

## Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission

## Resolution on Albacore Tuna

June 2005

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), having responsibility for the scientific study of tunas and tuna-like fishes of the eastern Pacific Ocean, and for the formulation of recommendations to the Contracting Parties, cooperating non-Parties, fishing entities and regional economic integration organizations (CPCs) with regard to the conservation and management of these resources,

Observing that the best scientific evidence on North Pacific albacore tuna from the Interim Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean indicates that the species is either fully exploited or, if compared with generally accepted reference points for similar species, may be experiencing fishing mortality above levels that are sustainable in the long term, and

Recognizing the importance of working with the Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC), as provided for in Article XXIV of the Convention, in order to manage North Pacific albacore throughout its migratory range, and

Recalling further Article 22 of the WCPFC Convention that provides for cooperation with the IATTC regarding fish stocks that occur in the convention areas of both organizations;

The IATTC therefore resolve that:

1. The total level of fishing effort for North Pacific albacore tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean not be increased beyond current levels.
2. In order to maintain fishing effort at current levels, CPCs shall take action so that the level of fishing effort by vessels targeting North Pacific albacore in waters under their jurisdiction or operating under their jurisdiction on the high seas is not increased;

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3. The restriction in paragraph 2 above, shall not apply to vessels targeting other species whose catch of North Pacific Albacore does not exceed 15 percent of the total catch on a given trip.
4. All CPCs shall report all catches of North Pacific albacore in the EPO to the IATTC every six months.
5. The IATTC Secretariat shall, in coordination with other scientific bodies conducting scientific reviews of this stock, monitor the status of North Pacific albacore and report on the status of the stock to the Parties at each annual meeting;
6. The Parties shall consider future actions with respect to North Pacific albacore as may be warranted based on the results of such future analysis.
7. The Parties call upon the members of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission to consider taking such action as may be necessary to ensure the effective conservation and management of North Pacific albacore throughout its range including, in particular, measures to ensure that fishing effort on the stock does not increase and, as necessary, measures to reduce fishing effort to levels commensurate with the long-term sustainability of the resource.

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