



*Bureau of Oceans and International
Environmental and Scientific Affairs*

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 13, 2024

Dear Council Members and Staff,

I have one update for you for the 200th Council Meeting:

Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission Meeting: At its 102nd meeting September 2-6 the Commission adopted: a two-year rollover of the tropical tuna measure; increased U.S. catch limits and monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) measures for Pacific bluefin tuna; and interim standards for the use of electronic monitoring (EM) in IATTC fisheries. The latter contain mandatory elements that will apply to CPCs that wish to submit data derived from EM to the IATTC, but will not provide an ability to substitute EM for observers or other data requirements at this time. U.S. proposals on a non-binding resolution on labor in IATTC fisheries, and to define a minimum circle hook size were not adopted.

Other adopted proposals related to:

- Optional best handling and release practices for sharks;
- A revised Resolution on FADs;
- Regional Vessel Register reporting requirements;
- South Pacific albacore management;
- Climate Change;
- And establishment of an Ad Hoc Working Group for Science Management Dialogues and MSEs.

Sincerely,

C. Colin Brinkman
Office of Marine Conservation