



# Wider issues for consideration within the harvest strategy workplan review

SC21 MI-WP-10

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# Overview

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- This paper explores broader planning and scheduling **considerations** for the development, adoption and implementation of harvest strategies for the key tuna stocks.
- We take a holistic view of the **harvest strategy planning process** for the key tuna species and cover some issues that are beyond the Harvest Strategy Workplan.
- We propose some **high-level revisions** to the harvest strategy schedule that may be used to inform the Harvest Strategy Workplan.

# Considerations for Scheduling

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- **Three year cycle.** Assumed that the MPs will generally be run on a regular three-year cycle that avoids running of MPs in species assessment year.
- **Aligning MPs with their Implementing CMMs.** Each MP requires the identification of an implementing mechanism for catch or effort control that gives effect to the MP outcome.
  - Three tropical tunas implementing mechanism assumed to be the Tropical Tuna Measure (CMM 2023-01)
  - South Pacific Albacore will have its own implementing CMM.
  - Given the workload of the Commission, it is desirable to align timing of the running of tropical tuna MPs to a three-year review cycle of the Tropical Tuna Measure.
- **Managing congestion (in 2026).** The Commission and its subsidiary bodies require adequate time to properly consider harvest strategy matters. Delays have resulted in a backlog of items falling due over a relatively short period. Desirable to reduce overall congestion in the year 2026.
- **Commission progress is required.** Finally, it is assumed that Commission decisions on the South Pacific albacore and bigeye MPs are made according to the revised schedule, and that the technical work and subsidiary body advice is available to allow those decisions to be taken.

# Proposed high-level revision of the harvest strategy schedule

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- Schedule addresses all the planning considerations.
- Major change seeks to bring the three tropical tuna stocks into alignment so that MP outputs can be incorporated into the Tropical Tuna Measure at the same time. Requiring:
  - the skipjack tuna MP, as a one-off, be extended to four years in its current cycle to synchronise with the first running of the bigeye MP in 2027.
  - the Tropical Tuna Measure review shifted 2026->2027 to synchronise with the running of the skipjack and bigeye MPs.

# Proposed high-level revision of the harvest strategy schedule

	Skipjack	Bigeye	Yellowfin	Tropical Tuna Measure (TTM)
2024				
2025	Stock Assessment	<del>Adopt MP</del>		
2026	<del>Run MP</del>	Adopt MP Stock Assessment	Stock assessment	<del>TTM Open for review taking account of the SKJ MP</del>
2027	Run MP	Run MP		TTM Open for review taking account of the SKJ and BET MP and any adjustments to YFT
2028	Stock Assessment			
2029	<del>Run MP</del>	Stock Assessment	Stock assessment	<del>TTM Open for review taking account of the SKJ MP</del>
2030	Run MP	Run MP		TTM Open for review taking account of the SKJ and BET MP and any adjustments to YFT
2031	Etc.			
2032				

SP Albacore	SPA Implementing CMM
Stock Assessment	
Adopt MP + Run MP	Implementing measure planned adoption
Stock Assessment	
Run MP	Review Implementing Measure
Stock Assessment	
Run MP	Review Implementing Measure
etc.	

# Summary and Recommendations

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- Some **significant changes**. However, we consider that this will set the Commission up for an **efficient cycle of activity** going into the future.
- Mostly for Commission consideration and decision.
- We **invite SC21** to:
  - Consider the overall proposed schedule and provide **input from a technical and scientific perspective**.
  - In reviewing the performance of the skipjack management procedure, consider the **proposed extension of the first MP application period to four years** and provide advice to the Commission in this regard.

Thankyou