Draft
*Guidelines for the Voluntary Submission of Purse Seine Processor Data by CCMs
to the Commission*

WCPFC-TCC17-2021-22 (rev. 1)

Paper by SPC-OFP[1]

Rev. 1 (25/09/2021)

Reflects recommendations from TCC17 Online Discussion Forum (ODF) comments which are track changed in this version of the document:

- Remove the text added to the SC17 version of the guidelines referring to "flag state consent"
- Deletion of the word "only" from the first line of the Guideline text under "Dissemination"

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ABSTRACT

1.   SC15 acknowledged the cannery data submissions to the WCPFC by International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) participating companies, and the potential of cannery data for the work of the Commission and recommended that the WCPFC Science Service Provider (SSP) investigate what Commission mechanisms to expand the level of voluntary submission of cannery data from other processors for future Commission work and provided the following recommendation:

> **SC15 acknowledged the cannery data submissions (representing ~37% of the tropical WCPFC purse seine catch in recent years) to the WCPFC by International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) participating companies, and the potential of cannery data for the work of the Commission, specifically Project 60.**
>
> **SC15 recommended that the WCPFC Science Service Provider (SSP) (with assistance from the WCPFC Secretariat) investigate what Commission mechanisms could be used and/or updated to facilitate the voluntary submission, and ensure an appropriate level of confidentiality, of cannery data from other processors for future Commission work (Project 60) and report the findings to SC16.**

2.   SC16 reviewed the draft *Guidelines for the Voluntary Submission of Purse Seine Processor Data by CCMs to the Commission* (the ANNEX in Williams, 2020) under Topic 2 of the SC16 Online Discussion Forum (SC16-ODF), and the minor updates suggested during the ODF were included in the revised paper, which was subsequently made available prior to SC16.

3.   SC17 reviewed the latest version of the draft guidelines (Williams, 2021) and provided the following recommendation, which includes a recommendation for TCC17 consideration.

2.1   Data gaps of the Commission

…

2.1.2 Potential use of cannery data

> **5.   SC17 recommended the endorsement of the Draft Guidelines for the Voluntary Submission of Purse Seine Processor Data by CCMs to the Commission, and that the draft guidelines be forwarded to TCC17 and WCPFC18 for consideration. SC17 also recommended that TCC17 and WCPFC18 consider how to handle cannery data under the current WCPFC data rules, including updating the WCPFC data rules to include processor data as non-public domain (high risk classification) data.**

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4.   A comment was provided by one CCM during the SC17 review, indicating that the guidelines should ensure the relevant flag-state CCMs consent are considered in Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) or similar agreements with the processor companies that at are not located in the flag state CCM. In response to this comment, additional text has been added (track changes) in Section 3 (Provision guidelines) for TCC17 consideration.

5.   With respect to the SC17 recommendation to "update the WCPFC data rules", this directive requires the addition of "Processor data" as non-public domain (HIGH risk classification) data to Table 1 of the WCPFC data rules. Access to "Processor data" would then be dealt with through the WCPFC data rules in a manner consistent to other non-public domain (HIGH risk) data.

6.   TCC17 is invited to

   – review the latest version of draft guidelines for voluntary submissions of processor (cannery) data to the Commission,
   – acknowledge the requirement to add "Processor data" as non-public domain (HIGH risk classification) data to Table 1 of the WCPFC data rules,
   – consider TCC17 endorsement of the draft guidelines, and
   – agree to forward the draft guidelines to WCPFC18 for adoption.

REFERENCES

Peatman, T., P. Williams and S. Nicol. 2020. Better purse seine catch composition estimates: recent progress and future work plan for Project 60. SC16 ST-IP-04. Sixteenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee of the WCPFC (SC15). Online Meeting. 11–20 August 2020.

Peatman, T. 2020. USA purse seine catch composition. SC16 ST-IP-05. Sixteenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee of the WCPFC (SC15). Online Meeting. 11–20 August 2020.

Williams, P.G. 2020. An update on cannery data with potential use to the WCPFC. SC16 ST-IP-03. Sixteenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee of the WCPFC (SC16). Online Meeting. 11–20 August 2020.

Williams, P.G. 2021. Draft *Guidelines for the Voluntary Submission of Purse Seine Processor Data by CCMs to the Commission*. SC17 ST-WP-03. Seventeenth Regular Session of the Scientific Committee of the WCPFC (SC17). Online Meeting. 11–19 August 2021.

ANNEX

Guidelines for the Voluntary Submission of Purse seine Processor data
by CCMs to the Commission

Draft

1. Purpose

Purse seine processor (cannery) data have been identified as a potentially important source of data to adequately verify the estimates of purse seine tuna species catch determined from observer data. While there is a requirement for 100% coverage of observers on purse seine vessels in the tropical WCPO purse seine fishery, species composition sampling is only currently possible to undertake on less than 0.2% of the catch to avoid disruptions to the fishing operation. The WCPFC Scientific Service Provider (SSP) would use these data as an invaluable means of verification of the estimates of purse seine tuna species composition obtained from the observer data in the future.

These guidelines acknowledge that processor (cannery) data have been submitted to the WCPFC by International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) participating companies since 2013 but that higher coverage of these data is required to be of use to the work of the Commission, specifically WCPFC Project 60.

2. Data requirements

To assist the scientific work of the Commission, specifically in verifying estimates of purse seine tuna species catch estimates, CCMs are requested to voluntarily submit purse seine processor (cannery) data compiled by companies operating in their country.

The processor (cannery) data represent the measured weights of commercial categories of tuna species and size classes, data which are linked to a specific purse seine trip. Table A1 below provides a list of the required fields, which are aligned to the standard used for submissions by the ISSF-affiliated companies.

3. Provision guidelines

The provision of processor (cannery) data by CCMs is to be done entirely at their own discretion, is not compulsory or binding in any form nor is it a requirement of the Commission.

It is acknowledged that CCMs understand the usefulness of processor (cannery) data to the work of the Commission but will be required to liaise with their processor (cannery) companies regarding the release and compilation of these data for submission to the Commission, which may require establishing Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) or similar agreements with the processor companies~~, and the consent from flag state CCMs where relevant~~. In this respect, the WCPFC Secretariat, the WCPFC SSP and/or an agreed WCPFC Contractor will assist, to the extent possible, in establishing agreements required to maintain the security of these data.

CCMs should provide processor (cannery) data to the Commission and/or the WCPFC SSP, ideally on a quarterly basis.

The Commission cannot be held responsible should CCMs provide processor (cannery) data to any unapproved parties.

Any processor (cannery) data voluntarily provided by CCMs under this process should be clearly identified as being submitted under these guidelines.

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4. Classification

All processor (cannery) data submitted by CCMs are consistent with "records of vessel unloading" and "raw data from catch documentation" which are considered non-public domain, as specified under the *Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission*.

The risk classification of processor (cannery) data submitted by CCMs is acknowledged to be medium-high and may need to be specifically included in Table 1 of the *Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission*.

5. Dissemination

Processor (cannery) data are anticipated to ~~only~~ be used by the WCPFC SSP, although could be considered for release under agreed Commission work according to confidentiality rules as specified in the *Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the Commission*, and according to any MOUs established with the sources of the processor (cannery) data (see Section 3 Provision guidelines).

6. Reporting

By the adoption of these Guidelines the Commission requests that the Secretariat provide, or arrange for the WCPFC SSP to provide, an annual report providing information on the provision and dissemination of processor (cannery) data submitted under these guidelines.

Table A1. List of minimum required fields for voluntary processor (cannery data) submissions of catch from purse seine vessels

Field no.	Data Field			Mandatory	Highly desirable
1	Country			Y	
2	Processor (cannery) company identifier (a distinct identifier which may be the name of the processor company, or an anonymous identifier, if deemed confidential)			Y	
	Carrier vessel information				
3	- Carrier vessel name			Y	
4	- Carrier vessel flag			Y	
5	- Carrier vessel IMO			Y	
6	- Carrier vessel Call sign			Y	
	Fishing vessel information				
7	- Fishing vessel name			Y	
8	- Fishing vessel flag			Y	
9	- Fishing vessel WCPFC Identification / IMO number			Y	
10	- Fishing vessel Call sign			Y	
11	- Fishing vessel gear type (PS)			Y	
12	Start of Unloading at processing plant				Y
13	End of Unloading at processing plant				Y
14	RFMO Area where catch taken (e.g. WCPFC Area)			Y	
15	Start date of fishing trip (departure from port of fishing vessel)			Y	
16	End date of fishing trip (return to port of fishing vessel)			Y	
17	Port of offloading or transshipment to Carrier vessel				Y
18	Coordinates of transshipment at sea (if relevant)				Y
19	Start date of transshipment from fishing vessel to carrier			Y	
20	End date of transshipment from fishing vessel to carrier			Y	
	[Actual measured/weighed quantities (in kilograms, or metric tons to 3 decimal places) of catch received at processing plants in the commercial size categories outlined in **Table A2**]				
21	Species/size category weight unit (P = lbs/pounds or K = kilograms) – see Table A2			Y	
	Species	Size category No.			
22	SKIPJACK TUNA	1		Y	
23		2		Y	
24		3		Y	
25		4	Weight of catch received for each species/size category	Y	
26	YELLOWFIN TUNA	1		Y	
27		2	[kgs or metric tons to 3 decimal places]	Y	
28		3		Y	
29		4	See Table A2	Y	
30		5		Y	
31	BIGEYE TUNA	1		Y	
32		2		Y	
33		3		Y	
34		4		Y	
35		5		Y	
36	REJECTED TUNA, by SIZE CLASS and SPECIES, if possible			Y	

Table A2. Typical Cannery Data Size Categories

Size category Number	Commercial categories	Equivalent categories in KGs	Equivalent used on PS logbooks for YFT and BET
1	< 3lbs	(< 1.4 kgs)	SMALL < 20 lbs (~9 kgs)
2	3.0 - 4.0 lbs	(1.4- 1.8 kgs)	
3	4.0 -7.5 lbs	(1.8 – 3.4 kgs)	
4	7.5 - 20 lbs	(3.4 – 9.1 kgs)	
5	20 lbs up	(9 or 10 kgs up)	LARGE > 20 lbs (~9 kgs)