

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

82ND MEETING

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA (USA)
4-8 JULY 2011

DOCUMENT IATTC-82-17

LENGTH LIMIT FOR INCLUDING VESSELS IN THE IATTC IUU VESSEL LIST

Paragraph 11 of Resolution [C-05-07](#) on the IATTC IUU Vessel List reads “*This resolution shall apply to any fishing vessel greater than 24 meters overall length*”. For the past several years, the Commission has been discussing this limit and it is clear that most Members believe that it is too high.

At its 81st Meeting in October 2010, the Commission discussed various measurements of length that could be used for this purpose. In the end, it was agreed that 20 meters be established as the minimum length for including vessels in the Commission’s IUU vessel list. However, because the meeting ran out of time, a recommendation to implement this decision was not approved.

Accordingly, it would be appropriate to amend paragraph 11 of Resolution C-05-07 to include the limit of 20 meters, or make this change in the new text of the resolution if approved. It should be noted that no vessel of a Member can be added to the IUU List without the approval of that Member.

Figure 1, updated in May 2011, shows the distribution of lengths of vessels on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register, and indicates that 1,016 vessels are 24 meters or less and 699 vessels are 20 meters or less.

A related question is the definition of vessel length. Three IATTC Resolutions ([C-03-07](#), [C-04-06](#), and [C-05-07](#)) contain measures applying to vessels longer than 24 meters. In two of these, length is specified as “overall length”, and the third simply refers to “length.” It has been proposed that the IATTC and other regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) should harmonize their definitions of vessel length, and use a common standard for defining length. The staff recommends that it be clarified that “overall length” be the standard definition of vessel length in all IATTC resolutions and recommendations.

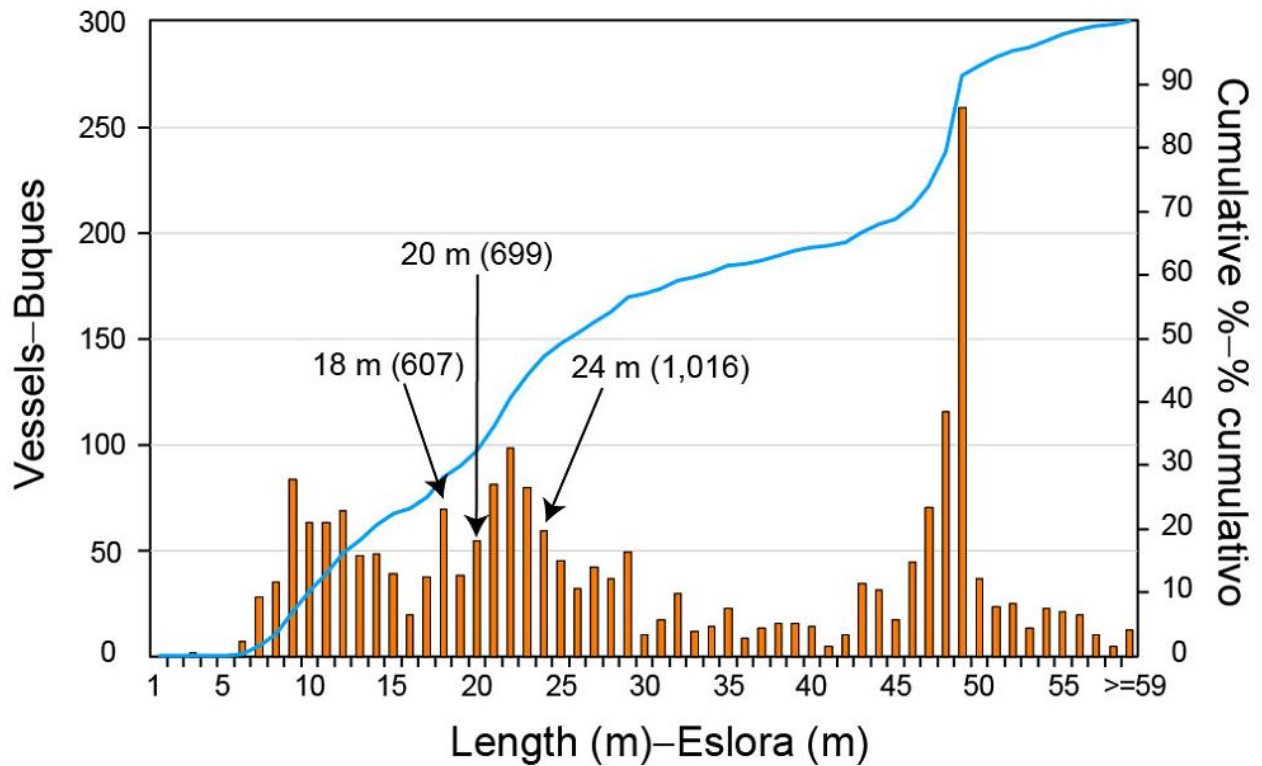


FIGURE 1. Vessels on the IATTC Regional Vessel Register for which length information is available (2,157 vessels) as of May 2011. This information is not available for 327 vessels. The line indicates the cumulative percentage. Numbers in parentheses are the number of vessels of overall length equal to or less than 18, 20, and 24 m.

FIGURA 1. Buques incluidos en el Registro Regional de Buques de la CIAT para los que se dispone de información de eslora (2.157 buques), mayo de 2011 . No se dispone de esta información para 327 buques. La línea indica el porcentaje acumulativo. Los números en paréntesis indican el total acumulado de buques iguales o menores de 18, 20, y 24 m de eslora total.