

ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANTS REPORT ON  
RECOMMEND INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

The Enforcement Consultants (EC) have reviewed the material associated with Agenda Item J.2, Recommend International Management Activities. The EC has several recommended changes to management measures created by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC), Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), and any other Regional Fishery Management Organizations (RFMOs) that impact Pacific Fishery Management Council (Council) fisheries. These recommendations are based on the results of the 2019 U.S. Coast Guard North Pacific Guard Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fisheries Patrol conducted by the Coast Guard Cutter (CGC) MELLON (WHEC 717).

Garbage Plan and Storage No vessel boarded by the CGC MELLON's boarding team had garbage containers or any system for storing garbage at-sea. This was evident by the amount of trash observed floating in the water when the CGC MELLON was in large fishing fleets. A mandatory Garbage Management Plan could alleviate this issue and help limit ocean pollution. The WCPFC currently has a Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) on Marine Pollution that recommends but does not require a Garbage Plan (see CMM 2017-14, which is available at <https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/cmm-2017-04/conservation-and-management-measure-marine-pollution>). The IATTC and NPFC do not have any CMMs relating to ocean pollution. The EC requests that the Council recommend the addition of a mandatory Garbage Plan CMM in RFMOs that affect Council-managed fisheries.

Boarding Ladder Multiple vessels did not have adequate boarding ladders for boarding teams to safely embark the vessels. The EC requests that the Council recommend addition of a Boarding Ladder CMM in RFMOs that affect Council-managed fisheries.

Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) While the WCPFC and IATTC require VMS, the NPFC does not. Given the vast expanse of the North Pacific, VMS is critical in locating participating vessels to conduct at-sea boardings and ensure compliance with CMMs. The EC requests that the Council recommend addition of a VMS CMM in RFMOs that affect Council-managed fisheries.