 2009 |
|  |
| **Marshall Islands** | CA only | LL | N | N/A |
| Total catches for RMI: |  |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: |  |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: |  |
| NOTE: Commenced fishery in 2008 |  |
|  |  |
| **Vietnam** | EEZ only | LL | N | 13 |
| Total catches for Vietnam (average of 2000-2011): | 13 |
| Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 0 |
| % of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore: | 0 |
| Note: Catches are mainly from LL only; and there is also possibility of wrongly identify by enumerators to account yellowfin and bigeye as albacore |  |

**Table 1-1.** Average annual catch of NP albacore during 2006-2010 (from Table 1)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Country** | **Target category** | **CA only** | **N Pacific** |
| **Canada** | Target |   | 5,911  |
| Non-Target |   | 0 |
| **China** | Target |  | 1,869 |
| Non-Target |  | 98 |
| **Cook Islands** | Target |   | 39 |
| Non-Target |   | 0 |
| **Fiji** | Target |  | 0 |
| Non-Target |  |  1.188 |
| **Japan** | Target | 45,551 |  |
| Non-Target | 2,967 |  |
| **Korea** | Target | 18 |   |
| Non-Target | 157 |   |
| **Philippines** | Target |  | 0 |
| Non-Target |  | 75 |
| **Chinese Taipei** | Target |   | 2,548 |
| Non-Target |   | 552 |
| **United States of America** | Target |  | 12,344 |
| Non-Target |  | 892 |
| **Vanuatu** | Target | 2,660  |  3,109 |
| Non-Target | 0 |  0 |
| **Belize** | Target | 95 |  |
| Non-Target | 0 |  |
| **FSM** | Target | 0 |   |
| Non-Target | 18 |   |
| **Marshall Islands** | Target |  |  |
| Non-Target |  |  |
| **Vietnam** | Target |   | 0 |
| Non-Target |   | 13 |
| **Total Catch** |
|  |  | **CA only** | **N Pacific** |
| **Total catch** | Target | 47,458 | 22,699 |
| Non-T | 3,142 | 1,630 |
| Total catch | 50,600 | 24,329 |
|  |
| **Proportion** | Target | 94% | 93% |
| Non-T | 6% | 7% |
|  | 100% | 100% |

**Table 2**. Fishing effort fishing for North Pacific albacore

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CCM | Area[[1]](#footnote-1) | Fishery[[2]](#footnote-2) | 2002-04 Average | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
| 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 |
| Canada[[3]](#footnote-3) | N Pacific | ALB troll | 215 | 8,898 | 213 | 8,564 | 174 | 6,243 | 207 | 6,902 | 137 | 5,773 | 138 | 6,540 | 161 | 7,294 |
| CA[[4]](#footnote-4) only | ALB troll | 8 | 256 | 1 | 56 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| China | N Pacific | LL | 10 | 1,250 | 10 | 1,230 | 10 | 1150 | 2 | 260 | 2 | 250 | 2 | 280 | 2 | 240 |
| Cook Islands | N Pacific | ALB troll | 4 | 183 | 2 | 240 | 2 | 171 | 1 | 57 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| N Pacific | LL | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 37 | 1 | 17 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fiji | N Pacific | LL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| Japan[[5]](#footnote-5) | CA only | LL Coast | 296 | 40.988 | 289 | 41,197 | 287 | 43,366 | 273 | 43,480 | 276 | 40,030 | 280 | 43,536 | 286 | 45,877 |
|  | LL DW | 633 | 26,851 | 591 | 21,548 | 538 | 21,186 | 494 | 21,712 | 480 | 17,823 | 361 | 12,060 | 342 | 13,084 |
|  | PL DW | 141 | 19,839 | 134 | 20,442 | 125 | 16,059 | 106 | 16,931 | 104 | 15,667 | 104 | 15,248 | 101 | 15,541 |
| Korea[[6]](#footnote-6) | CA only | LL DW | 13 | 1,072 |  |  |  |  | 3 | 268 | 3 | 107 |  |  |  |  |
| Philippines[[7]](#footnote-7) | N Pacific | Handline |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chinese Taipei[[8]](#footnote-8) | N Pacific | ALB LL | 25 |  | 23 | 2,363 | 24 | 4,156 | 21 | 3,360 | 18 | 2,603 | 13 | 2,082 | 20 | 2,093 |
| USA | N Pacific | ALB troll |  | 13,311 |  | 11,552 |  | 10,892 |  | 11,552 |  | 11,138 |  | 13,339 |  | 13,076 |
| CA only | ALB troll |  | 789 |  | 371 |  | 66 |  | 42 |  | \* |  | \* |  | \* |
| Vanuatu | N Pacific | LL | 26  | 1,348 | 37 | 4,394 | 55  | 3,196 | 36 | 2,683 | 41 | 2,385 | 30 | 1,530 | 28  | 1,515 |
| Belize[[9]](#footnote-9) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 40 |  | 49 |  |

\* Data in the WCPO were confidential

**Table 2 (continued)**. Fishing effort fishing for North Pacific albacore

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CCM | Area | Fishery | 2002-04 Average | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 |
| 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 |
| Canada | N Pacific | ALB troll | 215 | 8,898 | 161 | 8,556 | 172 | 5,974 | 183 | 6,465 | 160 | 4,747 | 164 | 5,197 | 152 | 5,359 |
| CA only | ALB troll | 8 | 256 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| China | N Pacific | LL | 10 | 1,250 | 10 | 1240 | 10 | 1280 | 10 | 1220 | 10 | 1290 | 10 | 900 | 10 | 910 |
| Cook Islands | N Pacific | ALB troll | 4 | 183 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| N Pacific | LL | 1 | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 | 22 | 1 | 68 |
| Fiji | N Pacific | LL | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 9 | 230 | 29 | 920 | 20 | 663 | 10 | 88 | 8 | 170 |
| Japan | CA only | LL Coast | 296 | 40,988 | 273 | 42,996 | 266 | 38,977 | 248 | 37,529 | 246 | 35,362 | 237 | 37.801 | 229 | 37,308 |
|  | LL DW | 633 | 26,851 | 341 | 12,683 | 320 | 13,818 | 321 | 13,406 | 305 | 13,305 | 285 | 11,763 | 256 | 10,419 |
|  | PL DW | 141 | 19,839 | 98 | 13,433 | 95 | 14,646 | 85 | 12,781 | 84 | 12,147 | 84 | 12,743 | 81 | 13,923 |
| Korea | CA only | LL DW | 13 | 1,072 | 59 | 7,407 |  | 11,061 |  | 1,746 |  | 1,224 |  | 857 |  | 934 |
| Philippines | CA only | Artisanal fishery (non-targeting) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chinese Taipei | N Pacific | ALB LL | 25 |  | 21 | 1,839 | 21 | 1,423 | 22 | 2,108 | 22 | 2,348 | 23 | 2,401 | 24 | 2,259 |
| USA | N Pacific | ALB troll |  | 13,311 |  | 13,983 |  | 15,218 |  | 13,509 |  | 12,199 |  | 11,506 |  | 12,743 |
| CA only | ALB troll |  | 789 |  | 155 |  | \* |  | \* |  | 7 |  | 8 |  | 0 |
| Vanuatu | N Pacific | LL | 26 | 1.348 | 42 | 2,338 | 46 | 1,189 | 60 | 3.337 | 87 | 3,695 | 88 | 3,702 | 38 | 2,381 |
| Belize |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |   |

Italic = preliminary data

\* Data in the WCPO were confidential

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| CCM | Area | Fishery | 2002-04 Average | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
| 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 |
| Canada | N Pacific | ALB troll | 215 | 8,898 | 121 | 4,978 | 121 | 4,196 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CA only | ALB troll | 8 | 256 | 5 | 100 | 0 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| China | N Pacific | LL | 10 | 1,250 | 10 | 850 | 10 | 838 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Cook Islands | N Pacific | ALB troll | 4 | 183 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| N Pacific | LL | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fiji | N Pacific | LL | 0 | 0 | 7 | 147 | 6 | 180 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Japan | CA only | LL Coast | 296 | 40,988 | 233 | 35,647 | 229 | 34,011 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | LL DW | 633 | 26,851 | 253 | 10,171 | 248 | 10,478 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | PL DW | 141 | 19,839 | 82 | 12,656 | 80 | 12,061 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Korea | CA only | LL DW | 13 | 1,072 |  | 1,990 |  | 1,345 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Philippines |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Chinese Taipei | N Pacific | ALB LL | 25 |  | 25 | 2,567 | 25 | 2,943 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| USA | N Pacific | ALB troll |  | 13,311 |  | 12,673 |  | 10,916 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| CA only | ALB troll |  | 789 |  | 567 |  | 127 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vanuatu | N Pacific | LL | 26 | 1,348 | 56 | 3,933 | 54 | 3,967 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Belize |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Table 2-1**. As requested by the NC12 (Paragraph 57) related to Paragraph 2 in CMM 2005-03, CCMs are requested to report on how to control their fishing effort fishing for North Pacific albacore by indicating, for example, limiting vessels, fishing days, licenses, or some other measures.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CCM** | **Area** | **Fishery** | **Regulation of fishing effort** |
| **Canada** | N Pacific | ALB troll | Canada issues domestic “CT” fishing licences for Albacore Tuna. The CT licence is intended to act as a management measure to strengthen management of the domestic tuna fishery, and help ensure Canada is meeting international obligations related to effort. As of 2013, commercial licence holders wanting to harvest tuna are required to hold a primary licence (with Schedule II privileges) and apply for/receive a separate CT (Tuna) licence. The CT licence authorizes fishing of Pacific Albacore tuna in Canada’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and on the high seas under separate licence conditions. The CT licence is vessel-based and must be renewed annually.Canadian licence holders without a primary licence are able to access tuna in international high seas waters through “Section 68 High Seas” licenses. The Section 68 licence is intended to act as a management measure to strengthen management of the tuna fishery in the high seas, and help ensure Canada is meeting international obligations related to effort. The Section 68 licence must be renewed annually. |
| CA only | ALB troll | Canada issues domestic “CT” fishing licences for Albacore Tuna. The CT licence is intended to act as a management measure to strengthen management of the domestic tuna fishery, and help ensure Canada is meeting international obligations related to effort. As of 2013, commercial licence holders wanting to harvest tuna are required to hold a primary licence (with Schedule II privileges) and apply for/receive a separate CT (Tuna) licence. The CT licence authorizes fishing of Pacific Albacore tuna in Canada’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and on the high seas under separate licence conditions. The CT licence is vessel-based and must be renewed annually.Canadian licence holders without a primary licence are able to access tuna in international high seas waters through “Section 68 High Seas” licenses. The Section 68 licence is intended to act as a management measure to strengthen management of the tuna fishery in the high seas, and help ensure Canada is meeting international obligations related to effort. The Section 68 licence must be renewed annually. |
| **China** | N Pacific | LL |  |
| **Cook Islands** | N Pacific | ALB troll | Not Applicable, CK has no troll vessels in the fishery |
| N Pacific | LL | Limited by license.  |
| **Fiji** | N Pacific | LL | Vessel Size class & capacity, Licenses and other measures specified in Offshore Fisheries Management Act 2012 & Offshore Fisheries Management Regulation 2014 and National Strategy for Fiji Fishing Vessels Operating in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction. |
| **Japan** | CA only | LL Coast | The number of fishing vessels is limited by the license system. |
|  | LL DW | The number of fishing vessels is limited by the license system. |
|  | PL DW | The number of fishing vessels is limited by the license system. |
| **Korea** | CA only | LL DW | There has been no Korean flagged fishing vessel targeting for N.ALB. However, all authorized fishing vessels operating in the CA are required to report their catches including non-targeting species daily via the e-reporting system.  |
| **Philippines** | - | - | Not applicable |
| **Chinese Taipei** | N Pacific | ALB LL | 1. We have limited the number of our fishing vessels fishing for North Pacific albacore to stay below 25 since CMM 2005-03 was implemented. The vessel number is controlled when we issue the fishing permit every year.
2. For other fishing vessels that are not allowed to fishing for North Pacific albacore, their bycatches of this albacore would be monitored to stay below certain ratio
 |
| **USA** | N Pacific | ALB troll | The United States has a single fleet that fishes for North Pacific albacore in the Convention Area: the albacore troll fleet is based out of the U.S. West Coast. The albacore troll fleet is not currently subject to effort or catch controls, but permitting, VMS, and reporting (through vessel logbooks) requirements enable the United States to monitor the fishery, including levels of participation, fishing effort and catches. The United States will continue to monitor fishing effort and implement any controls needed to comply with paragraph 2 of the CMM, as well as with relevant decisions adopted in other RFMOs (IATTC). |
| CA only | ALB troll | The United States has a single fleet that fishes for North Pacific albacore in the Convention Area: the albacore troll fleet is based out of the U.S. West Coast. The albacore troll fleet is not currently subject to effort or catch controls, but permitting, VMS, and reporting (through vessel logbooks) requirements enable the United States to monitor the fishery, including levels of participation, fishing effort and catches. The United States will continue to monitor fishing effort and implement any controls needed to comply with paragraph 2 of the CMM, as well as with relevant decisions adopted in other RFMOs (IATTC). |
| **Vanuatu** | N Pacific |  | Vanuatu currently reviewing its Fisheries Regulation to limit the control of fishing effort fishing for North Pacific albacore |
| **Belize** |  |  |  |
| **FSM** |  |  |  |
| **Kiribati** |  |  |  |
| **Mexico** |  |  |  |
| **Vietnam** |  |  |  |

1. Data pertain to WCPFC Area only or entire N Pacific? [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. NOTE: For Canada no fishing inside the CA since 2005 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Convention Area [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Japanese albacore data indicates the fisheries in north of the equator within CA. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Korea’s fishing effort “fishing for” NP albacore occurred in 2007 and 2008, and non-target fishing effort occurred every year in the North Pacific. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Estimates under study [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. This data just indicates the fishery fishing for NP albacore only [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Vessel number and effort was given for all species [↑](#footnote-ref-9)