

CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR PACIFIC SAURY

The North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC),

Reaffirming the General Principles, Article 3 of the Convention, in particular, paragraph (b) stipulating that measures are adopted, based on the best scientific information available, to ensure that fisheries resources are maintained at or restored to levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield, and paragraph (f) stipulating that preventing or eliminating overfishing and excess fishing capacity and ensuring that levels of fishing effort or harvest levels are based on the best scientific information available and do not exceed those commensurate with the sustainable use of the fisheries resources;

Recognizing that Small Scientific Committee (SSC) on Pacific Saury and the Scientific Committee (SC) in 2019 provided consensus stock assessment results, including Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) and relevant reference quantities, and recommended that “the Commission: (h) Consider further management measures for avoiding an increasing trend in the exploitation rate of Pacific saury to sustain biomass”;

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

[EFFORT MANAGEMENT]

1. Members of the Commission, not described under Paragraph 2, and that are currently fishing for Pacific saury shall refrain from 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 historical existing level.
2. Members fishing for Pacific saury in areas of their jurisdiction that are adjacent to the Convention Area 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 historical existing level.¹
3. Members of the Commission participating in Pacific saury fisheries in areas under national jurisdiction adjacent to the Convention Area are, in accordance with relevant provisions of Article 3 of

¹ Paragraph 2 applies to Russia and Japan

the Convention, requested to take compatible measures in paragraph 2.

[CATCH MANAGEMENT]

4. Members of the Commission agree, having regard to the advice of the Scientific Committee, that the catches of Pacific saury in 2020 in the entire area (the Convention Area and the areas under their jurisdiction adjacent to the Convention Area) should not exceed 556,250 metric tons².

5. In 2020 the total allowable catch (TAC) of Pacific saury in the Convention Area shall be limited to 330,000 metric tons.6. Members of the Commission shall consider allocation of the TAC in the Convention Area among Members at the Commission meeting in 2020.

7. As a provisional measure until the Commission decides allocation of the TAC, each Member of the Commission shall ensure that the total catch of Pacific saury by the fishing vessels entitled to fly its flag in 2020 will not exceed its reported catch in 2018 on the expectation that the total catch in the Convention Area will not exceed 330,000 metric tons.

8. To comply with the provisional measures above, Members of the Commission shall report to the Executive Secretary in the electronic format, weekly catches of Pacific saury in the Convention Area by fishing vessels flying their flags by Wednesday of the next week. The Executive Secretary shall make available the compiled catch of Pacific saury in the Convention Area on the Commission's website without delay.

9. Members fishing for Pacific saury in areas of their jurisdiction³ that are adjacent to the Convention Area may divert part of their catch limit for areas under their jurisdiction to their own catch of Pacific saury in the Convention Area by vessels entitled to fly their flags and authorized to fish for Pacific saury

10. In 2020 and afterwards, the Commission shall review and revise, as appropriate, specific figures in paragraphs 4 and 5 based on the advice and recommendations from the SC.

[OTHER MEASURES]

11.. Development of new fishing activity for the Pacific saury fishery in the Convention Area by Members without documented historical catch for Pacific saury in the Convention Area shall be determined in accordance with relevant provisions, as appropriate, including but not limited to Article 3, paragraph (h) and Article 7, subparagraphs 1(g) and (h) of the Convention.

² 556,250 metric tons is estimated based on Table 1 of Executive Summary of TWG PSSA 04-Final Report ; $2,225,000(2018 \text{ biomass}) * 0.25(F_{msy})$

³ Paragraph 7 applies to Russia and Japan

12. 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.

13. In order to prevent discards and contribute to the proper stock assessment, Members of the Commission shall take necessary measures to ensure that fishing vessels flying their flags in the Convention Area retain all the catch of Pacific saury on board.

14. In order to protect juvenile fish, Members of the Commission are encouraged to take measures for fishing vessels flying their flags to refrain from fishing for Pacific saury in the areas east of 170E from June to July. The SC and its subsidiary Small Scientific Committee on Pacific Saury will submit to the Commission relevant scientific information on geographical distribution of juvenile fish in the Convention Area, and its migration patterns.

15. The SC and its subsidiary SSC on Pacific Saury shall work to provide the Commission with a consensus stock assessment result and scientific guidance necessary for the development of harvest control rules for Pacific saury sufficient to prevent a declining trend of the stock.

16. This CMM shall in no case be a basis for any future CMM for Pacific saury.

17. This CMM replaces CMM 2018-08 and will be reviewed on a regular basis.