

Agenda 11.1.2: Report on the South Pacific Albacore Management Workshop

WCPFC22 - Manila, Philippines | 1-5 December 2025



WCPFC21 Outcomes: WCPFC21 Summary Report



713. The Commission agreed to hold SP-ALB management workshops in 2025 focused on:

- a) SP-ALB management procedures.
- b) SP-ALB management arrangement for implementing the management procedure.
- c) Consider mixed fishery issues, ensuring compatibility between the BET and SP-ALB MPs

714. The Commission agreed that the SPAM-WS would be co-chaired by the SC Chair and the IWG SPA Chair.

715. The Commission agreed that SPAM-WS would be held online between SC21 and TCC21, with dates to be determined by the Co-chairs (Pohnpei time) in consultation with the Secretariat and members

716. WCPFC21 agreed that CCMs will cooperate to develop a management procedure and implementing measure for SP-ALB during 2025, with a view to adopt both a management procedure and its implementing measure at WCPFC22, that will replace CMM 2015-02.

SPAMWS01: 11–12 September 2025



Purpose and Scope: Development of candidate management procedures (MPs) for South Pacific Albacore (SPA), management arrangements for implementing the SPA MP, and consideration of mixed-fishery compatibility (SPA & Bigeye).

Development of Candidate MPs: Strong support for revised MP design covering area south of 10°S as part of mixed-fishery framework; concerns raised over exclusion of 0–10°S. Differing views on baseline years (2017–2019 vs. 2000–2004/2005), maximum change limits ($\pm 5\%$ or $\pm 10\%$). Support varied among (HCR 7, HCR 10, HCR 13, HCR 9) vs. (HCR 7, HCR 13) vs. (HCR 14, HCR 15, HCR 16). General agreement: 3-year management period, 2-year data lag. SSP requested to run additional analyses before WCPFC22.

Implementing Arrangements & Mixed Fishery: Broad support for a CMM implementing the SPA MP with zone-based arrangements and compatible high-seas limits. Highlighted recognition of SIDS rights and the importance of albacore to for SIDs. Recommended flexibility for variability in the SPA fishery and strengthen monitoring. Allocation discussions referenced Articles 10.3 and 30 of the WCPF Convention. Some participants supported separating tropical logline from SPA logline fisheries; others cautioned that the mixed-fishery framework remains conceptually new.

SPAMWS02: 5 November 2025

Purpose and Scope: Development of candidate management procedures (MPs) for South Pacific Albacore (SPA) and management arrangements for implementing the SPA MP.

Development of Candidate MPs:

- Reviewed the complete set of additional analyses requested at SPAMWS01; reviewed proposal for SPA MP, based on HCR7, catches in EPO and 0-10°S fixed at 2014-2023 levels, excluding Tokelau and Tuvalu EEZs/treating as fixed catch.
- Differing views regarding exclusion of 0–10°S; general agreement to exclude Tokelau and Tuvalu EEZs if the MP if it applies south of 10°S; general support to forward a narrowed list of HCRs (7, 10, 13, 14, 17, 18, & 19), as well as request to resubmit all MPs previously evaluated at WCPFC21, for consideration at WCPFC22. Requests to SSP for additional information ahead of WCPFC22.

Implementing Arrangements: Reviewed proposal for implementing CMM to replace CMM 2015-02. Concern regarding increased monitoring requirements and high seas/EEZ split; general support for flexibility in transferability. Requests to SSP for additional information ahead of WCPFC22