

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION
COMISIÓN INTERAMERICANA DEL ATÚN TROPICAL

80TH MEETING

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA (USA)
8-12 JUNE 2009

DOCUMENT IATTC-80-06b

CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Conservation of yellowfin and bigeye tuna: The staff recommends implementation during 2009-2011 of a conservation proposal similar to that proposed in Document [IATTC-78-06b](#):

1. **For the purse-seine fishery**, a 12-week closure in the entire EPO from 20 June through 11 September, and a closure of the offshore area (Figure A) from 12 September through 31 December. For 2009, due to the timing of the IATTC meeting, the recommended 12-week closure would be delayed by 25 days, to begin on 15 July and end on 6 October, and the offshore closure, which would begin at the end of the 12-week closure and terminate at the end of 2009, would be shortened.



FIGURE A. Offshore closure area between 94° and 110°W and from 3°N to 5°S.

2. **For the longline fishery:**

- a. China, Japan, Korea, and Chinese Taipei shall take the measures necessary to ensure that their total annual longline catches of bigeye tuna in the EPO during 2009, 2010, and 2011 do not exceed the following levels:

China	2,190 t
Japan	28,283 t
Korea	10,438 t
Chinese Taipei	6,601 t

- b. Other CPCs shall take the measures necessary to ensure that their total annual longline catches of bigeye tuna in the EPO during 2009, 2010, and 2011 do not exceed the greater of 83% of 2001 catches or 500 t.

B. Marking and identification of FADs: The staff recommends that vessels that use FADs be required to mark the FADs in accordance with a program developed by the Commission, to include,

inter alia, maintaining a record of the numbers of FADs on board each vessel at the beginning and end of each fishing trip, and recording the date, time, and position of deployment of each FAD. The information collected shall be held by the Commission staff, and shall be made available to CPCs, subject to any confidentiality rules or policies that the Commission may establish.

- C. **Conservation of Northern Pacific albacore: The staff recommends** the formation of an *ad hoc* working group to develop an operational definition of “current levels”, as specified in paragraph 1 of Resolution C-05-02, which reads “The total level of fishing effort for North Pacific albacore tuna in the Eastern Pacific Ocean [shall] not be increased beyond current levels.” Also, paragraph 3 calls upon all CPCs to report all catches of North Pacific albacore tuna every six months; however, since the limit in the resolution is in terms of effort, **the staff recommends that** the six-monthly reports include information on effort as well as catch, in terms of the most relevant measures for a given gear type. The technical aspects of the effort data to be supplied could be established by the Director, in collaboration with scientists of the interested member countries.

Also, **the staff recommends that** the resolution be clarified to indicate that data provided should be for the EPO only, since that is the area covered by the IATTC. Currently, at least one country reports catches for the entire Pacific only.

- D. **The staff recommends that** Resolution C-06-03 on full retention of catches be renewed for the next three years, 2010-2012.