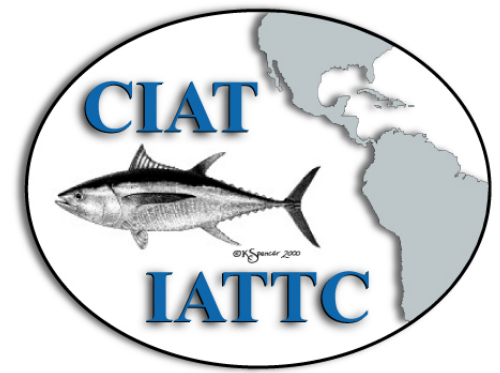


**Experts Workshop on the
capacity of the tuna-fishing fleet
in the eastern Pacific Ocean**



**MANAGEMENT OPTIONS:
TOTAL ALLOWABLE
CATCH (TAC) SCHEME**

GENERAL ASPECTS (SAC-04-INF D)

- An overall catch quota based on the catch (2011) when fishing at the level of fishing mortality (F) produces the MSY (F_{MSY}),
- the allocation between the purse-seine and longline fleets, divide the total catch of YF and BE combined in proportion to the percentage of that catch is taken by each fleet,
- the allocation scheme is for yellowfin (YF) and bigeye (BE) combined,
- the allocation is based on the distinction between the amount of catches made in the EEZs and on the high seas,
- regulation of the access to the fishery is through the IATTC's Regional Vessel Register (RVR),
- the allocation to the vessels follow a procedure similar to that used for DMLs.

CONSTRAINTS TO FISHING

THE SCHEME IS DESIGNED AS A HYBRID COMPRISED OF:

- **TACs for the EEZs of coastal States,**
- **TAC for high seas,**
- **and individual transferable vessel quotas (ITQs).**

Quotas for each of these three components act as constraints to fishing

TACs, allocated to the coastal States

The average catches in an EEZ is the EEZ-TAC reserved for use by the coastal state

- ❖ to distribute it as an open fishery on a first-come, first-served basis,
- ❖ to assign a national IFQ proportionally to all vessels under its flag;
- ❖ to keep it for sale as licenses for vessels of other flags;
- ❖ or any other arrangements the coastal State may make,

limited to that vessels listed in the RVR and which fulfill all the requirements established by Resolution C-02-03, as well as the relevant rules of the AIDCP

EEZ-TAC CLOSURES

- When the EEZ-TAC limit is reached, all fishing by class-5 and -6 PS with observers on board, pole-and-line and coastal longline vessels **would cease in that EEZ immediately, if annual catches by PS exceeded, the amount of those excess would be subtracted from the next year's EEZ-TAC,**
- the restriction on the fishing activities in a given EEZ includes the **prohibition of FAD deployment** and all FADs at sea within the EEZ would have to be collected,
- all class 1-4 purse-seine, pole-and-line and coastal small longline at sea without an observer on board would be **allowed to continue to fish until their current trips finished,** and those in port would be prohibited from going out to fish.
- Any vessel on the active list of the RVR permitted to fish for tunas not included in the TAC (skipjack, Pacific bluefin, albacore, etc.) during the closure with **bycatches of yellowfin and bigeye would be limited to 15%** of the weight of the total catch for each trip, and would be required to both **retain on board and also land all bigeye and yellowfin** tuna caught.

HIGH SEAS TAC and ITQs ALLOCATIONS

- Access to IFQs only for authorized active purse-seine vessels of capacity classes 5 and 6 on the RVR, fishing for yellowfin, bigeye, and skipjack tunas in the EPO,
- the allocation of IFQs would follow a procedure similar to that used for Dolphin Mortality Limits (DMLs),
 - any vessel with IFQ that did not fish in the EPO during that year would lose its right to be included in the IFQ for the following year, unless request an exemption due to *force majeure*.
- The transferability of purse-seine IFQs is also included in this new scheme, converting them to individual transferable quotas (ITQs).

TRANSFERABILITY OF ITQ

- ITQs may be transferred only between qualified vessels and/or from an active to an inactive vessel, are no restrictions on transferability between class-5 and class-6 vessels,
- a vessel can transfer only a portion of its ITQ if it wants to be considered active and thus qualified to request a new ITQ the following year,
- transfer of total ITQ converts the vessel to inactive and, consequently, disqualifies it from requesting an ITQ for the following year,
- to be considered qualified a vessel must be active in the EPO for at least a single trip of 45 days or more during the corresponding year,
- transfers is allowed only for the amount of the vessel's annual ITQ or any other lesser portion,
- an ITQ is divisible into any unit providing that the vessel fishing during a single trip of 45 days.

CLOSURES FOR PS WITH ITQ

- When a vessel reached its annual ITQ, it could continue to fish for skipjack and yellowfin in the EPO for the entire year, **provided that it fished only on unassociated or dolphin-associated tunas**, subject to EEZ-TAC and HS-TAC and licensing restrictions,
- the regulations would include **the prohibition of FAD deployment** and the requirement that all of a vessel's FADs at sea be collected in a verifiable manner,
- the vessel would be **prohibited from setting on FADs** until the end of the year, including FADs deployed by other vessels.
- **all excess catches** of bigeye and yellowfin tuna by vessels with an assigned and/or transferred ITQ **would be subtracted from the next year's ITQ**,
- a vessel which had been determined by the Commission to have engaged in a pattern of **exceeding its ITQ for two years consecutively would not be qualified to receive an ITQ**.

OTHER CONSTRAINTS

- total or partial transfers of capacity of small purse seiners (< class-5) to class-5 and -6 purse seiners would not be allowed.
- all class-5 and -6 PS must comply with the requirements of the RVR and with a system for tracking and verification of tuna harvested in order to confirm the catches made under this system of allocations.
- All class-5 purse-seine vessel, must carrying an observer on board, and complying with all other applicable IATTC and AIDCP regulations and measures.
- In order for this approach to work, there must be transparency in the enforcement of the closures and a system for keeping track of compliance by vessels through review of VMS (Vessel Monitoring System) data by the Commission.