



OCEAN OUTCOMES  
Fish | Food | Livelihoods

Workplan:  
South Pacific Albacore and Western and Central Pacific Yellowfin  
Tuna Longline Fishery Improvement Project

(On [fisheryprogress.org](http://fisheryprogress.org): "*Western and Central Pacific albacore and yellowfin tuna - longline*")

May 2019



## Table of Contents

[Acronyms](#)

[Introduction](#)

[FIP Period and Reporting](#)

[Definition of the FIP Unit of Assessment \(UoA\)](#)

[Potential Future Expansion of the FIP Scope](#)

[Principle 1: Sustainability of fish stocks](#)

[Principle 2: Minimising environmental impacts](#)

[Principle 3: Effective management](#)

[Additional Impacts](#)

[Traceability](#)

[Glossary](#)



## Acronyms

CMM	Conservation and Management Measure
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
ETP	Endangered, Threatened and Protected
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FIP	Fishery Improvement Project
IATTC	Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
ISSF	International Sustainability Seafood Foundation
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
O2	Ocean Outcomes
PI	Performance Indicator
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization
SP	South Pacific
UoA	Unit of Assessment
WCPFC	Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
WCPO	Western and Central Pacific Ocean



## Introduction

Ocean Outcomes (O2) has prepared a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) Workplan for South Pacific (SP) albacore and Western and Central Pacific (WCP) yellowfin tuna which is caught in the Pacific Ocean, landed in Fiji, and supplies Bumble Bee Foods LLC via FCF Fishery Company Ltd (FCF) (the “South Pacific Albacore and Western and Central Pacific Yellowfin Tuna Longline FIP”). The Workplan is based on the Scoping Document prepared by O2<sup>1</sup>, and pre-assessment for SP albacore and WCP yellowfin tuna caught by longline, conducted by ME Certification Ltd (MEC)<sup>2</sup>. The Scoping Document was reviewed by Dr. Jocelyn Drugan, Ocean Outcomes, who is a MSC-registered associate technical consultant.

Developing a FIP Workplan is an important, required step in the FIP process. The Workplan aims to help stakeholders develop a clear plan for implementing the fishery improvements that need to be made and ensures that information needed for reporting on FisheryProgress.org is included in the Workplan. Each Performance Indicator (PI) that has a scoring category of <60 or 60-79 must have at least one action directly linked to it, that would, when completed, result in an increased score (i.e., meeting the requirements of the next scoring guidepost for that PI).

The South Pacific Albacore and Western and Central Pacific Yellowfin Tuna Longline FIP is a “Comprehensive FIP”. A “Comprehensive FIP” has time bound objectives for addressing all of the fishery’s environmental challenges necessary to achieve a level of performance consistent with an unconditional pass of the MSC standard. Actions should clearly link to the PIs of the MSC Fisheries Standard for Comprehensive FIPs.

The critical elements that need to be included in the FIP Workplan are:

- 1) **Actions:** Defined as a major activity in the FIP’s Workplan that must be completed to address specific deficiencies identified in the Scoping Document and/or MSC pre-assessment. Actions should clearly link to the PIs of the MSC Fisheries Standard, and progress reporting will need to be against the MSC Principles.
- 2) **Completion dates:** To ensure accountability, an expected completion date should be included for each action.

---

<sup>1</sup> Ocean Outcomes (2019). Scoping Document: South Pacific Albacore and Western and Central Pacific Yellowfin Tuna Longline Fishery Improvement Project, Prepared for Bumble Bee. May 2019.

<sup>2</sup> ME Certification Ltd (2017). Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) Pre-Assessment Report: Bumble Bee Seafoods albacore and yellowfin longline tuna, Prepared by the Conformity Assessment Body (CAB) ME Certification Ltd. December 2017.



- 3) **Priority:** High, medium or low priority taking into account scoring in the Scoping Document and sequencing of actions (output of one action needed to begin another action).
- 4) **Estimated cost:** Costs for each action.
- 5) **Responsible parties:** Organisations/individuals responsible for completing the actions as agreed upon by FIP stakeholders.
- 6) **MSC PIs:** All PIs that will be addressed by the action.
- 7) **Tasks:** This section breaks the actions identified above down into specific steps that describe how the action will be accomplished. Tasks provide more clarity on how the FIP intends to complete each action. This allows participants to better track progress over time and communicate FIP progress.

The FIP stakeholders are O2, Bumble Bee, FCF and Clover Leaf Seafoods. The administration and FIP Actions will be delivered by O2, Bumble Bee and FCF. Clover Leaf Seafoods will support the FIP financially and will be represented by Bumble Bee for any administration and Actions associated with the FIP.

## FIP Period and Reporting

This FIP is valid for five years, commencing 1 June 2019, with a projected completion by 1 June 2024. Progress against the FIP Workplan will be reviewed every six months. The Scoping Document, this Workplan, notifications of any modifications, progress reporting and the three-yearly independent audit for this FIP will be made public on [FisheryProgress.org](https://fisheryprogress.org).



## Definition of the FIP Unit of Assessment (UoA)

The FIP Units of Assessment (UoAs) defines the full scope of what was assessed.

### UoA 1

Target species	Albacore tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )
Stock	South Pacific
Geographic location	Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPO) high seas Fiji Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) Solomon Islands EEZ Vanuatu EEZ
Gear and method	Pelagic longline
Management systems, including Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO)	Western and Central Pacific Ocean: Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu national management, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Eastern Pacific Ocean: Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) <sup>3</sup> Fiji national management <sup>4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> The SP albacore stock is shared between WCPFC and IATTC, with management harmonised. Management is mainly driven by WCPFC since this fishery predominantly takes place there.

<sup>4</sup> Was not assessed, as insignificant catch. Refer to the Scoping Document for further explanation.



Fishing fleet or group of vessels, or individuals fishing operators pursuing stock	Chinese and Taiwanese-flagged longline vessels Fiji-flagged longline vessels fishing outside of the Fiji EEZ
--	---

UoA 2

Target species	Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )
Stock	Western and Central Pacific
Geographic location	WCPO high seas Fiji EEZ Solomon Islands EEZ Vanuatu EEZ
Gear and method	Pelagic longline
Management systems, including RFMO	Western and Central Pacific Ocean: Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu national management, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Fiji national management <sup>5</sup>
Fishing fleet or group of vessels, or individuals fishing operators pursuing stock	Chinese and Taiwanese-flagged longline vessels that land catches in Fiji Fiji-flagged longline vessels fishing outside of the Fiji EEZ

<sup>5</sup> Was not assessed, as insignificant catch. Refer to the Scoping Document for further explanation.



## Potential Future Expansion of the FIP Scope

The scope of the FIP may be expanded in the future, for example to include fishing in the Tuvalu EEZ, and/or to include the management systems of China and Taiwan. MEC was not contracted to assess the Tuvalu, China or Chinese Taipei management systems and governance in original pre-assessment.

Bumble Bee Seafoods sources SP albacore and WCP yellowfin tunas landed in Fiji that are caught in the Tuvalu EEZ. The level of catch from Chinese and Taiwanese-flagged vessels is small, but not insignificant. By including the Tuvalu EEZ, the FIP would encompass all SP albacore and WCP yellowfin landed in Fiji sourced by Bumble Bee Seafoods, which is not already MSC-certified.

While challenging, it is critical to include the assessment of the China or Chinese Taipei management jurisdictions for any fishery that includes catches by Chinese and Taiwanese-flagged vessels on the high seas. In the context of this FIP, the operations conducted on the high seas are governed by WCPFC and IATTC CMMs, however the CMM implementation, and monitoring, control and enforcement of these vessels is under the purview of the China and Chinese Taipei Governments. Additionally, the MSC released an interpretation on 29 August 2018 that “Flag states should be considered under P3 per the guidance under GSA4.1.1 (below) as they are a jurisdictional level that applies to the management system of the UoA”.

If the scope of the FIP is expanded, additional pre-assessment work will be commissioned for the relevant management systems and governance against the relevant performance indicators of the MSC Standard.





## Principle 1: Sustainability of fish stocks

<b>Action Number and Name</b>	<b>1. Establish harvest strategies and harvest control rules</b>
<b>Action Goal</b>	Ensure there are robust and precautionary harvest strategies in place for the South Pacific albacore and Western and Central Pacific yellowfin tuna stocks, and relevant information is collected to support the harvest strategy.
<b>Action Description (Outcomes)</b>	<p>Outcome 1. By the end of the fifth year, there shall be robust and precautionary harvest strategies in place for South Pacific (SP) albacore and Western and Central Pacific (WCP) yellowfin tuna stocks. For each strategy, there shall be an explicit description of: 1) how the design makes the harvest strategy responsive to the state of the stock; and 2) how elements of the harvest strategy (monitoring, stock assessment, harvest control rules and management actions) work together towards achieving stock management objectives. The harvest strategy must be constructed such that its effectiveness can be empirically evaluated.</p> <p>Outcome 2a. By the end of the third year<sup>[1]</sup>, WCPFC shall formally adopt appropriately precautionary harvest control rules for SP albacore and WCP yellowfin tuna stocks that ensures the exploitation rate is reduced as the limit reference point is approached and is expected to keep the stock fluctuating around the target level and robust to the main uncertainties. The selection of harvest control rules shall take into account the main uncertainties.</p> <p>Outcome 2b. By the end of the fifth year, there shall be evidence the tools used or available to implement harvest control rules for SP albacore and WCP yellowfin tuna are appropriate and effective in controlling exploitation in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean.</p> <p>Outcome 3. By the fifth year, a comprehensive range of information related to stock structure, stock productivity, fleet composition and other data are available to support the harvest strategy; and all information required by the harvest control rule is monitored with high frequency and a high degree of certainty.</p> <p><i>Note: the phrase “precautionary” should be taken, to mean conservative where there are multiple options, and in line with the precautionary approach as included by the FAO International Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (1995) and the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (1995).</i></p> <p><sup>[1]</sup> Timing is consistent with the “Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06. As refined and adopted at the Fifteenth Regular Session of the Commission, Honolulu, United States of America 10-14 December 2018”.</p>



<b>Expected Completion Date</b>	End of Year 5
<b>Priority</b>	High for PIs 1.2.1 and 1.2.2, and Medium for PI 1.2.3
<b>Responsible Parties</b>	O2, Bumble Bee (BB), FCF, International Sustainable Seafood Foundation (ISSF), World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF)
<b>MSC PIs Addressed by the Action</b>	1.2.1, 1.2.2 and 1.2.3

Action	Tasks	Evidence of completion / results (Milestones)	Responsible (lead)	Responsible (supporting role)	Completion due date
<b>1. Establish harvest strategies and harvest control rules</b>	1.1	Develop options for, and commence, working with other stakeholders (e.g. ISSF, NGO Tuna Forum, other MSC-certified fisheries, FIPs, roundtables, e.g. possibly Global Fresh and Frozen Yellowfin and Bigeye Tuna Supply Chain Roundtable, and/or national authorities) to support the timely implementation of the agreed workplan during 2019.	O2	BB, ISSF, FCF, WWF	Year 1+
	1.2	Support the activities of members of other FIPs (Ecuador (Transmarina), Tunago, and OPAGAC) to support the implementation of the harvest strategy workplan during 2019.	O2	BB, ISSF, WWF	
	1.3	FIP catching sector representatives and FCF work closely with O2 to engage the Chinese and Taiwanese governments to help ensure the	The governments and fleets commence working towards reducing the number of their fishing	FCF	



	number of their fishing vessels actively fishing for SP albacore in the Convention Area south of 20°S is not above 2005 levels or recent historical (2000-2004) level, to comply with CMM 2015-02. Develop a strategy to engage on this over the duration of the FIP.	vessels actively fishing for South Pacific albacore in the Convention Area south of 20°S to levels at or below 2005 levels or recent historical (2000-2004), as per CMM 2015-02.			
1.4	Review progress against updated 14-06 workplan during 2019 and any further revisions to the workplan.	Implementation gaps and impediments to implementation of the harvest strategy workplan identified.	O2		After WCPFC plenary, Jan. 2019
1.5	Conduct a gap analysis for, and develop an approach to, improving provision of operational level catch and effort data and data identified as source of uncertainty in assessments at both the vessel and flag-state levels.	Approach to improve provision of catch and effort data collection developed.	FCF	ISSF	Year 1
1.6	Conduct a gap analysis for, and develop a plan to, improving monitoring programs (including discard reporting and observer coverage), and if needed, conduct training for improved data collection and reporting.	Plan to improve monitoring programs and training for improved data collection and reporting developed.	FCF	ISSF	Year 1
<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Evidence of completion / results (Milestones) - Activities TBD</b>				
<b>Year 2</b>	The WCPFC has: considered candidate harvest control rules based on agreed reference points for the SP albacore and WCP yellowfin stocks; considered management objectives for the fisheries and stocks; and been undertaking a management strategy evaluation.				
	FIP catching sector representatives (from the fleet) and FCF continue to work closely with O2 to engage the Chinese and Taiwanese governments to ensure compliance with CMM 2015-02, as per the engagement strategy.				



	Approach to improve catch and effort data provision commenced.
	Monitoring programs and training commenced, if required.
<b>Year 3</b>	The WCPFC has: adopted formal scientifically-based appropriately precautionary harvest control rules for the SP albacore and WCP yellowfin stock; and considered management objectives for the fisheries and stocks.
	Engagement with China and Chinese Taipei on complying with CMM 2015-02 continued as per the engagement strategy.
	Approach to improve catch and effort data provision, and monitoring and training continued, if required.
<b>Year 4</b>	The adopted harvest control rules for SP albacore and WCP yellowfin have been implemented.
	Evidence of continued progress of the development of the draft harvest strategies presented: recorded management objectives for the fishery or stock; agreed acceptable levels of risk; agreed monitoring strategy; agreed to performance indicators to evaluate harvest control rules; and undertaking a management strategy evaluation.
<b>Year 5</b>	There is a clear basis for considering that the SP albacore and WCP yellowfin harvest control rules will be successful in achieving the desired outcome and they have taken into account the main uncertainties.
	The WCPFC has adopted a robust and precautionary harvest strategy for the SP albacore and WCP yellowfin stocks.
	Operational level catch and effort data or data provided that is identified as source of uncertainty in assessments.
	Highly frequent monitoring occurring.



## Principle 2: Minimising environmental impacts

<b>Action Number and Name</b>	<b>2. Gather data and analyses to support management strategies for primary, secondary and ETP species</b>
<b>Action Goal</b>	Data are comprehensive and verified to support: maintaining primary and secondary species above the point where recruitment would be impaired (PRI)/above a biologically based limit, and does not hinder recovery of primary and secondary species if they are below a PRI/biologically based limit; and the UoA meets national and international requirements for protection of Endangered, Threatened and Protected (ETP) species.
<b>Action Description (Outcomes)</b>	<p>Outcome 4. By the third year, fishery data are sufficient to confirm/ascertain which species are primary (including bait species); and it is highly likely the primary species are above the point where recruitment would be impaired (PRI) and the UoA does not hinder recovery of primary species if they are below the PRI.</p> <p>Outcome 5a. By the third year, fishery catch and fate data is verified and comprehensive so information on the nature and amount of secondary species taken is adequate to determine the risk posed by the UoA and the effectiveness of at least a partial strategy to manage secondary species.</p> <p>Outcome 7a. By the third year, the evidence base for determining interaction rates with ETP species should be considerably improved so trends in interactions can be measured over time and so it can be determined whether the UoA may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species.</p>
<b>Expected Completion Date</b>	End of Year 4
<b>Priority</b>	Medium
<b>Responsible Parties</b>	BB, FCF, O2, ISSF, Eric Gilman
<b>MSC PIs Addressed by the Action</b>	PIs 2.1.1, 2.2.3 and 2.3.3



Action	Tasks	Evidence of completion / results (Milestones)	Responsible (lead)	Responsible (supporting role)	Completion due date
<p><b>2. Gather data and analyses to support management strategies for primary, secondary and ETP species</b></p>	<p>2.1 Work with relevant national authorities to evaluate current data collection and reporting strategies and identify areas of improvement. Develop improved data collection plan; this can be through increased observer coverage (human or electronic), improved self-reporting (e.g. e-logbooks), or through some other measure as appropriate. An observer sampling approach and protocol, to address different data needs and compliance issues, will also need to be developed.</p> <p>The aspiration is for 100% scientific observer coverage (with at least 20% analysed), including sampling at landing sites and transshipment operations, when applicable. This information will also be helpful to demonstrate compliance with existing RFMO, national and international measures for ETP species.</p> <p>Conduct an initial assessment on the sourcing of bycatch, extend data collection to determine the origin and amounts of bait should be documented and monitored. Ensure integration with the Bycatch policy/code of conduct being developed in Task 3.2, which should also include data collection.</p>	<p>Comprehensive data collection and reporting improvement plan and ongoing data collection and reporting strategy developed, including for discards and bait species. Initial assessment on sourcing of bait.</p>	<p>FCF</p>	<p>ISSF, Eric Gilman</p>	<p>Year 1</p>



	2.2	<p>Commence assessment of how to integrate e-observer coverage into a comprehensive data plan, including: how e-observer coverage can be used to increase observer coverage from 5% to 100%; sampling approach and protocol to address different data needs and compliance issues; encouraging buying and installing units; responsibility for undertaking analysis and analysis costs; how the data will be used; and how the data may be accepted by the WCPFC. Ensure integration with the Bycatch policy/code of conduct being developed in Task 3.2, which should also include adequate percentage (20+%) of analysed observer coverage.</p> <p>Encourage the WCPFC E-reporting and E-monitoring Working Group stays on track. Adoption of CMM in 2020.</p> <p>Discussions both within the FIP and with the working group need to include future responsibility for e-observer footage analyses.</p>	<p>Assessment of how to integrate e-observer coverage into a comprehensive data plan commenced. Responsibility for e-observer footage analyses occurring as part of discussions.</p>	FCF	BB, ISSF	
	2.3	<p>Assess whether supplying vessels effectively implement mitigation measures for reducing bycatch, by identifying and use of best practice bycatch mitigation techniques. If data are insufficient to determine this, integrate into Task 2.1. If bycatch mitigation measures are not being effectively and consistently implemented, set process to address, including developing crew training (in Action 3 to meet Outcomes 5b and 7b).</p>	<p>Either confirmed that supplying vessels effectively implement mitigation measures for reducing bycatch, by identifying and use of best practice bycatch mitigation techniques, or process set to improve data and address any non-compliance if required.</p>	FCF	ISSF, Eric Gilman	Year 1+



	2.4	Regarding sharks, assess whether: i. supplying vessels are complying with the shark finning ban (5% ratio); ii. supplying vessels comply with the prohibition from retaining, transshipping, storing or landing oceanic whitetip sharks; iii. that supplying vessels comply with recommendation for incidentally caught sharks to be released, the incident recorded and reported; iv. China, Taiwan, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands implement the FAO International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks. If data are insufficient to determine these, integrate into Task 2.1. If any non-compliance is identified, set process to address (in Action 3 to meet Outcomes 5b and 7b).	Either confirmed that sharks fishing CMMs are being adhered to, or process set to improve data and address any non-compliance if required.	FCF	ISSF, Eric Gilman	
	2.5	Regarding marlin and swordfish, assess whether the catches of FIP vessels from China, Taiwan, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu: complied with reduction in catches of striped marlin resulting in an 80% reduction of 2000-2003 levels (individual countries were to identify ways to accomplish this); and are limiting the number of fishing vessels targeting swordfish to levels from any year between 2000 and 2005. The level of marlin and swordfish catches will need to be confirmed as part of improved data collection.	Either confirmed that marlin and swordfish fishing CMMs are being adhered to, or process set to improve data and address any non-compliance if required.	O2	BB, FCF	
	2.6	Require vessels to fill in discard information in logbooks.	Vessels recording discards in logbooks.			





Timeline	Evidence of completion / results (Milestones) - <i>Activities TBD</i>
Year 2	Demonstrate new data collection and reporting plan has been implemented, including recording of discard information.
Year 3	Continued data collection and reporting.
Year 4	Fishery data are sufficient to confirm/ascertain which species are primary.
	Data analysis results confirm/ascertain which species are primary, and it is highly likely the primary species are above the point where recruitment would be impaired (PRI) and the UoA does not hinder recovery of primary species if they are below the PRI.
	Fishery catch and fate data is verified and comprehensive so that information on the nature and amount of secondary species taken is adequate to determine the risk posed by the UoA and the effectiveness of at least a partial strategy to manage secondary species.
	Data analysis results determine the risk posed by the UoA and the effectiveness of at least a partial strategy to manage secondary species.
	The evidence base for determining interaction rates with ETP species is considerably improved so trends in interactions can be measured over time and so it can be determined whether the UoA may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species.
Data analysis results determine whether the UoA may be a threat to protection and recovery of the ETP species.	

<b>Action Number and Name</b>	<b>3. Ensure effective management strategies for secondary and ETP species</b>
-------------------------------	--



<b>Action Goal</b>	Secondary species are being maintained above a biologically based limit, and the UoA does not hinder recovery of primary and secondary species if they are below a biologically based limit; and the UoA meets national and international requirements for protection of ETP species.
<b>Action Description (Outcomes)</b>	<p>Outcome 6. By the fourth year, there is at least a partial strategy in place at the WCPFC, national government and fleet levels for managing secondary species that is designed to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding of secondary species; and the UoA regularly reviews and implements measures, as appropriate, to minimise the mortality of unwanted catch.</p> <p>Outcome 5b. By the fifth year, the secondary species are above biologically based limits and the UoA does not hinder recovery of secondary species if they are below a biological based limit.</p> <p>Outcome 8. By the fourth year, the UoA should provide evidence there are precautionary management strategies in place at the national level, and all relevant national and regional regulations on fishery interactions with ETP species are adhered to by the UoA so it can be demonstrated the fishery does not hinder recovery of ETP species.</p> <p>Outcome 7b. By the fifth year, should a potential threat be identified, the fishery should demonstrate the current ETP management strategy in place is adequate to ensure direct effects of the UoA are highly likely to not hinder recovery of ETP species.</p>
<b>Expected Completion Date</b>	End of Year 5
<b>Priority</b>	Medium
<b>Responsible Parties</b>	BB, FCF, O2, ISSF, Eric Gilman
<b>MSC PIs Addressed by the Action</b>	PIs 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.3.1 and 2.3.2

Action	Tasks	Evidence of completion / results (Milestones)	Responsible (lead)	Responsible (supporting role)	Completion due date
--------	-------	---	--------------------	-------------------------------	---------------------



<b>3. Ensure effective management strategies for secondary and ETP species</b>	Tasks (2.1 - 2.4) and Milestones under Action 2.				Year 1
	3.1	Prepare plan to develop a strategy for the management of the secondary species by the WCPFC and national governments associated with the vessels. The strategy will be designed to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding of secondary species; and include regular reviews and implements measures, as appropriate, to minimise the mortality of unwanted catch. The strategy will be enshrined in legislation and/or the Bycatch policy/code of conduct referred to in Task 3.2.	Plan for the development of a secondary species management strategy agreed.	Eric Gilman	
3.2	Commence development of a compulsory and verifiable bycatch policy/code of practice for participating vessels, that includes full retention of tunas, best practices, gear improvements, mitigation and research <sup>6</sup> , best practices which include each of the ETP species groups (sharks, rays, cetaceans, turtles and birds), 100% observer coverage, data collection and reporting of all interactions and fate.  Appropriate monitoring and bycatch policies are critical to characterise, quantify and manage the interactions as well as verify the implementation of any Bycatch policies.  Cumulative effects with other MSC certified fisheries should be taken into account.	Development of a comprehensive and verifiable Bycatch policy/code of practice commenced.	BB	Eric Gilman/ISSF and O2	

<sup>6</sup> In the context of this Action these could be related to the following three areas:

- species biology/stock status;
- vulnerability to gear and fleet as vulnerable species interacting with the fishery are being identified by monitoring; and
- mitigation (research on new methods/species).



		<p>Skipper and crew training considerations to be made in conjunction with the Bycatch policy/code of practice development.</p> <p><i>NB ISSF has extensive training experience with the purse seine sector. The longline sector may require a different approach/model, and set of languages. For example, training staff and fleet managers who can then in turn train their people, as the fleet doesn't come in in large numbers at the same time.</i></p>				
	3.3	<p>Assess whether national law and vessels meet international and national requirements for ETP species protection, including preparing for the new seabird CMM 2018-03, which requires use of seabird mitigation measures in the specified areas of activity.</p>	<p>Gaps in meeting international and national obligations identified.</p>	BB	O2	
	3.4	<p>Develop strategy to encourage the supply chain to adopt voluntary shark fins naturally attached regulations and promote the adoption of this rule by the WCPFC and IATTC.</p>	<p>Strategy developed for adoption of shark fins naturally attached.</p>	BB	FCF, ISSF	Year 1+
	3.5	<p>Discuss with Birdlife International collaboration regarding their project working with Chinese fishing vessels in Fiji to educate about required mitigation, and building tori lines with a local women's group to supply the vessels, which operate in latitudes where bird interaction is regular.</p>	<p>Collaboration with Birdlife International commenced.</p>	O2	BB, FCF	Year 1
<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Evidence of completion / results (Milestones) - Activities TBD</b>					
<b>Years 2-3</b>	Milestones under Action 2 for Outcomes 5a and 7a.					



	If needed: develop and implement a strategy (through legislation and/or Bycatch policy/code of conduct) for managing secondary species designed to maintain or to not hinder rebuilding of secondary species; including regular reviews.
	If needed: develop and implement a strategy (through legislation and/or Bycatch policy/code of conduct) to manage fishery encounters with ETP species and reduce ETP species mortality; and support process to amend/update national regulations to meet international obligations. Take account of best practice guidelines, including the "ISSF Skippers Guidebook to Sustainable Longline Fishing Practices. 2nd Ed. An International Seafood Sustainability Foundation Publication" and "Recommended best practices for tuna longline fisheries in transition to MSC certification" <sup>7</sup> .
	A process is in place (including crew training) to address any bycatch mitigation measures that are not being effectively and consistently implemented, and any non-compliance with shark, marlin and swordfish CMMs identified under Action 2, Tasks 2.2, 2.3 and 2.4; and implementation of process commenced. For sharks, take account of best practice guidelines, including the "ISSF Skippers Guidebook to Sustainable Longline Fishing Practices. 2nd Ed. An International Seafood Sustainability Foundation Publication."
	Strategy for the adoption of shark fins naturally attached implemented by the fleet, and promoted at WCPFC and IATTC.
	Skipper and crew training on secondary and ETP species commenced as identified during the Bycatch policy/code of practice development.
<b>Year 4</b>	Based on the data analysis in Year 4 in Action 2 (for Outcome 5a Secondary species), additional management measures implemented if necessary.
	Based on the data analysis in Year 4 in Action 2 (for Outcome 7a ETP species), additional management measures implemented if necessary.

<sup>7</sup> Restrepo, V. J.P. Montegudo and A. Justel-Rubio. (2018). Recommended best practices for tuna longline fisheries in transition to MSC certification. ISSF Technical Report 2018-22. International Seafood Sustainability Foundation, Washington, D.C., USA.



	Provided a Bycatch policy/code of practice is already in place, the fishery should work with the RFMO to adopt mandatory handling and release practices for ETP species which should also be transposed to the flag stated, i.e. application of the policy beyond the participating fleets.
Year 5	Data analysis results show that the current ETP management strategy in place is adequate to ensure direct effects of the UoA are highly likely to not hinder recovery of ETP species.
	The UoA meets national and international requirements for protection of ETP species.

### Principle 3: Effective management

<b>Action Number and Name</b>	<b>4. Include the application of the precautionary principle through decision-making processes</b>
<b>Action Goal</b>	The WCPFC management system includes effective decision-making processes that result in measures and strategies to achieve the objectives; and the Solomon Islands decision-making is transparent.
<b>Action Description (Outcomes)</b>	Outcome 9. By the fifth year, there shall be evidence the WCPFC decision-making processes responds to serious and other important issues, including the declining catch rates of SP albacore, identified in relevant research, monitoring, evaluation and consultation, in a transparent, timely and adaptive manner and takes account of the wider implications of decisions; and Solomon Islands national decision-making processes are transparent.
<b>Expected Completion Date</b>	End of Year 5
<b>Priority</b>	Medium
<b>Responsible Parties</b>	BB, FCF, O2, ISSF



<b>MSC PI Addressed by the Action</b>	PI 3.2.2
---------------------------------------	----------

Action	Tasks	Evidence of completion / results (Milestones)	Responsible (lead)	Responsible (supporting role)	Completion due date	
<b>4. Include the application of the precautionary principle through decision-making processes.</b>	4.1	Request the USA and/or other relevant stakeholders to evaluate responsiveness of decision-making, and therefore application of the precautionary approach, by WCPFC over the last 5 years. Collaborate with OPAGAC on this, as they may have requested the EU do this.	Evaluation of WCPFC responsiveness commissioned with completion date by mid-way through Year 2.	O2	BB, ISSF	Year 1
	4.2	Approach the Solomon Islands Government regarding a process to improve the transparency of their decision-making processes.	Solomon Islands agreed to either improve transparency, or a time-bound process to improve transparency of their decision-making processes.	FCF/BB	O2	
<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Evidence of completion / results (Milestones) - <i>Activities TBD</i></b>					
<b>Years 1-3</b>	Some evidence that the Commission is responding to the issue of SP albacore catch rates, e.g. by progressing with the harvest strategy as per the agreed WCPFC workplan, or some other evidence.					
<b>Year 2</b>	Milestones for Action 4. to be developed with OPAGAC pending the outcomes of Task 4.1.					



	Solomon Islands either demonstrably improving transparency, or implementing the process to improve transparency of their decision-making processes. For example, publishing rationale on the regulator’s website.
--	---

<b>Action Number and Name</b>	<b>5. MCS implementation and application of sanctions</b>
<b>Action Goal</b>	WCPFC monitoring, control and surveillance mechanisms ensure the management measures in the fishery are enforced and complied with.
<b>Action Description (Outcomes)</b>	Outcome 10. By the end of the fifth year, there shall be evidence WCPFC has begun to address issues of non-compliance with management measures through the use of sanctions. Initial efforts shall focus on members providing timely and accurate catch data to the WCPFC Secretariat.
<b>Expected Completion Date</b>	End of Year 5
<b>Priority</b>	Medium
<b>Responsible Parties</b>	BB, FCF, O2, ISSF
<b>MSC PI Addressed by the Action</b>	PI 3.2.3

Action	Tasks	Evidence of completion / results (Milestones)	Responsible (lead)	Responsible (supporting role)	Completion due date
<b>5. MCS implementation</b>	5.1 Request the USA and/or other relevant stakeholders to evaluate compliance and application of	Evaluation of application of sanctions the WCPFC commissioned with	BB	O2, FCF	Year 1





<b>and application of Sanctions</b>		sanctions over the last 5 years. Collaborate with OPAGAC on this, as they may have requested the EU do this.	completion date by mid-way through Year 2.			
	5.2	Check transshipment monitoring is occurring as per WCPFC requirements.	All transshipments should occur under the monitoring of an RFMO observer program, which must be able to be demonstrated if requested.	FCF	BB	
	5.3	Where existing effective programs do not already exist, develop a training program to ensure that fleet managers and skippers are trained on obligations arising from flag state, RFMOs and licensing countries (part of code of good practice or responsible fishing).	Program developed for skipper and crew training on obligations arising from flag state, RFMOs and licensing countries, as the fishery must implement a MCS system consistent with RFMO and flag state requirements while meeting obligations that apply in third countries EEZ.	ISSF	O2	
<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Evidence of completion / results (Milestones) - Activities TBD</b>					
<b>Years 1-3</b>	Some evidence that the Commission is responding to the issue of SP albacore catch rates, e.g. by progressing with the harvest strategy as per the agreed WCPFC workplan, or some other evidence.					
	Work with the Chinese and Taiwanese Governments on areas of non-compliance.					
	Conduct skipper and crew training on obligations arising from flag state, RFMOs, and licensing countries.					



<b>Year 2</b>	Pending the results of Task 5.1, development commenced on a proposal(s) to strengthen compliance by commencing development of sanctions for any instances where members repeatedly fall short in complying with WCPFC management measures.
<b>WCPFC plenary, 2021</b>	Agree to enhance the reporting of member's non-compliance with management measures by the WCPFC, including the quality of member's reporting.
<b>Year 3</b>	The WCPFC has commenced a process to develop sanctions for the WCPFC.
<b>Year 4</b>	The WCPFC has adopted sanctions for non-compliance with WCPFC management measures.
<b>Year 5</b>	End of Year 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. The WCPFC has made a public in-depth summary of all non-compliances, including the quality of reporting; and</li> <li>II. sanctioned any member/s with repeated non-compliance with WCPFC management measures.</li> </ul>

<b>Action Number and Name</b>	<b>6. Monitor and Evaluate the performance of the Vanuatu fishery-specific management system</b>
<b>Action Goal</b>	There is an effective and timely review of the fishery-specific and associated enhancement program(s) management system.
<b>Action Description (Outcomes)</b>	Outcome 11. By the end of the fifth year, there is a system for monitoring and evaluating the performance of the Vanuatu fishery-specific management system against its objectives; and at least one effective and timely review of the fishery-specific management system completed.
<b>Expected Completion Date</b>	End of Year 5
<b>Priority</b>	High



<b>Responsible Parties</b>	BB, O2
<b>MSC PI Addressed by the Action</b>	PI 3.2.4

Action	Tasks	Evidence of completion / results (Milestones)	Responsible (lead)	Responsible (supporting role)	Completion due date
<b>6. Monitor and evaluate the performance of the Vanuatu fishery-specific management system</b>	6.1 Approach the Tunago FIP partners and the Vanuatu Government regarding a process for monitoring and evaluating the performance of their albacore and yellowfin longline fishery management system.	Vanuatu has agreed to develop a time-bound process for monitoring and evaluating the fishery.	BB	O2	Year 1
<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Evidence of completion / results (Milestones) - Activities TBD</b>				
<b>Years 2 and 3</b>	Vanuatu on track with process to develop a process for monitoring and evaluating the fishery.				
<b>Year 4</b>	Review of the Vanuatu fishery-specific management system commissioned.				
<b>Year 5</b>	Review of the Vanuatu fishery-specific management system completed.				



## Additional Impacts

Some FIPs include objectives that go beyond the MSC PIs. There are two additional areas of work for the FIP, ghost gear and labour conditions.

In addition, while not an impact of the FIP, the FIP partners will work to ensure all vessels that are part of the FIP sign up to the ISSF Proactive Vessel Register.

Addition Impact Title	Additional Impact Description
<b>Status Summary</b>	Potential for ghost fishing due to lost gear
<b>Description of risk factor. Where applicable, a description of relevant mitigation measures or traceability systems (this can include the role of existing regulatory or fishery management controls)</b>	While there are no habitat-related issues directly associated with this longline fishery, and longline gear is considered medium risk for impact of lost gear by the Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI), there is increasing concern over the entanglement and/or beaching of abandoned, lost and discarded fishing gear, including buoys, ropes and lines. There are no strategy at the regional or national levels to deal with this. In addition, there is limited information on the spatial extent of longline gear.  Bumble Bee Seafoods is a member of the GGGI ( <a href="https://www.ghostgear.org/projects">https://www.ghostgear.org/projects</a> ).
<b>Improvement Recommendation</b>	Bumble Bee to continue being an active and engaged member of the GGGI and following international best practice. Work with FIP participants on developing a prospective GGGI project.

Addition Impact Title	Additional Impact Description
<b>Status Summary</b>	Improvement of labour and employment conditions
<b>Description of risk factor. Where applicable, a description of relevant mitigation measures or traceability systems (this can include the role of existing regulatory or fishery management controls)</b>	In recent years concerns have been raised over recruiting practices and labour conditions onboard fishing vessels.



<p><b>Improvement Recommendation</b></p>	<p>Both Bumble Bee and FCF are committed to responsible supply chains. Both have supplier codes of conduct and programs and are active participants of the Seafood Task Force which has established a Vessel Auditable Standard which will serve as a basis for audits of fleets/vessels going forward which will include the vessels in the FIP.</p>
--	---

## Traceability

FCF/Bumble Bee have traceability processes in place that collect data elements that include: vessel name, flag, RFMO number, International Maritime Organization number, trip dates, landing weight by species, port of landing, ocean area fished (RFMO zone and FAO), EEZ's or high seas fished. The landings from specific vessel trips are assigned unique lot identifications, which carry through the loining process through to finished canned product. FCF and Bumble Bee's intent is for all trips to take place in zones in scope of FIP or eventual MSC Unit of Certification. A full assessment would further consider any traceability concerns.

## Glossary

**Pre-assessment:** A pre-assessment is a preliminary evaluation of a fishery against all MSC performance indicators to provide a picture of the fishery's baseline environmental performance and challenges. A pre-assessment allows a fishery to identify any areas that need to be improved to reach an unconditional pass of the MSC standard. A pre-assessment must be completed by someone experienced with applying the MSC standard (e.g., is a [registered MSC technical consultant](#) or [accredited auditing body](#)).

**Comprehensive FIP:** A fishery improvement project with time bound objectives for addressing all of the fishery's environmental challenges necessary to achieve a level of performance consistent with an unconditional pass of the MSC standard. Comprehensive FIPs engage a party experienced with applying the MSC standard to complete an MSC pre-assessment to understand the challenges in the fishery and must have independent, in-person audits of progress against the MSC standard every three years.

**Performance indicator (PI):** A performance indicator evaluates the success of a particular activity when compare against desired goals. In the case of FIPs that follow the MSC Standard, it measures the impact of the action in place against desired conditions or results.