



**TECHNICAL AND COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE**

**Fifteenth Regular Session**

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Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

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**[PROVISIONAL] UPDATED INFORMATION ON NORTH PACIFIC ALBACORE  
FISHING EFFORT**

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**WCPFC-TCC15-2019-IP11<sup>1</sup>**

**4 September 2019**

**Secretariat**

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<sup>1</sup> This version was posted for NC15 Meeting on 4 September 2019 as **WCPFC-NC15-2019/WP-01**



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE  
FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**  
Portland, WA, USA  
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**[PROVISIONAL] Updated information on North Pacific albacore fishing effort**  
(Reference: Attachment C/Annex A in NC7 Summary Report)

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**WCPFC-NC15-2019/WP-01**

**Secretariat**

**Table 1.** Average annual catch of North Pacific albacore (metric tonnes)

<b>CCM</b>	<b>Data pertain to WCPFC Area only or entire N Pacific?</b>	<b>Fisheries with ANY catch of NP albacore</b>	<b>"Fishing for" NP albacore? (Y/N)</b>	<b>2006-2010 average annual catch</b>
<b>Canada</b>	N Pacific total catches	Albacore troll	Y	5,911
Total catches for Canada:				5,911
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				5,911
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				100
<b>China</b>	N. Pacific	Longline	Y	1,967
	N. Pacific	Longline	N	98
Total catches for China:				1,967
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				1,869
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				95
Note: Historically, there are 10 longliners seasonally operating in the high seas of Northern Pacific Ocean targeting albacore, which covered the Convention Areas of WCPFC and IATTC				
<b>Cook Islands</b>	N Pacific total catches	Albacore troll	Y	31
	N Pacific total catches	Longline	Y	8
Total catches for Cook Islands:				39
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				39
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				100
<b>Fiji</b>				1.188mt
Total catches for Fiji Islands:				1.188mt
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				None
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				None
<b>Japan</b>	CA only	LL Coast	Y	16,817
		LL DW	Y	4,230
		PL Coast	N	89
		PL DW	Y	24,504
		PS Coast	N	14
		PS DW	N	1,841
		GN	N	430
		Troll	N	505
		Set Net	N	52
		Others	N	36
Total catches for Japan:				48,518
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				45,551
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				94
<b>Korea</b>	CA only	LL DW	Y	18
	CA only	LL DW	N	157
Total catches for Korea:				175
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				18
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				10

<b>NOTE:</b> Three LL DW participated in fishing for NP Albacore in 2007 and 2008, and the catch was 87 tons.				
<b>Philippines</b>	N Pacific	others	N	75
Total catches for Philippines (average for 2009-2011):				75
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				0
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				0
<b>NOTE:</b> Catches are mainly from artisanal Hook-and-Line Gear (non-targeting ALB)				
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>	N Pacific	albacore LL	Y	2,548
	N Pacific	LL others	N	552
Total catches for Chinese Taipei:				3,100
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				2,548
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				82
<b>United States</b>	N Pacific	Albacore troll	Y	12,344
		Longline	N	288
		Gillnet	N	3
		Pole and line	N	0
		Purse seine	N	23
		Other	N	577
Total catches for United States:				13,236
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				12,344
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				93
<b>NOTE:</b>				
1) These USA (2006-2010) data may not be confirmed from figures available to the Secretariat.				
2) US response: See all our annual reports under CMM 2005-03, the latest of which is dated 30 April 2012.				
<b>Vanuatu</b>	CA only	LL	Y	2,660
Total catches for Vanuatu:				2,660
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				2,660
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				100
CA				
Note: Report is derived from Dorado report for CMM 05-03 of Catch of North Albacore North of the Equator				
<b>Belize</b>	CA only	LL	Y	95
Total catches for Belize:				95
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				95
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				100
<b>NOTE:</b> catch unsegregated by area				
<b>Federated States of Micronesia</b>	CA only	LL	N	18
Total catches for FSM:				18
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				0
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				0
<b>NOTE:</b> Commenced fishery in 2009				
<b>Marshall Islands</b>	CA only	LL	N	N/A

Total catches for RMI:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
NOTE: Commenced fishery in 2008				
<b>Vietnam</b>	EEZ only	LL	N	13
Total catches for Vietnam (average of 2000-2011):				13
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				0
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				0
Note: Catches are mainly from LL only; and there is also possibility of wrongly identify by enumerators to account yellowfin and bigeye as albacore				

**Table 1-1.** Average annual catch of NP albacore during 2006-2010 (from Table 1)

Country	Target category	CA only	N Pacific
<b>Canada</b>	Target		5,911
	Non-Target		0
<b>China</b>	Target		1,869
	Non-Target		98
<b>Cook Islands</b>	Target		39
	Non-Target		0
<b>Fiji</b>	Target		0
	Non-Target		1.188
<b>Japan</b>	Target	45,551	
	Non-Target	2,967	
<b>Korea</b>	Target	18	
	Non-Target	157	
<b>Philippines</b>	Target		0
	Non-Target		75
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>	Target		2,548
	Non-Target		552
<b>United States of America</b>	Target		12,344
	Non-Target		892
<b>Vanuatu</b>	Target	2,660	3,109
	Non-Target	0	0
<b>Belize</b>	Target	95	
	Non-Target	0	
<b>FSM</b>	Target	0	
	Non-Target	18	
<b>Marshall Islands</b>	Target		
	Non-Target		
<b>Vietnam</b>	Target		0
	Non-Target		13
<b>Total Catch</b>			
		CA only	N Pacific
<b>Total catch</b>	Target	47,458	22,699
	Non-T	3,142	1,630
	Total catch	50,600	24,329
<b>Proportion</b>	Target	94%	93%
	Non-T	6%	7%
		100%	100%

**Table 2.** Fishing effort fishing for North Pacific albacore

CCM	Area <sup>1</sup>	Fishery <sup>2</sup>	2002-04 Average		2005		2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
			No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days
Canada <sup>3</sup>	N Pacific	ALB troll	215	8,898	213	8,564	174	6,243	207	6,902	137	5,773	138	6,540	161	7,294
	CA <sup>4</sup> only	ALB troll	8	256	1	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	N Pacific	LL	10	1,250	10	1,230	10	1150	2	260	2	250	2	280	2	240
Cook Islands	N Pacific	ALB troll	4	183	2	240	2	171	1	57	1	0	0	0	0	0
	N Pacific	LL	1	2	1	4	0	0	1	37	1	17	0	0	0	0
Fiji	N Pacific	LL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Japan <sup>5</sup>	CA only	LL Coast	296	40,988	289	41,197	287	43,366	273	43,480	276	40,030	280	43,536	286	45,877
		LL DW	633	26,851	591	21,548	538	21,186	494	21,712	480	17,823	361	12,060	342	13,084
		PL DW	141	19,839	134	20,442	125	16,059	106	16,931	104	15,667	104	15,248	101	15,541
Korea <sup>6</sup>	CA only	LL DW	13	1,072					3	268	3	107				
Philippines <sup>7</sup>	N Pacific	Handline														
Chinese Taipei <sup>8</sup>	N Pacific	ALB LL	25		23	2,363	24	4,156	21	3,360	18	2,603	13	2,082	20	2,093
USA	N Pacific	ALB troll		13,311		11,552		10,892		11,552		11,138		13,339		13,076
	CA only	ALB troll		789		371		66		42		*		*		*
Vanuatu	N Pacific	LL	26	1,348	37	4,394	55	3,196	36	2,683	41	2,385	30	1,530	28	1,515
Belize <sup>9</sup>													40		49	

\* Data in the WCPO were confidential

<sup>1</sup> Data pertain to WCPFC Area only or entire N Pacific?

<sup>2</sup> Fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore

<sup>3</sup> NOTE: For Canada no fishing inside the CA since 2005

<sup>4</sup> Convention Area

<sup>5</sup> Japanese albacore data indicates the fisheries in north of the equator within CA.

<sup>6</sup> Korea's fishing effort "fishing for" NP albacore occurred in 2007 and 2008, and non-target fishing effort occurred every year in the North Pacific.

<sup>7</sup> Estimates under study

<sup>8</sup> This data just indicates the fishery fishing for NP albacore only

<sup>9</sup> Vessel number and effort was given for all species

**Table 2 (continued).** Fishing effort fishing for North Pacific albacore

CCM	Area	Fishery	2002-04 Average		2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
			No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days
Canada	N Pacific	ALB troll	215	8,898	161	8,556	172	5,974	183	6,465	160	4,747	164	5,197	152	5,359
	CA only	ALB troll	8	256	1	3	2	2	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	N Pacific	LL	10	1,250	10	1240	10	1280	10	1220	10	1290	10	900	10	910
Cook Islands	N Pacific	ALB troll	4	183												
	N Pacific	LL	1	2									2	22	1	68
Fiji	N Pacific	LL	0	0	0	0	9	230	29	920	20	663	10	88	8	170
Japan	CA only	LL Coast	296	40,988	273	42,996	266	38,977	248	37,529	246	35,362	237	37,801	229	<del>37,308</del> 37,179
		LL DW	633	26,851	341	12,683	320	13,818	321	13,406	305	13,305	285	11,763	256	<del>10,419</del> 10,436
		PL DW	141	19,839	98	13,433	95	14,646	85	12,781	84	12,147	84	12,743	81	13,923
Korea	CA only	LL DW	13	1,072	59	7,407		11,061		1,746		1,224		857		934
Philippines	CA only	Artisanal fishery (non-targeting)														
Chinese Taipei	N Pacific	ALB LL	25		21	1,839	21	1,423	22	2,108	22	2,348	23	2,401	24	2,259
USA	N Pacific	ALB troll		13,311		13,983		15,218		13,509		<del>12,199</del> 12,394		<del>11,506</del> 11,734		<del>12,743</del> 12,581
	CA only	ALB troll		789		155		*		*		76		87		0
Vanuatu	N Pacific	LL	26	1,348	42	2,338	46	1,189	60	3,337	87	3,695	88	3,702	48	2,183

Belize																	
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Italic = preliminary data

\* Data in the WCPO were confidential



CCM	Area	Fishery	2002-04 Average		2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
			No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days
Canada	N Pacific	ALB troll	215	8,898	121	4,978	121	4,196								
	CA only	ALB troll	8	256	5	100	0	0								
China	N Pacific	LL	10	1,250	10	850	10	838								
Cook Islands	N Pacific	ALB troll	4	183	0	0	0	0								
	N Pacific	LL	1	2	0	0	0	0								
Fiji	N Pacific	LL	0	0	7	147	6	180								
Japan	CA only	LL Coast	296	40,988	233	<del>35,647</del> 35,207	229	34,011								
		LL DW	633	26,851	253	<del>10,171</del> 10,505	248	10,478								
	PL DW	141	19,839	82	<del>12,656</del> 13,923	80	12,061									
Korea	CA only	LL DW	13	1,072		<del>1,990</del> 1,983		<del>1,345</del> 1,215								
Philippines																
Chinese Taipei	N Pacific	ALB LL	25		25	2,567	25	2,943								
USA	N Pacific	ALB troll		13,311		<del>12,673</del> 12,545		10,916								
	CA only	ALB troll		789		<del>567</del> 194		127								
Vanuatu	N Pacific	LL	26	1,348	69	2,615	89	3,688								
Belize																

**Table 2-1.** As requested by the NC12 (Paragraph 57) related to Paragraph 2 in CMM 2005-03, CCMs are requested to report on how to control their fishing effort fishing for North Pacific albacore by indicating, for example, limiting vessels, fishing days, licenses, or some other measures.

CCM	Area	Fishery	Regulation of fishing effort
Canada	N Pacific	ALB troll	<p>Canada issues domestic “CT” fishing licences for Albacore Tuna. The CT licence is intended to act as a management measure to strengthen management of the domestic tuna fishery, and help ensure Canada is meeting international obligations related to effort. As of 2013, commercial licence holders wanting to harvest tuna are required to hold a primary licence (with Schedule II privileges) and apply for/receive a separate CT (Tuna) licence. The CT licence authorizes fishing of Pacific Albacore tuna in Canada’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and on the high seas under separate licence conditions. The CT licence is vessel-based and must be renewed annually.</p> <p>Canadian licence holders without a primary licence are able to access tuna in international high seas waters through “Section 68 High Seas” licenses. The Section 68 licence is intended to act as a management measure to strengthen management of the tuna fishery in the high seas, and help ensure Canada is meeting international obligations related to effort. The Section 68 licence must be renewed annually.</p>
	CA only	ALB troll	<p>Canada issues domestic “CT” fishing licences for Albacore Tuna. The CT licence is intended to act as a management measure to strengthen management of the domestic tuna fishery, and help ensure Canada is meeting international obligations related to effort. As of 2013, commercial licence holders wanting to harvest tuna are required to hold a primary licence (with Schedule II privileges) and apply for/receive a separate CT (Tuna) licence. The CT licence authorizes fishing of Pacific Albacore tuna in Canada’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and on the high seas under separate licence conditions. The CT licence is vessel-based and must be renewed annually.</p> <p>Canadian licence holders without a primary licence are able to access tuna in international high seas waters through “Section 68 High Seas” licenses. The Section 68 licence is intended to act as a management measure to strengthen management of the tuna fishery in the high seas, and help ensure Canada is meeting international obligations related to effort. The Section 68 licence must be renewed annually.</p>
China	N Pacific	LL	
Cook Islands	N Pacific	ALB troll	Not Applicable, CK has no troll vessels in the fishery
	N Pacific	LL	Limited by license.
Fiji	N Pacific	LL	Vessel Size class & capacity, Licenses and other measures specified in Offshore Fisheries Management Act 2012 & Offshore Fisheries Management Regulation 2014 and National Strategy for Fiji Fishing Vessels Operating in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction.
Japan	CA only	LL Coast	The number of fishing vessels is limited by the license system.
		LL DW	The number of fishing vessels is limited by the license system.

		PL DW	The number of fishing vessels is limited by the license system.
<b>Korea</b>	CA only	LL DW	There has been no Korean flagged fishing vessel targeting for N.ALB. However, all authorized fishing vessels operating in the CA are required to report their catches including non-targeting species daily via the e-reporting system.
<b>Philippines</b>	-	-	Not applicable
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>	N Pacific	ALB LL	1. We have limited the number of our fishing vessels fishing for North Pacific albacore to stay below 25 since CMM 2005-03 was implemented. The vessel number is controlled when we issue the fishing permit every year. 2. For other fishing vessels that are not allowed to fishing for North Pacific albacore, their bycatches of this albacore would be monitored to stay below certain ratio
<b>USA</b>	N Pacific	ALB troll	The United States has a single fleet that fishes for North Pacific albacore in the Convention Area: the albacore troll fleet is based out of the U.S. West Coast. The albacore troll fleet is not currently subject to effort or catch controls, but permitting, VMS, and reporting (through vessel logbooks) requirements enable the United States to monitor the fishery, including levels of participation, fishing effort and catches. The United States will continue to monitor fishing effort and implement any controls needed to comply with paragraph 2 of the CMM, as well as with relevant decisions adopted in other RFMOs (IATTC).
	CA only	ALB troll	The United States has a single fleet that fishes for North Pacific albacore in the Convention Area: the albacore troll fleet is based out of the U.S. West Coast. The albacore troll fleet is not currently subject to effort or catch controls, but permitting, VMS, and reporting (through vessel logbooks) requirements enable the United States to monitor the fishery, including levels of participation, fishing effort and catches. The United States will continue to monitor fishing effort and implement any controls needed to comply with paragraph 2 of the CMM, as well as with relevant decisions adopted in other RFMOs (IATTC).
<b>Vanuatu</b>	N Pacific		Vanuatu currently reviewing its Fisheries Regulation to limit the control of fishing effort fishing for North Pacific albacore
<b>Belize</b>			
<b>FSM</b>			
<b>Kiribati</b>			
<b>Mexico</b>			
<b>Vietnam</b>			