

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE REPORT ON INTERNATIONAL
HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES (HMS) MANAGEMENT

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) reviewed the proposed range of options provided in the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) supplemental report ([Agenda Item J.2.a REVISED 2 Supplemental NMFS Report 2](#)). This report provides recommendations for potential Pacific bluefin tuna 2025-2026 trip limits, in order to provide a broad range of options for Pacific Fishery Management Council consideration at the November Council meeting. CDFW is providing proposed edits to the NMFS options to achieve the following:

- 1) Ensure the range is broad enough to encompass potential options for consideration
- 2) Ensure that the high-end option is more likely to achieve full use of the two-year quota
- 3) Correct the maximum allowed take in the second year, which cannot exceed 1285 mt regardless of total catch in the first year (per [Agenda Item J.2 Attachment 2](#))

The following table (Table 1) describes the options, highlighting places where we recommend changes from the NMFS options, and adding an option between “Running Start” and “Pedal to the Floor,” which we have named “Run Down the Middle.”

Table 1. Comparison of CDFW proposals for PBF trip limits for 2025-2026.

		Status Quo	Minimum Trips	Running Start	Minimum Trips	Run Down the Middle	Minimum Trips	Pedal to the Floor	Minimum Trips
2025	Annual Limit	1285 mt		1285 mt		1285 mt		1285 mt	
	Initial Trip Limit	30 mt	33	50 mt	20	60 mt	16	75 mt	12
	First Reduction Point	> 985 mt		> 985 mt		> 985 mt		> 885 mt	
	First Reduced Trip Limit	20 mt	10	25 mt	8	40 mt	3	25 mt - suggest 50 mt	4
	Second Reduction Point	> 1185 mt		> 1185 mt		> 1085 mt		> 1085 mt	
	Second Reduced Trip Limit	3 mt	33	5 mt	20	5 mt	20	5 mt	20
2026	Annual Limit*	537 mt+		537 mt+		537 mt+		537 mt+	
	Initial Trip Limit	30 mt		30 mt - Suggest 50 unless >1422 then 25		60 unless >1422 then 40		50 mt - suggest 75 unless >1422 then 50	
	First Reduction Point	>1522 mt (biennial total)		> 1422 mt (biennial total) - Suggest >985 (single year) or >1522 (biennial total)		>985 mt (single year) or >1522 (biennial total)		> 1422 mt (biennial total) - Suggest >985 (single year) or >1522 (biennial total)	
	First Reduced Trip Limit	20 mt		25 mt		40 mt		25 mt - suggest 50 mt	
	Second Reduction Point	> 1722 mt (biennial total)		> 1622 mt (biennial total) - Suggest >1185 (single year) or >1722 (biennial total)		>1185 (single year) or >1722 (biennial total)		> 1249 mt (biennial total) - Suggest >1185 (single year) or >1722 (biennial total)	

	Second Reduced Trip Limit	3 mt		3 mt / suggest 5mt		5 mt		5 mt	
--	---------------------------	------	--	--------------------	--	------	--	------	--

* Note that any under-harvest from 2025 can be added to the annual limit for 2026. However, you cannot exceed more than 1285 mt in either year.