



THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS

# Better Implementation of Independent Panel Review Recommendations Still Needed



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# Pew RFMO Engagement

- ECOSOC observer since 2010 and FAO observer for more than a decade
- RFMO observer for ten years, with focus on tuna RFMOs
- Strong supporter of independent performance reviews at ICCAT, IATTC, WCPFC, and IOTC
- Invited member of an upcoming review panel

# A Look Back at Implementation

- Examined recommendations of the tRFMOs' independent reviews
- Compared the recs with subsequent action by the RFMOs
- Focused on ICCAT, IATTC, and WCPFC

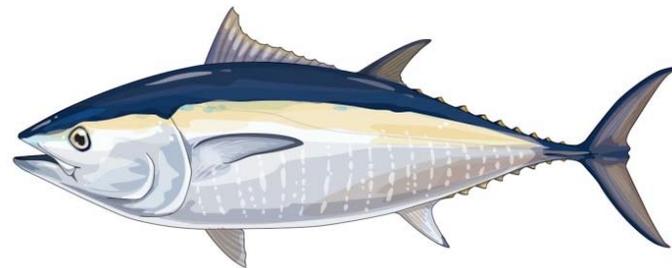
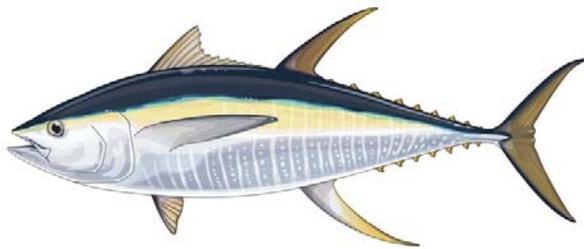
**Summary: better implementation is needed to adopt recommendations on ending and preventing overfishing and rebuilding stocks**

# ICCAT

- Some progress on Atlantic bluefin management and combatting illegal fishing in the Atlantic, resulting from performance review
- No progress on Med swordfish (0% chance of recovery by 2025), bigeye tuna (60 times more likely to collapse than recover by 2033), yellowfin tuna (total allowable catch exceeded by 41,000 t in recent years), or the marlins (inability to adopt new measures since the review)
- Moving toward harvest strategies was the subject of 8 recommendations in the 2016 review and should be a priority of ICCAT.

# IATTC

- Very little implementation of review recommendations, but some early steps on Pacific bluefin management
- Several recs to improve the procedural operation of IATTC have been ignored
- Recommendations to develop CMMs for the primary shark species have not been addressed



# WCPFC

- Some progress on shifting to harvest strategies (as suggested by the performance review) but much work still to be done
- Implementation of stock management recommendations has been mixed, with early steps on Pacific bluefin but no progress on southwest Pacific striped marlin or north Pacific striped marlin, despite these stocks being highlighted
- Continue to adopt temporary compliance monitoring schemes, undermining its effectiveness
- Made progress on IUU issues by adopting port state measures and requiring IMO number for small vessels but need continued examination of transshipment activities



# Summary of analysis

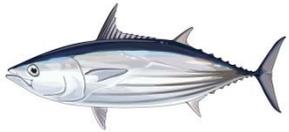
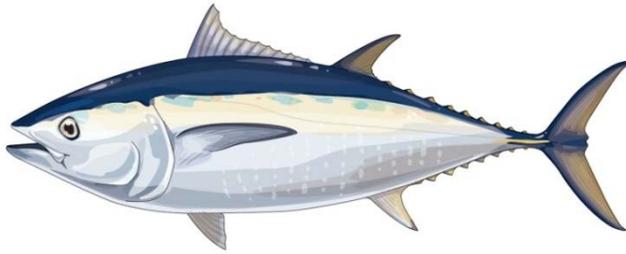
- ICCAT and WCPFC have made progress towards implementing review recommendations on compliance, combatting IUU, and harvest strategies with more work to be done on all three areas.
- IATTC has taken almost no action to address performance review recommendations
- **All three examined tRFMOs require significant progress on ending overfishing and recovering depleted stocks**

# Solutions – starting now

- Establishment of permanent working groups on performance review
  - Annual audits of progress towards implementation of review recommendations
  - Should meet intersessionally, to have sufficient time to work
  - Chairs of each management sub-body should participate, in order to have firm grasp of what steps need to be taken
- Specific consideration of recs when developing or renewing CMMs
  - Led by relevant Chairs (who are also members of working group)
- Move from annual quota negotiation toward use of science-based harvest strategies

# Solutions – at the next RRC

- Report from each RFMO Chair on progress of recommendation implementation
  - Not only on progress in conducting reviews, but implementing recommendations
  - Should come from Chair, as opposed to executive summary, because this process will have to be driven by States, not secretariat staff
  - Should also highlight obstacles to implementation



Thank you  
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