



# Overview of fisheries and stock status of tuna, billfish and sharks in the North Pacific Ocean

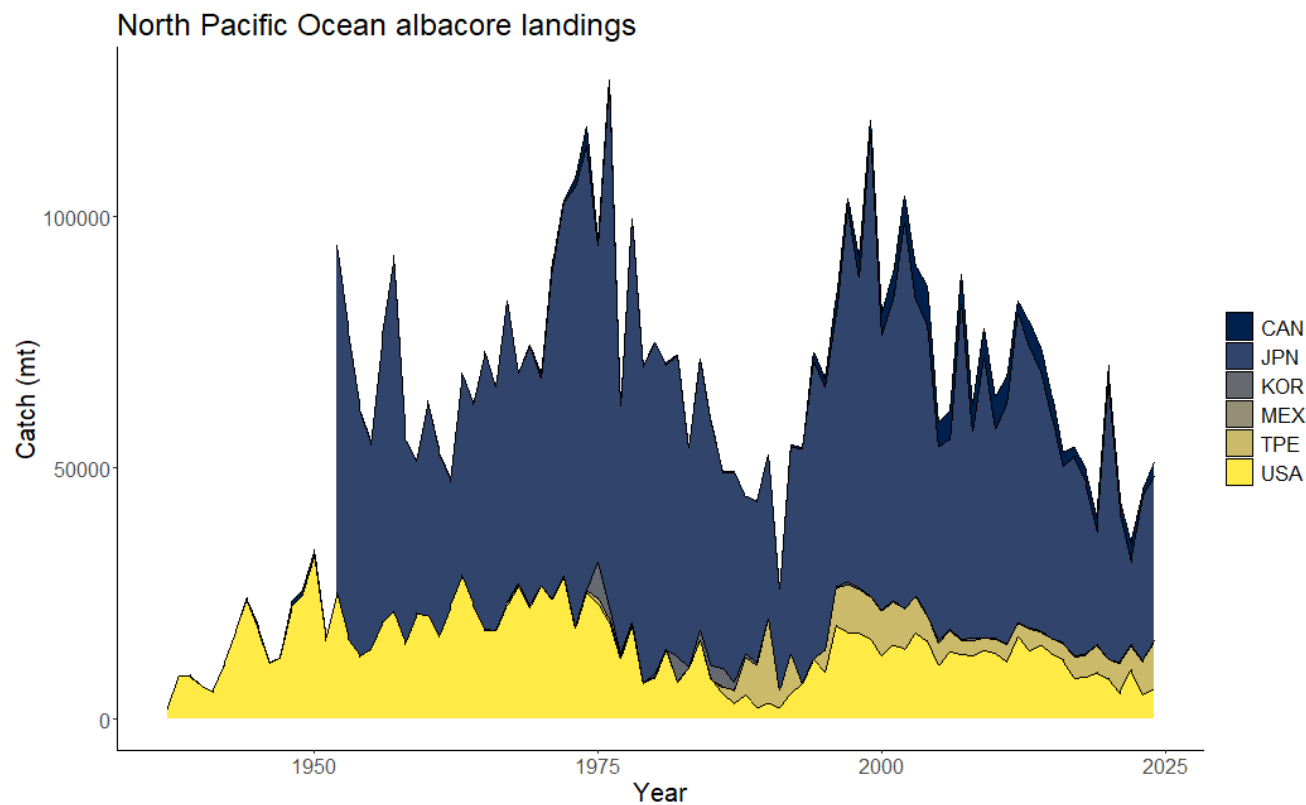
ISC

21<sup>st</sup> Regular Session of the Northern Committee  
Toyama City, Japan  
July 15-16, 2025

# Landings summaries

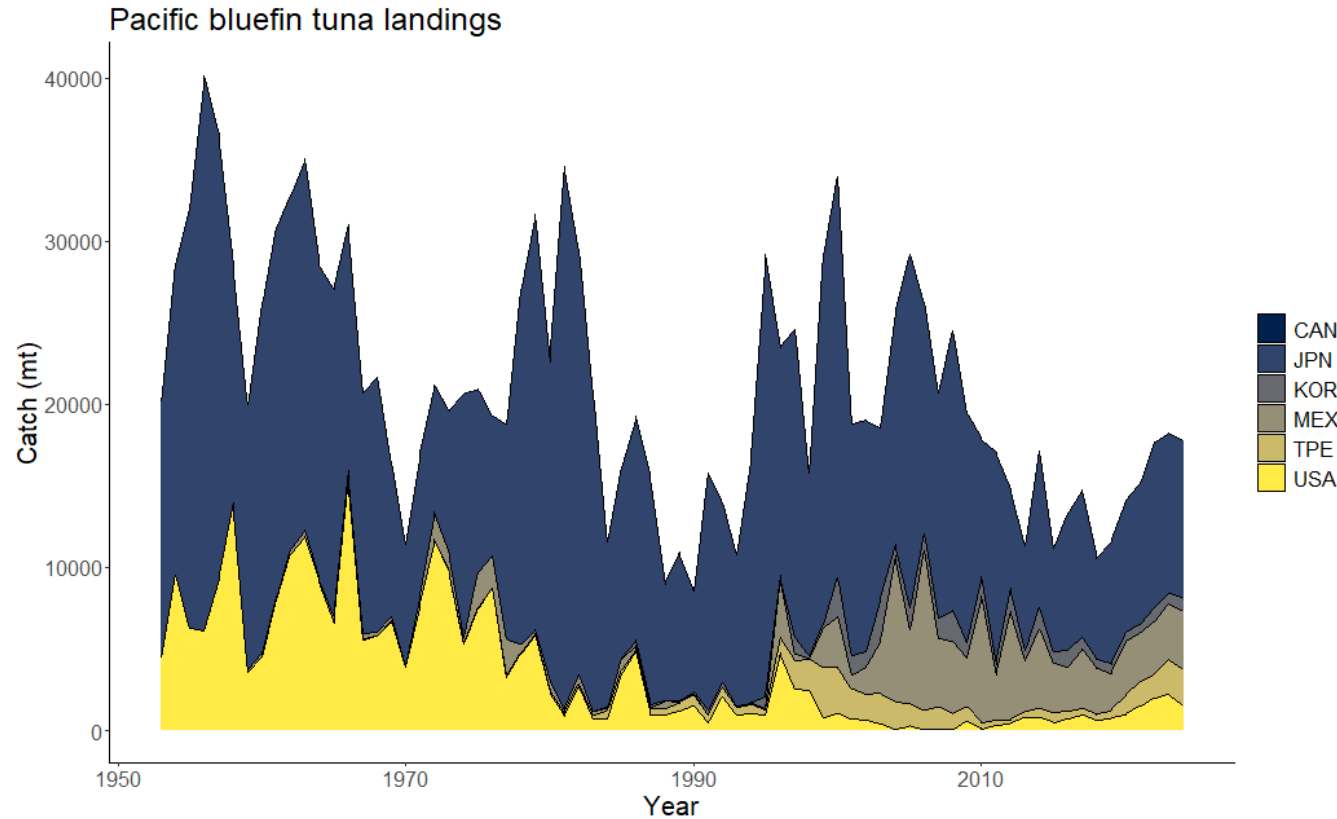
[https://isc.fra.go.jp/fisheries\\_statistics/index.html](https://isc.fra.go.jp/fisheries_statistics/index.html)

# Landings summaries

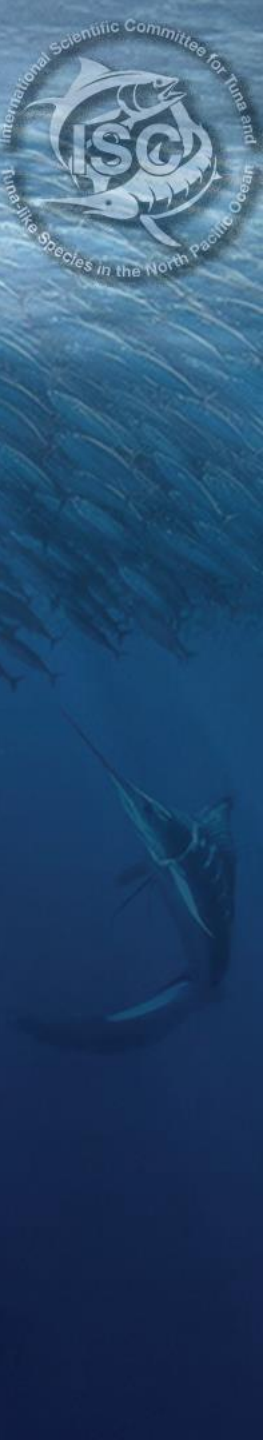


- 51,052 mt in 2024
- Landings were higher in 2024 by 12.8% over the previous year.
- Landings in 2024 were 0.8% above the 10-year average

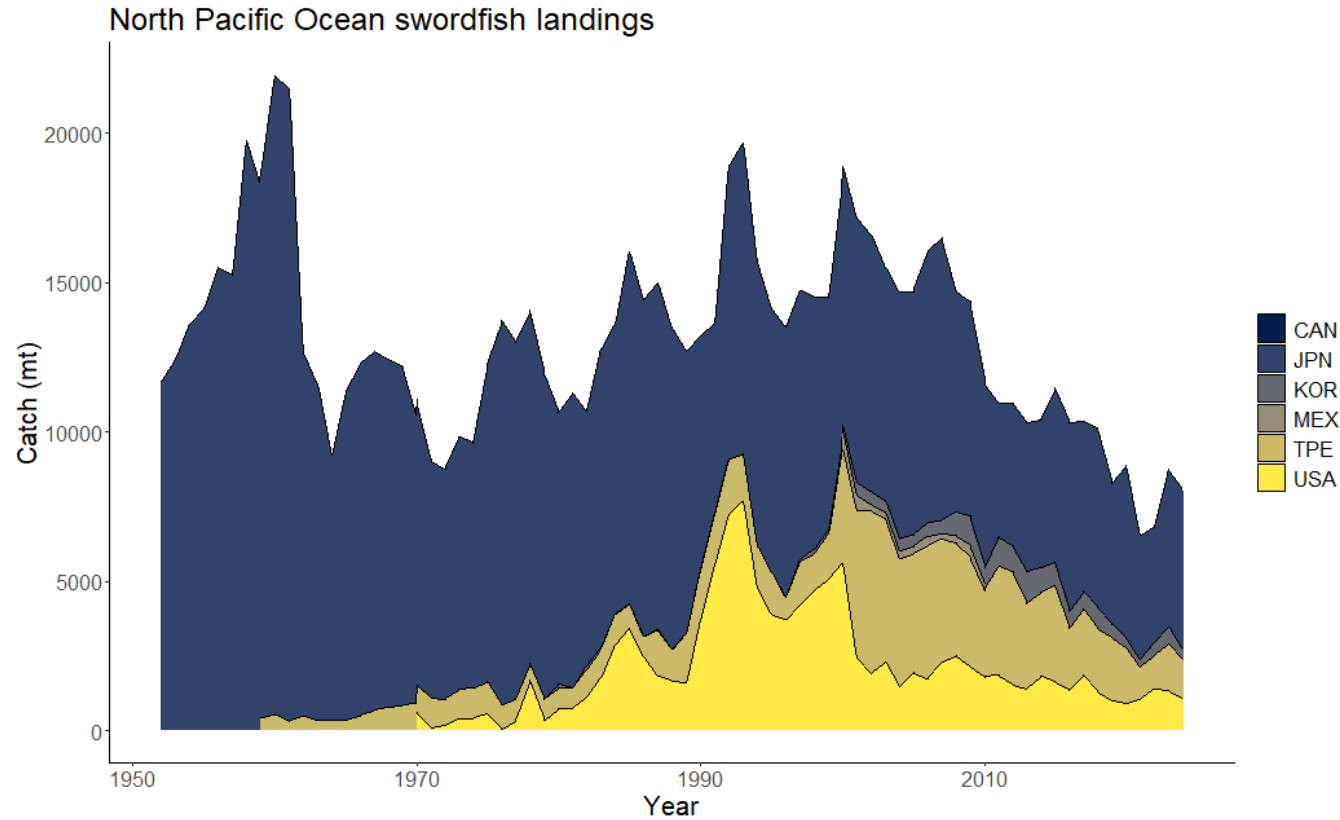
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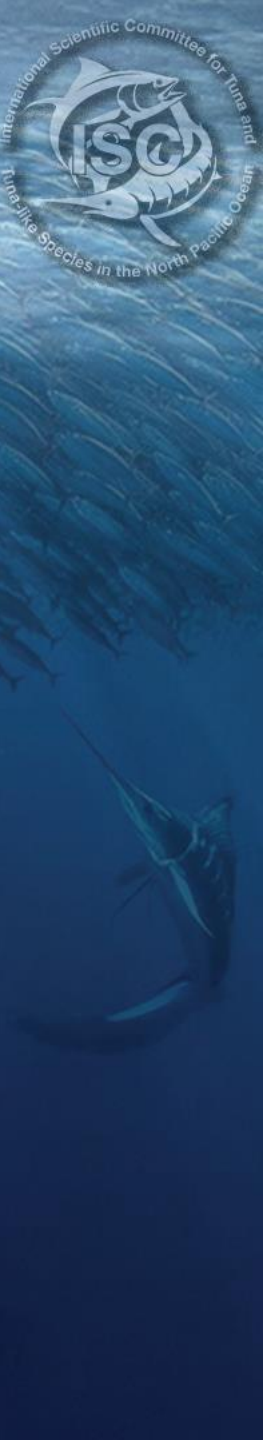
- 17,843 mt in 2024
- Landings were higher in 2024 by -2.1% over the previous year.
- Landings in 2024 were 23.7% above the 10-year average



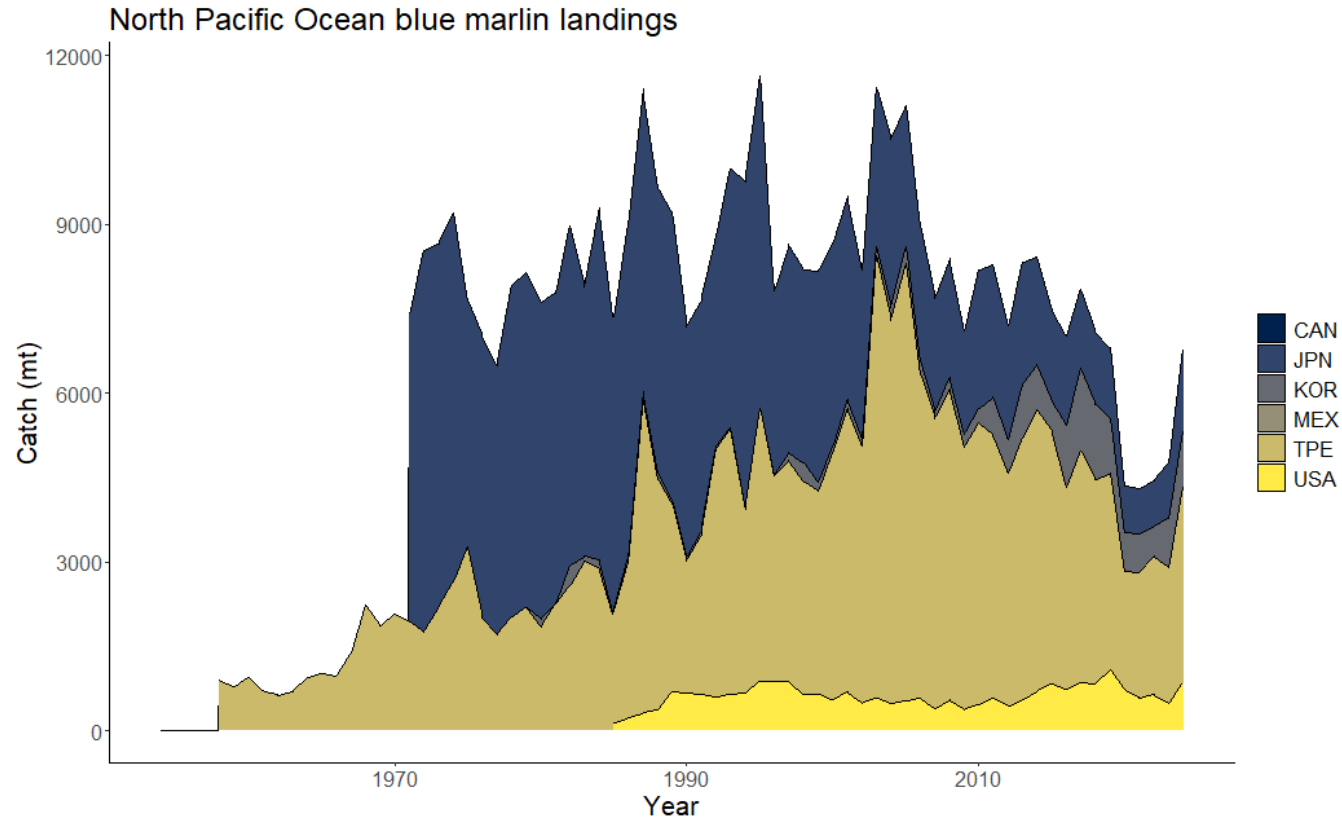
# Landings summaries



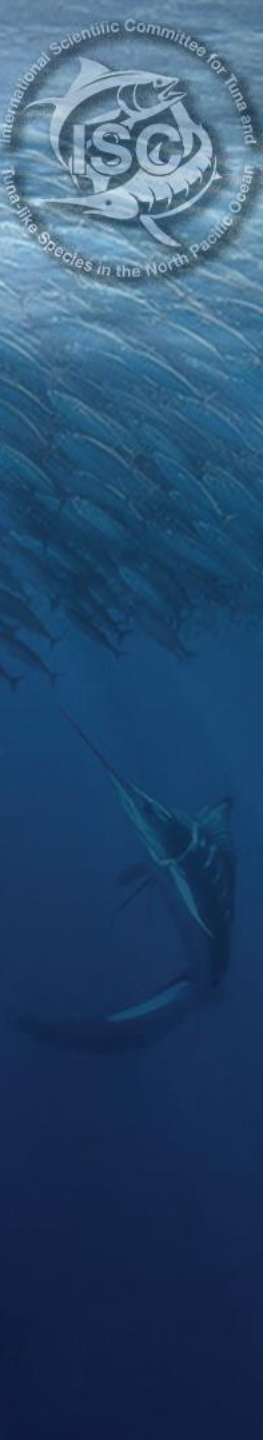
- 8,073 mt in 2024
- Landings were higher in 2024 by -7.5% over the previous year.
- Landings in 2024 were -10.9% above the 10-year average



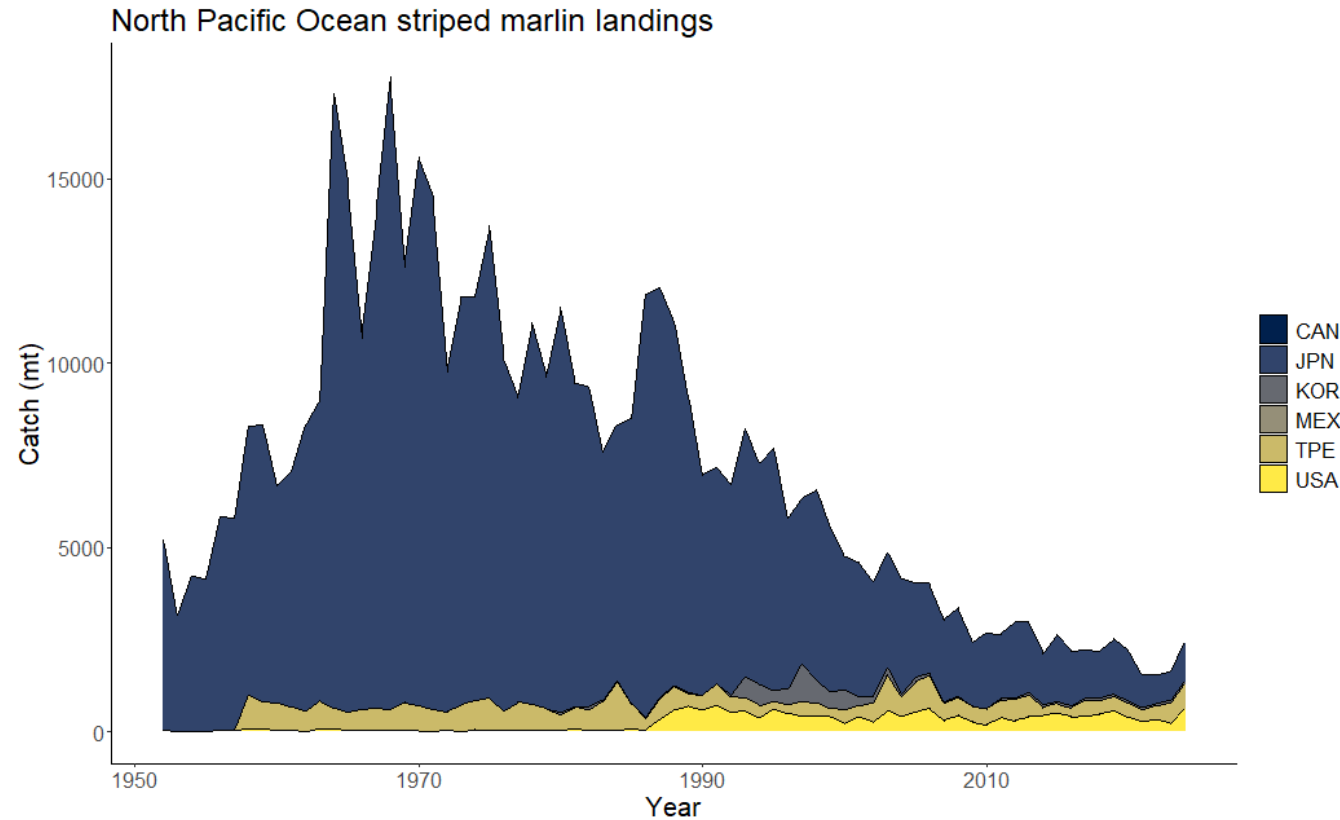
# Landings summaries



- 6,756 mt in 2024
- Landings were higher in 2024 by 42.0% over the previous year.
- Landings in 2024 were 10.0% above the 10-year average



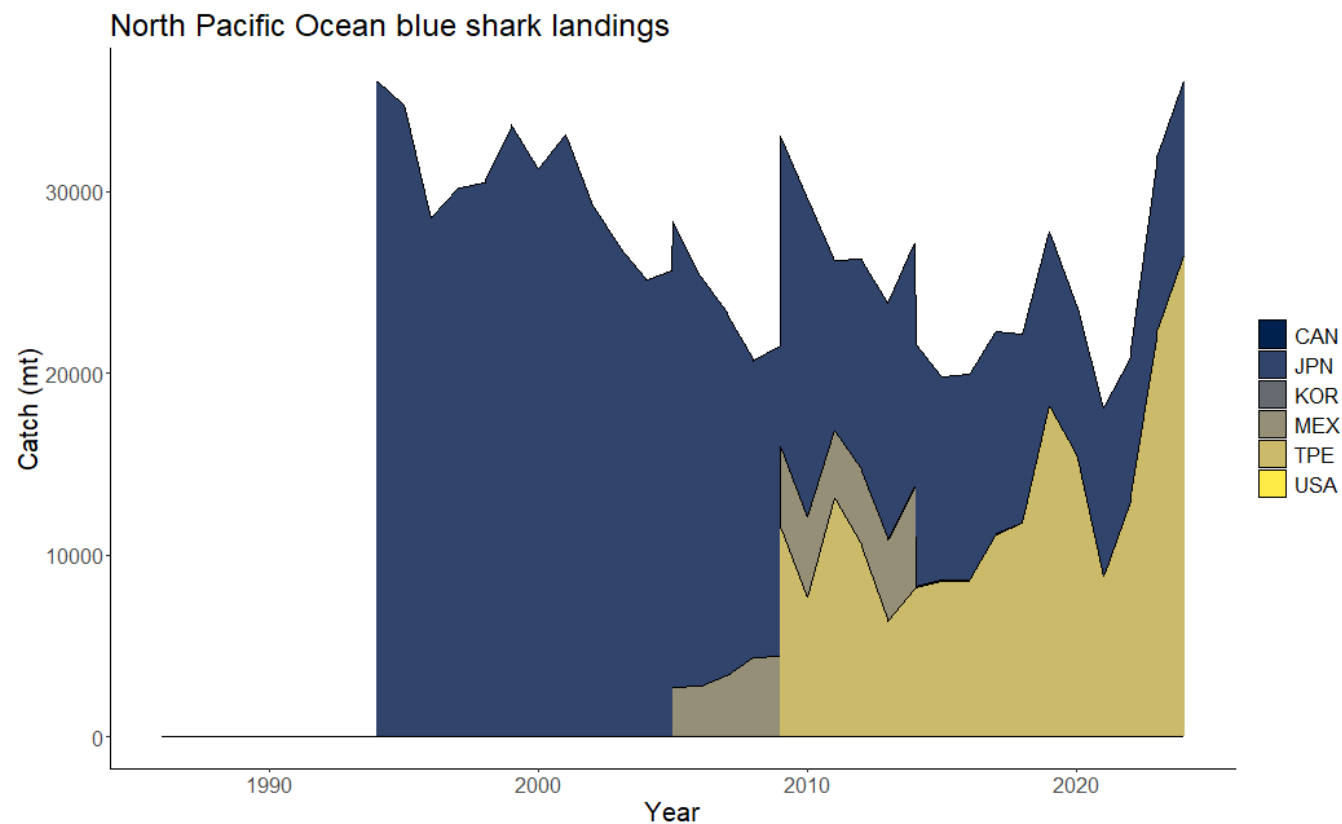
# Landings summaries



- 2433 mt in 2024
- Landings were higher in 2024 by 48.7% over the previous year.
- Landings in 2024 were 13.4% above the 10-year average



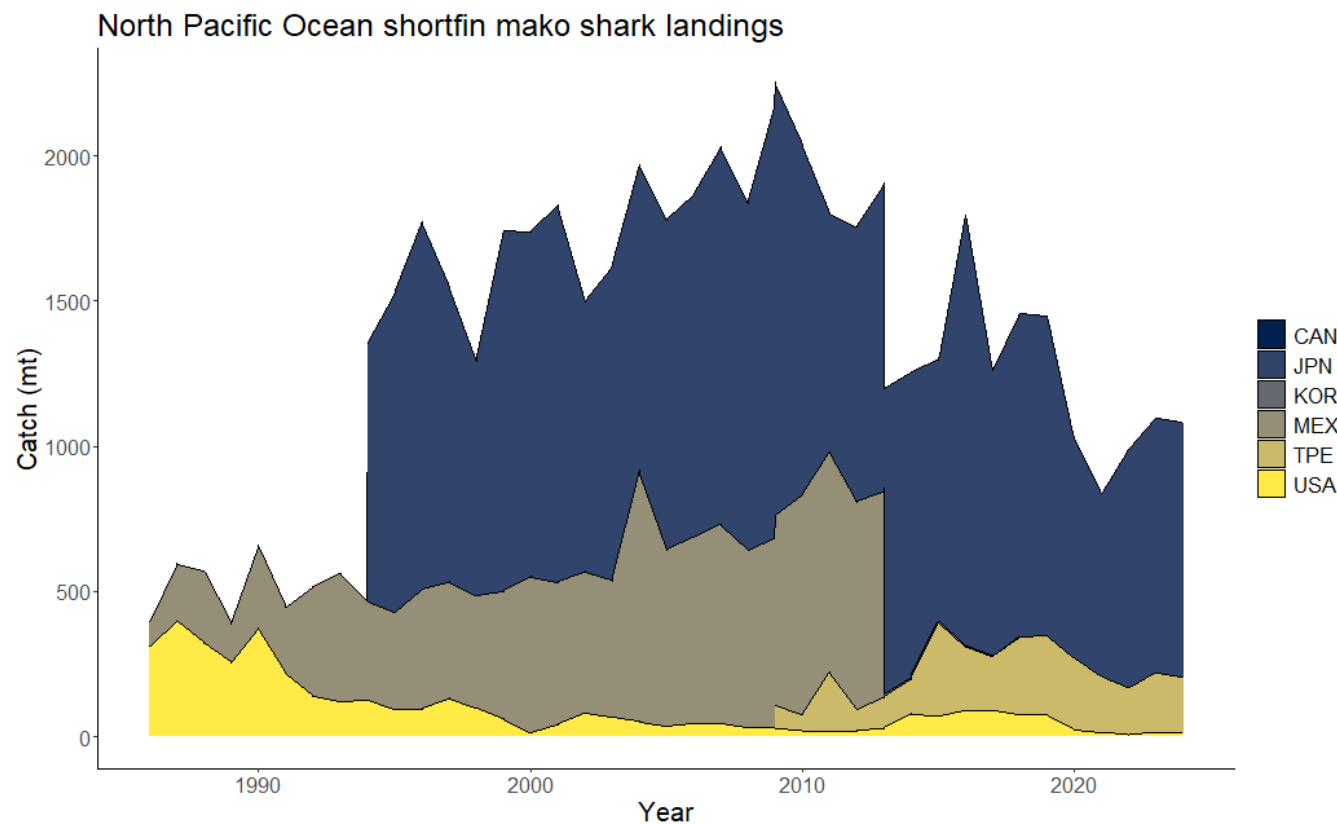
# Landings summaries



- 36,039 mt in 2024
- Landings were higher in 2024 by 13.0% over the previous year.
- Landings in 2024 were 32.6% above the 10-year average










# Landings summaries



- 1,082 mt in 2024
- Landings were higher in 2024 by -1.3% over the previous year.
- Landings in 2024 were -13.5% above the 10-year average

# Landings summaries

Species		2024 (mt)	% Δ 2024	% Δ 10-year
Albacore tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )		51,052	12.8%	0.8%
Pacific bluefin tuna ( <i>Thunnus orientalis</i> )		17,843	-2.1%	19.1%
Swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )		8,073	-7.5%	-10.9%
Blue marlin ( <i>Makaira mazara</i> )		6,756	42.0%	10.0%
Striped marlin ( <i>Kajikia audax</i> )		2,433	48.7%	13.4%
Blue shark ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> )		36,039	13.0%	32.6%
Shortfin Mako Shark ( <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> )		1,082	-1.3%	-13.5

# Stock status

<https://isc.fra.go.jp/recommendation/index.html>



Species	Stock	B	F	Stock Status and Conservation Information
Albacore tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> ) 2023 (2026)	NPO	●	●	The stock is likely not overfished relative to 30%SSB <sub>current</sub> , F=0 and (97.7%) 14%SSB <sub>current</sub> , F=0 and overfishing relative to F45%SPR is not occurring (95.5%).
Pacific bluefin tuna ( <i>Thunnus orientalis</i> ) 2024 (2027)	NPO	●	●	The PBF stock is recovering from the historically low biomass in 2010 and has exceeded the second rebuilding target (20%SSB <sub>F=0</sub> ). The risk of SSB falling below 7.7%SSB <sub>F=0</sub> (interim LRP for tropical tunas in IATTC) at least once in 10 years is negligible.





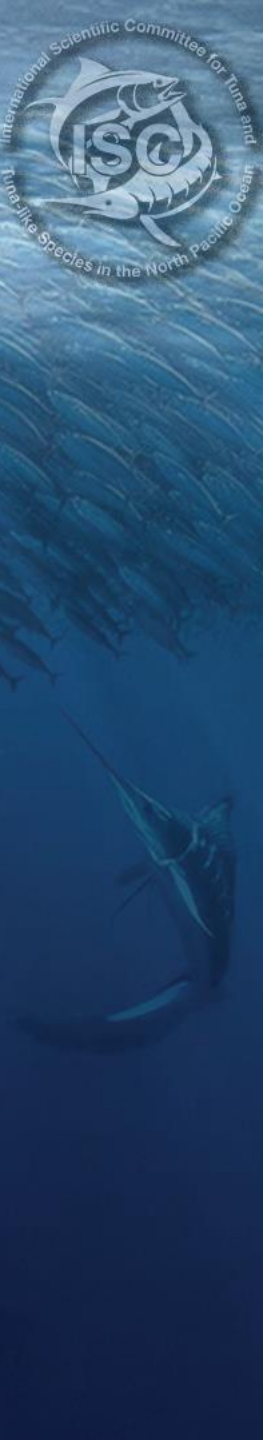
Species	Stock	B	F	Stock Status and Conservation Information
Swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> ) 2023 (2028)	NPO	●	●	Relative to MSY-based reference points, overfishing is very likely not occurring (>99% probability). 2019-2021 average F is about 49% below FMSY. The NPO SWO stock is very likely not overfished (>99% probability). 2021 SSB of 35,778 mt is 220% of SSBMSY.
Blue marlin ( <i>Makaira mazara</i> ) 2021 (2026)	PO	●	●	No adopted RPs. Stock is likely not overfished (81%) and overfishing is likely not occurring (>90%) relative to MSY-based RPs. There is a low probability that stock status will change by 2029 under the harvest scenarios tested.
Striped marlin ( <i>Kajikia audax</i> ) 2023 (2027)	WCNPO	●	●	Relative to 20%SSBF=0 based reference points, the WCNPO MLS stock is very likely to be overfished (>99% probability) and is likely to be subject to overfishing (>66% probability). Reducing annual catch below 2,400 t is expected to promote recovery of the stock by 2040 or sooner, depending on the catch reduction.



Species	Stock	B	F	Stock Status and Conservation Information
Blue shark ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> ) 2022 (2027)	NPO	●	●	No RPs adopted. Stock is likely not overfished (63.5%) )and overfishing is likely not occurring (91.9%) relative to MSY-based RPs. The stock is expected to remain above $B_{MSY}$ for the next 10 years under all harvest scenarios except $F_{MSY}$ .
shortfin mako shark ( <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> ) 2024 (2029)	NPO	●	●	No RPs adopted. Recent median depletion (2019-2022) is estimated from the model ensemble to be 0.60 (95% CI = 0.23-1.00). The recent median depletion is 1.17 times depletion at MSY (95% CI = 0.46-1.92) and the stock is likely (66% probability) not in an overfished condition relative to MSY-based reference points. Recent U (U_(2018-2021)) is estimated from the model ensemble to be 0.018 (95% CI = 0.004-0.07). U_(2018-2021) is 0.34 times (95% CI = 0.07-1.20) U_MS <sub>Y</sub> and overfishing of the stock is likely not occurring (95% probability) relative to MSY-based reference points.







# WCPFC Northern Committee ISC Tasks

- ISC was requested to conduct further analyses of the relationships between fleet-specific spawning potential ratios (SPRs) and effort for the portions of the Japanese longline (JPLL) fishery that targets NPO ALB. This task was completed and results will be presented later in the agenda. ISC also updated criteria for identifying exceptional circumstances at ISC24 and it can be introduced if necessary.
- The ISC is tasked by the Joint Working Group (JWG) of WCPFC and IATTC to complete the MSE of PBF in 2025 and the WG completed the task, which was presented at the JWG. The PBFWG also addressed tasks requested by the JWG, 1) additional projections to reflect the newly adopted management measures in 2024 2) calculate conversion factors between WPO small to WPO large and WPO large to EPO. WG completed these tasks.
- The BILLWG provided updated projection runs for the WCNPO MLS rebuilding analysis to reflect the catch distribution by country from the CMM 2024-06, which was adopted at the WCPFC Commission meeting in December, 2024. The BILLWG also discussed the feasibility of MSE of north Pacific swordfish, which is introduced at appropriate agenda.





# ISC future work

- ALBWG to conduct an assessment of NPO-ALB to be presented at ISC 26
- BILLWG will conduct an assessment of BUM to be presented at ISC 26
- A review of the PBFWG 2024 PBF stock assessment will be conducted March 20-27, 2026 Sapporo, Japan. ToRs are being finalized and reviewer selection will commence once ToRs are finalized.
- ISC will continue to develop Open Science workflows for assessments.
- ISC will develop ToRs for a review of ISC function that needs to be completed in the near future.
- Continue to progress International Billfish Biological Sampling (IBBS) Program
- SHARKWG to develop a conceptual model for blue shark



# ISC Stock Assessment Schedule

Species	Region	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Albacore Tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )	NPO		B			B		
ALB								
Swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )	NPO				B			
SWO								
Striped marlin ( <i>Kajikia audax</i> )	WCNPO			B				
MLS								
Blue marlin ( <i>Makaira nigricans</i> )	PO		B					B
MLS								
Pacific bluefin tuna ( <i>Thunnus orientalis</i> )	NPO			U/B			U/B	
PBF								
Blue shark ( <i>Prionace glauca</i> )	NPO	I		B				
BSH								
Shortfin mako shark ( <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> )	NPO					B		
SMA								

B – benchmark, U – update, I – indicator



# ISC logistic challenge

- If the WCPFC NC intends to request more regular stock assessment reviews as well as MSE, a strategy needs to be developed to provide sufficient financial support for these activities.



# ISC26 Schedule

- ISC26 will be held June 22-29, 2026.



