



**COMMISSION  
SEVENTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**  
Electronic Meeting  
8 – 15 December 2020

---

**COMPILED INFORMATION ON PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA  
(FISHING EFFORT AND CATCH)**

---

**WCPFC17-2020-IP07<sup>1</sup>  
5 October 2020**

**Secretariat**

---

<sup>1</sup> This was posted for NC16 as NC16-WP-02



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE  
SIXTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

**ELECTRONIC MEETING**  
[To be confirmed]

---

**COMPILED INFORMATION ON PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA  
(FISHING EFFORT AND CATCH)**

---

**WCPFC-NC16-2020/WP-02 (Rev.02)**

**Secretariat**

According to Paragraph 2-5 of the CMM 2019-02, fishing effort and catch of Pacific bluefin tuna are compiled based on Member's reports, which are annexed as Table 1 and 2, respectively.

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.*
  - (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<sup>1</sup>.*
  
3. *CCMs shall take measures necessary to ensure that all catches of Pacific Bluefin tuna 30kg or larger shall not be increased from the 2002-2004 annual average levels<sup>2,3</sup>. 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<sup>1</sup>. However, in 2018, 2019, and 2020 CCMs may use part of the catch limit for Pacific bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg stipulated in paragraph 2 (2) above to catch Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger in the same year. In this case, the amount of catch 30 kg or larger shall be counted against the catch limit for Pacific bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg. CCMs shall not use the catch limit for Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger to catch Pacific bluefin tuna smaller than 30 kg. The ISC is requested to review, in its work referred to in Section 5 of Harvest Strategy, the implications of this special provision in terms of PBF mortality and stock rebuilding probabilities in 2020. Based on that review, in*

---

<sup>1</sup> Notwithstanding paragraph 2 and 3, a CCM may carry over up to 17% of its initial 2019 catch limits, which remain uncaught, to 2020.

<sup>2</sup> CCMs with a base line catch of 10 t or less may increase its catch as long as it does not exceed 10 t.

<sup>3</sup> 300 tons of the catch limit of Pacific bluefin tuna 30kg or larger of Chinese Taipei may be transferred to Japan in 2020, subject to a notification by Chinese Taipei to the Secretariat. This transfer may apply for 2020 only. Adoption of this transfer does not confer the allocation of a right, and does not prejudice any future decision of the Commission.

*2020 the Northern Committee will determine whether it should be continued past 2020, and if so, recommend changes to the CMM as appropriate.*

*4. All CCMs except Japan shall implement the limits in paragraph 2 and 3 on a calendar-year basis. Japan shall implement the limits using a management year other than the calendar year for some of its fisheries and have its implementation assessed with respect to its management year. To facilitate the assessment, Japan shall:*

*a. Use the following management years:*

*1) For its fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, use the calendar year as the management year.*

*2) For its other fisheries, use 1 April – 31 March as the management year<sup>4</sup>.*

*b. In its annual reports for PBF, for each category described in a.1 and a.2 above, complete the required reporting template for both the management year and calendar year clearly identifying fisheries for each management year.*

*5. CCMs shall report to the Executive Director by 31 July 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. The Executive Director will compile this information each year into an appropriate format for the use of the Northern Committee.*

The information in the Tables below will be modified subject to any further updates from Members.

---

<sup>4</sup> *For the category described a.2, the TCC shall assess in year 20XX its implementation during the management year that starts 1 April 20XX-1 (e.g., in the 2020 compliance review, the TCC will assess Japan's implementation for its fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries during calendar-year 2019 and for its other fisheries during 1 April 2019 through 31 March 2020).*

**Compiled Information on Pacific 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 <sup>5</sup>	Baseline fishing effort (Para 2, CMM 2019-02)				Fishing effort (Para 5, CMM 2019-02)		
		2002	2003	2004	2002-2004 Average	2017	2018	2019
<b>Canada</b>								
Not applicable								
<b>China</b>								
						0	0	
<b>Cook Islands</b>								
Longline		Unknown	Unknown	0		0	0	
<b>Fiji</b>								
Longline	No. of vessels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Japan</b>								
Purse Seine	No. of vessels	69	60	59	63	42	37	35
LonglineDist.&Off.	No. of vessels	654	632	613	633	514	484	439
Longline Coastal	No. of vessels	399	422	386	402	325	335	337
Artisanal fisheries	No. of vessels	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown		22,557	18,147	18,127
Set Net	No. of licenses	1,876	1,956	1,956	1,929	1,816	1,784	1,784
Others	No. of vessels	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown				
<b>Korea</b>								
large-scale purse seiners	No. of vessels	32	29	29	30	24	23	23
<b>Philippines</b>								
Not applicable								
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>								
Longline	No. of vessels	684	659	632	658	559	480	491
<b>U.S.A.</b>								
Not applicable								
<b>Vanuatu</b>								
Longline <sup>2</sup>	No. of vessels			30	30	21	27	22
<b>Australia</b>								
Eastern tuna and billfish fishery	No. of hooks							

<sup>5</sup> e.g., sets, fishing days, vessels

**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	
	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
Canada														
N/A														
China														
									0	0	0	0		
Cook Islands														
Longline	0	1.789	0	2.94	0	1.35	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fiji														
Longline	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.271	0	0.695	0.191	0.360
Japan <sup>6</sup>														

<sup>6</sup>Catch limit for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries are managed on a calendar year basis, while that for other fisheries are managed on a management year basis. Catches on a management year basis is as follows.

Fishery	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019		
	<30 kg	≥30 kg	<30 kg	≥30 kg	<30 kg	≥30 kg	<30 kg	≥30 kg	<30 kg	≥30 kg	
Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries	Purse Seine	923	2,701	1,938	3,027	1,219	3,273	1,006	3,033	1,328	3,131
	Longline Dist.&Off.	0	152	2	191	1	287	17	184	56	415
Other fisheries	Longline Coastal	224	438	152	377	270	487	83	232	111	466
	Artisanal fisheries	681	22	648	32	466	45	588	60	565	72
	Set Net	1,045	794	1140	512	1071	522	430	129	718	347
	Others	223	361	442	242	367	359	145	177	164	173
Total	3,095	4,468	4,321	4,382	3,395	4,974	2,269	3,814	2,943	4,603	

Management year is as follows.

- 1st management period  
January 2015 – December 2015 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, January 2015 – June 2016 for Other fisheries.
- 2nd management period  
January 2016 – December 2016 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, July 2016 – June 2017 for Other fisheries.
- 3rd management period  
January 2017 – December 2017 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, July 2017 – June 2018 for Other fisheries.
- 4th management period  
January 2018 – December 2018 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, July 2018 – March 2019 for Other fisheries.
- 5th management period  
January 2019 – December 2019 for Fisheries licensed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, April 2019 – March 2020 for Other fisheries.

Fishery	All catches (Para 5, CMM 2019-02)								All catches (Para 5, CMM 2019-02)					
	2002		2003		2004		2002-2004 Average		2017		2018		2019	
	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
Purse Seine	5,174	3,730	4,995	774	3,466	4,792	4,545	3,099	1,219	3,273	1,006	3,033	1,328	3,131
Longline Dist.&Off.	0	52	0	97	0	240	0	130	1	287	17	184	56	415
Longline Coastal	0	794	0	1,152	0	1,616	0	1,187	271	389	85	447	112	439
Artisanal fisheries	2,607	0	2,060	0	2,445	0	2,371	0	571	35	307	63	677	42
Set Net	1,008	92	648	191	660	235	772	173	1,686	535	260	385	686	255
Others	422	210	205	241	82	432	236	294	382	349	183	234	177	180
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><u>9,310</u></b>	<b><u>4,878</u></b>	<b><u>7,952</u></b>	<b><u>2,455</u></b>	<b><u>6,785</u></b>	<b><u>7,315</u></b>	<b><u>8,016</u></b>	<b><u>4,883</u></b>	<b><u>4,131</u></b>	<b><u>4,868</u></b>	<b><u>1,859</u></b>	<b><u>4,347</u></b>	<b><u>3,035</u></b>	<b><u>4,461</u></b>
<b>Korea</b>														
Purse seiner	932		2,601		773		1,435	0	661.0	72.86	498.9	24.5	525.0	16.5
Set net									3.39	0.06	1.9	0	34.4	0.4
Others									5.81		4.6		3.3	
Reserved											5.1		1.0	
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b>932</b>		<b>2,601</b>		<b>773</b>		<b>1,435</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>670.2</b>	<b>72.92</b>	<b>510.5</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>563.7</b>	<b>16.9</b>
<b>Philippines</b>														
Artisanal Handline or Hook-and- Line fisheries						0			0	2 pcs (~350 kgs + ~215 kgs)	0	2 pcs (~250 kgs + ~215 kgs)	0	0
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>														
Longline	0	1,523	0	1,863	0	1,714	0	1700	0	415	0	381	0	492
Other coastal fisheries	0	4	0	21	0	3	0	9	0	+	0	+	0	+
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1527</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1884</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1717</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,709</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>415</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>492</b>
<b>U.S.A.<sup>7</sup></b>														
American Samoa LL	0	3	0	0	3	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	0	0

<sup>7</sup> Pacific bluefin tuna catches are reported on longline logsheets for the American Samoa fishery, however the species may be misidentified.

Fishery	All catches (Para 5, CMM 2019-02)								All catches (Para 5, CMM 2019-02)					
	2002		2003		2004		2002-2004 Average		2017		2018		2019	
	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg	<30kg	≥30kg
USA LL	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
<i>Total</i>	<u>0</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>Vanuatu</b>														
Longline <sup>8</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.105	0.183	0	0	0	0
<b>Australia</b>														
Eastern tuna and billfish fishery														

<sup>8</sup> These small catches are bycatch only. Vanuatu does not target PBF at all.