



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

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR SHARKS

Conservation and Management Measure 2014-05

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 1 July 2015, if possible and no later than 1 December 2015 and submitted to the Commission. These plans must explicitly demonstrate how the fisheries aim to avoid or reduce catch and maximises live release of specimens of highly depleted species such as silky and oceanic whitetip sharks caught incidentally. Those management plans submitted by 1 July shall be provided to the SC11 for review, before discussion at WCPFC 12. Plans submitted up to 1 December 2015 shall be reviewed in the subsequent year at SC12 and WCPFC13.

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

