

TAE FOR 2018-2020 FOR PURSE SEINE VDS

(Extract from the Summary Record of PA22)

At their 22nd Annual Meeting 5-7 April 2017 in Majuro, Marshall Islands, the Parties considered the TAE for 2018 - 2020 for Purse Seine VDS.

11. The PNAO presented the outcomes of the 6th VDST&SC related to the TAE.

12. The major issue discussed was the proposed revision in the adjustment to the SPC logsheet estimate to account for length adjustment factors in the VDS. There were some questions about why this adjustment should be revised down at this time, since it would reduce the VDS TAE.

13. Discussion covered these issues:

- The reasons for the increases in CPUE in 2014 and 2015 were not yet clear and data on 2016 CPUE is not yet available. Hopefully, the uncertainty about CPUE will be substantially reduced by electronic reporting.
- Estimates of the 2010 effort level continued to be revised by SPC, but PNA had notified the Commission that it would be adopting 44,033 days as the effort level for 2010.
- On effort creep, the VDST&SC noted the importance of adjusting the TAE over time for effort creep, but considered it was premature at this time because the extent to which effort creep is occurring in the fishery, and the level of any change, is not clear.
- As proposed by the VDST&SC, any adjustments for effort creep should be applied to all WCPFC effort limits, and not just the PNA VDS TAE, because that would unfairly shift the burden of conserving stocks to VDS participants.
- In the longer term, effort creep would be taken into account in a skipjack HCR. If the issue of effort creep becomes pressing in the shorter term, the Tropical Tuna CMM could be amended to include adjustments to effort limits
- The revised adjustment for the length adjustment factor is about removing risk of overshooting the TAE because of the way that days are sold to vessels in different size class. It isn't about addressing effort creep.
- The revision is related to the impact of changes in the fleet vessel size composition, in particular a reduced number of larger vessel
- If the larger vessels return such as the EU vessels, then the adjustment would increase again
- This was a good time to take another look at revising the length adjustment factors, including looking at increasing the factor for vessels over 100m

Following the recommendations of the VDS Technical and Scientific Committee, the Parties agreed:

- a) There is no reason for the Parties to change their decision at PA17 to apply a PNA TAE based on the revised 2010 effort level,
- b) The 2018 PNA TAE be set at 44,033 days
- c) The TAE of 44,033 days be adopted as the provisional PNA TAE for 2019 and 2020 based on the analysis below.

Determining the TAE (days)						
	TAE 2016	TAE 2017	Provisional TAE 2018	Proposed Revised TAE 2018	Provisional TAE for 2019 & 2020	
Estimated 2010 Logsheets effort	44,033	44,033	44,033	44,033	44,033	44,033
Length Adjustment factor	1.95%	1.30%	1.30%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
PNA TAE	44,890	44,605	44,605	44,033	44,033	44,033
Tokelau TAE	991	985	985	972	972	972
Total VDS TAE (PNA + Tokelau)	45,881	45,590	45,590	45,005	45,005	45,005