

## 25 | Harvest Strategy in development

# WCPO Bigeye Tuna



### Management Authority:

Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

### Expected Adoption Year:

2024

### Management Objectives:

Initial proposals for the Southern longline, tropical longline, and tropical purse seine fishery include biological, economic, social, and ecosystem objectives.

### Reference Points:

- **Limit Reference Point:**  $20\%SB_{F=0}$
- **Target Reference Point:** Pending agreement on a target reference point the spawning biomass depletion ratio ( $SB/SB_{F=0}$ ) is to be maintained at or above the average  $SB/SB_{F=0}$  for 2012-2015

### Candidate Harvest Strategies:

Evaluating a harvest control rule and harvest strategy through a mixed fishery modelling framework that develops model-based harvest strategies for bigeye, but is set up to achieve objectives across multiple species, including yellowfin, skipjack, and South Pacific albacore.

### Progress Update & Workplan:

Initial mixed fishery framework explored via MSE; Next steps include operating model conditioning, the development of candidate management procedures for bigeye for the tropical longline fishery, and the development of mixed fishery, multi-species performance indicators. Input needed from managers on management objectives and target reference points.

### Link to relevant policy document or update:

- [WCPFC Harvest Strategies: \(https://www.wcpfc.int/harvest-strategy\)](https://www.wcpfc.int/harvest-strategy) Navigate to 'Bigeye and Yellowfin Tunas in the WCPO' to read an overview of the current work going towards the harvest strategy
- [Candidate performance indicators and monitoring strategies commensurate with candidate management objectives for southern longline fishery and tropical longline fisheries \(https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/wcpfc14-att-k/candidate-performance-indicators-and-monitoring-strategies-commensurate-candidate\)](https://www.wcpfc.int/doc/wcpfc14-att-k/candidate-performance-indicators-and-monitoring-strategies-commensurate-candidate)
- [Updated WCPO bigeye and yellowfin target reference point evaluations \(https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/14236\)](https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/14236)
- [Mixed-fishery harvest strategy developments: \(https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/12582\)](https://meetings.wcpfc.int/node/12582) Updates on mixed fishery modelling framework for South Pacific albacore, bigeye, and skipjack