

Conservation and Management Measure for Pacific Saury

The North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC),

Recognizing that the work has been undertaken to conduct stock assessment in the Small Scientific Working Group (SSWG) on Pacific saury under the Scientific Working Group (SWG), which will be succeeded by Small Scientific Committee (SSC) for Pacific saury and the Scientific Committee (SC),

Reaffirm the General Principles, Article 3 of the Convention,

Adopts the following conservation and management measure in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention:

1. Members of the Commission shall refrain from rapid expansion, in the Convention area, of the number of fishing vessels entitled to fly their flags and authorized to fish for Pacific saury from the existing level until the stock assessment by the small scientific committee and the SC has been completed as mentioned in the paragraph 6 below,
2. Members of the Commission participating in Pacific saury fisheries in areas under national jurisdiction adjacent to the Convention area are requested to take compatible measures in paragraph 1.
3. Members of the Commission shall ensure that fishing vessels flying its flag operating in the Convention area to fish Pacific saury be equipped with an operational vessel monitoring system that is activated at all times, no later than 31 December 2015.
4. The Commission shall strongly request the States that participated in the Multilateral Meetings on the Management of High Seas Fisheries in the North Pacific Ocean which have not yet completed their domestic procedures for ratification, acceptance or approval of the Convention to agree to apply this Conservation and Management Measures.
5. The Commission shall draw the attention of any non-Contracting Party to the Convention to any activity undertaken by its nationals or fishing vessels entitled to fly its flag that have participated in fishing activities for Pacific saury in the Convention Area in accordance with Article 20, paragraph 2 and shall request the non-Contracting Party to take necessary actions in accordance with Article 20, paragraph 3 of the Convention.
6. The SC and its subsidiary SSC for Pacific saury will complete the stock assessment by 2017, even if such assessment is provisional, and provide advice and recommendations to the

Commission in accordance with Article 10, subparagraph 4(b) of the Convention. For the purpose of this, the SSC for Pacific saury will meet in March 2016 and 2017.

7. This management measure shall expire and be replaced by the measure adopted by the Commission in 2017 after the availability of recommendations from the SC in 2017.