

Dear Delegates,

The vessel owners and industry participants of the [Dongwon Western and Central Pacific Ocean FIP](#) submit this letter to request additional support from CCMs for measures that will further tuna conservation at the Commission meeting beginning 29 November, 2021.

COVID-19 presents unprecedented economic and social impacts on the fishery sector in the Pacific Ocean. However, we do not believe that these current circumstances should prevent the WCPFC from taking action to ensure sustainable management of tuna stocks and marine ecosystems.

Management measures and procedures for tuna species

- Support and endorse further implementation of *CMM 2014-06* to establish harvest strategies for key tuna species with proposed timelines.
- Establish precautionary target reference points (TRPs) for bigeye and yellowfin tunas, and re-establish an agreed precautionary TRP for skipjack.
- Endorse the continued development and implementation of limit reference points (LRPs) and TRPs for proper management of all stocks, including sharks as a priority.
- Adopt a harvest control rule (HRC)/management procedure (MP) for the skipjack purse seine fishery.

FAD management best practices

- Develop and implement science-based and enforceable FAD management measures including:
 - A clear timeframe to transition to FADs that are non-entangling and that are designed preferably out of biodegradable materials (bioFADs);
 - A requirement for vessels, with time delay, to provide complete FAD position data and acoustic records from echosounder buoys;
 - Further study and develop FAD retrieval and recovery programs;
 - Refine FAD ownership rules, and develop a workplan to adopt a FAD marking scheme;
 - Refine rules for the activation of FAD buoys onboard purse seine vessels prior to deployment, as well as for the deactivation of FAD buoys at sea.

Effective and fair enforcement

- Further review transshipment regulation and adopt substantive improvements to curtail opportunities for IUU fishing, trafficking, and labor abuses such as:
 - 100% observer coverage on all vessels engaged in at-sea transshipment;
 - Required reporting of all transshipment activity; and
 - The development and application of technologies for verification of transshipment activities;

Data quality and quantity

- We support a progressive program to increase levels of observer coverage (human and/or electronic) to 100% for all purse seine vessels by 2026.
- Adopt best practices in electronic monitoring (EM) and electronic reporting (ER) standards, such as e-logbooks.

Signed in agreement and behalf of all Western and Central Pacific Ocean FAD-associated purse seine tuna (Dongwon Industries) FIP participants – November 2021.