



Pacific Ocean tuna - longline (Bumble Bee/FCF Co., Ltd) FIP Position Statement for the 2022 100th Annual meeting of IATTC

Drafted with agreement from all FIP participants – June 2022

We are writing on behalf of [Pacific Ocean tuna - longline \(Bumble Bee/FCF Co., Ltd\)](#) FIP in support of urgently needed tuna management measures in the Pacific Ocean, a region for which your delegation serves as an important leader as a member of the Inter American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC). This FIP involves longline vessels that targets albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*), bigeye (*Thunnus obesus*) and yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*). These longline vessels are flagged to China, Taiwan, Fiji, Vanuatu and Panama and fish on the high seas and within the EEZs of Samoa, the USA (American Samoa), members of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (including the Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, and Tuvalu), Tonga, Fiji, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, and the Cook Islands. The fishery is managed regionally the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and the IATTC. This FIP aims to meet the rising global demand for tuna in a sustainable manner by assuring catches do not exceed sustainable levels, promoting an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management and strengthening policy and governance systems in the region. The end goal is to achieve certification under the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Fisheries Standard by 2024.

The FIP works closely with the International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF), a coalition of leading scientists, tuna processors from every region of the world and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). Its collective mission is to undertake science-based initiatives for the long-term conservation and sustainable use of tuna stocks, reducing bycatch and promoting ecosystem health, through advocacy, applied science and direct action.

Under the FIP, we have grown increasingly concerned with the management of tuna resources in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. Our company sources significant raw material in this region and the sustainability of these stocks is integral to not only our business, but also to the overall marine environment.

We recognize that the impacts of COVID-19 continue to present challenges to regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) like the IATTC. However, we do not believe these circumstances should prevent the WCPFC from taking action in 2021 to adopt science-based management measures to ensure the sustainable management of the tuna stocks and marine ecosystems under its purview.

The FIP strongly urges the IATTC and its member states to:

1. Adopt precautionary tuna conservation and management measures, based on the current scientific advice, including additional FAD management measures;
2. Request the Scientific Staff to provide science-based limits on active FADs, deployments and/or sets;
3. Require the provision of raw data from echo-sounder buoys and amend the FAD resolution to include clear timelines to develop FAD marking guidelines and ownership rules and transitioning to the use of FADs without netting and made primarily of biodegradable materials;
4. Accelerate development of MSE for bigeye, skipjack, and yellowfin tuna;



5. Adopt the EMS workplan. Establish and require a fleet-wide observer programme (human or electronic) for longline vessels by 2023;
6. By 2023, adopt a Port State Measures Resolution; and
7. Establish a work plan to operationalize paragraphs 5-8 of C-11-07 on Compliance and to develop audit points.

As a member of a FIP engaging in proactive tuna fisheries improvement activities in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, we urge you to ensure you fully supports action on the above issues at the Meeting of the IATTC in 2022, and that your positions demonstrate your support for addressing these issues.

The FIP looks forward to the continued leadership in the EPO, a region rich in tuna resources that are in need of continued science-based conservation and management. For any further information, please contact the FIP manager, Tom Evans at t.evans@keytraceability.com

Signed on behalf of the Pacific Ocean tuna - longline (Bumble Bee/FCF) FIP by:

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