



**NORTHERN COMMITTEE
TWELFTH REGULAR SESSION**
Fukuoka, Japan
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Report on CMM 2015-04 (Pacific bluefin tuna)

WCPFC-NC12-2016/DP-08

CHINESE TAIPEI



行政院農業委員會漁業署

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Mr. Feleti P Teo OBE
Executive Director
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
P. O. Box 2356, Kolonia,
Pohnpei 96941, Federated States of Micronesia

Subject: Annual Report of Pacific Bluefin Tuna Measure

Dear Mr. Teo,

In accordance with paragraph 12 of Conservation and Management Measure to establish a multi-annual rebuilding plan for Pacific Bluefin Tuna (CMM 2015-04), this is to provide a report of the annually measures we have taken to implement paragraph 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 11 and 14 of this CMM as well as the results of international trade of the products derived from Pacific Bluefin tuna that we monitored.

Sincerely yours,

Ding Rong Lin

Director

Deep Sea Fisheries Division

Annual Report on the implementation of the Conservation and
Management Measure to establish a multi-annual rebuilding plan for
Pacific Bluefin Tuna (CMM 2015-04)
Chinese Taipei

1. The two requirements specified in paragraph 3 of CMM 2015-04 are satisfied by the following measures.
 - (1) To ensure the total fishing effort by our vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna in the area north of the 20 degrees north would not exceed the 2002-2004 levels, we have imposed a regulation since March, 2010 to require the number of our vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna to stay below 660, as well as our fishing vessels to get prior approval to fish for this species.
 - (2) For the requirement of catch reduction of Pacific bluefin tuna less than 30 kg, please be advised that all of our catches of Pacific bluefin tuna are all larger than 30 kg. Besides, we have imposed a regulation in 2015 to prohibit vessels from retaining on board, transshipping, storing on a fishing vessel, or landing any Pacific bluefin tuna less than 30 kg.
2. To implement paragraph 4 of CMM 2015-04, that is to ensure the catches of Pacific bluefin tuna 30 kg or larger would not increase from the 2002-2004 annual average levels, a regulation was imposed in 2015 to limit the catches of Pacific bluefin tuna stay below that level.
3. For the reporting requirements specified in paragraph 6 of CMM 2015-04, our data are provided as follows.

Table 1. Fishing effort by vessels fishing for Pacific bluefin tuna *in the area north of 20° N in the Convention Area*

Fishery	Unit of fishing effort (e.g., sets, fishing days, vessels)	2015
Longline	vessels	483

Table 2. Catches (mt), including discards, of Pacific bluefin tuna in the Convention Area

Fishery	2015	
	<30kg	≥30kg
Longline	0	577
Other coastal fisheries	0	41

4. For paragraph 9 of CMM 2015-04, to prevent commercial transaction of Pacific bluefin tuna and its products from undermining the effective of CMM 2015-04, our domestic regulation requires importer to get prior approval from the Agency. When reviewing such application, we require the importer to provide the catch documentation issued by exporting countries or copy of the documentation validated by the country of last re-export if the catch or product is not imported from country of origin.
5. For paragraph 11 of CMM 2015-04, the following measures have been taken to ensure the data quality of Pacific bluefin tuna fisheries.
 - (1) We have introduced Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) for the Pacific bluefin tuna. When Pacific bluefin tuna is caught at sea, it shall be tied with tag, and the related information, such as tag number, the location, time, estimated weight and length shall be reported by the captain to fishery radio stations.
 - (2) Before the catch is landed, captains shall notify this Agency the estimated landing date and port via fishery radio stations. Consequently, we are able to dispatch our staffs to domestic fishing ports to verify the catch and the related information. In this regard, we sent several staffs to measure the size and weight at landing sites in Taiwan for the past five years. Most of the Pacific bluefin tuna landed in Taiwan have been checked by our authorized staffs. In addition, Catch Documentation shall be validated by competent authorities before the catch is first sold whether for domestic consumption or for export. Through this program, the data collection of individual weight and length of Pacific bluefin tuna has been significantly improved. The abovementioned scheme also applies to our other coastal fisheries that bycatch Pacific bluefin tuna incidentally.

- (3) Finally, we have kept investing on our scientists to conduct research on the stock assessment of Pacific bluefin tuna and age structure of catches of this species.
6. For paragraph 13 of CMM 2015-04, our delegation have taken the chance of attending IATTC meetings to exchange opinion and communicate with the IATTC contracting parties on the Pacific bluefin tuna issues.
7. Finally, our monitoring result of international trade of the products derived from Pacific bluefin tuna provides that we did not export PBF to other CCMs while around 6.9 metric tons of PBF were imported from other CCMs in 2015.