

Issue	2019 objective	Notes
Top-priority:		
Tropical tunas	With a view to the general objective of providing for greater LL exploitation and reduced BET mortality from PS while satisfying PICs' concerns with disproportionate conservation burdens, make progress towards favorable allocation decisions in 2020 for BET catches in longline (p44) and purse seine fishing effort (p28) and maintain or improve appropriate FAD definition (p18).	CMM 2018-01 is in effect through 2020; the only provision that expires at end of 2019 is the small-garbage FAD provision (p18), which is subject to evaluation of effects; additional tasks in the measure for 2019 are reviewing: the stock-specific objectives (p15), LL BET limits (p40), deployed FADs limit (p24), and treatment of other commercial fisheries (p50). Expectations for 2019 also include making progress on the 2020 tasks of deciding on BET LL TAC and allocation (p44) and PS fishing effort limits (p28).
Compliance Monitoring Scheme	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Continue to participate in the CMS process and work to ensure that is a fair and meaningful process. 2) Work with Secretariat and others to lead effort to develop audit points for existing measures, and participate actively in other intersessional work on further development of the CMS process. 3) Continue to progress work with FFA on the element of flag state investigation so that a revised CMM is adopted in 2019. 4) Continue to push for a more permanent CMS measure which includes a mechanism for responses to non-compliance. 	CMM 2018-07 is in effect for 2019 only. During 2019, the measure explicitly calls for the development of process for assessing CCM actions, to replace paragraph 27 and flag state investigations. Additional 2019 work explicit in the measure includes a comprehensive review of the Commission's reporting requirements (see FFA initiative, project 93), development of audit points to clarify obligations to be assessed under the CMS, and further improvements to the online compliance case file system.
Pacific bluefin tuna	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Revise CMM if warranted by rebuilding progress, including consideration of limit increases (and ensure commensurate changes in IATTC Resolution). 2) Make progress on CDS for Pacific bluefin. 	PBF MSE meeting in May 2019. CDS and JWG meeting to be held in conjunction with NC15.
At-sea transshipment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Further develop guidelines for allowing at-sea transshipment and explore implications of further restrictions on at-sea transshipment. 2) Strengthen implementation of existing regulatory scheme, particularly in making use of pre-transshipment notifications and transshipment declarations for enforcement. 	
NP striped marlin	See adoption of a rebuilding plan for NP striped marlin and possibly exploitation controls.	At WCPFC15, the U.S. committed to submitting a draft rebuilding plan for consideration by WCPFC16.

SP albacore	Continue work on roadmap for South Pacific albacore.	WCPFC15 adopted a TRP for SP albacore at 56% SSB F=0. At WCPFC14, New Zealand agreed to lead an electronic intersessional process that will work to develop a plan on allocation, consider improvements in data gaps for longline and troll, and consider elements necessary to implement a harvest strategy for SP albacore. WCPFC15 tasked the group to continue work intersessionally to develop the Roadmap for Effective Conservation and Management of South Pacific albacore. SPC was also tasked in 2019 to identify a range of alternative catch pathways to the interim TRP and timeframes that achieve the interim TRP.
Harvest strategies	See progress on harvest strategy elements, particularly for southern LL, tropical LL, and tropical PS.	For 2019, harvest strategy workplan lists: -For SKJ: Commission is supposed to review TRP and SC will advise on required analysis to support TRP review. -For BET and YFT: SC to provide advice on potential TRPs and Commission scheduled to adopt a TRP. SC may need to also reassess acceptable levels of risk for 3 stocks (not SKJ).

Lower-priority:

Sharks	See adoption of a comprehensive shark CMM.	At WCPFC14, Japan agreed to chair a virtual IWG and the chair submitted a draft that was discussed at WCPFC15. WCPFC15 was unable to come to an agreement on a comprehensive CMM, and the WCPFC chair suggested that TCC15 consider outputs of the shark intersessional working group and that members consider submitting proposals ahead of TCC15.
FAD management	Provide input on FAD management related to non-entangling and biodegradable FADs.	WCPFC17 to consider adoption of measures of the implementation of non-entangling and/or biodegradable materials on FADs based on guidelines defined by the FAD MO IWG and advice from SC16 and TCC16.
Overlap area	Deal with problems associated with overlap area, including lack of transparency on implementation of IATTC-WCPFC agreement and cross-endorsement of observers.	Declarations of CCMs to the WCPFC on which RFMO measures apply in overlap area are available (WCPFC13) but incomplete. Declarations to IATTC don't appear to be available on the IATTC website.
SIDS issues	1) Improve efforts to cooperate with SIDS and consult on proposals for disproportionate burden implications. 2) Contribute to efforts to ensure sustainability of Special Requirements Fund.	Work ongoing for the virtual intersessional SRF working group (SRF-WG). SRF-WG currently drafting language to potentially submit as a proposal to the FAC to enhance existing SRF governance and develop a Strategic Investment Plan.

New members	Continue to push for a process for interested and eligible CNMs to become full members.	US submitted a paper to WCPFC14. FFA members strongly opposed new members or even considering a process for accession. Other members (Japan, EU, China, Chinese Taipei) were supportive of the U.S. position.
Seabirds	Continue to strengthen mitigation effectiveness, particularly in NP small-longline fleets.	
Charters	Make progress on dealing with the effects of vessels chartered by SIDS.	Could deal with through specific CMMs like for tropical tunas, or through limits on the use of charters generally.
NP swordfish	See adoption of reference points for NP swordfish.	US submitted a proposal to NC14, but received significant pushback from Japan on the F-based reference point. NC14 adopted the management objective, but not the other portions of the proposed harvest strategy.
NP albacore	Contribute to MSE progress.	NP albacore MSE meeting in March 2019.
Catch Documentation Scheme	Continue to engage in the development of a WCPFC catch documentation scheme.	
Vessel Monitoring System	See adoption of discrete changes to WCPFC rules related to actions taken when a VMS unit stops reporting at sea, as well as development of automated tools to assist the Secretariat and flag States assess VMS compliance on an ongoing basis and for the CMR.	Manual reporting (and poorly-monitored VMS failures by non-US fleets) continue to diminish enforcement effectiveness. This work will require coordination with Secretariat Compliance and VMS staff, potential "proof of concept" demonstration of enhanced VMS-reporting compliance methods, then "marketing" to other Members.
High Seas Boarding and Inspection Scheme		
Data	Improve the quantity and quality of fisheries data held and used by the Commission.	
Sea turtles	Improve data collection on sea turtle interactions and continue development of a stronger CMM that more effectively reduces HMS fisheries' adverse impacts, particularly on the leatherback.	New measure adopted in 2018 - includes obligation to review the measure in 2021 to explore further expansion to deep-set. U.S. should continue to push for modifications to the ROP MSDF alongside work scheduled for 2019 - including project 93 and development of observer data collection elements for transshipment.

Regional Observer Programme	See adoption of improvements to CMM and/or SSPs to speed provision of observer reports to flag States for investigations.	WCPFC15 directed TCC WG to continue to address the flow of observer reports to flag States.
Strategic plan		
Port State measures		
eR and eM		
IUU Vessel List		
Marine debris/pollution		
Labor standards		