



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE  
TWENTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION**

13 – 14 July 2026  
Nagasaki, Japan (Hybrid)

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**UPDATED INFORMATION ON NORTH PACIFIC SWORDFISH CATCH AND FISHING EFFORT**  
(Reference: Annex I, CMM 2023-03)

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**WCPFC-NC22-2026-WP03**  
**29 June 2026**

**WCPFC SECRETARIAT**

According to Paragraphs 2 – 4 of the WCPFC CMM 2023-03 below, all catches and fishing effort of North Pacific swordfish are compiled using the template provided in Annex 1 for the previous 3-years. Catch and effort data were extracted from [WCPFC-NC18-2022/IP-05](#).

2. *The Members, Cooperating Non-Members and participating territories (hereinafter referred to as CCMs) shall take necessary measures to ensure that the level of fishing effort of their fisheries taking North Pacific swordfish in the Area is not increased beyond 2008-2010 average annual levels<sup>1,2</sup>;*

3. *Paragraphs 2 and 4 shall not be applied to those fisheries taking less than 200 metric tons of North Pacific swordfish in the Area per year. However, if the catches of such fisheries exceed 200 metric tons in any given year, the Commission shall adopt appropriate management measure for such fisheries.*

4. *All CCMs shall report annually to the WCPFC Commission all catches of North Pacific swordfish in the Area and all fishing effort in those fisheries subject to the measures in paragraph 2, by gear type using the template provided in Annex 1.*

NC20 will consider the template and information provided below for any further updates.

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<sup>1</sup> For the US swordfish longline fishery, the level of fishing effort shall not be increased beyond the maximum number of limited entry permits available during 2008-2010.

<sup>2</sup> For the Chinese Taipei's coastal artisanal longline fishery, the level of fishing effort shall not be increased beyond the number of vessels licensed during 2008-2010.

**Annex 1. Average annual fishing effort for 2008-2010 and annual fishing effort for subsequent years for fisheries taking North Pacific swordfish for the previous 3-years (2023-2025).**

CCM	Area <sup>3</sup>	Fishery (gear type)	2008-2010 Average			2023			2024			2025		
			Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days <sup>4</sup>	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days
Japan	CA North Pacific Ocean	Drift gillnet	608	139	3,593	631(*)	49	832(*)	631(*)	46	522(*)	383(*)	46	522(*)
		Longline	5,548	406	60,718	4,469(*)	252	42,107	4,175(*)	242	45,203	2,988(*)	237	29、 189(*)
		Others (**)	545	-	-	516(*)	-	-	516(*)	-	-	390(*)	-	-
		<b>Total</b>	<b>6,701</b>			<b>5,616</b>			<b>5,322</b>			<b>3,761</b>		
	CA north of 20°N	Drift gillnet	608	139	3,593	631(*)	49	832(*)	631(*)	46	522(*)	383(*)	46	522(*)
		Longline	5,103	318	44,192	4,258(*)	221	34,578	4,009(*)	221	37,767	2,172(*)	218	23,295(*)
		Others (**)	545	-	-	516(*)	-	-	516(*)	-	-	390(*)	-	-
		<b>Total</b>	<b>6,256</b>			<b>5,405</b>			<b>5,156</b>			<b>2,945</b>		
Korea	North Pacific Ocean	Longline	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		<b>Total</b>	<b>0.8<sup>5</sup></b>			<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>			<b>0</b>		
Chinese Taipei (***)	CA north of 20°N (The area)	Setnet	31											
		Gillnet (not specified)	6											
		Harpoon	37											
		Coastal artisanal longline	610	673		489	383		267	483		237	508	
		Longline	611	633	30,031	631	230	14,272	625	251	15,511	880	256	17,566
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,295</b>			<b>1,120</b>			<b>892</b>			<b>1,117</b>		
	North Pacific Ocean	Setnet												
		Gillnet (not specified)												
		Harpoon												
		Coastal artisanal longline				489	383		267	483		237	508	
		Longline				1,075	399	39,092	1,036	428	43,221	1,328	407	48,342
		<b>Total</b>				<b>1,564</b>			<b>1,303</b>			<b>1,565</b>		

<sup>3</sup> If collective effort limits across the North Pacific Ocean, report the Area and North Pacific Ocean separately.

<sup>4</sup> Fishing days shall be the total days of fishing (both targeting and bycatch). CCMs can consider the plural effort metrics in Annex 1 to this CMM in their entirety and in the case of fisheries that take NPS as bycatch, the metric of “fishing days” may not be appropriate for assessing the compliance with the effort control provision.

<sup>5</sup> Korea caught 2.3 tons of North Pacific swordfish as bycatch in 2008. No catches since then.

CCM	Area <sup>3</sup>	Fishery (gear type)	2008-2010 Average			2023			2024			2025		
			Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days <sup>4</sup>	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days
USA	Convention Area	Handline	4			1			1			1		
		American Samoa Longline	10			22			64			10		
		US Longline	1,182	164 <sup>6</sup>		1,066	145		821	144		976	146	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>1,196</b>			<b>1,089</b>			<b>886</b>			<b>987</b>		
	Pacific	Gillnet				37	5		24	4		21	5	
		Handline				1			1			1		
		Harpoon				36	17		19	9		19	14	
		Hook and Line				1	9		1	7		3	10	
		American Samoa Longline				22			64			10		
		US Longline				1,197	150		955	149		1,092	149	
		Other				31	21		9	13		12	18	
		<b>Total</b>				<b>1,325</b>			<b>1,073</b>			<b>1,158</b>		
Vanuatu	North Pacific Ocean	Setnet												
		Drift gillnet												
		Longline	23	15	1,417	57	17	1,324	52	12	922	16	9	455
		Others												
		Not specified												
		<b>Total</b>	<b>23</b>			<b>57</b>			<b>52</b>			<b>16</b>		

(\*) Provisional

(\*\*) Others include set-net, troll, pole and line and other artisanal fisheries etc., mostly operating within territorial water of Japan.

(\*\*\*) All swordfish were bycatch.

<sup>6</sup> The maximum level of limited entry permits available during 2008-2010 was 164.