



# MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES

“NATIONAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM  
2017: CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH NATURE, A DECADE  
OF LEARNING”

4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2017- SPECIES FORUM  
S.I.N.U – TING TING HAUS



# TUNA LO SOLOMON ISLANDS



# OUTLINE

- ▶ TUNA – COMMERCIAL SPECIES
- ▶ TUNA FISHING BOATS LICENCED in SOLOMON ISLANDS
- ▶ TUNA MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS
- ▶ TUNA MANGEMENT & CONSERVATION MEASURES
- ▶ TUNA STATUS
- ▶ TUNA and SOLOMON ISLANDS ECONOMY
- ▶ TUNA, OUR FUTURE



▶ TUNA – Commercial species

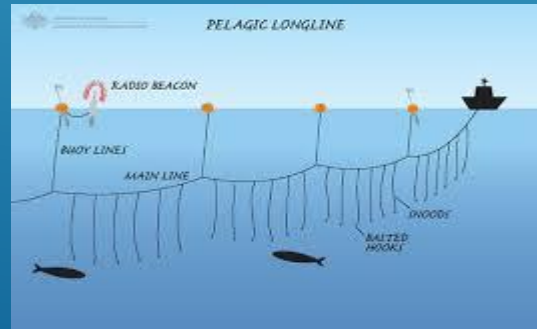
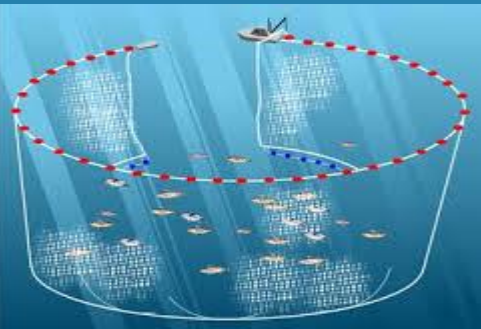
- ▶ SKIP JACK TUNA (*Katsuwonus pelamis*)
- ▶ YELLOW FIN TUNA (*Thunnus albacares*)
- ▶ BIG EYE TUNA (*Thunnus obesus*)
- ▶ ALBACORE TUNA (*Thunnus Alalunga*)



# ▶ TUNA FISHING BOATS LICENCED in SOLOMON ISLANDS


- ▶ PURSE SEINE FISHING BOAT – (10 Local/ 87)
- ▶ LONGLINE FISHING BOAT – (1 local/ 91)
- ▶ POLE and LINE FISHING BOAT- (3 local/11 foreign)
- ▶ LIGHT SEINEING FISHING BOAT – (4 Foreign)

PURSE SEINE FISHING






- TYPES OF TUNA FISHERY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

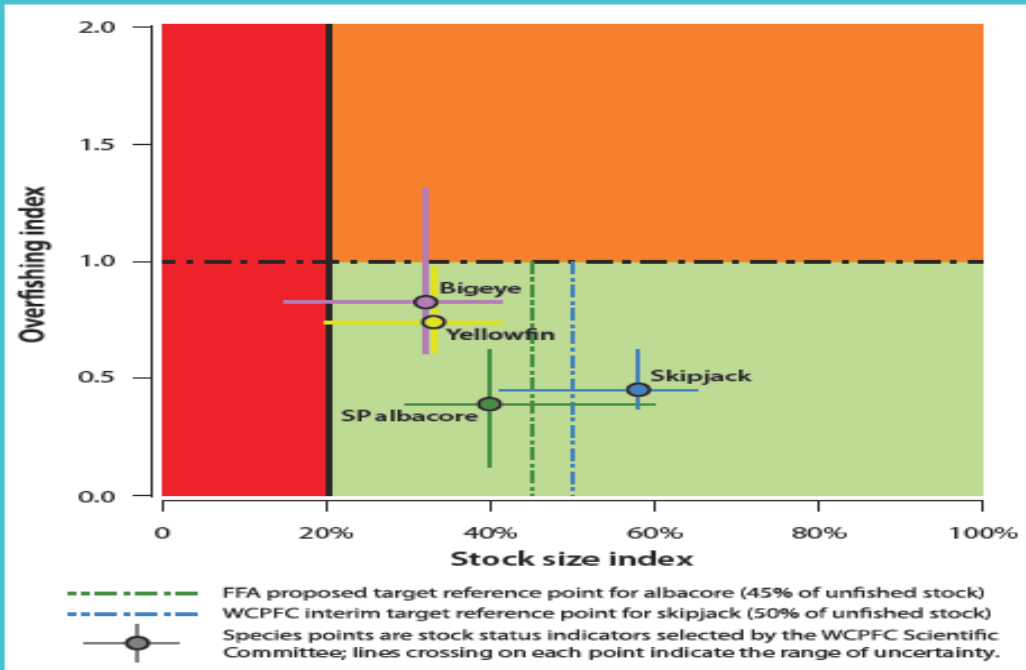
- PURSE SEINE FISHERY VESSEL DAY SCHEME (VDS)
  - LONGLINE FISHERY (VDS)
  - TOKELAU ARRANGEMENT (ALBACORE FISHERY-CATCH QUOTA)
  - FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA ARRANGEMENT (FSMA)
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- TUNA - CONSERVATION & MANAGEMENT MEASURES

- VESSEL REGISTRY
  - LICENCE REGISTRY
  - OBSERVER PROGRAMME
  - CATCH & EFFORT RECORD
  - BOARDING & INSPECTIONS
  - TRANSHIPMENT/UNLOADING MONITORING
  - COMPLIANCE & ENFORCEMENT
  - VESSEL MONITORING SYSTEM (VMS)
  - FISHING AGGREGATE DEVICES (FAD) FISHING CLOSURE PERIOD (JULY – OCTOBER)
  - HIGH SEA POCKET FISHING CLOSURE
- 

# TUNA CURRENT STATUS



## Skipjack tuna is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring.

An assessment in 2016 showed an improvement in the stock status relative to previous years, and this is reflected in the plot which shows the stock is above the TRP.

## Yellowfin tuna according to the 2017 assessment is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring.

The stock is however approaching the 'cross hairs', particularly when the uncertainty of the assessment is taken into account. This plot only shows status against the biological Limit Reference Point. No work has been undertaken yet as to where a Target Reference Point indicative of an economically viable fishery would be placed.

**South Pacific albacore tuna is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring.** However the fishery is facing serious economic challenges. Parties to the Tokelau Arrangement have made some progress towards agreement on measures to reduce effort in their own waters in order to maintain economically viable catch rates.

**Bigeye tuna stock, according to the latest assessment undertaken in 2017, is NOT overfished and overfishing is NOT occurring.** The change in stock status is a result of the incorporation of a new growth curve and spatial structure into the model and recent high recruitment. Attribution of the improve stock status to management measures or environmental conditions is not possible at this time with the WCPFC Science Committee recommending that fishing mortality not be increased from current levels, especially noting the range of uncertainties. The science committee initiated work to address some of this uncertainty.

## Other species for which stocks have been assessed and require management action include:

- Southwest Pacific striped marlin
- Western and central north Pacific striped marlin
- Silky shark
- Oceanic whitetip shark

Scientific advice is to reduce catches and/or fishing effort on all of these stocks.

SOURCE: FFA; TUNA FISHERY REPORT CARD 2017 ([WWW.FFA.INT/PUBLICATIONS](http://WWW.FFA.INT/PUBLICATIONS))



# TUNA WAITIM ECONOMY BLO SOLOMON ISLANDS

## 1. DEVELOPMENTS

- ONLY 1 OPERATING CANNERY – SOLTUNA
- PRODUCE 150MT/DAY
- EMPLOYS MORE THAN 2000 WORKERS
- 5 LOCAL FISHING COMPANIES – NFD, SSL, GLOBAL, SOLONG AND SOLFISH

## 2. SOCIO ECONOMIC

- A KEY EMPLOYMENT AND EXPORT EARNER FOR S.I.G
- CONTRIBUTED 7 – 10% OF TOTAL EXPORT EARNINGS IN 2015
- TOTAL OF 7,592.019 TON OF FROZEN TUNA EXPORTED IN 2015, VALUED @ SBD\$113, 041, 570
- 2015 – 61, 670 TONNES CAUGHT, VALUE@ 223 MILLION USD



# TUNA, FUTURE BLO IUMI

- FISHERIES MANAGEMENT ACT 2015 -

“TO ENSURE THE LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT, CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF SOLOMON ISLANDS FISHERIES AND MARINE ECOSYSTEMS FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE OF SOLOMON ISLANDS”



THANK YOU

Solomon Islands

Sector D

Sector E

