



North Pacific Fisheries Commission

NPFC-2026-TCC09-WP06

European Union

**Proposal for a new Conservation and Management Measure  
for minimum standards for the collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data  
in NPFC**

**Abstract**

This working paper proposes a new Conservation and Management Measure to establish standards for the collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data in NPFC.

**PROPOSAL FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION FOR A  
CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE  
FOR MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE COLLECTION,  
REPORTING, VERIFICATION AND EXCHANGE OF DATA IN NPFC**

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**Explanatory memorandum**

This proposal paves the way for a more efficient and consistent approach for the collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data in NPFC. The aim is twofold: to contribute to strengthening the capacity of the Scientific Committee (SC) in fulfilling its tasks, including undertaking conclusive and robust assessments, and to facilitate the monitoring and enforcement of Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs).

Data collection standards in fisheries are important for ensuring consistency and fostering collaboration. Standardized methods enable data comparability across spatial and temporal scales, facilitating long-term monitoring of fish stocks and ecosystems. This consistency contributes to effective fisheries management, as it supports accurate stock assessments and informed decision-making while enabling Members to work together on shared fisheries resources. Other RFMOs have already implemented standardised data frameworks and formal data-sharing arrangements between Members, CNCs and Secretariats, demonstrating that clear rules on reporting, validation and access can effectively support both science and compliance.

Transparent and standardized protocols build trust among stakeholders, ensuring accountability in fisheries management while enhancing public confidence in sustainability efforts. Such standards also underpin the responsible management of fisheries and marine ecosystems.

In the context of the NPFC, Members have made considerable progress in terms of data collection and management. Now there's a need for improvement through more organized and formalized structures and processes. By agreeing on minimum standards for data collection, reporting, verification and exchange of data, Members will strengthen both the scientific basis for advice and the credibility of compliance processes. This is a necessary step toward reducing uncertainty, increasing accountability, and ensuring the long-term conservation and sustainable management of NPFC fisheries resources.

**CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE  
ON MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR THE  
COLLECTION, REPORTING, VERIFICATION AND EXCHANGE OF DATA**

*The North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC),*

*Recalling* Article 3 (g) of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fisheries resources in the North Pacific Ocean (Convention) requiring to ensure that complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities, including with respect to all target and non-target species within the Convention Area, are collected and shared in a timely and appropriate manner;

*Recalling* Article 16 of the Convention on Data Collection, Compilation and Exchange;

*Mindful* that Articles 5 (j) and 6 (3d) of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks of 4 December 1995 (1995 Agreement) call for the collection and sharing, in a timely manner, of complete and accurate data concerning fishing activities, including for assessing impacts of fishing on non-target species and associated or dependent species and the ecosystem;

*Noting* the requirements in Article 7 of the 1995 Agreement, which requires that conservation and management measures established for straddling fish stocks on the high seas and those adopted for areas under national jurisdiction are compatible in order to ensure conservation and management of these fisheries resources in their entirety;

*Emphasising* that complete and accurate data from fishing vessels is required to adequately inform stock assessment and other scientific evaluation;

*Further noting* that operational level catch and effort data provides significant value to scientific assessments;

*Adopts* the following Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) in accordance with Article 7 of the Convention:

1. Commission Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) shall ensure that vessels flying their flag shall:
  - a. complete an accurate electronic log of every **fishing day** that it spends fishing for fisheries resources managed by the NPFC;
  - b. include in the electronic log the information required on interactions with non-target and associated or dependent species, in accordance with relevant CMMs;
  - c. enter in the electronic log at the end of the day the main activity of the day, including for days with no catches.
2. Commission Members and CNCs shall ensure that data referred to in paragraph 1 are collected by their vessels in accordance with the operational characteristics of each fishing method as described in Annexes 1 to 8 as minimum standards. Commission Members and CNCs shall make these data available to the NPFC Scientific Committee for scientific purposes, in accordance with applicable confidentiality requirements.

3. Commission Members and CNCPs shall require each vessel referred to in paragraph 1 to provide the information referred to in paragraph 2 to their relevant national authority or designated institution in accordance with their laws and regulations but no later than 15 days after the end of a trip and, where applicable, 15 days after the end of every transshipment event at sea;
4. Commission Members and CNCPs shall require each vessel referred to in paragraph 1 to keep an accurate and unaltered original or copy of the required information pertaining to the current trip on board the vessel at all times during the course of a trip.
5. Commission Members and CNCPs fishing for fisheries resources managed by the NPFC shall ensure that for each calendar year, annual catch totals raised to live weight (the weight of the whole fish as caught, prior to any processing, i.e. before gutting, heading, or removal of other part) for all species/species groups caught in the Convention Area during that year are collated as described in Annex 8. Commission Members and CNCPs shall provide by 30th June, their previous year's (January to December) annual catch totals raised to "live" weight for all species/ species groups caught.
6. Commission Members and CNCPs are encouraged to provide annual catch data (as described in Annex 8) for all the NPFC straddling stocks caught in the area under their jurisdiction adjacent to the Convention Area.
7. Non-compliance with this measure shall be considered in accordance with Conservation and Management Measure for the Compliance Monitoring Scheme (CMM 2025-13) and Annex II of CMM 2025-13 should be amended following adoption of this CMM with respect to its paragraphs 1-5.
8. Data collected and described under Annex 8 shall be stored, accessed, used and disseminated by the Secretariat of NPFC in accordance with the NPFC Data Sharing and Data Security Protocol.
9. The Scientific Committee will advise the Commission regarding existing or emerging needs for further improving NPFC data collection, verification, reporting and exchange processes needed to strengthen the robustness of scientific assessments or to reduce uncertainties in scientific advice for NPFC stocks.
10. This CMM is without prejudice to existing or additional reporting requirements.

## ANNEX 1

### Minimum Standards for data to be recorded for all fishing activities regardless the fishing gear

Data to be collected on a fishing trip basis.

#	Variable Name	Description	Unit	Format / Notes
1	Year	Calendar year of trip	–	Integer (e.g., 2026)
2	Trip number this year	Unique trip ID within year	–	
3	Vessel name	Registered vessel name	–	
4	Current vessel flag	Flag State at time of trip	–	
5	Unique Vessel Identifier / IMO number	IMO or official UVI	–	Numeric (7-digit IMO) or alphanumeric
6	Registration number	National vessel registration number	–	
7	External identification	External hull marking	–	
8	International radio call sign	IRCS	–	
9	Fishing permit/licence number(s)	Authorisation number(s)	–	
10	Name of master	Registered name of master	–	
11	Address of master	Registered address of master	–	
12	Port of departure	Port where trip started	–	UN/LOCODE
13	Date of departure	Departure date	–	YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC)
14	Port of arrival	Port where trip ended	–	UN/LOCODE
15	Date of arrival	Arrival date	–	YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC)
16	Port of landing	Landing port (if different from port of arrival)	–	UN/LOCODE
17	Date of landing	Landing date	–	YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC)
18	Species	Species caught	–	NPFC species list
19	Amount of fish onboard at start of trip	“Live” weight equivalent onboard at departure	Metric tonnes (mt)	
20	Amount of fish onboard after unloading	Remaining onboard after landing	Metric tonnes (mt)	
21	Total amount of fish kept	Total retained catch	Metric tonnes (mt)	
22	Total amount of fish discarded	Total discards	Metric tonnes (mt)	

## ANNEX 2

### Minimum standards for data to be recorded for trawl fishing activities

Data to be collected on an un-aggregated (tow by tow) basis.

#	Variable Name	Description	Unit	Format / Notes
1	Date of fishing activity	Calendar date of the fishing activity	–	YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC)
2	Fishing gear	Fishing gear used during the tow	–	
3	Type of trawl	Classification of trawl gear	–	Bottom or mid-water trawl
4	Mesh size	Mesh size used in the tow	Millimeters (mm)	
5	Height of net opening	Vertical opening of the net	Meters (m)	
6	Width of net opening	Horizontal opening of the net	Meters (m)	
7	Gear depth at start of fishing	Depth of gear at beginning of tow	Meters (m)	
8	Bottom depth at start of fishing	Seafloor depth at tow start location	Meters (m)	
9	Tow start date and time	Date and time when tow began	–	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC)
10	Tow end date and time	Date and time when tow ended	–	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC)
11	Tow start position	Starting coordinates of tow	1/100th degree resolution for bottom fishing, 1/10th degree resolution for pelagic trawl-decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately
12	Tow end position	Ending coordinates of tow	1/100th degree resolution for bottom fishing, 1/10th degree resolution for pelagic trawl-decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately
13	Type of trawl	Configuration of trawl gear	–	Single (S), double (D) or triple (T)
14	Intended target species	Intended target species of the tow	–	NPFC species code list
15	Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern) or benthic taxa	Indicator whether incidental capture occurred during the tow	–	Yes / No / Unknown
16	Species	Species caught in the tow		NPFC species code list

<b>17</b>	Estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the tow including target, bycatch and species of concern.	Retained catch amount for the species in field 16	Metric tonnes (mt)	
<b>18</b>	Estimation of the amount of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, other species of concern, and benthic taxa.	Discarded catch amount for the species in field 16	Metric tonnes (mt)	

### ANNEX 3

#### Minimum standards for data to be recorded for purse seine fishing activities

Data to be collected on an un-aggregated (set-by-set) basis.

#	Variable Name	Description	Unit	Format / Notes
<b>1</b>	Date of fishing activity (UTC date)	Calendar date of the fishing activity	–	YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC)
<b>2</b>	Fishing gear	Fishing gear used during the set	–	NPFC species code list
<b>3</b>	Mesh size	Mesh size used in the gear	Millimeters (mm)	
<b>4</b>	Net length	Total length of net deployed	Meters (m)	
<b>5</b>	Net height	Vertical height of net	Meters (m)	
<b>6</b>	Set start date and time	Date and time when gear deployment started	–	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC)
<b>7</b>	Set end date time	Date and time when gear retrieval ended	–	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC)
<b>8</b>	Set start position	Starting coordinates of the set	1/10th degree resolution - decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately
<b>9</b>	Intended target species	Target species for the set	–	NPFC species code list
<b>10</b>	Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern) or benthic taxa (Yes/No/Unknown)	Indicator whether incidental capture occurred during the set	–	Yes / No / Unknown
<b>11</b>	Species	Species caught in the set	–	NPFC species code list
<b>12</b>	Estimated live weight of	Retained catch	Metric tonnes	

	catch retained on board for all species caught by the tow including target, bycatch and species of concern	amount for the species in field 11	(mt)	
<b>13</b>	Estimation of the amount of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, other species of concern, and benthic taxa	Discarded catch amount for the species in field 11	Metric tonnes (mt)	

## ANNEX 4

### Minimum standards for data to be recorded for jigging fishing activities

Data to be collected on a daily basis.

#	Variable Name	Description	Unit	Format / Notes
<b>1</b>	Date of fishing activity (UTC date)	Calendar date of the fishing activity	–	YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC)
<b>2</b>	Fishing gear	Fishing gear used during the operation	–	
<b>3</b>	Number of crew	Total crew onboard during fishing activity	Count	
<b>4</b>	Number of single jig machines	Total number of single jig machines deployed	Count	
<b>5</b>	Number of double jig machines	Total number of double jig machines deployed	Count	
<b>6</b>	Number of jigs per line	Number of jigs attached per line	Count	
<b>7</b>	Maximum Operating depth	Maximum fishing depth during operation	Meters (m)	
<b>8</b>	Total deck light power	Total deck lighting power used	Kilowatt (kW)	
<b>9</b>	Total hours fished	Total duration of fishing effort	Hours (h)	
<b>10</b>	Position at start of drift	Starting coordinates of the drift	1/10th degree resolution – decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately
<b>11</b>	Position at end of drift	Ending coordinates of the drift	1/10th degree resolution – decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately
<b>12</b>	Echo Sounder	Whether echo sounder equipment was used	–	Yes / No

<b>13</b>	Intended target species	Target species for the fishing activity	–	NPFC species code list
<b>14</b>	Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern) or benthic taxa	Indicator whether incidental capture occurred	–	Yes / No / Unknown
<b>15</b>	Species	Species caught in the fishing operation	–	NPFC species code list
<b>16</b>	Estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the tow including target, bycatch and species of concern	Retained catch amount for the species in field 15	Metric tonnes (mt)	
<b>17</b>	Estimation of the amount of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, other species of concern, and benthic taxa	Discarded catch amount for the species in field 15	Metric tonnes (mt)	

## ANNEX 5

### Minimum standards for data to be recorded for stick-held dip net fishing activities

Data to be collected on an un-aggregated (haul by haul) basis.

#	Variable Name	Description	Unit	Format / Notes
<b>1</b>	Date of fishing activity	Calendar date of the fishing activity	–	YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC)
<b>2</b>	Fishing gear	Fishing gear used during the haul	–	
<b>3</b>	Number of crew	Total crew onboard during fishing activity	Count	
<b>4</b>	Mesh size	Mesh size used in the net	Millimeters (mm)	

<b>5</b>	Net length	Total length of net deployed	Meters (m)	
<b>6</b>	Net height	Vertical height of the net	Meters (m)	
<b>7</b>	Total deck light power	Total deck lighting power used	Kilowatt (kW)	
<b>8</b>	Total hours fished	Total fishing effort duration	Hours (h)	
<b>9</b>	Haul start date and time	Date and time when haul began	–	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC)
<b>10</b>	Haul end date and time	Date and time when haul ended	–	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC)
<b>11</b>	Haul start position	Starting coordinates of the haul	1/100th degree resolution – decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately; WGS84
<b>12</b>	Haul end position	Ending coordinates of the haul	1/100th degree resolution – decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately; WGS84
<b>13</b>	Intended target species	Target species of the haul	–	NPFC species code list
<b>14</b>	Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern ) or benthic taxa	Indicator whether incidental capture occurred	–	Yes / No / Unknown
<b>15</b>	Species	Species caught in the haul	–	NPFC species code list
<b>16</b>	Estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the tow including target, bycatch and species of concern	Retained catch amount for the species in field 15	Metric tonnes (mt)	

17	Estimation of the amount of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, other species of concern, and benthic taxa	Discarded catch amount for the species in field 15	Metric tonnes (mt)	
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## ANNEX 6

### Minimum standards for data to be recorded for bottom gillnets fishing activities

Data to be collected on an un-aggregated (haul by haul) basis.

#	Variable Name	Description	Unit	Format / Notes
1	Date of fishing activity	Calendar date of the fishing activity	–	YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC)
2	Fishing gear	Fishing gear used during the operation	–	NPFC gear code list
3	Total net length	Total length of net deployed	Meters (m)	
4	Total length of net lost	Total length of net lost during operation	Meters (m)	
5	Net height	Vertical height of the net	Meters (m)m	
6	Mesh size	Mesh size used in the net	Millimeters (mm)	
7	Minimum and maximum depth of the set	Depth range of gear during set	Meters (m)	Record as two numeric fields (minimum depth, maximum depth)
8	Haul start date and time	Date and time when haul began	–	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC)
9	Haul end date and time	Date and time when haul ended	–	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC)
10	Haul start position	Starting coordinates of the haul	1/100th degree resolution – decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately; WGS84
11	Haul end position	Ending coordinates of the haul	1/100th degree resolution – decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately; WGS84
12	Intended target species	Target species for the fishing operation	–	NPFC species code list
13	Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern) or benthic taxa	Indicator whether incidental capture occurred	–	Yes / No / Unknown
14	Species	Species caught in the haul	–	NPFC species code list
15	Estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the tow including target, bycatch and species of concern	Retained catch amount for the species in field 14	Metric tonnes (mt)	
16	Estimation of the amount of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, other species of concern, and benthic taxa	Discarded catch amount for the species in field 14	Metric tonnes (mt)	

## **ANNEX 7**

### **Minimum standards for data to be recorder for bottom traps**

#	Variable Name	Description	Unit	Format / Notes
1	Date of fishing activity	Calendar date of the fishing activity	–	YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC)
2	Fishing gear	Fishing gear used during the operation	–	
3	Number of traps deployed	Total number of traps set	Meters (m)	
4	Number of traps retrieved	Total number of traps hauled	Meters (m)	
5	Trap type	Type/Design of trap	Meters (m)	Text (e.g., conical, rectangular, collapsible)
6	Trap dimensions	Length × width × height of trap	Meters (m)	
7	Total trap set length	The total horizontal length of the trap line on the seabed.	Meters (m)	
8	Bait type	Type of bait used	–	
9	Deployment date and time	Date and time traps were set	–	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC)
10	Retrieval date and time	Date and time traps were hauled	–	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC)
11	Deployment position	Coordinates where traps were deployed	1/100th degree resolution – decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately; WGS84
12	Retrieval position	Coordinates where traps were retrieved	1/100th degree resolution – decimal format	Latitude and longitude recorded separately; WGS84
13	Intended target species	Target species for the fishing operation	–	NPFC FAO code list
14	Incidental captures of species of concern (marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern) or benthic taxa	Indicator whether incidental capture occurred	–	Yes / No / Unknown
15	Species	Species caught	–	NPFC species code list
16	Estimated live weight of catch retained on board for all species caught by the tow including target, bycatch and species of concern	Retained catch amount for the species in field 14	Metric tonnes (mt)	

<b>16</b>	Estimation of the amount of all living marine resources discarded by species, to the extent practicable, including any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, other species of concern, and benthic taxa	Discarded catch amount for the species in field 14	Metric tonnes (mt)	
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## ANNEX 8

### Minimum standards for Annual Catch Data reporting

Annual catch summaries should list all NPFC species caught in the Convention Area during the Calendar year.

For a calendar year and for each distinct combination of Sea Type, FAO statistical area, and priority species (FAO 3-alpha code) provide the following data:

#	Variable Name	Description	Unit	Format / Notes
<b>1</b>	Calendar year	Reporting year	–	YYYY (e.g., 2026)
<b>2</b>	Sea Type	Maritime jurisdiction of fishing activity	–	Either “HS” – High Seas - or “EEZ” – Exclusive Economic Zone
<b>3</b>	FAO Statistical Area	FAO major fishing area code	–	Numeric or standard FAO code (e.g., 27, 61)
<b>4</b>	Species	Species reported	–	NPFC species code list
<b>5</b>	Fishing gear	Fishing gear classification	–	NPFC gear code list
<b>6</b>	Annual catch total – tonnes raised to “live” weight	Total annual catch converted to live weight equivalent	Metric tonnes (mt)	
<b>7</b>	Number of vessels	Total distinct vessels participating in fishery	Count	
<b>8</b>	Number of active days fished	Total fishing days  (Total time spent actively fishing (excludes transit, searching, or any other non-fishing activities) expressed in days)	Days	