Harvest Strategy in development
North Pacific Albacore

Management Objectives:

WCPFC Interim Management Objective:
- Maintain the biomass, with reasonable variability, around its current level in order to allow recent exploitation levels to continue and with a low risk of breaching the limit reference point

MSE Candidate Management Objectives:
- Maintain spawning biomass above the limit reference point
- Maintain depletion of total biomass around historical average depletion
- Maintain catches by fishery above average historical catch
- Change in total allowable catch between years should be relatively gradual
- Maintain fishing intensity (F) at the target value with reasonable variability

Reference Points:

WCPFC:
- Limit Reference Point: 20% SSB\text{current} \cdot F = 0
- Target Reference Point: To be determined based upon socioeconomic factors

Ranges for proposed reference points for new harvest strategy:
- Target Reference Point: $F_{\text{target}} - F_{\text{threshold}}$
- Threshold Reference Point: $14-30\%\ SSB_0$
- Limit Reference Point: $7-20\%\ SSB_0$

*SSB\text{current} F=0 = stock size that would exist in absence of fishing

Candidate Harvest Strategies:

MSE evaluated numerous sliding, “hockey-stick,” model-based harvest control rules that decrease $F$ from $F_{\text{target}}$ once the spawning stock biomass drops below $SSB_{\text{threshold}}$ toward $SSB_{\text{limit}}$. The fishery is closed at $SSB_{\text{limit}}$.
- Sets total allowable catch for longlines or total allowable effort for surface fleets

Progress Update & Workplan:

2021: Final MSE results presented
2022: Adoption of a final harvest strategy

Link to relevant policy document or update:
- Presentation of the above report (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOX4E6CsCds)