



North Pacific Fisheries Commission

NPFC-2026-TCC09-WP06 Rev.1

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.

Rev. 1 includes a new preambular paragraph clarifying that the CMM addresses not only essential scientific information but also compliance-related information. It incorporates suggestions submitted by Japan on the main text (reflected in track changes and highlighted in yellow), as well as comments from Chinese Taipei on Annex 5 (Minimum standards for data to be recorded for stick-held dip net fishing activities).

**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**

European Union

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, CNCPs and Secretariats, demonstrating that clear rules on reporting, validation and access can effectively support both science and compliance.

Standardised electronic log for NPFC sets common standard across NPFC, assisting fishing operators to keep record of fishing activities, facilitating monitoring and enforcement of NPFC CMMs, and enabling enforcement authorities in catch record verification.

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;

Recognizing the critical role of flag States in recording, maintaining and sharing accurate, complete and timely data on fishing activities in order to support monitoring, control and surveillance activities and ensure compliance with conservation and management measures;

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 and operating in the Convention area shall:
 - a. complete an accurate paper/electronic log of every fishing day that it spends fishing for fisheries resources managed by the NPFC;
 - b. include in the paper/electronic log the information required on interactions with non-target and associated or dependent species, in accordance with relevant CMMs;
 - c. enter in the paper/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 domestic confidentiality requirements.

3. Commission Members and CNCs 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 CNCs 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 CNCs 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 CNCs 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 CNCs are encouraged to provide annual catch data (as described in Annex 8) for all the NPFC straddling stocks/priority species 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 |

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|----|--|--|--------------------|--|
| 17 | 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) | |
| 18 | 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 |
|----|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Date of fishing activity (UTC date) | Calendar date of the fishing activity | – | YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC) |
| 2 | Fishing gear | Fishing gear used during the set | – | NPFC species code list |
| 3 | Mesh size | Mesh size used in the gear | Millimeters (mm) | |
| 4 | Net length | Total length of net deployed | Meters (m) | |
| 5 | Net height | Vertical height of net | Meters (m) | |
| 6 | Set start date and time | Date and time when gear deployment started | – | YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC) |
| 7 | Set end date time | Date and time when gear retrieval ended | – | YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC) |
| 8 | Set start position | Starting coordinates of the set | 1/10th degree resolution - decimal format | Latitude and longitude recorded separately |
| 9 | Intended target species | Target species for the set | – | NPFC species code list |
| 10 | 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 |
| 11 | Species | Species caught in the set | – | NPFC species code list |
| 12 | Estimated live weight of | Retained catch | Metric tonnes | |

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| | 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) | |
| 13 | 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 |
|----|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| 1 | Date of fishing activity (UTC date) | Calendar date of the fishing activity | – | YYYY-MM-DD (ISO 8601, UTC) |
| 2 | Fishing gear | Fishing gear used during the operation | – | |
| 3 | Number of crew | Total crew onboard during fishing activity | Count | |
| 4 | Number of single jig machines | Total number of single jig machines deployed | Count | |
| 5 | Number of double jig machines | Total number of double jig machines deployed | Count | |
| 6 | Number of jigs per line | Number of jigs attached per line | Count | |
| 7 | Maximum Operating depth | Maximum fishing depth during operation | Meters (m) | |
| 8 | Total deck light power | Total deck lighting power used | Kilowatt (kW) | |
| 9 | Total hours fished | Total duration of fishing effort | Hours (h) | |
| 10 | Position at start of drift | Starting coordinates of the drift | 1/10th degree resolution – decimal format | Latitude and longitude recorded separately |
| 11 | Position at end of drift | Ending coordinates of the drift | 1/10th degree resolution – decimal format | Latitude and longitude recorded separately |
| 12 | Echo Sounder | Whether echo sounder equipment was used | – | Yes / No |

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| 13 | Intended target species | Target species for the fishing activity | – | NPFC species 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 in the fishing operation | – | 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 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) | |

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) a daily** 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 haul | – | |
| 3 | Number of crew | Total crew onboard during fishing activity | Count | |
| 4 | Mesh size | Mesh size used in the net | Millimeters (mm) | |

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|----|---|--|--|---|
| 5 | Net length | Total length of net deployed | Meters (m) | |
| 6 | Net height Maximum operating depth | Vertical height of the net | Meters (m) | |
| 7 | Total deck light power | Total deck lighting power used | Kilowatt (kW) | |
| 8 | Total hours fished | Total fishing effort duration | Hours (h) | |
| 9 | Haul start date and time Number of hauls | Date and time when haul began Total number of hauls | - | YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC) |
| 10 | Haul end date and time | Date and time when haul ended | - | YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss (UTC) |
| 11 | Haul start position | Starting coordinates of the haul | 1/100th degree resolution—decimal format | Latitude and longitude recorded separately; WGS84 |
| 12 | Haul end position | Ending coordinates of the haul | 1/100th degree resolution—decimal format | Latitude and longitude recorded separately; WGS84 |
| 13 | Intended target species | Target species of the haul | - | NPFC species 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 |

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| 135 | Species | Species caught in the haul | – | NPFC species code list |
| 146 | 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) | |
| 157 | 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 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) | |
| 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) | |

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|----|---|---|--------------------|--|
| 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 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 |
|---|---|--|--------------------|--|
| 1 | Calendar year | Reporting year | – | YYYY (e.g., 2026) |
| 2 | Sea Type | Maritime jurisdiction of fishing activity | – | Either “HS” – High Seas - or “EEZ” – Exclusive Economic Zone |
| 3 | FAO Statistical Area | FAO major fishing area code | – | Numeric or standard FAO code (e.g., 27, 61) |
| 4 | Species | Species reported | – | NPFC species code list |
| 5 | Fishing gear | Fishing gear classification | – | NPFC gear code list |
| 6 | Annual catch total – tonnes raised to “live” weight | Total annual catch converted to live weight equivalent | Metric tonnes (mt) | |
| 7 | Number of vessels | Total distinct vessels participating in fishery | Count | |
| 8 | 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 | |