

Annual Fishing / Capacity Management / FAD Management Plans for Tropical Tunas

Name of CPC: Brazil

Year of Fishing Plan: 2024

1. Introduction

The Fishing/Capacity Management Plan for Tropical Tunas for 2024 is in accordance with the Recommendation 23-01, paragraphs 20, 21, 22a. The Annual Fishing/Capacity Management Plan for Tropical Tunas was developed and is presented by the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture (MPA), responsible for the fishing management in Brazil.

In Brazil, the tropical tunas catches are performed in a multi-fleet and gears scenario. The main fishing methods are purse seine, longline, handline and baitboat. Most of the catch is composed of small-scale handline vessels associated with the artisanal fishery. Since the second semester of 2023, Brazil has improved its regulatory framework, engaging stakeholders for effective actions, also rebuilding research and monitoring programs to strengthen compliance. This strategy will continue in 2024, with the planned following actions: 1) the fishery of different gears will be surveilled by onboard observers and port monitoring all over the country's coastline; 2) a national long-term research and data collection program will take place from the beginning of the year; and 3) the digital onboard logbook, providing greater speed and agility in the flow and analysis of catch data is compulsory from 1 January 2024. Currently, Brazil does not have any agreements with foreign vessels for tuna fishing and nor allows foreign vessels to land in national ports. Moreover, there are no activities associated with FADs for tuna fishing.

2. Details of fishing plan – For those with >1,000 t average catch

	<i>ICCAT Requirement (per Rec. 21-01)</i>	<i>Explanation of CPC actions taken to implement</i>	<i>Relevant domestic laws or regulations (as applicable)</i>	<i>Note</i>
1.	Catch limits (Part II)	According to Recommendation 23-01 from paragraph 4b, the catch limit reference for BET for Brazil is 5,944 t. In 2024, considering the payback plan (from Rec. 23-02), Brazil will pay back over a period of 5 years the overharvest of bigeye tuna of 1,587.34 t, in the following way: 2024: 355.34 t; 2025 to 2028: 308 t. Therefore, for 2024, the adjusted catch limit is 5,639.32 t.	The Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture will set the 2024 annual quota limit for BET at 5,639.32 t.	The Regulation will be published in February 2024.
2.	Capacity management measures (Part III)	<p>a. Since 2019, the government has not authorized new fishing licenses, including for building new fishing vessels targeting tropical tunas (BET, YFT and SKJ).</p> <p>b. Since 2011, purse seine fishing has been limited to the area inside the EEZ of the South/Southeast coasts of Brazil.</p>	<p>a. Ordinance from the SAP/MAPA No. 89, established on 09 May 2019 replaced by Ordinance SAP/MAPA No. 643, of 24 March 2022.</p> <p>b. Normative Instruction No. 10 MPA/MMA of 10 June 2011.</p>	

		<p>c. Established that the authorization to fishing tunas with HL in associated schools is exclusive, i.e. vessels that are authorized to fish with such a permit cannot have additional fishing license in Brazil. Since 2018, the fleet operating under this fishing modality (with HL in associated schools) was limited to a total of 250 vessels to fish in the EEZ and international waters. Currently there are 226 active vessels, however a maximum of 250 vessels may be allowed, if the request authorizations that are in process are approved by the fishing authority.</p>	<p>c. Interministerial Ordinance SG-PR/MMA No. 59A, of 09 November 2018.</p>	
3.	Management of FADs and FAD closure(s) (Part IV)	<p>Since 2018, Brazil has prohibited the use of FADs for tuna fishing and fishing in the vicinity of oceanographic buoys at distances of less than 200 m. It is also prohibited tying fishing vessels to oceanographic buoys in the EEZ and in the international waters.</p>	<p>Interministerial Ordinance SG-PR/MMA No. 59A of 09 November 2018.</p>	<p>No updating of regulations.</p>
4.	Control measures, including planned trials of electronic observers (Part V)	<p>a. Limits the amount of bycatch of authorized fishing vessels with handline in associated schools to 20% of the total catch (it prevents the use of the fishing license for other fishing modalities).</p> <p>b. All fishing vessels equal or >10 m authorized for tropical tunas are continually monitored by VMS.</p> <p>c. All vessels authorized to fish tropical tunas shall record their catches in digital onboard logbooks after each fishing trip and send them to the fishing authority. Additionally, the fishing industry shall report to the fishing authority the total weight data per species for their products, in a specific form.</p>	<p>a. Interministerial Ordinance SG-PR/MMA No. 59A of 09 November 2018.</p> <p>b. Normative Instruction SEAP/MMA/MD No.02, of 04 September 2006. Interministerial Ordinance SG-PR/MMA No. 59A, of 09 November 2018. Ordinance SAP/MAPA No. 89 of 09 May 2019 replaced by Ordinance SAP/MAPA No. 643, of 24 March 2022.</p> <p>c. Normative Instruction MPA No. 05 of 18 June 2013. Normative Instruction MPA No. 20, of 10 September 2014. Normative Instruction No. 51, 24 October 2019. Ordinance MPA No. 135 of 27 September 2023.</p>	<p>a. A national working group, composed by the Ministry of Fisheries, Ministry of the Environment and the Navy has been set up in order to further the modernization of Brazil's vessel monitoring system during the year 2024.</p> <p>b. Since 01 January 2024, all vessels authorized to fish tropical tunas shall record their catches in the new digital onboard logbook system.</p>

		d. Fishing vessels holding a Brazilian fishing license for tropical tunas will be requested by the fishing authority to receive onboard observers in order to ensure compliance with the Recommendations 16-14, 19-10 and 23-01 (which replaces 22-01 and 21-01).	d. Joint Normative Instruction SEAP/MMA No. 1, of 20 September 2006.	c. Brazil invested more than 2 million euros in a new project of onboard observers starting in 2024 up to 2026.
5.	Other information / measures to be taken	<p>a. The fisheries authority in Brazil will close the BET fishing season once the catch limits are reached and inform ICCAT based on digital onboard logbooks data and fishing industry processing monitoring.</p> <p>b. A national long-duration program will be implemented, including research and data collection of catch, effort, size and biological aspects will be implemented in 2024.</p> <p>c. The list of Statistical Validators will be updated on ICCAT databases.</p>		Regulation will be published by March.

3. Planned an expansion of capacity in 2024 - for those with <1,000 t average catch

See below.

Capacity table

Tropical tuna vessel fleet																
	Number of Vessels									Total Estimated Capacity						Unit of capacity used
Type	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Estimated best catch rate per unit (t)	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
Purse seiner over 40m																
Purse seiner between 20 and 40m			2	3	3	3	3									
Purse seiners less than 20m																
Longliner over 40m																
Longliner between 20 and 40m	37	38	37	37	37	37	37									
Longliner less than 20m	18	18	18	18	18	18	18									
For Capacity Expansion																
Baitboat	31	30	30	30	30	30	30									
Other gears (specify)																
LL Surf	48	48	48	48	48	48	48									
Handline (fishing in associated school)	227	227	227	250	250	250	250									
Total fishing capacity																
Quota																
Initial quota (BET)			6,043 t	6,043 t	6,043 t	6,043 t	6,043 t									
Quota transfer made to XXX (if applicable)																
Quota transfer received from XXX (if applicable)																
Total adjusted quota (if applicable)						5,441.97 t	5,639.32 t									