

## **Summary of Western Pacific Fishery Management Council (WPFMC) Action on Pelagics FMP Amendment 14, June 2006**

The WPFMC made the following recommendation regarding international (high seas) fisheries. They did not change their previous recommendations for domestic (small boat, non-longline, non-purse seine) fisheries.

- The IATTC immediately reduce the bigeye catch in the purse seine fishery by 38% as recommended by the IATTC staff.
- If additional longline catch reductions are considered by IATTC, countries catching less than 1 percent on average of the bigeye catch should be allocated an annual quota of 500 mt for the 2007-2009 period.
- Exempt U.S. longline vessels not targeting bigeye tuna in the EPO from the annual bigeye quota.
- The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) should immediately reduce fishing mortality of yellowfin and bigeye by 20% in the WCPFC convention area utilizing capacity controls, fishing effort controls, limits on purse seine fishing around FADs, and national quotas.
- Countries which have increased their longline and purse seine fishing effort since 1999 should reduce their fishing effort in proportion to this increase. All measures must consider traditional participation and emerging island fisheries.
- NMFS assist the WCPFC in procuring the funding necessary to obtain better catch data from some segments of the Western and Central Pacific Ocean pelagic fishery, particularly Indonesia and the Philippines.