

INTERNATIONAL MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Since the November 2021 Council meeting, the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) held its 18th Regular Session (November 29-December 7, 2021). Attachment 1 is the Provisional Outcomes Document reflecting decisions taken by the Commission at its meeting. Documents referenced as attachments to the Outcomes Document may be found on the [WCPFC18 page](#) on the WCPFC website. The Commission adopted four conservation and management measures:

- [CMM 21-01](#) Conservation and Management Measure for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean
- [CMM 21-02](#) Conservation and Management Measure for Pacific Bluefin Tuna
- [CMM 21-03](#) Conservation and Management Measure on the Compliance Monitoring Scheme
- [CMM 21-04](#) Conservation and Management Measure for Charter Notification Scheme

No WCPFC subsidiary body meetings are scheduled between March and the June Council meeting. The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) has several subsidiary body meetings scheduled during that period as listed on its [website](#).

As reported in September 2021, the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) Albacore Working Group completed its management strategy evaluation (MSE) for North Pacific albacore, which the ISC Plenary reviewed and endorsed at its July 2021 meeting. MSE results will be used to further develop harvest strategies for North Pacific albacore by the IATTC and WCPFC Northern Committee (NC). IATTC [Resolution C-18-03](#) states at paragraph 5 “The IATTC scientific staff shall review the management strategy evaluation work undertaken within the ISC and the WCPFC towards the development of a harvest strategy for North Pacific albacore that includes identification and adoption of a limit and a target reference point, as well as harvest control rules for the IATTC. The IATTC Scientific Staff shall make recommendations in respect of such a framework for consideration by the Commission.” In its 2022-2024 workplan for North Pacific albacore, the WCPFC NC identifies further development of its harvest strategy including retention or modification of the adopted limit reference point and adoption of a target reference point in 2022 and in 2023-2024 further development of harvest strategy including establishment of a harvest control rule and threshold reference point in order to complete the harvest strategy. The Highly Migratory Species Management Team has been developing a tool to help stakeholders make recommendations on harvest strategy elements based on the MSE results. It will report to the Council on this work. National Marine Fisheries Service intends to hold a stakeholder workshop in April to garner input on this topic.

On January 17 the Mexican government closed its purse-seine fishery for Pacific bluefin tuna for 2022, reporting a total catch of 3,181 tons to date. IATTC [Resolution C-21-05](#) establishes a 2021-2022 limit for Mexico of 6,556 mt with a limit of no more than 3,824 mt caught in any one year. According to paragraph 7 in the Resolution, any under-harvest of the biennial limit may be added

to the limit established for 2023-2034, up to 5 percent of the current biennial limit (paragraph 5 in [Resolution C-21-01](#)).

Council Action:

Provide Recommendations on U.S. Positions for Upcoming Regional Fishery Management Organization Meetings and Other Forums, as Appropriate.

Reference Materials:

1. Agenda Item I.2, Attachment 1: Provisional Outcomes Document, 18th Regular Session of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission.
2. If received, Public Comments are electronic only ([see e-portal](#)).

Agenda Order:

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| I.2 | International Management Activities | Kit Dahl |
| | a. Reports and Comments of Management Entities and Advisory Bodies | |
| | b. Public Comment | |
| | c. Council Action: Provide Recommendations on U.S. Positions for Upcoming Regional Fishery Management Organization Meetings and Other Forums, as Appropriate | |

PFMC
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