



KangTai
22nd F.-5, NO.56 Minsheng 1st Road,
Xinxing District,
Kaohsiung City, 800304
Taiwan (R.O.C.)

21 November 2021

RE: Pacific Ocean tuna - longline (Bumble Bee/FCF) Fishery Improvement Project Update

Dear Sir or Madam,

The submission of this letter is an inform flag states of an update to the Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) currently being undertaken by the [Pacific Ocean tuna - longline \(Bumble Bee/FCF\) fishery](#). The FIP first launched as the Western and Central Pacific albacore and yellowfin tuna longline FIP but after a scope extension in October 2021, the fishery now targets albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*), bigeye (*Thunnus obesus*) and yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*). The longline vessels are flagged to China, Taiwan, Fiji, Vanuatu and Panama and fish on the high seas and within the EEZ's of Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, USA (American Samoa), Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. The fishery is managed regionally by the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) in the WCPO and the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATCC) in the EPO.

This FIP aims to meet the rising global demand for tuna in a sustainable manner by assuring catches do not exceed acceptable levels, promoting the ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management and strengthening policy and governance systems in the region. The end goal of the project is to achieve certification under the [Marine Stewardship Council](#) Fisheries Standard by 2024.

To find more information on the present FIP and especially the actions, please view the [FisheryProgress profile](#) in particular the 'Workplan' document.

As part of this FIP reaching MSC standards there are various actions which need to be undertaken which involve a range of different stakeholders. Specifically, as a flag state your cooperation is necessary to ensure the project succeeds. This FIP will have shared aims with the fisheries agency, and we would like to align and cooperate as much as possible on issues such as increasing observer coverage, enhanced at-sea monitoring, ensuring best practices in the handling and release of Endangered Threatened and Protected species and ensuring a robust Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MSC) is implemented across all vessels.

If the above-mentioned elements are addressed effectively, it will have positive long term-sustainability implications and improve overall health of the Atlantic marine ecosystem to allow for fisheries/business like our current FIPs to achieve sustainability targets, particularly in line with MSC certification standards.

It is through this collective action and stakeholder collaboration that a sustainable blue economy can be formed. If you would like more details of any of the above, we would be eager to engage further and go through the FIP action plan in greater detail, either in person or via call/online meeting. Either way, please do not hesitate to get into contact and we can arrange it.

Kind regards,

Tom Evans - FIP Manager, KangTai

t.evans@keytraceability.com