



**COMMISSION**

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**South Pacific Albacore**

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**WCPFC22-2025-DP02**

**31 October 2025**

**Submitted by FFA Member CCMs**

## **ATTACHMENT 1: (SPA)**

31 October 2025  
Rhea Moss-Christian  
Executive Director  
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission  
PO Box 2356, Kolonia  
Federated States of Micronesia

Dear Rhea,

I write on behalf of the 17 members of the Forum Fisheries Agency in my capacity as the Chair of the Forum Fisheries Committee.

Attached are two proposed measures that form a comprehensive package for the management of South Pacific albacore tuna. These measures not only set the foundation for strong fishery controls, respond to industry and market requirements, and drive activities towards achieving economic and social objectives. Importantly, FFA members have taken Articles 10.3 and 30 to guide our considerations when formulating these measures. This package of measures will set a process for agreed limits, establish effective fishery monitoring systems, and act to implement the elements of the Harvest Strategy relating to this stock and its fisheries.

The first proposal recommends a Management Procedure for South Pacific albacore, incorporating Harvest Control Rule 7 (HCR7). This choice of HCR will achieve the objective of maintaining the economic performance of dependent fisheries together with reasonable levels of total catch, ensuring relative stability in fishing levels between management periods and ensures the long-term economic viability of the South Pacific albacore fisheries which is vital to the economic security of many of our Members. HCR7 aims to maintain the stock's spawning potential depletion ratio consistent with the interim target reference point (iTRP), generally defined as 0.96 times the mean spawning biomass ratio from 2017-2019.

Our second proposal implements the outputs of the Management Procedure for South Pacific albacore. It provides a framework that implements our long-standing position of transitioning from the current management framework towards implementing zone-based management and establishing compatible limits for the high seas. It recognises the PNA Longline Vessel Day Scheme, provides flexibility to account for variability in the South Pacific albacore fishery through multi-year reconciliation, pooling and transferability. In addition, it aims to strengthen the monitoring and observer coverage of the southern longline fisheries, through ER and EM, tightening of transshipment and improving monitoring of unloading as a means to strengthen catch data verification for robust and timely monitoring and reporting of catch limits.

Underpinning both proposals is the fundamental issue of allocation. FFA Members have agreed to in-zone proportional allocations, and are now seeking the adoption of compatible high seas proportional allocations.

It is imperative that the Commission adopt an EEZ and high seas proportional share split to implement the TAC to be determined by the Management Procedure. **FFA members are seeking a high-level split with 75% to be allocated to EEZs and 25% to be allocated for high seas in the area south of 10°south latitude.** This decision is required to lay the groundwork for the Commission's subsequent work on specified CCM allocations in the coming year, and adoption by WCPFC23.

South Pacific albacore is our priority for WCPFC22. We also urge all CCMs to constructively engage and prioritise their consideration of these FFA proposals, and expedite the process for the development of a high seas' allocation scheme for South Pacific albacore by WCPFC23.

FFA Members look forward to discussing this proposal at the meeting in Manila. We would welcome any inquiries, which should be directed to the Cook Islands (Pamela Maru [P.Maru@mmr.gov.ck](mailto:P.Maru@mmr.gov.ck)) and the FFA Secretariat ([joyce.samuelu-ahleong@ffa.int](mailto:joyce.samuelu-ahleong@ffa.int)).

Yours sincerely,

Poi Okesene  
Chair  
Forum Fisheries Committee