

19 | Harvest Strategy in development

South Pacific Albacore



Management Authority:

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

Expected Adoption Year:

2023

Management Objectives:

Interim Objective:

- Achieve an 8% increase in catch per unit of effort (CPUE) for the southern longline fishery as compared to 2013 levels

Draft performance indicators:

- Maintain biomass at or above levels that provide fishery sustainability throughout their range
- Maximise economic yield from the fishery (average expected catch)
- Maintain acceptable CPUE
- Catch stability

Reference Points:

- **Interim Limit Reference Point:** $20\%SB_{F=0}$ and $FX\%SPR$, with X TBD
- **Interim Target Reference Point:** $56\% SB_{F=0}$

* $SB_{F=0}$ = spawning stock size that would exist in the absence of fishing

Candidate Harvest Strategies:

Using MSE to evaluate several harvest strategies with model-based and empirical harvest control rules using CPUE data; HS must have <20% chance of breaching the limit reference point

Progress Update & Workplan:

Evaluation of candidate harvest strategies underway via MSE

- **2020-22:** Refine and further develop MSE and candidate harvest strategies
- **2023:** Adopt final harvest strategy

South Pacific albacore is also being incorporated in the mixed fishery MSE framework for the Western and Central Pacific in which the harvest strategies for bigeye, skipjack, yellowfin, and South Pacific albacore will overlap.

Link to relevant policy document or update:

- [WCPFC Harvest Strategies](https://www.wcpfc.int/harvest-strategy): (<https://www.wcpfc.int/harvest-strategy>) Navigate to 'South Pacific albacore tuna in the WCPO' to read an overview of the current work going towards the harvest strategy
- [South Pacific Albacore Management Procedures Explorer \(SPAMPLE\)](https://ofp-sam.shinyapps.io/spample/): (<https://ofp-sam.shinyapps.io/spample/>): A shiny app where a user can compare the relative performance of South Pacific albacore HCRs