

## INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

As noted under Agenda Item G.2 at the September Council meeting, the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) scheduled a resumption of its Eighty-Seventh Meeting for October 27-29, 2014, to consider two high priority items not agreed to at the regular annual meeting in July 2014. One of these matters, of special interest to the Council, are conservation measures for Pacific bluefin tuna, to succeed those in Resolution C-13-02, which expires at the end of 2014. Any conservation measures for Pacific bluefin tuna adopted at this meeting will be reported to the Council as a part of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) report within this agenda item.

The Eleventh Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC11) will occur December 1-5, 2014, in Apia, Samoa. In preparation for this meeting Executive Director Donald McIsaac, Staff Officer Kit Dahl, and Council Chair Dorothy Lowman (as a U.S. Commissioner) participated in the October 6-7, 2014, meeting of the Permanent Advisory Committee to the U.S. Section to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (PAC). The PAC reviewed and discussed conservation measures that may be considered at WCPFC11, including potential modifications to CMM 2013-01, Conservation and Management Measure for Tropical Tuna, a conservation and management measure (CMM) proposal for Pacific bluefin tuna adopted by the WCPFC Northern Committee (NC) (Attachment 1), and a management framework for North Pacific albacore tuna also adopted by the Northern Committee (Attachment 2) and a work program to advance further management measures and approaches for these two species and others (Attachment 3). Council Chair Lowman will report on the PAC meeting and its outcomes.

The Northern Committee Work Programme calls for intercessional work on the Precautionary Management Framework for North Pacific Albacore, including a management strategy evaluation (MSE) to be conducted by the Albacore Working Group of the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC), including an initial workshop next Spring. Definition of the scope and specifics of the MSE is currently under development and may be a point of discussion during the WCPFC annual meeting in early December. The Council may hear from advisory bodies and the public on this matter and may consider expressing guidance on points of emphasis. Attachment 4 is a draft resolution submitted by the U.S. at the 87<sup>th</sup> IATTC Meeting as a resolution and appended to the meeting report as guidance to the IATTC scientific staff.

There is a November 5 deadline for delegation proposals for WCPFC 11 so these materials were not available at the time of advance briefing book compilation. Relevant materials will be provided in a supplemental report. (Council members may wish to check the WCPFC website at <http://www.wcpfc.int/meetings/11th-regular-session-commission> in the interim.) The provisional annotated agenda for WCPFC 11 is provided as Attachment 5. This provides a general indication of subjects to be covered at the meeting.

**Council Action:**

**Consider Reports on International Activities and Adopt Recommendations for the U.S. Delegation to the Eleventh Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission as Appropriate**

**Reference Materials:**

1. Agenda Item I.2.a, Attachment 1: Draft Conservation and Management Measure to Establish a Multi-Annual Rebuilding Plan for Pacific Bluefin Tuna
2. Agenda Item I.2.a, Attachment 2: Precautionary Management Framework for North Pacific Albacore
3. Agenda Item I.2.a, Attachment 3: Work Programme for the Northern Committee
4. Agenda Item I.2.a, Attachment 4: Proposal IATTC-87 J-1 Submitted by the United States, Evaluation of Candidate Target and Limit Reference Points and Decision Framework for North Pacific Albacore
5. Agenda Item I.2.a, Attachment 5: Provisional Annotated Agenda, Eleventh Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

**Agenda Order:**

- a. Agenda Item Overview
  - b. Report on the WCPFC PAC Meeting
  - c. Report of the National Marine Fisheries Service
  - d. Reports and Comments of Advisory Bodies and Management Entities
  - e. Public Comment
  - f. **Council Action:** Consider Reports on International Activities and Adopt Recommendations or Provide Guidance on Other Matters, for the U.S. Delegation to the Eleventh Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission as Appropriate
- Kit Dahl  
Dorothy Lowman  
Mark Helvey

PFMC  
10/22/14