

PROSPECTIVE Western & Central Pacific skipjack & yellowfin tuna - purse seine (CFC)

Overview

FIP Description

The fishing fleet consists of six industrial purse seine fishing vessels operating in the Central Western Pacific Ocean varying in length from around 50m to 90m that are all company (CFC) owned. These vessels target Skipjack and yellowfin tuna. The RFMO is the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) is a sub-regional agreement on terms and conditions for tuna purse seine fishing licenses in the region. The PNA provides the basis to establish a limit on vessel days known as the VDS. The allocation is zonal with days allocated to each country in the Arrangement. The CFC fleet fish both in the EEZs (exclusive economic zones) of coastal states as well as the high seas. Some of the coastal states include Papua New Guinea, Kiribati, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Tokelau. The catches in each country vary significantly between years for any specific month depending on the migration patterns of the tuna. The majority of the fishing occurs by setting the purse seine around schools aggregating near naturally drifting or purpose-built Fish Aggregating Devices know as FADs. Although the CFC boats catch tuna from both free and associated schools during fishing trips, the majority of vessels use FADs. Searching for the FADs and fish schools and assessing their size and direction of movement is an important part of their fishing operation. The tuna are generally sold and transhipped onto carrier vessels for processing in Bangkok, in ports such as Pohnpei, FSM. The FIP will focus on the use of non-entangling FADs and implementation of bycatch mitigation and handling best practices; as well as moving towards using biodegradable material for the FAD design and construction and recovery/coastal awareness programs.

How is this FIP Doing?

Current Status:

Actions Progress This shows the proportion of actions in the workplan that the FIP has completed.

0%

FIP Type

Prospective

FIP Stage

Stage 0: FIP Identification

Start and Projected End Dates

Species

Common Name

Skipjack Tuna

Scientific Name

Katsuwonus pelamis

Common Name

Yellowfin Tuna

Scientific Name

Thunnus albacares

Gear Type

[Purse Seine](#)

Location

FAO Major Fishing Area

[Area 71 \(Pacific, Western Central\)](#)

Exclusive Economic Zones

Country

Micronesia (Federated States of)

Country Flag of Vessel

Micronesia (Federated States of)

Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO)

WCPFC

FIP Leads

Organization Name

Caroline Fisheries Corporation

Organization Type

Consultant

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