



North Pacific Fisheries Commission

NPFC-2026-TCC09- IP11

Small Working Group Operations

Historic Existing Level

Abstract

This document presents a variety of options for establishing historic existing levels (HEL) of authorizations for select NPFC stocks.

The supplementary document (NPFC-2026-TCC09-IP11-Supp.Doc 1) contains Member submitted authorizations for select date ranges 2015-2021.

HEL:

Our purpose in defining HEL is to assess member compliance with respect to whether the number of authorized vessels has increased since we were required to refrain from expansion. We must consider what is the most reasonable approach to define HEL to allow member compliance to be assessed.

Our initial working definition that had considerable support from members was the maximum number of authorized vessels between 2015 and the year expansion was prohibited for each species.

Other views preferred to follow the TCC recommendations more clearly and so the following table was developed to capture the specific year ranges that would reflect each recommended data treatment:

- A) CMM Adoption -1 yr through -3 yrs (assuming average)
- B) CMM Adoption through to -3 yrs (assuming average)

Members suggestion for other timeframes (iv):

- C) CMM adoption -1 yr

Modified date range using the year members were prohibited from expanding (let's call this YPE)

- D) YPE -1 yr through -3 yrs (assuming average)
- E) YPE through -3 yrs (assuming average)
- F) YPE -4 yrs

Species/ CMM adoption/ YPE	Pacific Saury /2015/2017	Chub Mackerel /2016/2017	Japanese Sardine /2019/2019	Neon Flying Squid /2021/2021	Japanese Flying Squid /2019/2019	Sablefish /2019/2019	NW Bottom Fishery/2016)
A	2014 -2012	2015 - 2013	2018 - 2016	2020 - 2018	2018 - 2016	2018 - 2016	n/a
B	2015 - 2013	2016 - 2014	2019 - 2017	2021 - 2019	2019 - 2017	2019 - 2017	n/a
C	2014	2015	2018	2020	2018	2018	n/a
D	2016 - 2014	2016 - 2014	2018 - 2016	2020 - 2018	2018 - 2016	2018 - 2016	n/a
E	2017 - 2015	2017 - 2015	2019 - 2017	2021 - 2019	2019 - 2017	2019- 2017	n/a

From the January meeting summary:

1. A number of differing views were expressed, with support expressed for Options C, D and E, and a suggestion for a combination of Options D and E into an Option F to expand the range of years.