

## 10 | Harvest Strategy in development

# North Pacific Albacore



### Management Authority:

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission/ Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission

### Expected Adoption Year:

2022

### 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<sub>current F=0</sub>
- **Target Reference Point:** To be determined based upon socioeconomic factors

Ranges for proposed reference points for new harvest strategy:

- **Target Reference Point:** F<sub>40</sub>-F<sub>50</sub>
- **Threshold Reference Point:** 14-30% SSB<sub>0</sub>
- **Limit Reference Point:** 7%-20% SSB<sub>0</sub>

\*SSB<sub>current F=0</sub> = 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<sub>target</sub> once the spawning stock biomass drops below SSB<sub>threshold</sub> toward SSB<sub>limit</sub>. The fishery is closed at SSB<sub>limit</sub>.

- 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:

- [Report of the North Pacific Albacore Tuna Management Strategy Evaluation \(https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/14095\)](https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/14095)
- [Presentation of the above report \(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOX4E6CsCds\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eOX4E6CsCds)