



**COMMISSION
SIXTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
5 – 11 December 2019

**UPDATED INFORMATION ON NORTH PACIFIC ALBACORE FISHING EFFORT
(REFERENCE: ATTACHMENT C/ANNEX A IN NC7 SUMMARY REPORT)**

**WCFC16-2019-IP11¹
22 October 2019**

SECRETARIAT

¹ Earlier versions of this paper were posted to NC15 meeting as **NC15-2019/WP-01** and to TCC15 meeting as **TCC15-2019-IP11**



**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 ²	Fishery ³	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 ⁴	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 ⁵ 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 ⁶	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 ⁷	CA only	LL DW	13	1,072					3	268	3	107				
Philippines ⁸	N Pacific	Handline														
Chinese Taipei ⁹	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 ¹⁰													40		49	

* Data in the WCPO were confidential

² Data pertain to WCPFC Area only or entire N Pacific?

³ Fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore

⁴ NOTE: For Canada no fishing inside the CA since 2005

⁵ Convention Area

⁶ Japanese albacore data indicates the fisheries in north of the equator within CA.

⁷ 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.

⁸ Estimates under study

⁹ This data just indicates the fishery fishing for NP albacore only

¹⁰ Vessel number and effort was given for all species

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

CCM	Area	Fishery	2002-04 Average		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
			No. of vessel s	Vessel days	No. of vessel s	Vessel days	No. of vesse ls	Vessel days	No. of vesse ls	Vessel days	No. of vesse ls	Vessel days	No. of vesse ls	Vessel days	No. of vesse ls	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**														
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

** Non-targetting

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	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
	CA only	ALB troll	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
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	<p>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.</p> <p>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</p>
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			