



**COMMISSION
ELEVENTH REGULAR SESSION**
Faleata Sports Complex, Apia, SAMOA
1 - 5 December 2014

FFA CCMs proposal for a Shark Conservation and Management Measure

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Paper submitted by FFA Members



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CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR SHARKS

Conservation and Management Measure 2014-xx

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean;

adopts, in accordance with Articles 5 and 10 of the Convention, that:

Measures for longline fisheries targeting tuna and billfish

1. CCMs shall ensure that their vessels comply with at least one of the following options:
 - a. do not use or carry wire trace as branch lines or leaders; or
 - b. do not use branch lines running directly off the longline floats or drop lines, known as shark lines. See Figure 1 for a schematic diagram of a shark line;

Measures for longline fisheries targeting sharks

2. For fisheries that target sharks in association with WCPFC fisheries, CCMs must develop a management plan for that fishery that includes specific authorisations to fish such as a licence and a TAC or other measure to limit the catch of shark to acceptable levels. These management plans must be developed by December 2015 and submitted to the Commission. These plans must explicitly demonstrate how the fisheries avoid catch of highly depleted species such as silky and oceanic whitetip sharks. These management plans must be submitted to the SC for review, before discussion at WCPFC 12.

Review

3. On the basis of advice from the SC and TCC, the Commission, shall review the implementation and effectiveness of management arrangements provided in this measure including minimum data requirements, after 2 years of its implementation and shall consider the application of additional measures for the management of shark stocks in the Convention Area, as appropriate.
4. This CMM does not replace or prejudice any other existing shark CMM. This CMM shall come into force on 1 July 2015.

Figure 1 – Schematic diagram of a shark line

