ISSF Conservation Measures

Updated November 4, 2026

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Preamble

ISSF is a global partnership among scientists, the tuna industry and the environmental non-governmental community whose mission is to undertake science-based initiatives for the long-term conservation and sustainable use of tuna stocks, reducing bycatch and promoting ecosystem health. Since its inception, ISSF has adopted conservation measures and commitments to facilitate this mission with the intent that processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry will follow them to facilitate real and continuous improvement across global tuna stocks. ISSF Participating Companies commit to conform to these conservation measures to improve the long-term health of tuna fisheries. This document will be updated as necessary.

Conservation Measures:

1) RFMO Support

1.1 Tuna RFMO Authorized Vessel Record		
Adopted: May 18, 2010 Amended: May 3, 2011 Amended: November 14, 2011 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: April 14, 2021	Effective: May 3, 2011 Effective: July 1, 2022	Gear Type: All
Each tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organization (RFMO) develops vessel registration requirements and maintains a publicly available regional record of such tuna fishing vessels and carrier vessels authorized to fish or receive fish in the Convention Area of that RFMO. A vessel may be included on the record of authorized fishing vessels in multiple RFMOs simultaneously. Fishing or receiving fish by vessels subject to listing but not listed as authorized by an RFMO diminishes the effectiveness of conservation and management measures and the long-term sustainability of the resources being managed by increasing traceability and transparency at a global level. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall refrain from transactions in tuna caught by fishing vessels or received by carrier vessels that are not on the authorized vessel record of the RFMO governing the ocean area in which the tuna was caught, at the time of the fishing trip or transshipment event, so long as the vessel is subject to listing in the RFMO authorized vessel record.		

1.2 RFMO Participation		
Adopted: October 26, 2011 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: March 27, 2019 Amended: November 5, 2025	Effective: March 27, 2019 Effective: November 5, 2025	Gear Type: All
ISSF recognizes that effective monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities within each RFMO is necessary for *appropriate management. In* some regions, however, vessels flagged to nations that are neither members nor cooperating non-members of the relevant RFMO are fishing for tunas, and thus are falling outside the purview of the RFMO management system. ISSF is committed to working to improve the performance of RFMOs in adopting, and member governments in complying with and enforcing,		

conservation and management measures and RFMO obligations.

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall refrain from transactions in tuna caught by fishing vessels or received by carrier vessels at sea that are not flagged to a member or cooperating non-member of the relevant RFMO (or have applied with the RFMO for such status), or if membership is not possible, flagged to an Invited Expert or another such designation established by the RFMO.

1.3 IOTC Yellowfin Tuna Rebuilding		
Adopted: April 23, 2021 Amended: November 9, 2022	Effective: November 9, 2022	Gear Type: All

(NOTE: On February 10, 2026, The ISSF Board voted to repeal ISSF Conservation Measure 1.3. It is no longer in effect.)

The IOTC Scientific Committee presented new management advice and probabilities to recover the yellowfin stock in 2021 which suggested that the stock would recover to SSB_{MSY} by 2030 (around 2 generation times) with a 50% probability if catches are reduced by **at least** 22 % (i.e., down to 336,145 tons) relative to the 2020 catch level (430,956 tons). Larger catch reductions could allow the stock to recover with a greater probability. For example, a 30% reduction (i.e., down to 301,669 tons) relative to the 2020 catch level (430,956 tons) would have a 67% probability that the stock would recover to SSB_{MSY} by 2030.

The IOTC has not taken sufficient action to effectively implement either the 2020 or 2021 IOTC Scientific Committee advice. Further, compliance by some IOTC member nations with the existing and inadequate IOTC Resolutions has not been sufficient.

In order to support the advice of the IOTC Scientific Committee and thereby increase the effectiveness of the Indian Ocean yellowfin rebuilding plan currently contained in Resolution 21/01, and any further rebuilding plans adopted by the IOTC, processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry annually purchasing in excess of 1,000 metric round tonnes shall commit to:

1. Reduce sourcing of Indian Ocean origin yellowfin by between 11% and 22%, calculated with respect to the company's average annual level of Indian Ocean yellowfin purchases from 2017-2019.
2. In deciding the level of reduction and its implementation, companies shall consider a flag State's degree of compliance with the rebuilding plan and degree of past catch reductions in support of the rebuilding plan.
3. ISSF Participating Companies shall publish by 31 December 2022 a statement on its company website describing its commitment and implementation plan, and by 1 April of every year after to address any changes.

2) Traceability & Data Collection

2.1 Product Traceability		
Adopted: July 21, 2009 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: January 1, 2010	Gear Type: All
Adequate traceability records are necessary for enforcement and compliance with existing and future conservation measures, and the successful elimination of illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall credibly trace tuna products, from capture to plate. The traceability procedure will record the name, flag and UVI (subject to the provisions of Sections 4.1 and 4.2 below) of catcher and transshipping vessels, fish species, ocean of capture corresponding to tuna RFMO area, fishing trip dates, fishing gear employed, date the company took ownership of the fish and each species by weight.		

2.2 Quarterly Data Submission to RFMO		
Adopted: January 27, 2009 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: October 18, 2016 Amended: October 24, 2018	Effective: January 27, 2009	Gear Type: All

ISSF recognizes that the tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) are responsible for tuna conservation and management with the objective to maintain the populations at levels of abundance that can support the average maximum yield on a sustained basis.

However, the scientific findings of the RFMO scientific bodies depend on the completeness and accuracy of the supporting data available to them. ISSF is committed to support the RFMOs to ensure that their findings and the data underlying them are as accurate and complete as possible.

1. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall submit the following data within their control to the appropriate RFMO scientific bodies:

a) Round fish (includes gilled and gutted, and headed and gilled and gutted) unloading from Fishing Vessel
   i. Name of fishing vessel
   ii. Unique Vessel Identification Number (for example, IMO number) of fishing vessel
   iii. Gear type
   iv. Flag State of fishing vessel
   v. Start date for unloading to processor
   vi. End date for unloading to processor
   vii. RFMO area of subject catch
   viii. Fishing trip dates
   ix. Weight of catch (in metric tons, by commercial species/size categories compiled as specified in paragraph 2.
   x. Unloading port
   xi. Data source (unloading data, outturn report or immediate pre-processing).

b) Round fish (includes gilled and gutted) unloading from Carrier Vessel (Transshipments)
   i. Name of carrier vessel
   ii. Unique Vessel Identification Number (for example, IMO number) of carrier vessel
   iii. Flag State of carrier vessel
   iv. Start date for unloading to processor
   v. End date for unloading to processor
   vi. Name(s) of catcher vessel(s)
   vii. Unique Vessel Identification Number(s) (for example, IMO number) of catcher vessel(s)
   viii. Flag state(s) of catcher vessel(s)
   ix. Date(s) of transfer of fish from catcher vessel(s) by vessel, and/or transfer from processor(s) to carrier vessel
   x. Locations of transfer(s) at sea [at sea coordinates/port name] by transfer
   xi. Fishing trip dates
   xii. Weight of catch (in metric tons, by commercial species/size categories by catcher vessel(s) compiled from immediate pre-processing data as specified in paragraph 2.
   xiii. Unloading port
   xiv. Data source (unloading data, outturn report or immediate pre-processing).

2. Weight of catch (in metric tons) by commercial species/size categories should be compiled from immediate pre-processing data or from unloading data/outturn reports. The size classes shall reflect commercial gradings used by the processor, with the following suggested minimum breakdowns:

- Skipjack: <3 lb. (1.4 Kg); 3-4 lb. (1.4 -1.8 Kg); 4-7.5 lb.; >7.5 lb. (3.4 Kg). The category 3-4 lb. can be combined with the <3 lb. category if not generally measured by the processor.
- Yellowfin and bigeye: <4 lb. (1.8 Kg); 4-7.5 lb. (1.8-3.4 Kg); 7.5-20 lb. (3.4-9 Kg); > 20 lb. (9 Kg). If used by the processor, the additional category 3-4 lb. (1.4-1.8 Kg) should be added.
- Albacore: <4 Kg; 4.0-7.0 Kg; 7.0-10.0 Kg; >10 Kg.

Species separation for skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye should apply to all size breakdowns, unless practical considerations limit this separation in the smallest size classes (e.g., < 3 lb. or < 4 lb.), in which case the report should indicate the species mix.

3. Submission of these data for each quarter shall be done by the last day of the following calendar quarter. Submissions shall be done by electronic mail to the appropriate tRFMO scientific bodies whose contact information is available by **clicking this link.** Starting with the reports corresponding to the fourth quarter of 2019, submissions shall use the format available by **clicking this link.**

2.3 Product Labeling by Species and Area of Capture		
Adopted: October 18, 2016	Effective: January 1, 2018	Gear Type: All

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall on all product labeling or through a publicly available web-based traceability system by product, for all branded tuna products:

1. Identify all species of tuna contained in the product; and

2. Identify ocean of capture for the tuna contained in the product.

3. For an ISSF Participating Company, this measure applies only to the branded products of that company.

4. This measure will apply to all product labeling as of January 1, 2018.

2.5 Transparency in Reporting Progress Against ISSF Five-Year Goal		
Adopted: April 19, 2023 Amended: November 8, 2023 Amended: April 30, 2024 Amended: November 7, 2024 Amended: November 4, 2026	Effective: April 19, 2023 Effective: November 8, 2023 Effective: April 30, 2024 Effective: November 7, 2024 Effective: November 4, 2026	Gear Type: All

The ISSF 2023-2027 Strategic Plan, Continuously Improving Global Tuna Fishery Sustainability sets out a five-year goal for completion at the end of the plan term:

> "*By the end of 2027, all tuna fisheries from which ISSF participating companies source can meet and maintain the MSC certification standard* or there is a clear roadmap and timeline in place to meet this standard that is underpinned by the best-available science*.
>
> **ISSF will seek to achieve conformance with MSC's then current performance indicators at an 80 score level, which is sufficient"*

In order to track progress against this goal over the plan term, processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall publish by March 15, 2024 (representing tuna purchases for the prior calendar year), and update annually thereafter:

1. The percentage of their purchases (measured in round ton equivalents) for each of the following Fishery Source categories:

   i. Fisheries certified by the MSC
   ii. Fisheries that have entered full assessment for MSC certification
   iii. Fisheries otherwise engaged in the MSC program (MSC Improvement Program or Suspended)
   iv. Comprehensive FIPs that have been publicly listed and have achieved progress within at least the past 24 months; or are in their initial year of listing
   v. Comprehensive FIPs that have been publicly listed but have not achieved progress in the prior 24 months
   vi. None of the above.

2. The percentage of their purchases (measured in round ton equivalents) for each of the following Supplier Source categories:

   i. ISSF participating companies (Founding, Full, and Associate members)
   ii. Data Check Companies designated by ISSF (as defined by the General Provisions and Terms and Conditions for Data Check Companies) that have a published compliance audit report with respect to ISSF Conservation Measures 2.2, 1.1, 4.1, 4.2, and 5.1, as determined and reported by the ISSF external auditor
   iii. Direct from vessels
   iv. None of the above

3. ISSF will publish on its website, in its annual Company Compliance Report, and update annually, company-specific public reporting of Fishery Source and Supplier Source categories as specified in CM 2.5, paragraphs 1 and 2 above, and show changes over time.

4. If ISSF Participating Companies voluntarily elect to publish additional purchase statistics using information published for vessels on ISSF's Vessels in Other Sustainability Initiatives (VOSI) list, the accuracy of such disclosures shall be verified by ISSF compliance auditors.

3) Bycatch Mitigation

Sharks

"Shark finning" is the practice of retaining shark fins and discarding the remaining carcass while at sea. Shark finning contravenes the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and its International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks, as well as the resolutions of a number of other international marine bodies, all of which call for minimizing waste and discards.

Shark finning has also contributed to major uncertainties about the total biomass and species composition of sharks caught. Tuna RFMOs restrict shark finning through a proviso that the weight of fins landed cannot exceed 5% of the total shark catch on board. The fin-to-carcass ratio can vary considerably depending on the species, the dressing of the carcass, and on the different ways fins are cut, therefore creating difficulties in enforcement and accurate data collection.

3.1(a) Shark-Finning Policy		
Adopted: January 23, 2012 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: July 27, 2021	Effective: June 1, 2012 Effective: December 31, 2022	Gear Type: All
In light of the difficulties in enforcement and accurate data collection, all ISSF Participating Companies shall establish and publish policies prohibiting shark finning and requiring sharks be landed with fins naturally attached, if retained. "Publish" for the purpose of this measure includes posting the policy on the company's public website.		

In the event a Participating Company does not have a public website, the Participating Company shall make its policy otherwise available to the general public.

3.1(b) Prohibition of Transactions with Shark-Finning Vessels		
Adopted: January 23, 2012 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: July 27, 2021	Effective: September 1, 2012 Effective: December 31, 2022	Gear Type: All
Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall not conduct transactions with vessels that carry out shark finning and/or do not land all sharks with fins naturally attached, if retained. For the purpose of determining if a vessel is conducting shark finning and/or has not landed all sharks with fins naturally attached, if retained, processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry will rely upon the publicly available conclusions of investigations conducted by the RFMOs or national governments. After a period of 2 years from the date of the conclusion of the investigation, processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry can resume transactions with those vessels identified above, provided the vessels are not involved in further incidents.		

3.1(c) Prohibition of Transactions with Companies without a Public Policy Prohibiting Shark Finning		
Adopted: January 23, 2012 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: July 27, 2021 Amended: April 6, 2022 Amended: April 19, 2023 Amended: November 8, 2023	Effective: September 1, 2012 Effective: December 31, 2022 Effective: April 19, 2023 Effective: November 8, 2023	Gear Type: All
Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall not conduct transactions with companies that do not have a public policy prohibiting shark finning and requiring sharks be landed with fins naturally attached, if retained. For the purposes of this measure a policy is "public" if it is published on the company's website or is otherwise available to the general public.		

Driftnets

3.2 Large-Scale Pelagic Driftnets Prohibition		
Adopted: May 18, 2010 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: July 27, 2021	Effective: May 18, 2010 Effective: July 27, 2021	Gear Type: All
Large-scale pelagic driftnets are an unselective method of fishing that results in substantial catches of many non-target species. ISSF supports the Resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly 44/225, 45/197 and 46/215 concerning large-scale pelagic driftnet fishing and its impact on the living marine resources of the world's oceans and seas, including enclosed and semi-enclosed seas. Therefore, processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall refrain from transactions in tuna caught by large-scale pelagic driftnets regardless of the geographic area in which the tuna were caught by such driftnets.		

Full Retention

3.3 Full Retention of Tunas		
Adopted: June 7, 2011 Amended: September 12, 2012 Amended: April 25, 2013 Amended: October 21, 2014 Amended October 20, 2015	Effective: January 1, 2013	Gear Type: All Purse Seine
The dumping of less valuable tuna in favor of higher value catch distorts our understanding of the actual impact on the tuna stocks by fishing operations. 1. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall conduct transactions only with those purse seine vessels that retain all caught tuna (skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye), except those unfit for human consumption, or when in the final set of a trip, there is insufficient well space to accommodate all fish caught in that set. 2. For purposes of this measure, "unfit for human consumption" means fish that : (i) is meshed or crushed in the purse seine net; or (ii) is damaged due to shark or whale depredation; or (iii) has died and spoiled in the net where a gear failure has prevented both the normal retrieval of the net and catch and efforts to release the fish alive. 3. "Unfit for human consumption" does not include fish that: (i.) is considered undesirable in terms of size, marketability, or species composition; or (ii.) is spoiled or contaminated as the result of an act or omission of the crew of the fishing vessel.		

Skippers

3.4 Skipper Best Practices		
Adopted: June 7, 2011 Amended: September 12, 2012 Amended: April 25, 2013 Amended: May 20, 2014 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: July 27, 2021 Amended: November 8, 2023 Amended: April 30, 2024	Effective: July 27, 2021 - For purse seine vessels	Gear Type: All Purse Seine, Longline
ISSF's goal in developing and presenting best practice information is to share the state of the art in responsible fishing operations, review the reporting requirements and other obligations to RFMOs, and inform purse seine and longline vessel skippers and other interested parties about the related ISSF Conservation Measures for the management of tuna and its larger marine ecosystem. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall conduct transactions only with those purse seine and longline vessels whose skippers: (a) have attended an in-person and/or online ISSF Skippers Workshop; or (b) have attended an in-person Skippers Workshop conducted by a trainer that has been accredited by ISSF to conduct these workshops; or (c) have viewed an ISSF Skippers Workshop video online; or (d) have reviewed the online ISSF Skippers Guidebook. All of the above provide information on best practices for purse seine and longline fishery management.		

3.6 Transactions with Vessels Implementing Best Practices for Sharks, Sea Turtles and Seabirds		
Adopted: April 25, 2017 Amended: July 27, 2021 Amended: April 6, 2022 Amended: November 9, 2022 Amended: April 19, 2023 Amended: November 8, 2023 Amended: April 8, 2025 Amended: November 5, 2025 Amended: April 14, 2026	Effective: July 1, 2018 Effective: July 1, 2023 Effective: April 19, 2023 Effective: November 8, 2023 Effective: August 1, 2026 Effective: April 1, 2026 re: paragraph 1(d) Effective: April 14, 2026 re. chapeau	Gear Type: Large-Scale Longline Vessels (equal to or greater than 20m LOA) All longline vessels – effective August 1, 2026

Some RFMOs have adopted requirements for the use of certain gear modifications, such as the use of whole finfish bait, circle hooks and monofilament lines, and/or handling techniques, and/or prohibited the use of "shark lines," in some longline tuna fisheries, while others have not. ISSF is committed to supporting a transition to the use of such techniques and the implementation by the crew of best practice bycatch mitigation techniques and safe-handling and release techniques for sharks, seabirds and marine turtles, such as those outlined in the ISSF Skippers' Guidebook to Sustainable Longline Fishing Practices, by longline vessels globally.

To further support the implementation of existing RFMO conservation measures for bycatch mitigation in longline tuna fisheries, and to promote the appropriate use of such techniques by longline fleets globally[1]:

1. Processors, traders, importers, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall conduct transactions only with those longline vessels whose owners have a public policy requiring the implementation of the following best practices for sharks, seabirds and marine turtles:

    (a) the use of circle hooks and only monofilament lines (e.g., the use of wire trace is prohibited);

    (b) the use of whole finfish bait; and

    (c) No use of "shark lines" at any time; and

    (d) As of 1 April 2026, when fishing in southern temperate latitudes, use: (1) at least two of the following seabird mitigation measures - weighted branch lines, night-setting or tori lines; **or** (2) use hook-shielding devices.

[1] As of 1 August 2026, this measure will apply to all longline vessels.

3.7 Transactions with Vessels or Companies with Vessel-based FAD Management Policies		
Adopted: October 23, 2019 Amended: July 27, 2021 Amended: April 6, 2022 Amended: April 19, 2023 Amended: November 8, 2023 Amended November 5, 2025	Effective: June 30, 2021 for large-scale purse seine and supply vessels and December 31, 2021 for small-scale purse seine vessels. Effective: April 19, 2023 Effective: November 8, 2023 Effective November 5, 2025	Gear Type: Purse Seine and Supply Vessels

ISSF is committed to supporting better FAD management, globally, and recognizes that it is an important component to meet the MSC Standard without conditions. To further support the implementation of existing RFMO conservation measures and recommendations for FAD data collection and reporting and the use of non-entangling FAD designs that do not use any netting in any components, including both the raft and the tail, and the use of biodegradable FAD designs that are also fully non-entangling, and to promote the development and implementation of FAD recovery policies, strategies to mitigate shark bycatch in purse seine tuna fisheries and the voluntary provision of FAD buoy data to strengthen FAD management:

1. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall conduct transactions only with those purse seine vessels whose owners develop and make public FAD Management Policies that include the activities purse seine and supply vessels are undertaking (if any) on the following elements:

a) Comply with flag state and RFMO reporting requirements for fisheries statistics by set type;
b) Report additional FAD buoy data (FAD daily position data and echosounder acoustic records) for use by RFMO science bodies;
c) Support science-based limits on the overall number of FADs used per vessel and/or FAD sets made;
d) Use only non-entangling FADs to reduce ghost fishing;
e) Mitigate other environmental impacts due to FAD loss including through the use of biodegradable FADs and FAD recovery policies;
f) For silky sharks (the main bycatch issue in FAD sets) implement further mitigation efforts.

2. In developing a FAD Management Policy (either for drifting or anchored FADs), purse seine vessels and purse seine vessel owning companies should refer to ISSF Technical Paper 2019-11 (or any subsequent revision) in designing the activities for each element.

3. With respect to the element on mitigating other environmental impacts due to FAD loss (item e above), for both drifting and anchored FADs, by 1 January 2023, public FAD Management Policies developed under this measure shall include a statement that purse seine vessels and supply vessels covered by the policy are participating in trials of biodegradable FAD designs and/or FAD recovery programs that include the participation of the relevant RFMO science bodies and/or coastal States, national scientists, and/or ISSF scientists to monitor experimental design. For anchored FADs, FAD recovery programs should involve

cooperative efforts to recover lost and broken aFADs.

4. With respect to the element on the use of only non-entangling FADs (item d above), no later than 1 April 2025, public FAD management policies developed under this measure shall include a statement that purse seine vessels and supply vessels covered by the policy will from this date only deploy or redeploy (i.e., will be placed in the water) fully non-entangling drifting or anchored FADs, without any netting in any components, including both the raft and the tail. From 1 April 2025, where practicable, the purse seine vessels and supply vessels should retrieve any encountered pre-existing drifting non-fully NEFAD (whether a set is done or not) which is not in compliance with this measure.

5. With respect to the element on reporting additional drifting FAD buoy daily position data for use by RFMO science bodies (item b above), by 1 January 2023, public FAD Management Policies developed under this measure shall include a statement that purse seine vessels and supply vessels covered by the policy are reporting drifting FAD position data to the relevant RFMO science bodies and/or national scientific institutions and/or its flag State, with a maximum time lag of 90 days. Data submissions must include the vessel name and IMO number (if available). Deployments should be identified in the data submissions when possible. With respect to anchored FADs, public FAD Management Policies developed under this measure shall include a statement that purse seine vessels and supply vessels covered by the policy are reporting one anchored FAD deployment/position data to the relevant RFMO science bodies and/or national scientific institutions and/or its flag State, with a maximum time lag of 90 days (not more than one position is required, except if and when an AFAD is removed/lost.) In the event that purse seine vessels and supply vessels covered by the policy report these data to national scientific institutions and/or its flag State, they shall document that they requested that these data be made available to the relevant RFMO for scientific purposes.

6. With respect to the element on reporting additional FAD buoy echosounder acoustic biomass data for use by RFMO science bodies (item b above), by 1 April 2024, public FAD Management Policies developed under this measure shall include a statement that purse seine vessels and supply vessels covered by the policy are reporting drifting FAD echosounder biomass data to the relevant RFMO science bodies and/or national scientific institutions and/or its flag State, with a maximum time lag of 90 days. Data submissions must include the vessel name and IMO number (if available). In the event that purse seine vessels and supply vessels covered by the policy report these data to national scientific institutions and/or its flag State, they shall document that they requested that these data be made available to the relevant RFMO for scientific purposes.

7. For purposes of this measure, a policy is “public” if it is published on the owner or company’s website or is otherwise available to the general public.

8. For purposes of this measure, a large-scale purse seine vessel is defined as those with at least 335 m3 of fish hold volume.

9. ISSF CM 3.5 is repealed and replaced by this measure as of 1 April 2025.

4) Monitoring, Control and Surveillance

4.1 Unique Vessel Identifiers – IMO		
Adopted: May 18, 2010 Amended: May 3, 2011 Amended: November 14, 2011 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: May 31, 2011	Gear Type: All
The IHS-Fairplay administered International Maritime Organization numbering system (IMO number) provides a mechanism and registry for the unique identification and registration of vessels, which increases traceability and transparency at a global level. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall refrain from transactions in tuna caught by vessels subject to listing in the RFMO authorized vessel record and capable of being registered by IMO, that have not registered with IMO and thus have not received an IMO number unique vessel identifier.		

4.2 Purse Seine Unique Vessel Identifiers		
Adopted: June 7, 2011 Amended: September 12, 2012 Amended: April 25, 2013 Amended: May 20, 2014 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: May 31, 2018	Effective: January 1, 2013	Gear Type: All Purse Seine
Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall conduct transactions only with those purse seine vessels that have a UVI number regardless of RFMO vessel registry listing requirements. If IMO requirements do not provide for a particular vessel to receive an IMO UVI for reasons other than vessel size, the vessel shall obtain a TUVI from the Consolidated List of Authorized Vessels (CLAV) or a UVI from ISSF. If IMO requirements do not provide for a particular vessel to receive an IMO UVI due to vessel size, such vessels do not need to obtain a TUVI from the CLAV or a UVI from ISSF.		

4.3(a) Observer Coverage		
Adopted: June 7, 2011 Amended: September 12, 2012 Amended: April 25, 2013 Amended: May 20, 2014 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: January 1, 2013	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine
All tuna RFMOs are already collecting or receiving some data through observer programs or fishing logbooks, and these efforts must be made more comprehensive in order to properly assess the impact of FAD fisheries and other activities. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall conduct transactions only with those large-scale purse seine vessels that have 100% observer coverage (human or electronic if proven to be effective) on every fishing trip and observing every fishing operation, unless prevented by force majeure conditions in a particular region. Force majeure is an event or effect, both acts of nature and acts of people that can be neither anticipated nor controlled, such as floods, hurricanes, riots, strikes or wars. For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.		

4.3(b) Observer Coverage Exemption – WCPO Region		
Adopted: June 7, 2011 Amended: September 12, 2012 Amended: April 25, 2013 Amended: May 20, 2014 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: April 20, 2015	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine
Exemptions may be made for large-scale purse seine vessels in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean fishing in latitudes higher than 20°N/S in cases where the catch (retained and discarded; target and non-target) is adequately sampled and reported to the RFMO. Such exemptions shall be based on a detailed report that will be reviewed and approved by the ISSF Board and announced publicly through the ISSF website. For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.		

4.3(b)(i) Observer Coverage Exemption – New Zealand Flag Purse Seine Vessels		
Adopted: April 20, 2015 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: April 20, 2015	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine

An exemption is granted for tuna caught by New Zealand flag purse seine vessels that operate only within New Zealand waters targeting free school skipjack during the summer season (approximately between January and April each year).

These vessels are subjected to less than 100% observer coverage by the New Zealand Ministry for Primary Industries but are adequately monitored and managed and their catch and effort data are provided to SPC and WCPFC. For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.

4.3(b)(ii) Observer Coverage Exemption – Japan Flag Purse Seine Vessels Fishing North of 20°N		
Adopted: October 28, 2020	Effective: October 28, 2020	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine

An exemption is granted for tuna caught by Japan flag large-scale purse seine vessels that are on the ISSF Proactive Vessel Record (PVR) and operate north of 20°N, provided that:

1. Each year, vessels wishing to qualify for this exemption notify ISSF about the months when they plan to be fishing north of 20°N. If the exemption is granted to them, it will only cover these months.

2. Within one month after the end of each fishing trip, the vessel-owning company sends a trip catch report for each vessel covered under this exemption to the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC, the science provider to WCPFC).

3. The trip catch reports in paragraph 1 must consist of the two data sets below, in a format agreed by SPC:

> i) Set-by-set estimated catches and discards for target tunas (Albacore, Bigeye, Yellowfin and Skipjack) and non-target species (e.g., sharks, turtles, yellowtail). The set-by-set information shall indicate fishing day, time of set, latitude and longitude, and school type.
>
> ii) Final Outturn Data (FOT). These are total trip catches by target species and size categories, corrected with sampling data. The size break downs shall be <1.8 Kg, 1.8-3.5 Kg, 3.5-10.0 Kg and >10.0 Kg.

4. For the purpose of verifying compliance with this measure, ISSF will contact SPC quarterly to determine which vessels are submitting the reports in paragraph 3. Vessels that have not submitted complete reports for the past three months according to their fishing plan in paragraph 1 will no longer qualify for this exemption.

For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.

4.3(c) Observer Coverage – Grace Period for Electronic Monitoring Systems for Certain Large-Scale Purse Seine Vessels		
Adopted: May 22, 2016	Effective: May 22, 2016	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine
ISSF has defined for its Conservation Measures that large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume. However, certain vessels who meet this definition are not considered large-scale in certain RFMOs and therefore are unable to obtain human observers for each fishing trip as a means to meet the requirements of ISSF Conservation Measure 4.3(a). Owners of large-scale purse seine vessels who fit in this category may seek to install an electronic monitoring system (if proven to be effective) in lieu of human observers. In such an event, the following provisions apply: 1. The vessel owner must identify each vessel involved and provide satisfactory evidence of an executed agreement with a service provider to install an electronic monitoring system on each vessel. 2. Once such evidence has been determined to be satisfactory, the vessel will be deemed to be in compliance with this measure for a period of six (6) months, which will allow appropriate time for installation of and training on the electronic monitoring system. 3. The vessel owner must provide satisfactory proof that the equipment has been installed and is operating within that time period; in the event that such proof is not provided within grace period, the vessel will return to a non-compliant status with ISSF Conservation Measure 4.3(a).		

4.4(a) Transshipment		
Adopted: June 7, 2011 Amended: September 12, 2012 Amended: April 25, 2013 Amended: October 21, 2014 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: January 1, 2012	Gear Type: All Purse Seine
At-sea transshipments, if not properly monitored, can complicate the transmission of data, the traceability of product and can create a fertile environment for illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall conduct transactions only with those purse seine vessels that do not engage in transshipments at sea, whether high seas, EEZ, territorial seas or archipelagic waters.		

4.4 (b) Transshipment Exemptions – General		
Adopted: February 1, 2013 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: February 1, 2013	Gear Type: All Purse Seine
Exemptions will be made in cases where the at-sea transshipments are authorized (as necessary, by all of the following: the vessel's flag state, by the coastal state where the transshipment took		

place, and by the relevant RFMO) and the transshipped catch is adequately sampled according to the RFMO science provider.

Such exemptions shall be based on a detailed report that will be reviewed and approved by the ISSF Board and announced publicly through the ISSF website.

4.4 (b)(i) Transshipment Exemption - Papua New Guinea		
Adopted: February 1, 2013 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: February 1, 2013	Gear Type: All Purse Seine

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry may conduct transactions with those purse seine vessels that engage in transshipments in archipelagic waters of Papua New Guinea.

This exemption applies only to:

- Vessels with carrying capacity ≤ 600mt; and
- that fish only in the archipelagic waters of PNG; and
- that are based in PNG and are associated with processing facilities in PNG.

The above vessels are allowed to transship on to carrier vessels that must go to a PNG port for either offloading or for transshipping in port under strict monitoring controls. These carrier vessels are not allowed to take the catch directly from PNG archipelagic waters to a foreign port.

Under PNG regulations, the vessels shall operate under the following conditions:

1. Prior notification of transshipment is sent to the PNG National Fisheries Authority (information on the catcher and carrier vessels, date and time of transshipment, and quantities by species).
2. One hundred percent observer coverage on the catcher vessel. The observer verifies the transshipment details.
3. VMS coverage on both the carrier and catcher vessels.
4. A Freezer Vessel's Fish Origin Declaration Form (with details about the date, place of transshipment and fish quantities) is filled by the carrier vessel for each transshipment, with the forms being submitted to the National Fisheries Authority. The form requires signatures/verification from officers in the catcher and carrier vessel as well as PNG port authorities.

4.4 (b)(ii) Transshipment Exemption - Philippines		
Adopted: April 6, 2022	Effective: April 6, 2022	Gear Type: All Purse Seine

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry may conduct transactions with those Philippine-flagged purse seiners that engage in transshipments in the WCPFC High Seas Pocket no. 1. This exemption applies only to:

- Purse seine catcher vessels with carrying capacity ≤ 600mt; and
- that fish and transship only in High Seas Pocket no. 1 and are allowed to do so by the WCPFC; and
- that are based in Philippines and are associated with processing facilities in Philippines.

The above vessels are allowed to transship on to carrier vessels that must go to a Philippines port operated by the Philippines Fisheries Development Authority for either offloading or for transshipping in port under strict monitoring controls. These carrier vessels are not allowed to take the catch directly from High Seas Pocket no. 1 waters to a port outside the Philippines.

Under Philippines regulations, the catcher and carrier vessels shall operate under the following conditions:

1. Notification of transshipment is sent to the Philippines Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) (information on the catcher and carrier vessels, date and time of transshipment, and quantities by species).

2. One hundred percent observer coverage on both the catcher and, in compliance with the WCPFC CMM on transshipment, the receiving vessels. The observers verify the transshipment details.

3. VMS coverage on both the carrier and catcher vessels.

4. A Captain/Mate's Transfer Certificate (with details about the date, place of transshipment and fish quantities) is completed by the carrier vessel for each transshipment, with the certificates being submitted to the BFAR and the data reported to the WCPFC. The form requires signatures/verification from the captains/masters on both the catcher and carrier vessels as well as the observer/inspector on board.

For the purpose of this measure, High Seas Pocket no. 1 is the area of high seas bounded by the Exclusive Economic Zones of the Federated States of Micronesia to the north and east, Republic of Palau to the west, Indonesia and Papua New Guinea to the south.

4.4 (b)(iii) Transshipment Exemption - Indonesia		
Adopted: April 8, 2025	Effective: April 8, 2025	Gear Type: All Purse Seine

In order to improve data reporting by Indonesian purse seine vessels --which are typically poorly monitored-- this measure provides an exemption to CM4.4(a) for Indonesian vessels that report their fishing trip logbooks to the relevant RFMO science provider.

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry may conduct transactions with those Indonesia-flagged purse seiners that engage in transshipments in Indonesian Archipelagic waters that meet all of the following conditions:

- Purse seine catcher vessels with carrying capacity ≤ 600mt;
- Fish in Indonesian Archipelagic waters and are allowed to do so by the WCPFC and Indonesia;
- Transship only to Indonesian-flagged carrier vessels in Indonesian Archipelagic waters
- Provide copies of their logbooks for fishing trips to the Pacific Community (SPC, the science provider to the WCPFC), with operational purse seine catch and effort level information for the WCPFC. ANNEX 2 for PURSE SEINE in the WCPFC Scientific Data to be Provided to the Commission details the required data fields and recommended formats.

  Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry that conduct transactions with the vessels that qualify for this exemption must ensure that their fishing trip logbooks are made available, at least for the fishing trips that concern such transactions.

4.4(c) Transshipment At Sea – Observer Coverage		
Adopted: April 25, 2017 Amended: November 5, 2025	Effective: January 1, 2018 Effective: November 5, 2025	Gear Type: Large-Scale Longline Vessels

At-sea transshipments, if not properly monitored, can complicate the collection of accurate data, the traceability of product and can create a fertile environment for illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities.

To further support the implementation of RFMO conservation measures for longline observer coverage and the regulation of at-sea transshipment, the collection of data and the effective monitoring of longline vessels:

1. Processors, traders, importers, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall conduct transactions with longline vessels that conduct transshipments at sea, whether high seas, EEZ, territorial seas or archipelagic waters, only if 100% of such transshipments are

observed (either by a human observer on board the longline vessel or onboard the carrier vessel), and if both the longline vessel and receiving/carrier vessel are:

(i) on the authorized vessel record of the RFMO governing the ocean area in which the tuna was caught, at the time of the fishing trip or transshipment event, so long as the vessels are subject to listing in the RFMO authorized vessel record; and

(ii) flagged to a member or cooperating non-member of the relevant RFMO (or have applied with the RFMO for such status), or if membership is not possible, flagged to an Invited Expert or another such designation established by the RFMO.

2. For the purposes of this measure, a large-scale longline vessel is defined as a vessel that is equal to or greater than 20m length overall (LOA).

5) Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing

5.1 Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing		
Adopted: January 27, 2009 Amended: October 21, 2014 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: October 21, 2014	Gear Type: All
The tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs) maintain a list of all vessels determined to have carried out IUU fishing within their convention waters, and this list is available to the ISSF. The IUU vessel lists maintained by RFMOs can include a range of vessels engaged in fishing activities, not just harvesting, such as transshipment activities. A vessel listed on the IUU list of one RFMO may fish in the convention waters of another RFMO and not be listed on the IUU list of this other RFMO. IUU fishing diminishes the effectiveness of conservation and management measures and the long-term sustainability of the resources being managed. IUU fishing denies the RFMOs important and valuable data and thereby undermines the effectiveness of their scientific programs. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall refrain from transactions in tuna caught by harvesting vessel(s) or transported by transshipment vessel(s) on the IUU Vessel List of any RFMO.		

5.2 Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Product Response		
Adopted: July 21, 2009 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: January 1, 2010	Gear Type: All
Enforcement and compliance with existing and future conservation measures, and the successful elimination of illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing requires the industry to maintain adequate traceability records. Since traceability data is acquired through Resolution 2.1, such data can be used to identify IUU product.		

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall warrant that tuna products are in compliance with ISSF Conservation Measure 5.1 – IUU Fishing, and upon discovery of a violation of ISSF Conservation Measure 5.1, the company shall withdraw the product from the marketplace.

6) Capacity

Excessive fishing capacity contributes substantially to overfishing, the degradation of marine fisheries resources, the decline of food production potential, and significant economic waste. Purse seine vessels take more than sixty percent of the world's tuna catch. Despite the general consensus among scientists, RFMOs, and many governments that excess fishing capacity exists in most of the tuna purse-seine fisheries, the fishing capacity of these fleets continues to grow.

The 2010 *Bellagio Framework for Sustainable Tuna Fisheries* concluded that, in a fully exploited fishery, coastal states' rights to expand their participation in a tuna fishery must be accommodated by mechanisms for reducing the participation of others.

ISSF will continue to sponsor regional and global workshops on fleet capacity management, including mechanisms for capacity transfers. In addition, ISSF has determined to assist international efforts to manage fishing capacity by tropical tuna purse seine fleets as follows:

6.1 Transaction Ban for Large-Scale Purse-Seine Vessels not Actively Fishing for Tuna as of December 31, 2012		
Adopted: May 22, 2012 Amended: October 21, 2014 Amended: October 20, 2015	Effective: January 1, 2013	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine
Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall refrain from transactions in skipjack, bigeye and yellowfin tuna caught by large scale purse seine vessels that are not actively fishing for tuna as of December 31, 2012. For the purposes of Section 6, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume. To support this measure, ISSF has established a Record of Large-Scale Purse Seine Vessels ("Record") fishing for tropical tunas globally. ISSF maintains the Record on its public website and draws upon the information available in the tuna RFMO vessel registers, as well as information provided by the fishing industry and other sources. For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.		

6.2(a) Requirements for Inclusion in Record of Large-Scale Purse Seine Vessels Fishing For Tropical Tunas		
Adopted: May 22, 2012 Amended: October 21, 2014 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: October 18, 2016	Effective: January 1, 2013	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine

Amended: April 25, 2017 Amended: May 31, 2018 Amended: October 28, 2020		

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall refrain from transactions in skipjack, bigeye and yellowfin tuna caught by large scale purse seine vessels that are not listed on ISSF's Record.

1. Only vessels with all of the following information will be entered in the Record. Vessel information will be subject to verification by government agencies, RFMO secretariats, and other relevant agencies.
   (a) Name
   (b) Flag
   (c) IMO number
   (d) RFMO vessel record number(s)
   (e) National Registration Number
   (f) Radio Call Sign
   (g) Length overall (m)
   (h) Fish carrying capacity (metric tons)
   (i) Fish hold volume (m^3)
   (j) Year and month built
   (k) Shipyard
   (l) If applicable: Previous name(s) and flag(s); date(s) changed.

2. ISSF will update the Record to include additional vessels in the following circumstances:

   (a) The addition of a large-scale purse seine vessel that was actively fishing for tuna on or before December 31, 2012 but cannot have ceased fishing operations prior to January 1, 2010, that was not included in the Record initially.

   (b) The addition of a large-scale purse seine vessel that was under contract for construction on or before December 31, 2012 with construction completed by June 30, 2015. "Under contract for construction" means that there is evidence that a valid contractual obligation was in place for the construction of the vessel. "Construction completed" means that the vessel has been delivered and is ready to commence fishing operations.

   (c) A change in the name, flag, or registration number of a vessel already on the Record.

   (d) The addition of a new large-scale purse seine vessel that is built as a replacement for a vessel already on the Record that has sunk, has been scrapped or otherwise permanently transferred out of the tropical tuna fishery. The addition of the new vessel will be permitted only to the extent it replaces one or more older vessels on the ISSF Record and its fish hold volume is less than or equal to the fish hold volume of the older vessel(s) that were on the ISSF Record.

   The request for the addition of new vessels shall come either from the owner of the older vessel, or from a new owner designated by the owner of the older vessel.

   Vessels that do not provide verified proof of the existence of a fish hold are not eligible for use as replacement capacity under this subsection.

In circumstances where the vessel owner does not provide proof of a fish hold volume (m3), an independent auditor will make a conservative calculation in accordance with then-current ISSF technical papers.

3. Vessels on the Record that are refurbished in such a way that their fish hold volume increases will be removed from the Record unless the aggregated replaced capacity is at least 1.0 times the capacity of the vessel before refurbishment.

4. In order to resolve any disputes that may arise with the implementation of paragraphs 1 to 3 above, ISSF will set up an independent Dispute Advisory Body (DAB) composed of experts in relevant legislation.

For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.

6.2(b) Record of Large-scale Purse Seine Vessels Special Arrangement – PNA		
Adopted: October 20, 2015 Amended: October 23, 2019	Effective: May 5, 2016	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine

ISSF recognizes the commitment of the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) to the adoption of harvest control rules in the Western Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), their leadership in gaining Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certification of the free-school skipjack fishery, and the robust monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) measures that are in place to ensure compliance, such as 100% observer coverage and vessel monitoring systems (VMS).

1. Exemptions for compliance with ISSF Conservation Measures 6.1 and 6.2(a) may be made for new large-scale purse seine vessels flagged to member countries of the PNA that meet all of the following conditions:

    i. The vessel is registered in the WCPFC record of authorized fishing vessels.

    ii. The vessel fishes within the purse seine Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) management system.

    iii. The vessel is not authorized to fish outside the WCPFC Convention Area.

2. Large-scale purse seine vessels exempted under this measure will be listed on the ISSF Record of Large-Scale Purse Seine Vessels.

3. If a large-scale purse seine vessel is granted an exemption under this CM, it must then apply to be listed on the PVR.

For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.

6.2(c) Investment in Purse Seine Vessels Subject to the PNA Special Arrangement		
Adopted: October 20, 2015	Effective: May 5, 2016	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry that are investors in any new vessels that meet all of the conditions in ISSF Conservation Measure 6.2(b) above, and are therefore exempted from compliance with ISSF Conservation Measures 6.1 and 6.2(a) above, shall buy out and scrap existing capacity up to the percent of capacity of the new vessel that corresponds to their ownership interest in the new vessel, in accordance with paragraph 2(d) of ISSF Conservation Measure 6.2(a).

For the purposes of this measure, "new vessels" include vessels owned, partially or fully:

(a) directly or indirectly (through intermediary entities) by any ISSF Participating Company or any member of the corporate group of which such Participating Company is a part, or

(b) directly or indirectly by any individuals who are majority shareholders (or any equivalent form of ownership) of any ISSF Participating Company. Individuals shall include any natural person and his or her family members (including spouse, domestic partner, child, sibling, parent or grandparent, whether natural, adopted or by marriage).

For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.

6.2(d) Investment in Purse Seine Vessels Not in Compliance with ISSF Conservation Measures 6.1 and 6.2(a)		
Adopted: October 18, 2016	Effective: January 1, 2017	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry that are investors in any new vessel that does not meet all of the conditions in ISSF Conservation Measures 6.1 and 6.2(a) above shall buy out and scrap existing capacity of large-scale tuna purse seine vessel(s) that corresponds to the full capacity of the new vessel, in accordance with Paragraph 2(d) of ISSF Conservation Measure 6.2(a).

1. For the purposes of this measure, "new vessels" includes vessels owned, partially or fully:

   (a) directly or indirectly (through intermediary entities) by any ISSF Participating Company, which shall mean the ISSA Member and its affiliates, including all commonly controlled business organizations, or
   (b) directly or indirectly by any individuals who hold controlling interests of any ISSF Participating Company as defined in section (1) of this Conservation Measure. Individuals

shall include any natural person and his or her family members (including spouse, domestic partner, child, sibling, parent or grandparent, whether natural, adopted or by marriage).

2. In auditing this measure, the only possible findings will be either "fully compliant" or "major non-conformance."

3. For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.

6.2(e) Purchases From Purse Seine Vessels in Fleets With Other Vessels Not in Compliance with ISSF Conservation Measures 6.1 and 6.2(a)		
Adopted: October 18, 2016	Effective: January 1, 2018	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall refrain from transactions in skipjack, bigeye and yellowfin tuna caught by any and all large scale purse seine vessels owned by business organizations or individuals that also own large-scale purse seine vessels not in compliance with ISSF Conservation Measures 6.1 and 6.2(a).

For the purposes of this measure, “owned” means a registered or controlling (majority) interest in the vessels:

(1) directly or indirectly (through intermediary entities) by any business organization or its affiliated business organizations, including commonly controlled organizations, or

(2) directly or indirectly by any individuals, including individual ownership of any equity or investment interest in whatever form of any business organization operating, managing, controlling or receiving revenues from a vessel. Individuals shall include any natural person and his or her family members (including spouse, domestic partner, child, sibling, parent or grandparent, whether natural, adopted or by marriage).

For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.

6.2(f) Record of Large-scale Purse Seine Vessels Special Arrangement – Peru		
Adopted: October 28, 2020	Effective: October 28, 2020	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine

ISSF recognizes that the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) is the tuna Regional Fishery Management Organization that has made the greatest efforts to manage the capacity of its large-scale purse seine fishery. IATTC has a closed vessel register, a capacity management plan, and actively monitors fishing capacity to inform its decision-making.

ISSF also recognizes that IATTC had granted Peru 8195m^3 of purse seine capacity before ISSF Conservation Measure 6.2 was originally adopted in 2012.

1. Exemptions for compliance with ISSF Conservation Measures 6.1 and 6.2(a) may be made for large-scale purse seine vessels flagged to Peru and registered on the IATTC Record that meet all of the following conditions:

I. Were built before 2012
II. Are within the 8195 m^3 capacity allocated by IATTC to Peru as of 2011, and
III. The vessel is not authorized to fish outside of the IATTC Convention Area.

2. Large-scale purse seine vessels exempted under this measure will be listed on the ISSF Record of Large-Scale Purse Seine Vessels.

3. If a large-scale purse seine vessel is granted an exemption under this CM, it must then apply to be listed on the PVR.

For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.

7) ProActive Vessel Register

The ISSF ProActive Vessel Register (PVR) is an effective, credible and verifiable way for vessel owners to highlight meaningful sustainability efforts taken in order to improve responsible practices in tuna fishing. The PVR can assist processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry to identify those vessels that are taking meaningful sustainability efforts, including support of ISSF's conservation measures. The measures contained in this Section 7 do not replace the requirements for purse seine vessels to comply with the commitments listed in any other ISSF conservation measure detailed in this document.

7.1 (a) Controlled Vessels – Purse Seine and Supply and Tender		
Adopted: November 17, 2013 Amended: March 19, 2014 Amended: October 21, 2015 Amended: May 31, 2018	Effective: March 31, 2014	Gear Type: Purse Seine and supply and tender vessels

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry, for skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna caught by purse seine vessels shall register all controlled vessels fishing, or operating as supply and tender vessels, for skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna on the ISSF Proactive Vessel Register (PVR) and thereafter maintain such registration indefinitely. Controlled vessels include:

(a) vessels majority owned or controlled directly or indirectly (through intermediary entities) by any ISSF Participating Company or any member of the corporate group of which such Participating Company is a part; or

(b) vessels majority owned or controlled by any individuals who are majority shareholders (or any equivalent form of ownership) of any ISSF Participating Company.); or

(c) vessels under the following charter types that are contracted directly or indirectly (through intermediary entities) by any ISSF Participating Company or any member of the corporate group of which such Participating Company is a part or directly orindirectly by any individuals who are majority shareholders (or any equivalent form of ownership) of any ISSF Participating Company:
    (i) bareboat charters. no matter the duration of the charter; and
    (ii) time and/or association charters if the duration of the charter is a minimum of 12months or longer.

For the purposes of this measure, individuals shall include any natural person and his or her family members(including spouse, domestic partner, child, sibling, parent or grandparent, whether natural, adopted or by marriage).

7.1 (b) Controlled Vessels – Longline		
Adopted: October 24, 2018	Effective Date: June 1, 2019	Gear Type: Longline

Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry, for albacore, yellowfin and bigeye tuna caught by longline vessels shall register by June 1, 2019 all controlled longline vessels fishing for albacore, yellowfin and bigeye tuna on the ISSF Proactive Vessel Register (PVR) and thereafter maintain such registration indefinitely. Controlled vessels include:

(a) vessels majority owned or controlled directly or indirectly (through intermediary entities) by any ISSF Participating Company or any member of the corporate group of which such Participating Company is a part; or

(b) vessels majority owned or controlled by any individuals who are majority shareholders (or any equivalent form of ownership) of any ISSF Participating Company.); or

(c) vessels under the following charter types that are contracted directly or indirectly (through intermediary entities) by any ISSF Participating Company or any member of the corporate group of which such Participating Company is a part or directly or indirectly by any individuals who are majority shareholders (or any equivalent form of ownership) of any ISSF Participating Company:
    (i) bareboat charters. no matter the duration of the charter; and
    (ii) time and/or association charters if the duration of the charter is a minimum of 12months or longer.

For the purposes of this measure, individuals shall include any natural person and his or her family members(including spouse, domestic partner, child, sibling, parent or grandparent, whether natural, adopted or by marriage).

7.2 Threshold Requirement for PVR Listing		
Adopted: October 21, 2014 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: October 18, 2016 Amended April 25, 2017 Amended: November 10, 2021	Effective: October 21, 2014 Amended Effective Date: October 18, 2016 amendments effective January 1, 2018 Amended Effective Date: April 25, 2017 amendment effective January 1, 2018	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine

1. A large-scale purse seine vessel shall be in demonstrated compliance with, or otherwise exempted from, Section 6 – Capacity, and listed on the ISSF Record of Large-Scale Purse Seine Vessels (Record) in order to be listed on the ISSF PVR.

2. All large-scale purse seine vessels owned by the same business organization shall be in demonstrated compliance with, or otherwise exempted from, Section 6 – Capacity, and listed on the Record in order to be listed on the ISSF PVR.

3. If a large-scale purse seine vessel is not in demonstrated compliance as described in paragraph 1, any and all large-scale purse seine vessels owned by the same business organization will not be eligible to be listed on the Record. If those vessels are already on the Record, they will be removed.

4. If a vessel owner proposes to replace a vessel that is going to be scrapped under ISSF Conservation Measure 6.2(a)2.d, ISSF recognizes that there can be a gap in time after a contract for scrapping the vessel is in place until the time that the vessel is scrapped. A vessel owner may produce an executed scrapping contract and demonstrate that the vessel is permanently retired from fishing activities to begin the auditor's review under 6.2(a)2.d. The following will apply in such circumstance:

    a. If the auditor determines that the new vessel will meet the requirements of the conservation measure once the old vessel is physically scrapped, the new vessel will be listed on the Record and PVR conditionally.

    b. Within 6 months from the date of the scrapping contract, the vessel owner must provide certification that the older vessel has actually been scrapped.

    c. In the event, that the required certification is not timely provided, the new vessel and all other large-scale purse seine vessels owned by the same business organization will be removed from the Record and the PVR, unless the owner can prove *force majeure* in the event of a delay.

A "business organization" is an entity formed to carry on a commercial purpose, whether or not for profit. A business organization includes all entities that are commonly owned or controlled and accordingly form a common enterprise, including but not limited to parent organizations, subsidiary organizations and affiliated organizations. For purposes of this measure, "owned" is defined as set forth in CM 6.2(e).

For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those with at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.

7.3 Purchases from PVR Vessels – Purse Seine		
Adopted: October 21, 2014 Amended: October 20, 2015 Amended: April 8, 2025	Effective Date: Fishing trips commencing on or after January 1, 2016 Effective: Fishing trips commencing on or after May 1, 2025	Gear Type: Large-Scale Purse Seine
Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall: 1. If purchasing skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna caught by large-scale purse seine vessels (in round fish, frozen loin, or finished goods format), for all trips beginning on or after May 1, 2016 (May 1, 2025 for April 8, 2025 product type clarifying amendment), ensure that 100% of those vessels are on the ISSF ProActive Vessel Register. 2. For the purposes of this measure, large-scale purse seine vessels are those at least 335 m^3 fish hold volume.		

7.4 Supply and Tender Vessels		
Adopted: April 25, 2017 Amended: May 31, 2018	Effective: January 1, 2018	Gear Type: Supply and Tender vessels

Supply and tender vessels are used in many oceans by purse seine vessels fishing with drifting (FADs).

The primary use of supply and tender vessels is for maintaining a purse seine vessel's network of drifting FADs at sea in good condition and in the appropriate areas. Currently three of the four tuna regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs) allow for the use of supply and tender vessels, but with minimal regulation.

To further support the implementation of existing RFMO conservation measures for supply and tender vessels, and the collection of data and effective monitoring, control and surveillance of such vessels:

1. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry, for skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna with controlled supply or tender vessels that operate with purse seine vessels fishing for skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna, shall:

(a) register all such vessels on the ISSF ProActive Vessel Register (PVR) and thereafter maintain such registration indefinitely;
(b) ensure all such vessels are listed on the authorized vessel record of the RFMO governing the ocean area in which the tuna was caught;
(c) ensure all such vessels have an IMO unique vessel identifier; and
(d) ensure all such vessels are not listed on the IUU Vessel List of any RFMO.

2. For the purposes of this measure. controlled vessels include vessels as defined in ISSF CM 7.1(a) and 7.1(b).

3. When registering all controlled supply or tender vessels on the PVR, in addition to the vessel attribute data already required as part of the PVR listing application, the vessel owner must provide the vessel names and flags of all the purse seine vessels that the listed supply or tender vessels support, to the maximum extent possible.

4. For purposes of this measure, supply and tender vessels are any vessel used, or intended for use, for the purpose of fishing or directly involved in such fishing operations.

5. For the purposes of this measure, "fishing" means:
(a) searching for, catching, taking or harvesting fish;
(b) attempting to search for, catch, take or harvest fish;

(c) engaging in any other activity which can reasonably be expected to result in the locating, catching, taking or harvesting of fish for any purpose;
(d) placing, searching for or recovering fish aggregating devices or associated electronic equipment such as radio beacons; and
(e) any operations at sea directly in support of, or in preparation for, any activity described in subparagraphs (a) to (d), including transshipment.

7.5 Longline PVR Purchases: Statement of Intent and Reporting		
Adopted: October 24, 2018	Effective Date: December 31, 2019	Gear Type: Longline

If purchasing albacore, yellowfin and bigeye tuna from longline vessels, processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall:

1. Develop and make public by December 31, 2019 a statement of intent to increase purchases from longline vessels registered on the PVR.

2. Publish the percentage of their longline purchases from PVR registered longline vessels by March 31, 2020, or indicate no such purchases made.

7.6 Longline PVR Purchases: Vessel Registration		
Adopted: November 4, 2026	Effective Dates: For longline vessels equal to or greater than 24m LOA, fishing trips commencing on or after 1 April 2028 For longline vessels equal to or greater than 20m LOA, commencing on or after 1 April 2029	Gear Type: Longline Vessels equal to or greater than 24m LOA – effective 1 April 2028 Longline vessels equal to or greater than 20m, commencing on or after 1 April 2029
Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall: 1. If purchasing albacore, yellowfin and bigeye tuna from longline vessels equal to or greater than 24m LOA (in round fish, frozen loin, or finished goods format), for all trips beginning on or after 1 April 2028, ensure that 100% of those vessels are on the ISSF ProActive Vessel Register. 2. If purchasing albacore, yellowfin and bigeye tuna from longline vessels equal to or greater than 20m LOA (in round fish, frozen loin, or finished goods format), for all trips beginning on or after 1 April 2029, ensure that 100% of those vessels are on the ISSF ProActive Vessel Register.		

8) Miscellaneous

8.1 Exemption for Very Small Purse Seine Vessels		
Adopted: October 20, 2015 Amended: May 31, 2018	Effective: October 20, 2015	Gear Type: Very Small Purse Seine
Very small purse seine vessels are exempted from the following ISSF Conservation Measures: 3.4 Skipper Best Practices 4.4(a) Transshipment For the purposes of this measure “very small purse seine vessels” are those vessels of a size less than 30 GT.		

9) Social and Labor Standards

9.1 Public Policy on Social and Labor Standards		
Adopted: October 28, 2020	Effective: January 1, 2021	Gear Type: All

1. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall develop and publish a public social and labor standards policy and/or sourcing policy that applies to it and its supply chain, including production facilities and fishing and supply vessels, that addresses, at a minimum, the following categories:

a) Forced labor;
b) Child labor;
c) Freedom of association;
d) Wages, benefits and employment contracts;
e) Working hours;
f) Health and safety;
g) Discrimination, harassment and abuse;
h) Grievance mechanisms.

2. For the purposes of this measure a policy is "public" if it is published on the company's website or is otherwise available to the general public.

9.2 Social Audits For Land-Based Tuna Production Facilities		
Adopted: November 5, 2025	Effective: November 5, 2025	Gear Type: All

Requiring the conduct of labor audits in support of the implementation of CM 9.1:

1. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall, by no later than March 15, 2027, conduct, or have scheduled to conduct before December 15, 2027, third-party labor audits for all land-based tuna production facilities that are majority owned or controlled directly or indirectly through intermediary entities by any ISSF Participating Company, and maintain the audit's ongoing validity. Onsite labor audits must be conducted under one of these third-party labor audit programs:

    i. AMFORI Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI);
    ii. SEDEX Members Ethical Trace Audit (SMETA) 4 Pillar;
    iii. SEDEX Members Ethical Trace Audit (SMETA) 2 Pillar;
    iv. Social Accountability International SA8000;
    v. Brand Reputation Compliance Global Standards (BRCGS) Ethical Trading and Responsible Sourcing Standard (ETRS); and
    vi. Other audit programs recognized by the Sustainable Supply Chain Initiative (SSCI).

2. For land-based tuna production facilities that are constructed and/or acquired after the dates specified in paragraph 1, processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall audit these newly constructed and/or acquired facilities by March 15th of the second following calendar year.

9.3 Social Audits For Non-Owned Land-Based Tuna Production Facilities		
Adopted: November 4, 2026	Effective: March 15, 2030	Gear Type: All

Requiring the conduct of labor audits in support of the implementation of CM 9.1:

1. Processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall, by no later than March 15, 2030, have conducted, or have scheduled to be conducted before December 15, 2030, third-party labor audits for all non-owned land-based tuna production facilities that supply them and maintain the audit's ongoing validity. Onsite labor audits must be conducted under one of these third-party labor audit programs:

    i. AMFORI Business Social Compliance Initiative (BSCI);
    ii. SEDEX Members Ethical Trace Audit (SMETA) 4 Pillar;

iii. SEDEX Members Ethical Trace Audit (SMETA) 2 Pillar;
iv. Social Accountability International SA8000;
v. Brand Reputation Compliance Global Standards (BRCGS) Ethical Trading and Responsible Sourcing Standard (ETRS); and
vi. Other audit programs recognized by the Sustainable Supply Chain Initiative (SSCI).

2. For non-owned land-based tuna production facilities that become a supplier after the dates specified in paragraph 1, processors, traders, importers, transporters, marketers and others involved in the seafood industry shall require audits of these facilities by March 15th of the second following calendar year.