

UPDATE ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) held its 90th meeting from June 27 to July 1, 2016. Agenda Item J.1, Attachment 1 contains the Resolutions that were adopted at this meeting. These are:

1. Resolution C-16-01: Amendment of Resolution C-15-03 on the Collection and Analyses of Data on Fish-Aggregating Devices.
2. Resolution C-16-02: Resolution on a Harvest Control Rule for Tropical Tunas (Yellowfin, Bigeye and Skipjack).
3. Resolution C-16-03: Resolution on Pacific Bluefin Tuna.
4. Resolution C-16-04: Amendment to Resolution C-05-03 on the Conservation of Sharks Caught in Association with Fisheries in the Eastern Pacific Ocean.
5. Resolution C-16-05: Resolution on the Management of Shark Species.
6. Resolution C-16-06: Conservation Measures for Shark Species, With Special Emphasis on the Silky Shark (*Carcharhinus falciformis*), for the Years 2017, 2018, and 2019.
7. Resolution C-16-07: Financing for Fiscal Year 2017.

The IATTC was unable to adopt resolutions to replace Resolution C-13-01, Tuna Conservation in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO) 2014-2016, which covers bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna, and Resolution C-14-06, Conservation of Bluefin, 2015-2016. The meeting will be resumed October 12-14, 2016 to address these and other outstanding issues.

Resolution C-16-03 responds to a June 24, 2016 communication from the Chairman of the Northern Committee (NC) of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) to the Director of the IATTC, in which the NC Chairman proposed a joint IATTC/NC meeting on Pacific bluefin tuna management to be held in conjunction with the NC meeting (NC12) in Fukuoka, Japan, held August 29-September 2, 2016. The Resolution additionally proposes a series of ongoing joint meetings, to occur at least annually, “in order to review the current management measures, notably the initial rebuilding target, and to promote the objectives of rebuilding the Pacific bluefin stock and a long-term management framework for the stock and associated fisheries...” Agenda Item J.1, Attachment 2 is a July 26, 2016, letter from Mr. Barry Thom, as a Commissioner to the IATTC, to the IATTC Chair and Executive Director, with a recommended agenda for the joint meeting.

Mr. Thom and Ms. Celia Barroso from National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) West Coast Region attended NC12, as did Ms. Dorothy Lowman and Dr. Kit Dahl on behalf of the Council. NMFS will provide a report on the outcomes of the concurrent NC12 meeting and joint IATTC working group/NC meeting on Pacific bluefin management.

Council Action:

Provide Recommendations to the U.S. Delegations to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item J.1, Attachment 1: Resolutions adopted by the IATTC at its 90th Meeting.

2. Agenda Item J.1, Attachment 2: July 26, 2016, letter from Mr. Barry Thom, NMFS West Coast Regional Administrator and Commissioner to the IATTC, to IATTC Executive Director, Guillermo Compeán and IATTC Chair, Mr. Guillermo Morán.
3. Agenda Item J.1.a, NMFS Report: Report on the International Management of Highly Migratory Species.
4. Agenda Item J.1.b, Public Comment.

Agenda Order:

- J.2 Update on International Issues Kit Dahl
- a. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
 - b. Public Comment
 - c. **Council Action:** Provide Recommendations to the U.S. Delegations to the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) and Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)

PFMC
08/19/16