



North Pacific Fisheries Commission

CMM 2026-13

(Entered into force 23 July 2026)

**CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURE FOR THE COMPLIANCE
MONITORING SCHEME**

The North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC),

Acknowledging the importance of compliance by Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties to achieve the objective of the Convention as defined in Article 2;

Recognizing that Article 7 of the Convention directs the Commission to establish procedures for reviewing compliance with the Convention and measures adopted pursuant to the Convention;

Recalling that the Commission has adopted a wide range of conservation and management measures to give effect to the objective of the Convention;

Noting that, in accordance with Article 17 of the Convention, Members of the Commission are required to enforce the provisions of the Convention and any conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission;

Noting also that, in accordance with international law, Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties have responsibilities to effectively exercise jurisdiction and control over their flagged vessels and with respect to their nationals;

Acknowledging that Article 13 of the Convention obliges Members of the Commission to take the necessary measures to ensure that fishing vessels flying their flag comply with the provisions of the Convention and the conservation and management measures adopted pursuant thereto;

Recognizing the responsibility of Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties to fully and effectively implement the provisions of the Convention and the conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission, and the need to improve such implementation and ensure compliance with these commitments;

Noting that, in a responsible, open, transparent and non-discriminatory manner, the Commission should be made aware of all available information that may be relevant to the work of the Commission in identifying and addressing instances of non-compliance with conservation measures;

Also recognizing the importance of having a shared understanding of what is required to comply with an obligation thereby ensuring clear and consistent assessment of the compliance of Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties with all relevant obligations

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

I. Purpose

1. The purpose of the NPFC Compliance Monitoring Scheme (CMS) is to ensure that all Members and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CNCPs) implement and comply with obligations under the Convention and conservation and management measures (CMMs) adopted by the Commission. The purpose of the CMS is also to assess Members' and CNCPs' actions in response to alleged violations by their flagged vessels or nationals, not to assess compliance by individual vessels or persons.
2. The CMS is designed to improve Members' and CNCPs' implementation of and compliance with their obligations under the Convention and CMMs by:
 - (a) Establishing procedures for reviewing compliance with obligations deriving from the Convention and CMMs;
 - (b) Assessing compliance and identifying any trends in non-compliance;
 - (c) Identifying areas in which technical assistance or capacity building may be needed to assist Members or CNCPs to attain compliance;
 - (d) Identifying obligations which may require amendment for effective implementation and assessment of compliance;
 - (e) Providing responses to non-compliance; and,
 - (f) Monitoring and verifying corrective actions taken by a Member or CNCP to resolve outstanding instances of non-compliance.

II. Scope and Application

3. The Commission, with the assistance of the Technical and Compliance Committee (TCC), shall assess Members' and CNCPs' implementation of and compliance with the obligations arising under the Convention and the CMMs adopted by the Commission and identify trends in and instances of non-compliance.
4. For obligations relating to fishing activities, unless otherwise specified in the relevant CMM, the compliance assessment shall apply to those activities occurring in the Convention Area.
5. The CMS shall not prejudice the rights, jurisdiction and duties of any Member or CNCP to enforce its domestic laws or to take more stringent measures in accordance with its domestic laws, consistent with that Member's or CNCP's international obligations.
6. For obligations on quantitative annual limits (e.g., catch limit, effort limit), the compliance assessment period shall be the previous calendar year. For other obligations, the compliance

assessment period shall be from November 1st of year X-1 to October 31st of year X, where X is the calendar year preceding the TCC meeting.

7. The Commission, with the assistance of TCC, shall determine annually for each Member and CNCP, compliance status and potential responses for each obligation subject to assessment, in accordance with Annexes I and II.
8. Each Member and CNCP shall provide annually to the Secretariat responses to an Implementation Questionnaire, to be developed based on the obligations in Annex II, indicating how it has implemented the conservation and management measures and ensured compliance with and enforcement of obligations adopted by the Commission. The Questionnaire will be made available by the Secretariat for Member use as soon as possible annually, but at the latest 135 days before the TCC meeting. Members and CNCPs shall submit responses to the Secretariat through their Implementation Questionnaire 90 days before the TCC meeting and submit their Annual Reports by February 15th each year.

III. Draft Compliance Report

9. Prior to TCC, the Secretariat shall compile relevant data and information received from Members and CNCPs, including through their Annual Reports, any data collection source held by the Commission (e.g., reports from observers, Vessel Monitoring Systems, High Seas Boarding and Inspections, and high seas transshipments), communications with Members and CNCPs and, where appropriate, any other relevant information relating to compliance with NPFC CMMs available to the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall then prepare a Draft Compliance Report.

10. The Draft Compliance Report shall:

- (a) Present all available relevant data and information relating to each Member's or CNCP's implementation of and compliance with each obligation under the Convention or CMMs listed in Annex II and identify the data and information sources.
- (b) Identify the areas of potential non-compliance for each Member and CNCP for the obligations listed in Annex II for the current assessment year, and any areas of potential repeated non-compliance with a particular obligation for two or more consecutively assessed years where Members do not fulfill their obligations including imposed sanctions to those vessels in violation of the CMMs adopted by the Commission, or as determined by the Commission.

As appropriate, the Secretariat may request any follow-up information relating to any issues of potential non-compliance identified for the current assessment year.

- (c) Report on any outstanding compliance issues for each Member or CNCP that were identified from previous years, including unresolved non-compliance issues, flag state investigations, or any corrective actions reported by the Member or CNCP, and, as appropriate, requests from the Secretariat for any follow-up information relating to the

previous compliance issues.

- (d) Identify provisions/obligations that lack clarity or have inadequate reporting mechanisms or have insufficient data that make it challenging for the Secretariat and TCC to conduct compliance assessments, including factors that contribute to the lack of clarity or data gaps, and suggest means to address these issues.

11. No later than 60 days before the TCC meeting, the Secretariat shall provide each Member and CNCP its section of the Draft Compliance Report.

12. No later than 30 days before the TCC meeting, each Member and CNCP shall provide any additional information needed/requested on its section of the Draft Compliance Report to the Secretariat. This information shall, as appropriate:

- (a) Provide information, clarifications, amendments, or corrections that address the potential compliance issues identified or respond to any request for additional information and/or evidence demonstrating implementation of and compliance with the relevant obligations;
- (b) Propose corrective actions to be taken, along with time frames, to come into compliance;
- (c) Identify any causes of the potential compliance issues or mitigating circumstances;
- (d) Identify any technical assistance or capacity building that could assist with achieving compliance; and,
- (e) Indicate progress of on-going flag state investigations in response to alleged violations by its flagged vessels.

13. The Secretariat shall then revise the Draft Compliance Report to add all information provided pursuant to paragraph 12 above.

14. No later than 10 days before TCC, the Secretariat shall circulate the revised Draft Compliance Report to Members and CNCPs and make it available on the non-public section of the Commission website.

IV. Provisional Compliance Report

15. TCC shall consider the Draft Compliance Report and may take into account any additional, readily verifiable information provided by Members, CNCPs, and accredited observers, including from non-governmental organizations or other organizations concerned with matters relevant to the implementation of the Convention.

16. In considering and assessing the compliance of each Member or CNCP with relevant obligations or any areas of repeated non-compliance, TCC shall also focus on clarifying the intent and purpose of each obligation to be assessed and assessing whether Members and CNCPs have adopted and/or implemented effective mechanisms to ensure the compliance with

the NPFC obligations

17. TCC shall develop a Provisional Compliance Report, which shall include an assessment for each Member's or CNCP's compliance with obligations included in Annex II and any areas of repeated non-compliance, and which shall assign a compliance status for each individual obligation based on Annex I.
18. Each compliance assessment shall be decided by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, the Provisional Compliance Report shall indicate majority and minority views.
19. Notwithstanding paragraph 18 above, a Member or CNCP cannot block agreement on its own compliance assessment if all other Members present have concurred with the assessment. If the assessed Member disagrees with the assessment, its views shall be reflected in the Provisional Compliance Report.
20. The Provisional Compliance Report shall also include an Executive Summary with recommendations or observations from TCC regarding, as appropriate:
 - (a) Non-compliance trends;
 - (b) Existing obligations that should be amended or improved;
 - (c) Revisions to the list of obligations to be assessed;
 - (d) Obstacles to implementation identified by Members and CNCPs; and
 - (e) Capacity building assistance needs.
21. TCC shall forward the Provisional Compliance Report to the Commission for consideration at the annual meeting.

V. Final Compliance Report

22. At each regular Commission meeting, the Commission shall consider the Provisional Compliance Report recommended by TCC and adopt by consensus a Final Compliance Report. If consensus cannot be reached, the Final Compliance Report shall indicate majority and minority views. A Member or CNCP cannot block consensus on its own compliance assessment.
23. The Final Compliance Report shall include:
 - (a) A final compliance status for each Member and CNCP against each assessed obligation;
 - (b) All identified areas of repeated non-compliance by a Member or CNCP.
 - (c) All responses taken and to be taken to address areas of non-compliance; and
 - (d) An Executive Summary addressing the issues listed in paragraph 20.

24. Within 30 days following the adoption of the Final Compliance Report, the Chair of the Commission shall send a Letter of Concern to each Member or CNCP assessed as Non-Compliant or Priority Non-Compliant. Such letters shall describe the relevant compliance issue(s) and the required response(s) identified in the Final Compliance Report.

VI. Data Protection

25. The Draft and Provisional Compliance Reports, and all associated documentation, shall constitute confidential data, but the Final Compliance Report and the executive summary shall be public domain data.

VII. Identification of obligations to be Assessed

26. Annex II includes the list of obligations to be assessed as part of the annual Compliance Monitoring Report (CMR). The TCC will review Annex II annually and recommend removing or adding obligations to be assessed in the following year's CMR. Each year, upon consideration of the TCC's recommendations, the Commission shall update what obligations shall be assessed in the following year's CMR, as appropriate, taking into account factors such as:

- (a) The needs and priorities of the Commission;
- (b) The advice of TCC;
- (c) Evidence of non-compliance or repeated non-compliance with a particular obligation;
- (d) The risks posed by non-compliance to the achievement of the objectives of the Convention; and,
- (e) Whether sufficient verifiable information is available to determine compliance.

VIII. Future Work and Review of this Conservation Measure

27. The Commission tasks the TCC to establish a multi-year workplan of tasks to enhance the Compliance Monitoring Scheme with the aim of making it more efficient and effective. This workplan shall include the development of the following guidelines and operating procedures to support the implementation of the CMS, as necessary:

- (a) audit points to clarify the Commission's obligations assessed under the CMS
- (b) automatic responses for non-compliance with certain administrative obligations listed in Annex II to streamline the process;
- (c) corrective actions to encourage and incentivize Members' compliance with the Commission's obligations where non-compliance is identified; and,
- (d) any other guidelines or procedures that it deems necessary to enhance the effectiveness

and efficiency of the CMS.

28. As a matter of priority by the 9th Commission meeting, the TCC will develop and the Commission will consider revised Rules of Transparency for TCC to clarify any additional guidelines pertaining to the participation of observers in TCC meetings related to the Compliance Monitoring Scheme. Until the Commission adopts the revised Rules of Transparency for TCC, notwithstanding Paragraph 25, the consideration of the draft compliance report and the provisional compliance report, as detailed in paragraphs 15 and 22 respectively, shall be open to participation by accredited observers, in accordance with NPFC Rules of Procedure, in particular Rule 5.2.1 and Rule 9.
29. The obligations to be assessed in Annex II shall be reviewed annually by the Commission, and as necessary, the Implementation Questionnaire. The conservation and management measure as a whole shall be reviewed at Commission meetings as necessary.

ANNEXES

- Annex I – Compliance Status Table
- Annex II – Obligations to be Assessed

Compliance Status Table

Compliance Status	Criteria	Potential Responses
Compliant	Member or CNCP fully compliant with obligation. Member or CNCP has taken required actions under the Convention in particular article 17 to investigate or address potential violations of its vessels.	None
Delayed Submission	Member or CNCP has fulfilled its reporting obligations (those not related to individual vessels reporting) after the mandatory deadlines, and it is not a repeated case of non-compliance.	Member or CNCP to provide the missing report and indicate any relevant actions taken.
Non-Compliant	Member or CNCP not compliant with obligation identified in Annex II and which does not meet the criteria of Delayed Submission. Member or CNCP has failed to undertake required actions under the Convention in particular article 17 to investigate or address potential violations of its vessels.	- i Member or CNCP to rectify non-compliance and include in its next Annual Report all actions taken, - ii Consideration of further responses.
Priority non-compliant	Member or CNCP has demonstrated non-compliance of a particular obligation listed in Annex II for two or more consecutively assessed years, non-compliance that significantly undermines the objectives of the Convention, or any other non-compliance identified as	- i Member or CNCP to rectify non-compliance and include in its next Annual Report all actions taken, - ii Consideration of further responses.

	Priority non-compliance by the Commission. Member or CNCP has repeatedly failed to undertake required actions under the Convention in particular article 17 to investigate or address potential violations of its vessels.	
Unable to be Assessed at this time	Ambiguity of relevant obligation, or insufficient data.	(for ambiguity) Review and potentially amend relevant provision(s) (for insufficient data) Identify how data gaps might be remedied and potentially amend relevant provision(s)
Not Applicable	Relevant obligation is not applicable to Member or CNCP	None
Flag State Action Ongoing	Flag state action currently ongoing to investigate or address potential violations of its flagged vessels.	i. Member or CNCP to report progress in its Annual Report until resolved; and, ii. Review by TCC and Commission and deadline(s) placed on Member or CNCP to provide further information to the Secretariat and/or take action(s) until resolved

Annex II

Obligations to be Assessed

As per Article 13(1) of the Convention, a Member shall take such measures as may be necessary to ensure that fishing vessels entitled to fly its flag abide by the CMMs and therefore, for the obligations listed below, it is the Member's compliance that is being assessed regardless of the wording of a specific obligation.

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
CMM 2026-01 INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VESSEL REGISTRATION		
	For the purpose of the effective implementation of the Convention, each Commission member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party shall:	
1	3	Promptly update the NPFC Vessel Registry with: (a) any additions to the record; e.g., new vessel authorizations; (b) any modifications to this information with dates of such modifications; and (c) any deletions from the record, specifying which of the following reasons is applicable: (i) the voluntary relinquishment of the fishing by the fishing vessel owner or operator; (ii) the withdrawal or non-renewal of the fishing authorization issued in respect of the fishing vessel under Article 13, paragraph 2 of the Convention; (iii) the fact that the fishing vessel concerned is no longer entitled to fly its flag; (iv) the scrapping, decommissioning or loss of the fishing vessel concerned; or (v) any other grounds, with a specific explanation provided.
2	4	Provide to the Commission, as part of the annual report required pursuant to Article 16 of the Convention, the names of the fishing vessels entered in the record that conducted fishing activities during the previous calendar year.
3	5	Each Commission Member and Cooperating non Contracting Party shall ensure that every fishing vessel authorized to fly its flag bear markings that are readily identified in accordance with the <i>FAO Standard Specifications for the Marking and Identification of Fishing Vessels</i>, and recognize that non-compliance with these standards shall be considered a serious violation according to Article 17, paragraph 5 of the NPFC Convention and Article 21 Paragraph 11(f) of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement.
4	7	The Commission member or Cooperating non-Contracting Parties entering vessels identified in paragraph 2 on the NPFC Vessel Registry established under paragraph 1 shall attest that the vessel or vessels being added recommended are not vessels: (a) with a history of illegal, unreported or unregulated (IUU) fishing, unless the ownership of the vessel has subsequently changed and the new owner has provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owner or operator has no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control of the vessels, or Commission members or Cooperating non-Contracting Parties concerned is satisfied that, having taken into account all relevant facts, the vessel is no longer engaged in or associated with IUU fishing; or (b) that are currently listed on any of the IUU vessel lists adopted by regional fishery

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
		management organizations (RFMOs)
CMM 2026-02 TO ESTABLISH A LIST OF VESSELS PRESUMED TO HAVE CARRIED OUT ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED ACTIVITIES IN THE CONVENTION AREA		
		24. Members/CNCPs shall take all necessary non-discriminatory measures under their applicable legislation, international law and each Members/CNCPs' international obligations, and pursuant to paragraphs 56 and 66 of the IPOA-IUU to:
5	(a)	Remove or withdraw vessels on the NPFC IUU Vessel List from the NPFC Vessel Registry;
6	(b)	Ensure that fishing vessels, support vessels, mother ships or cargo vessels flying their flag do not participate in any transshipment or joint fishing operations with, support or re-supply vessels on the NPFC IUU Vessel List;
7	(c)	Prohibit the entry into their ports of vessels included on the NPFC IUU Vessels List, except in the case of <i>force majeure</i> ;
8	(d)	Prohibit the chartering of a vessel on the NPFC IUU Vessels List;
9	(e)	Refuse to grant their flag to vessels on the NPFC IUU Vessel List, unless the ownership of the vessel has subsequently changed and the new owner has provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that the previous owner has no legal, beneficial or financial interest in, or control of the vessels, or the member concerned is satisfied that that, having taken into account all relevant facts, the vessel is no longer engaged in or associated with IUU fishing activities;
10	(f)	Prohibit commercial transactions, imports, landings and/or transshipment of species covered by the Convention from vessels on the IUU Vessel List.
CMM 2024-09 HIGH SEAS BOARDING AND INSPECTION PROCEDURES		
11	7	Each Member of the Commission shall ensure that vessels flying its flag accept boarding and inspection by authorized inspectors in accordance with these procedures.
12	7	Such authorized inspectors shall comply with these procedures in the conduct of any such activities.
13	26	During the conduct of a boarding and inspection, the master of the fishing vessel shall:

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
		(a) follow internationally accepted principles of good seamanship so as to avoid risks to the safety of authorized inspection vessels and inspectors; (b) accept and facilitate prompt and safe boarding by the authorized inspectors; (c) provide a boarding ladder. Annex A provides guidelines for a safe boarding ladder; (d) cooperate with and assist in the inspection of the vessel pursuant to these procedures; (e) not assault, resist, intimidate, interfere with, or unduly obstruct or delay the inspectors in the performance of their duties; (f) allow the inspectors to communicate with the crew of the inspection vessel, the authorities of the inspection vessel, any embarked observers, as well as with the authorities of the fishing vessel being inspected; (g) provide the inspectors onboard with reasonable facilities, including, where appropriate, food and accommodation; and (h) facilitate safe disembarkation by the inspectors
14	28	The authorities of the fishing vessel, unless generally accepted international regulations, procedures and practices relating to safety at sea make it necessary to delay the boarding and inspection, shall direct the master to accept the boarding and inspection. If the master does not comply with such direction, the Member shall suspend the vessel's authorization to fish and order the vessel to return immediately to port. The Member shall immediately notify the authorities of the inspection vessel and the Commission of the action it has taken in these circumstances.
15	31	Authorized inspectors shall prepare a full report on each boarding and inspection they carry out pursuant to these procedures in accordance with a format specified by the Commission. The authorities of the inspection vessel from which the boarding and inspection was carried out shall transmit a copy of the boarding and inspection report to the authorities of the fishing vessel being inspected, as well as the Secretariat, within 3 (three) full working days of the completion of the boarding and inspection. Where it is not possible for the authorities of the inspection vessel to provide such report to the authorities of the fishing vessel within this timeframe, the authorities of the inspection vessel shall inform the authorities of the fishing vessel and shall specify the time period within which the report will be provided.
16	34	Upon receipt of a notification under paragraph 33, the authorities of the fishing vessels shall without delay: a) assume their obligation to investigate and, if the evidence warrants, take enforcement action against the fishing vessel in question and so notify the authorities of the inspection vessel, as well as the Commission; or b) authorize the authorities of the inspection vessel to complete investigation of the possible violation and so notify the Commission.

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
17	37	Upon receipt of a notification pursuant to paragraph 33, the authorities of the fishing vessel shall make best effort to respond without delay and in any case no later than within 3 (three) full working days.
18	41	Contracting Parties that authorize inspection vessels to operate under these procedures shall report annually to the Commission on the boarding and inspections carried out by its authorized inspection vessels, as well as upon possible violations observed.
19	42	Contracting Parties shall include in their annual statement of compliance within their Annual Report to the Commission under Article 16 of the Convention action that they have taken in response to boarding and inspections of their fishing vessels that resulted in observation of alleged violations, including any proceedings instituted and sanctions applied.
CMM-2025-05 BOTTOM FISHERIES AND PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS IN THE NORTHWESTERN PACIFIC OCEAN		
		4. Members of the Commission shall take the following measures in order to achieve sustainable management of fish stocks and protection of VMEs in the western part of the Convention Area:
20	A	Limit fishing effort in bottom fisheries on the western part of the Convention Area to the level agreed in February 2007 in terms of the number of fishing vessels and other parameters which reflect the level of fishing effort, fishing capacity or potential impacts on marine ecosystems.
21	G	Further, considering accumulated information regarding fishing activities in the western part of the Convention Area, in areas where, in the course of fishing operations, cold water corals more than 50Kg or sponges more than 350Kg are encountered in one gear retrieval, Members of the Commission shall require vessels flying their flag to cease bottom fishing activities in that location. In such cases, the vessel shall not resume fishing activities until it has relocated a sufficient distance, which shall be no less than 1 nautical mile, so that additional encounters with VMEs are unlikely. All such encounters, including the location, gear type, date, time and name and weight of the VME indicator species, shall be reported to the Secretariat, through the Member, within one business day. The Executive Secretary shall, within one business day, notify the other Members of the Commission and at the same time implement a temporary closure in the area to prohibit fishing vessels from contacting the sea floor with their fishing gear. Members shall inform their fleets and enforcement operations within one business day of the receipt of the notification from the Executive Secretary. It is agreed that the VME indicator taxa include five groups of cold water corals, specifically black corals (Antipatharia), gorgonians, pennatulaceans, stony coral (Scleractinia), and soft corals. The VME indicator taxa also include the classes of Hexactinellida and Demospongiae in the phylum Porifera.

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
22	L	Limit annual catch of North Pacific armorhead consistent with the precautionary approach. In years when strong recruitment of North Pacific armorhead is not detected by the monitoring survey (Annex 6), Japan shall limit the catch of North Pacific armorhead by vessels flying its flag to 500 tons, and Korea shall limit its catch of North Pacific armorhead by vessels flying its flag to 200 tons. When a strong recruitment of North Pacific armorhead is detected by the monitoring survey (Annex 6), Japan shall limit its annual catch of North Pacific armorhead by vessels flying its flag to 10,000 tons, and Korea shall limit its annual catch of North Pacific armorhead by vessels flying its flag to 2,000 tons. The catch overages for any given year shall be subtracted from the applicable annual catch limit in the following year, and catch underages during any given year shall not be added to the applicable annual catch limit during the following year.
23	5	Members of the Commission shall submit to the SC their assessments of the impacts of fishing activity on marine species or any VMEs, including the proposed management measures to prevent such impact. Such submissions shall include all relevant data and information in support of any such assessment. Procedures for such reviews including procedures for the provision of advice and recommendations from the SC to the submitting Member are attached (Annex 3). Members will only authorize bottom fishing activity pursuant to paragraph 4 (C).
		6. To facilitate the scientific work associated with the implementation of these measures, each Member of the Commission shall undertake:
24	A	Reporting of information for purposes of defining the footprint Members of the Commission shall provide, for each year, the number of vessels by gear type, size of vessels (tons), number of fishing days or days on the fishing grounds, total catch by species, and areas fished (names of seamounts) to the Secretariat. The Secretariat shall circulate the information received to the other Members consistent with the approved Regulations for Management of Scientific Data and Information. To support assessments of the fisheries and refinement of conservation and management measures, Members of the Commission are to provide updated information on an annual basis.
25	B	Collection of information (i) Members shall ensure each bottom fishing vessel operating in the western part of the Convention Area collects the following scientific information. Members shall provide the scientific information to the Secretariat. (a) Catch and effort data (b) Related information such as time, location, depth, temperature, etc. (ii) As appropriate, Members should encourage the collection of information from research vessels operating in the western part of the Convention Area and provide updates to the Commission to the extent possible. (a) Physical, chemical, biological, oceanographic, meteorological, etc. (b) Ecosystem surveys. (c) Seabed mapping (e.g. multibeam or other echosounder); seafloor images by drop

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
		camera, remotely operated underwater vehicle (ROV) and/or autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV). (iii) Collection of observer data Duly designated observers from the flag member shall collect information from bottom fishing vessels operating in the western part of the Convention Area. Observers shall collect data in accordance with Annex 5. Each Member of the Commission shall submit the reports to the Secretariat in accordance with Annex 4. The Secretariat shall compile this information on an annual basis and make it available to the Members of the Commission.
26	8	Members shall ensure that all vessels authorized to bottom fish in the western part of the Convention Area shall carry an observer on board. Members shall ensure that observers are independent, impartial, and qualified to fulfill the requirements of this measure and to enhance data collection. An observer is deemed to be independent, impartial, and qualified if the observer: (a) is deployed from a Commission Member's, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party's, national observer program, and familiar with NPFC fisheries resources, fishing activities, and CMMs; (b) is neither part of the crew, nor has any employment or family relationship to the ownership or operator of the fishing vessel; and (c) does not have any shared business interests with the owner or operator of the fishing vessel. An observer shall be provisioned, accommodated, and provided safe working conditions and access to independent communications in accordance with the Commission requirements and the Member's domestic laws and regulations.
CMM 2025-06 BOTTOM FISHERIES AND PROTECTION OF VULNERABLE MARINE ECOSYSTEMS IN THE NORTHEASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN		
27	8	The Members shall provide all available information as required by the Commission for any current or historical fishing activity by their flag vessels, including the number of vessels by gear type, size of vessels (tons), number of fishing days or days on the fishing grounds, total catch by species, areas fished (names or coordinates of seamounts), and information from scientific observer programmes (see Annexes 4 and 5) to the NPFC Secretariat as soon as possible and no later than one month prior to SC meeting. The Secretariat will make such information available to SC.
CMM 2026-07 CHUB MACKEREL		
28	1	Members of the Commission and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) with substantial harvest of chub mackerel in the Convention Area shall refrain from expansion, in the Convention Area, of the number of fishing vessels entitled to fly their

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
		flags and authorized to fish for chub mackerel from the historical existing level.
29	3	As a provisional measure, Members shall take necessary measures to ensure that the fishing activities for chub mackerel in the Convention Area shall be undertaken in accordance with the following provisions: (a) The annual total allowable catch of chub mackerel and blue mackerel in the Convention Area, excluding the amount in paragraph 13, shall be set at 47,940 tonnes for 2026 and at 42,300 tonnes for 2027. (b) Of this annual total allowable catch, the catch for trawlers shall not exceed 5,703 tonnes for 2026 and 5,032 tonnes for 2027. (c) Of this annual total allowable catch, the catch for purse seiners shall not exceed 42,237 tonnes for 2026 and 37,268 tonnes for 2027. (d) An unused portion of the catch limit in subparagraphs (b) and (c) for 2026 may be carried over to the catch limit for 2027, up to 10% of the original catch limit for 2026. (e) An unused portion of the original catch limit in a single year for the EU in paragraph 13 may be transferred to the catch limit in that year in subparagraphs (b) and (c) of this paragraph. For this, the EU shall notify the Executive Secretary 30 days in advance of the intended transfer, specifying the tonnage and effective date of the transfer. The Executive Secretary shall promptly notify Members and CNCPs of the transfer. This transferred portion may not be used for carry over in subparagraph (d) of this paragraph. (f) China shall not authorize more than 3 trawlers to conduct fishing operations at the same time. (g) The EU shall not authorize more than 1 trawler to conduct fishing operations at the same time.
30	6	Members of the Commission and CNCPs shall ensure that fishing vessels flying their flag that fish for chub mackerel 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.
31	15	Members of the Commission and CNCPs shall provide their data on chub mackerel and blue mackerel separated by the Convention Area and the areas under national jurisdiction adjacent to the Convention Area in accordance with the data requirements adopted by the Commission in the Annual Report every year. The Commission shall review such information at the annual meeting every year.
CMM 2026-08 PACIFIC SAURY		
32	1	Members of the Commission, not described under Paragraph 2, and that are currently fishing for Pacific saury shall refrain from expansion, in the Convention Area, of the number of fishing vessels entitled to fly their flags and authorized to fish for Pacific

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
		saury from the historical existing level.
33	2	Members fishing for Pacific saury in areas of their jurisdiction that are adjacent to the Convention Area shall refrain from rapid expansion, in the Convention Area, of the number of fishing vessels entitled to fly their flags and authorized to fish for Pacific saury from the historical existing level.
34	11	As a provisional measure until the Commission decides allocation of the TAC, each Member of the Commission shall reduce the annual total catch of Pacific saury by the fishing vessels entitled to fly its flag in 2026 by 57.8% from its reported catch in 2018 (Annex II), and shall take necessary measures so that the total catch in the Convention Area will not exceed the TAC set out in paragraph 9. Members of the Commission and CNCPs shall ensure that discards of Pacific saury count against their catch limits.
35	12	To comply with the TAC, the following measures shall be in place in 2026: a) Members of the Commission shall report to the Executive Secretary, in the electronic format, weekly catches of Pacific saury in the Convention Area by fishing vessels flying their flags by Wednesday of the next week. The Executive Secretary shall make publicly available the compiled catch of Pacific saury in the Convention Area on the Commission's website as well as share each Member's catch of Pacific saury in the Convention Area on the Member's page of Commission's website without delay; and b) In the event that the total reported catch of all Members reaches 90% of the TAC set out in paragraph 9, the Executive Secretary shall notify all Members without delay. Those Members with more than 10,000 mt of catch limits shall close the fishery within 72 hours from the receipt of the notification. Those Members with less than 10,000 mt of catch limits may continue operations, but their total catch shall not exceed 90% of their catch limits. c) If any Members commit to reduce its annual total catch of Pacific Saury by fishing vessels entitled to fly its flag in 2026 by 67.22% from its reported catch in 2018, it shall be exempted from the requirements stipulated in Paragraph 12 (b). In case of that, the TAC for the rest of the member referred in the paragraph 12 (b) shall be 115,425 metric tons minus the catch limit of member(s) that make such commitment. Such commitment shall be submitted to the Secretariat no later than May 1st, 2026, and be circulated to all Members, as well as TAC applied to those Members subject to paragraph 12 (c).
36	13	Members of the Commission and CNCPs shall ensure that fishing vessels flying their flag that fish for Pacific saury 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.
37	14	In the event that a Member reaches 70% of its catch limit set out in paragraph 11, the Executive Secretary shall inform that Member of that fact, with a copy to all other Members. That Member shall close the fishery for its flagged vessels when the total catch of its flagged vessels is equivalent to 100% of its catch limit. Such Member shall notify promptly the Executive Secretary of the date of the closure, except as described in

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
		paragraph 15. Upon receipt of the notification, the Executive Secretary shall circulate it to all the Members.
38	18	In order to prevent discards and contribute to the proper stock assessment, Members of the Commission shall take necessary measures to ensure that fishing vessels flying their flags in the Convention Area fishing for Pacific saury retain all the catch of Pacific saury on board.
CMM 2019-10 SABLEFISH		
39	8	All vessels authorized to fish sablefish in the eastern part of the Convention Area shall have 100% observer coverage.
CMM 2026-11 NEON FLYING SQUID AND JAPANESE FLYING SQUID		
40	1	Members of the Commission and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties (CNCs) with substantial harvest of any of neon flying squid and Japanese flying squid (hereinafter referred to as “the two 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.
41	6	Members of the Commission and CNCs shall ensure that fishing vessels flying their flag that fish for the two 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.
42	7	Members of the Commission and CNCs shall provide their data on the two Pelagic Species in accordance with the data requirements adopted by the Commission in the Annual Report every year. The Commission shall review such information at the annual meeting of every year.
CMM 2025-12 VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEM		
43	8	All Members or CNCs shall ensure that its flagged vessels that are authorized under NPFC and present in the Convention Area transmit VMS data every hour to their FMC.
44	10	Each Member or CNC shall ensure that their FMC automatically transmits VMS data to the Secretariat, which shall be received no later than 60 minutes upon receipt of the data at their FMC.

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
45	11	Each Member or CNCP shall ensure that its authorized NPFC fishing vessels conducting or planning to conduct fishing activities notify the Secretariat of their intention to enter and exit the Convention Area (Annex 2). The procedure used for such notification may be chosen by Members based on a list of options created by the Secretariat and approved by the Commission. Members shall inform the Secretariat of their preferred notification procedure.
46	13	Each Member or CNCP shall provide the Secretariat with VMS contact points in their FMCs including the name, position, email address and phone number of their VMS contact points. The Secretariat will make a list of VMS contact points available to all Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties.
47	23	If a failure to transmit occurs more than two times within a period of one year, the flag Member or CNCP of the fishing vessel shall investigate the matter, including having an authorized official examine the MTU on board the vessel. The outcome of this investigation shall be forwarded to the Secretariat within fifteen (15) days of its completion.
CMM 2025-03 TRANSSHIPMENTS		
48	4	A fishing vessel shall only engage in a transshipment, or other transfer activity in the Convention Area, if both the offloading and receiving vessel are duly authorized by its Flag State and included in the NPFC Vessel Registry
49	6	If a fishing vessel intends to engage in a transshipment in an area under national jurisdiction, including a port, the fishing vessel shall receive an authorization from the relevant coastal or port State before engaging in the transshipment.
50	8	All reporting shall comply with the procedures to be adopted by the Commission.
51	9	All reporting related to a transshipment shall include all marine species taken in the Convention Area, including bycatch and unregulated species, recorded by species using the FAO code.
52	10	A fishing vessel shall maintain an electronic or physical record on board the fishing vessel of each transshipment it has engaged in during the current trip. The record shall include each transshipment declaration and daily activity records, such as those in a navigation logbook.
53	12	A fishing vessel, or a Commission Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party on behalf of the vessel, shall provide an advance notification to the authorities listed in paragraph 13 as soon as possible, and at least 24 hours in advance of the intended

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
		transshipment. The advance notification form is included in Annex I.
54	14	A receiving vessel, or a Commission Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party on behalf of the receiving vessel, shall provide an advance notification to the authorities listed in paragraph 13 as soon as possible, and at least 24 hours in advance of the intended other transfer activity. The advance notification form is included in Annex I.
55	15	If the transshipment does not start after 72 hours of the estimated start time, or within 50 nautical miles of the estimated start location, as contained in the advance notification, the fishing vessels involved in the transshipment, or Commission Members or Cooperating non-Contracting Parties on their behalf, shall modify the submitted advance notification.
56	16	If the other transfer activity does not start after 72 hours of the estimated start time, or within 50 nautical miles of the estimated start location, as contained in the advance notification, the receiving vessel, or Commission Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party of the receiving vessel, shall modify the submitted advance notification.
57	18	If a transshipment is cancelled before it is undertaken, a fishing vessel intending to engage in the transshipment, or the Commission Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party whose fishing vessel intended engage in the transshipment, shall notify the Secretariat of the cancellation as soon as possible.
58	20	If a Commission Member, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, receives suitably documented information that its flagged fishing vessel is, or appears to be, non-compliant with the Convention, or a conservation and management measure, the Commission Member, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, shall conduct an investigation.
59	21	The investigating Commission Member, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, shall provide a report on the progress of the investigation, including an attestation of the fishing vessel's status under paragraph 19, no later than 60 days after receiving the information, to: (a) The Secretariat (b) The Commission Member, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party that provided this information. Following the investigation process, information shall be provided about any appropriate enforcement action taken in line with its national laws.
60	22	If a fishing vessel receives catch from more than one offloading vessel, the fishing vessel shall ensure that the catch from each offloading vessel is stored separately and readily identifiable. The receiving vessel shall have a stowage plan available on

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
		board at all times.
61	24	A fishing vessel having engaged in, or a Commission Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party whose fishing vessel has engaged in, a transshipment shall provide a transshipment declaration to the authorities listed in paragraph 25 as soon as possible, and no later than 10 days after the transshipment. The transshipment declaration form is included in Annex II.
62	26	The Commission shall establish a regional observer and/or electronic monitoring program no later than its 9 th Commission meeting. Until the Transshipment Observer Program enters into force, a Commission Member, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, is responsible for the deployment of independent, impartial, and qualified observers to fulfill the requirements of this measure. Once this program enters into force, paragraphs 27, 28, 32-34 of this measure shall be superseded by the provisions of the new program.
63	28	An observer shall be provisioned, accommodated, including access to independent communications, and provided safe working conditions by the receiving vessel in accordance with the Commission Member's, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party's, domestic laws and regulations.
64	29	A Commission Member, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, shall take necessary measures to ensure that its receiving vessels engaging in a transshipment have an observer on board.
65	31	A Commission Member or CNCP shall take necessary measures to ensure that a fishing vessel may only engage in one transshipment at a time for each observer that is available to monitor and report on the transshipment. If there are two vessels seeking to transship concurrently, but only one observer is present, one vessel must stand off and wait until the first vessel has finished. Only one offloading vessel may be secured to the receiving vessel unless a second observer is performing observer duties for a second transshipment.
66	32	An observer shall have: (a) full, unobstructed, and safe access to each fishing vessel involved in the transshipment, including, inter alia, access to crew, gear, equipment, records, electronic means of communication, and fish holds; and (b) adequate and appropriate space to undertake their responsibilities pursuant to this measure.
67	34	An observer shall record an observer report immediately after each transshipment and keep the report onboard, and provide an observer transshipment report, as specified in Annex III, as soon as possible, but no later than 10 days from the disembarkation of the observer, to:

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
		(a) the Commission Member, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, of the flags of the receiving vessel and the offloading vessel; and (b) the Secretariat
68	35	If an observer observes an activity or condition that is not consistent with conservation and management measures, the observer shall report the finding, and provide documented evidence, to the extent possible, without delay or upon disembarkation to the Secretariat. Once the Transshipment Observer Program enters into force, the observer will notify and transmit the report to the Observer service provider as well as the Secretariat. The Secretariat will then transmit the report to the authorities of the Commission Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party of the flags of the receiving and offloading vessels.
69	36	Upon receipt of an observer report with documented evidence in particular Annex III indicating potential non-compliance, or instances of obstruction, intimidation, interference with, or otherwise prevention of the observer from performing their duties, concerning a vessel entitled to fly its flag, the Commission Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party shall: a) treat the report with utmost sensitivity and discretion, in accordance with NPFC Data Sharing and Data Security Protocol b) make best efforts to respond to this notification through the Secretariat without delay and; c) undertake investigation on any condition or activity that is not consistent with conservation and management measures as per Article 17 of the Convention. The Commission Member or CNCP shall report any findings and/or relevant actions taken, in their Annual Report, and in the CMS Implementation Questionnaire (if applicable).
70	46	In the case of force majeure, the fishing vessel, or Commission Member or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, shall: (a) notify the Secretariat prior to the completion of the transshipment, or other transfer activity, as well as the circumstances giving rise to the force majeure; and (b) provide a transshipment declaration on the transshipment as soon as possible, but within 10 days of the transshipment.
71	48	Each Commission Member, and Cooperating non-Contracting Party, shall provide an annual summary of the data and information collected from all authorized fishing vessels having undertaken a transshipment, including each year's transshipment declarations, to the Commission at the Technical and Compliance Committee meeting. The summary shall be included in the Annual Report, as per Article 16(3) of the Convention. The template for this summary is included in Annex V.
72	49	A Commission Member, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, shall take all

No.	Para to be Assessed	OBLIGATION
		reasonable steps to verify the information received from fishing vessels having engaged in a transshipment.
73	51	Commission Members and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties shall investigate instances of potential non-compliance with this measure, and report the results of those investigations to the Commission.
CMM 2023-14 SHARKS		
74	6	No fishing vessel shall engage in shark finning.
75	7	No fishing vessel shall: (a) retain on board, or otherwise possess or control, a shark fin that is not naturally attached to the corresponding shark; or (b) transship, or land, a shark fin that is not naturally attached to the corresponding shark unless the fishing vessel complies with paragraph 8.
76	8	A fishing vessel may only remove a shark fin from the corresponding shark if the shark is incidentally caught, taken, or harvested, and if: (a) the shark fin and the corresponding shark can be readily identified; and (b) one of the following methods is used: - i the shark fin is stored in the same bag, preferably a biodegradable one, as the corresponding shark; - ii the shark fin is bound to the corresponding shark using rope or wire; or - iii the shark fin and the corresponding shark are identically, uniquely, and numerically tagged in a manner that an authorized inspector can readily identify the matching of the shark fin to the corresponding shark.
77	9	A fishing vessel shall record, and maintain a record of, any shark catch in the Convention Area, to the extent possible by species, in its logbook on board the fishing vessel.
78	10	A Commission Member, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party, shall annually report all shark catches, to the extent possible by species, from their fishing vessels to the Secretariat.

No.	Para to be assessed	OBLIGATION
CMM 2024-15 POLLUTION		
79	4	No fishing vessel shall discard or abandon fishing gear at sea. A Commission Member, or Cooperating non-Contracting Party (Member or CNCP) shall take necessary measures to ensure that its fishing vessels do not discard or abandon fishing gear at sea.
80	8	A Member or CNCP shall take necessary measures to ensure that its fishing vessels do not release any plastics, including synthetic ropes, synthetic fishing nets, plastic garbage bags, or incinerator ashes from plastics products, at sea
81	11	A Member or CNCP shall take necessary measures to ensure that its fishing vessels take all reasonable precautions to prevent: a) the abandonment, loss, or discard of fishing gear at sea; and b) the release of garbage, and plastics, at sea.
82	12	A Member or CNCP shall take necessary measures to ensure that its fishing vessels make every reasonable effort to retrieve any abandoned, lost, or discarded gear, garbage, or plastics that it has released as soon as possible and if safe to do so.
83	16	A Member or CNCP shall take necessary measures to ensure that its fishing vessels, to the extent possible, safely store and retain on board all fishing gear, garbage, and plastics until they can be disposed of at an adequate port reception facility.
CMM 2024-16 ANADROMOUS FISH		
84	5	Members and CNCPs shall take necessary measures to ensure their fishing vessels do not retain on board or otherwise possess anadromous fish.
85	7	Members and CNCPs shall take necessary measures to ensure that if a fishing vessel incidentally captures anadromous fish, those fish shall be returned to the water without delay, in a manner that causes the least harm.
86	9	Members and CNCPs shall take necessary measures to ensure their fishing vessels maintain a record on board the vessel of incidentally caught and released anadromous fish in the Convention Area, to the extent possible by species. This record shall be made available to authorized inspectors. A species identification aid is in Annex 2.
87	11	Notwithstanding paragraph 10, a Commission Member or CNCP shall annually report all incidentally caught and released anadromous fish in the Convention Area to the Secretariat, to the extent possible by species.