

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

93RD MEETING

San Diego, California (USA)

24, 27 – 30 August 2018

PROPOSAL IATTC-93 J-1A

SUBMITTED BY THE UNITED STATES

**AMENDMENT TO RESOLUTION C-13-03 SUPPLEMENTING
RESOLUTION C-05-02 ON NORTH PACIFIC ALBACORE**

The Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC):

Recalling Resolution C-05-02 on Northern Pacific albacore tuna;

Recalling further its responsibility for the conservation and management of tunas and tuna-like species in the Convention Area, and for the formulation of recommendations to its Members and Cooperating non-Members (CPCs) with regard to the conservation and management of these resources;

Observing that the 2017 stock assessment of North Pacific albacore from the International Scientific Committee for Tuna and Tuna-like Species in the North Pacific Ocean (ISC) indicates that North Pacific albacore tuna is neither being overfished nor is it in an overfished state;

Mindful that the effectiveness of Resolution C-05-02 is unknown and considering that the ISC is expected to complete a new stock assessment in 2020;

Acknowledging that the ISC relies on catch data provided by CPCs for stock assessments;

Recognizing the importance of working with the WCPFC, as provided for in Article XXIV of the Antigua Convention, in order to manage North Pacific albacore tuna throughout its migratory range;

Noting the work of the WCPFC's Northern Committee in determining the extent their Commission Members, Cooperating Non-Members, and participating Territories (CCMs) are working to implement the WCPFC's Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) 2005-03 on North Pacific albacore;

Recalling further Article 22(4) of the WCPFC Convention that provides for cooperation with the IATTC regarding fish stocks that occur in the convention areas of both organizations;

Taking into account Article IV of the Antigua Convention calling upon members of the Commission to apply the precautionary approach, as described in the relevant provisions of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, as well as the 1995 United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, for the conservation, management and sustainable use of fish stocks covered by the Convention;

Considering the ongoing management strategy evaluation work within the ISC which may inform the further development of the WCPFC harvest strategy for North Pacific albacore and which will-may include target, threshold and limit reference points, as well as pre-agreed decision rules should those reference points be breached; and,

Recalling that Resolution C-13-03 required submission of North Pacific albacore catch data only through 2012, and that since 2014 the IATTC Scientific staff has recommended Resolution C-13-03 be continued.

The IATTC therefore resolves that:

1. All CPCs shall report to the Director by December 1, 2018, using the template in Annex A, a list of all

their specific fisheries or fleets that had any catch of North Pacific albacore in the Convention Area from 2013 through 2017; whether or not those fisheries or fleets were targeting North Pacific albacore; and the annual catch by fishery or fleet. Thereafter, all CPCs shall report for each year such information annually to the Director by the following June 30. If estimated catch has changed in any of the previous five years, CPCs shall also report updates to catch, as necessary. In the case that a CPC cannot distinguish whether or not its catch of North Pacific albacore occurred in the Convention Area, it shall report its catch of North Pacific albacore in the entire North Pacific.

2. All CPCs shall report to the Director by December 1, 2018, using the template in Annex B, annual fishing effort for fisheries targeting North Pacific albacore from 2013 through 2017, as well as the average effort for the period 2002-2004. Fishing effort shall be reported in fishing days and number of vessels fishing for (i.e., targeting) North Pacific albacore. Thereafter, all CPCs shall report for each year such information annually to the Director by the following June 30. If estimated effort has changed in any of the previous five years, CPCs shall also report updates to effort, as necessary.
3. The Director shall direct the IATTC scientific staff to review the data template for its completeness.
4. The Director and the IATTC scientific staff shall, in coordination with the ISC, monitor the status of North Pacific albacore tuna and report on the status of the stock at annual meetings taking place after each assessment completed by the ISC.
5. The IATTC scientific staff shall review the management strategy evaluation work undertaken within the ISC and the WCPFC towards the development of a harvest strategy for North Pacific albacore that includes identification and adoption of a limit and a target reference point, as well as harvest control rules for the IATTC. The IATTC Scientific Staff shall make recommendations in respect of such a framework for consideration by the Commission.
6. The Commission shall continue efforts to promote compatibility between the conservation and management measures adopted by the IATTC and the WCPFC with respect to North Pacific albacore.
7. Upon the entry into force of this resolution, paragraph 3 of Resolution C-05-02 shall no longer be in effect.
8. The Director shall communicate this Resolution to the WCPFC Secretariat.

Annex A

Annual catches of North Pacific albacore in the EPO by fishery. List separately all fisheries that had any catch of North Pacific albacore and indicate whether they were fisheries that fished for (i.e., targeted) North Pacific albacore.

CPC:

Year (e.g., 2018)	Data pertain to IATTC Area only or entire North Pacific?	Fisheries with ANY catch of NP albacore	"Fishing for" (i.e., targeting) NP albacore? (Y/N)	Annual catches
Year (e.g., 2017)				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
Year (e.g., 2016)				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
Year (e.g., 2015)				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
Year (e.g., 2014)				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
Year (e.g., 2013)				
Total catches:				
Catches in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				
% of total catch in fisheries "fishing for" NP albacore:				

Average fishing effort (in number of vessels and fishing days) for 2002-2004 and annual fishing effort (in number of vessels and fishing days) for the previous five years for fisheries for (i.e., targeting) North Pacific albacore in the EPO.

CPC	Area ¹	Fishery ² / gear type	2002–2004 Average		Year		Year		Year		Year		Year	
			No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days	No. of vessels	Fishing days

¹ Indicate if data pertain to IATTC Convention Area (fill in with “EPO”) only or entire North Pacific (fill in with “NPO”)

² Fisheries “fishing for” (i.e., targeting) NP albacore