



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE
SIXTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

**ELECTRONIC MEETING
2020**

Report on CMM 2019-02 (Pacific bluefin tuna)

WCPFC-NC16-2020/DP-04

FIJI

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Information on Pacific Bluefin Tuna CMM 2019-02
(Fishing Effort and Catch)
2019

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA CMM 2019-02

1. CMM 2019-02 paragraph 2; CCMs shall take measures necessary to ensure that:

1] Total fishing effort by their vessel fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna in the area north of the 20° N shall stay below the 2002–2004 annual average levels.

Fiji did not have any vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna in the Convention Area north of 20 degrees north.

2] All catches of Pacific bluefin tuna less than 30 kg shall be reduced to 50% of the 2002– 2004 annual average levels. Any overage or underage of the catch limit shall be deducted from or may be added to the catch limit for the following year. The maximum underage that a CCM may carry over in any given year shall not exceed 5% of its annual initial catch limit.

Fiji did not have any vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna in the Convention Area north of 20 degrees north.

2. Paragraph 3 of CMM 2019-02, which requires CCMs to ensure the catches of Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger would not increase from the 2002-2004 annual average levels

Fiji's catch of Pacific bluefin 30 kg or greater was less than 10 mt.

3. Paragraph 5 of CMM 2019- 02; CCMs shall report each year their fishing effort and <30 kg and >=30 kg catch levels, by fishery, for the previous 3 year, accounting for all catches, including discards

Please see attachment 1 for tables displaying fishing effort by vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin and catches of Pacific bluefin tuna in the Convention Area.

4. Paragraph 7 of CMM 2019-02; CCMs, in particular those catching juvenile Pacific bluefin tuna, shall take measures to monitor and obtain prompt results of recruitment of juveniles each year.

Fiji flagged vessels do not target Bluefin tuna. However, vessel operators are supplied with fish identification booklets to correctly identify bluefin should they come into contact with one. All mandatory reporting of catches is sent to the WCPFC Secretariat through SPC.

5. For paragraph 8; Consistent with their rights and obligations under international law, and in accordance with domestic laws and regulations

Fiji has national laws and regulations in place to ensure that fish and fish product imported into the country carries necessary valid documents such as certificate of origin, export permit from the country of export and approved import permit issued by Fiji's Ministry of Fisheries to the importer. This catch documentation process can also assist in preventing commercial transaction of Pacific bluefin tuna and its products that undermine the effectiveness of this CMM.

6. For paragraph 10 of CMM 2019-02, CCMs shall also take measures necessary to strengthen monitoring and data collecting system for Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries and farming to improve the data quality and timeliness of all the data reporting.

Fiji flagged vessels do not target Pacific Bluefin tuna. However, vessel operators are supplied with fish identification booklets to correctly identify bluefin should they come into contact with one. Also, captains are required to report all catch irrespective of whether they are released or retained on board. Logsheets are checked by enforcement officers upon port arrival.

7. For paragraph 13 of CMM 2019-02, To enhance effectiveness of this measure, CCMs are encouraged to communicate with and, if appropriate, work with the concerned IATTC contracting parties bilaterally.

Fiji meets with relevant parties during the WCPFC's Northern Committee meeting and communicates with the concerned IATTC contracting parties as and when need arises.

Attachment 1

CMM 2019 -02 [Bluefin Tuna] (Fishing effort and catch)

Table 1. Fishing effort by vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna *in the area north of 20° N in the Convention Area*

Fishery	Unit of fishing effort	Baseline fishing effort (Para 2, CMM 2019-02)				Fishing effort Para 5, CMM 2019-02		
		2002	2003	2004	2002 – 2004 Average	2017	2018	2019
Fiji								
Long line	No of vessels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table 2. Catches (mt), including discards, of Pacific bluefin tuna *in the Convention Area* (include all the fisheries in the previous table, plus all other fisheries that catch any Pacific bluefin tuna)

Fishery	All catches (Para 5, CMM 2019-02)								All catches (Para 5, CMM 2019-02)					
	2002		2003		2004		2002-2004 Average		2017		2018		2019	
	<30 kg	≥30kg g	<30k g	≥30k g	<30k g	≥30k g	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
Longline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.271	0	0.695	0.191	0.360