



North Pacific Fisheries Commission

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Working Paper submitted by Japan

**CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR JAPANESE SARDINE,  
NEON FLYING SQUID AND JAPANESE FLYING SQUID**

*The North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC),*

*Recalling* that six pelagic species – Pacific saury, chub mackerel, blue mackerel, Japanese sardine, neon flying squid, and Japanese flying squid – are identified as priority species;

*Also recalling* that the NPFC has adopted the CMMs on two species – Pacific saury and chub mackerel;

*Noting* that specific measures for the remaining four species have yet to be introduced while those species have been subject to extensive fishing practices, whether they are target or bycatch species;

*Reaffirming* the General Principles provided in Article 3 of the Convention, in particular, Paragraph (h) stipulating that any expansion of fishing effort does not proceed without prior assessment of the impacts of those fishing activities on the long-term sustainability of fisheries resources;

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

1. Members of the Commission and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) with substantial harvest of any of Japanese sardine, neon flying squid and Japanese flying squid (hereinafter referred to as “the three Pelagic Species”) in the Convention Area shall refrain from expansion, in the Convention Area, of the number of fishing vessels entitled to fly their flags and authorized to fish for such species from the historical existing level until the stock assessment for such species by the SC has been completed.

2. Members of the Commission and CNCPs without substantial harvest of the three Pelagic Species in the Convention Area are encouraged to refrain from expansion, in the Convention Area, of the number of fishing vessels entitled to fly their flags and authorized to fish for such species from the historical existing level until the stock assessment for such species by the SC has been completed.
3. Members of the Commission participating in fishing for the three Pelagic Species in areas under their jurisdiction adjacent to the Convention Area are requested to take compatible measures in paragraph 1. Such Members<sup>1</sup> may divert part of their catch limit for areas under their jurisdiction to their own catch of the species in the Convention Area by vessels entitled to fly their flags and authorized to fish for the species, provided that: (i) the Member has established a catch limit for the species in its jurisdiction; (ii) the Member has notified the Commission of the catch limit; and (iii) the total catch of the species in the Convention Area and the areas under their jurisdiction adjacent to the Convention Area will not exceed the Member's total catch limit for its jurisdiction respectively.
4. Development of new fishing activity for the three Pelagic Species in the Convention Area by Members of the Commission without documented historical catch for such species in the Convention Area shall be determined in accordance with relevant provisions, as appropriate, including but not limited to Article 3, paragraph (h) and Article 7, subparagraphs 1(g) and (h) of the Convention.
5. Members of the Commission and CNCPs shall ensure that fishing vessels flying their flag operating in the Convention Area authorized to fish the three Pelagic Species are to be equipped with an operational vessel monitoring system that is activated at all times.
6. Members of the Commission and CNCPs shall ensure that fishing vessels flying their flag that fish the three Pelagic Species record their catches and report them to the relevant flag state authorities in accordance with their national data recording and reporting requirements.

6 bis. Members of the Commission and CNCPs shall ensure that fishing vessels flying their flag

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<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 3 applies to Russia and Japan

that fish for the three Pelagic Species in the Convention Area record their catches, including incidental catches of other NPFC species, and any discards and report them to the relevant flag state authorities in accordance with their national data recording and reporting requirements.

7. Members of the Commission and CNCPs shall provide their data on the three Pelagic Species in accordance with the data requirements adopted by the Commission in the Annual Report by the end of February, every year. The Commission shall review such information at the annual meeting of every year.
8. Members of the Commission and CNCPs shall cooperate to take necessary measures including sharing information, in order to accurately understand the situation and eliminate IUU fishing for the three Pelagic Species.
9. After a stock assessment for any of the three Pelagic Species has been completed, the provisions in Paragraph 1 shall be reviewed by the Commission and those provisions shall not be a precedent to hinder those Members who are not harvesting substantial amounts of the three Pelagic Species assessed in the Convention Area to develop their own fisheries in the Convention Area noting the Commission shall regularly review the harvests of such species in the Convention Area by all Members.
10. This management measure shall expire and be replaced by the measure to be adopted by the Commission based on the advice and recommendations from the Scientific Committee.