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Please share the following with the AAFA Board and Membership as it recounts items of interest that arose during the month of November and looks forward to certain events occurring in upcoming months.

Follow-up on October’s upcoming events:

1. November 14 – 20 - Pacific Fishery Management Council meeting to be held in Costa Mesa, Ca. While there was nothing directly related to North Pacific albacore on the Meeting’s agenda, the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Subpanel did offer comments on the recently completed Management Strategy Evaluation for the fishery. See - https://www.pcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/H2c_Sup_HMSAS_Rpt1_Intl_MGMT_NOV2017BB.pdf

Federal Register Items of Interest:

In past reports we have highlighted actions taken against Canadian importers and industry by the International Trade Administration of the Department of Commerce and The United States International Trade Commission. The intent was to show how there are some tensions between the two Nations on certain trade issues. Rather than take up space delving into each – we will simply list the publication date in the Federal Register, the topic of the publication and provide a link if the reader wishes to learn more about the publication.

| Date | Topic | Link |
|-------------|--|---|
| Nov 8 | Dept of Commerce determines certain softwood lumber products from Canada is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). | https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-11-08/pdf/2017-24203.pdf |
| Nov 8 | Dep of Commerce determines countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of certain softwood lumber products from Canada | https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-11-08/pdf/2017-24204.pdf |
| Nov 21 | Request for review re countervailing duty determination filed w/ NAFTA panel by Canadian Govt. | https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-11-21/pdf/2017-25123.pdf |
| Nov 21 | In conjunction with the above filing, Dept of Commerce seeks public comment on any subsidies, including stumpage subsidies, provided by certain countries exporting softwood lumber or softwood lumber products to the United States during the period January 1, 2017, through June 30, 2017. | https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-11-21/pdf/2017-25283.pdf |

1. November 9 – NMFS issues request for public comment re extension of a current information collection related to the requirement that vessels with HMS permits display the vessel's official number (U.S. Coast Guard documentation number or state registration number). See - <https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2017-11-09/pdf/2017-24425.pdf> .

Other items of interest:

1. *Recall of certain Kidde brand fire extinguishers.* USCG issues a Marine Safety Alert on nearly 40 Million extinguishers involving 134 different models which have been recalled by the Manufacturer. See - <http://www.usmsa.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/12-17.pdf>
2. *US-Canada Albacore Treaty.* Fishermen's News published a story highlighting industry concerns with the Treaty. See - <http://www.fishermensnews.com/story/2017/12/01/features/us-canada-albacore-treaty/503.html>
3. *U.S. Leads in Global Fisheries Management.* NOAA's take on its leadership role in international fisheries management is highlighted and how certain regulatory actions are designed to ensure seafood imported into the US are harvested responsibly. See - <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/leadership-message/us-leads-global-fisheries-management>

Upcoming items of interest

1. December 2 – 7 – Annual meeting of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. Provisional Agenda attached at Attachment 1.
2. December 5 – West Coast Regional Planning Body Annual Meeting. This meeting will discuss coordination, policy and planning for our West Coast ocean. I was invited to participate and will surely attend.

Attachment 1 – Provisional Agenda for Upcoming WCPFC meeting
(Italicized portions added for your convenience)

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING OF MEETING

- 1.1 Adoption of agenda
- 1.2 Statements from Members and Participating Territories
- 1.3 Meeting arrangements
 - 1.3.1 Establishment of small working groups (CNMs, CMS, Others)

AGENDA ITEM 2. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AGENDA ITEM 3. MEMBERSHIP AND OTHER APPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Status of the Convention
- 3.2 Update on observer status
- 3.3 Applications for Cooperating Non-Member status
 - 3.3.1 Participatory rights of CNMs

AGENDA ITEM 4. NEW PROPOSALS

AGENDA ITEM 5. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF DEVELOPING STATES

- 5.1 Updated checklist evaluation of SIDS special requirements (FFA)
- 5.2 CCM reports on the implementation of Article 30
- 5.3 Review of implementation of CMM 2013-07 (Paragraph 20)

AGENDA ITEM 6. HARVEST STRATEGY

Discussion will focus on the 2017 elements of the Agreed Work Plan for the Adoption of Harvest Strategies under CMM 2014-06, covering skipjack, bigeye, yellowfin, and South Pacific albacore.

- 6.1 Management objectives (all stocks/fisheries)
- 6.2 Acceptable levels of risk (all stocks)
- 6.3 Review of rebuilding timeline (bigeye)
- 6.4 Target reference point (SP albacore)
- 6.5 Harvest control rules (SP albacore and skipjack)
- 6.6 Management strategy evaluation (SP albacore and skipjack)
- 6.7 Monitoring Strategy (all stocks/fisheries)
- 6.8 Harvest Strategy for Pacific bluefin tuna and North Pacific albacore
- 6.9 Review of Work Plan

AGENDA ITEM 7. WCPO TUNA STOCKS

Relevant outcomes from meetings of subsidiary bodies, intersessional working groups and other relevant sources will be presented to facilitate discussions under this Agenda Item.

- 7.1 General overview of stock status (bigeye, Pacific bluefin tuna, skipjack, NP albacore, SP albacore and yellowfin)
- 7.2 Draft Bridging CMM on Tropical Tunas (bigeye, skipjack, yellowfin)
- 7.3 Draft Bridging CMM on SP albacore
- 7.4 CMM 2005-03 on North Pacific albacore
- 7.5 CMM 2016-04 on Pacific bluefin tuna
- 7.6 Others

AGENDA ITEM 8. BYCATCH MITIGATION

Relevant outcomes from meetings of subsidiary bodies, intersessional working groups and other relevant sources will be presented to facilitate discussions under this Agenda Item.

8.1 Sharks (CMMs: 2010-07; 2011-04; 2012-04; 2013-08; 2014-05)

8.1.1 Comprehensive approach to shark and ray conservation and management

8.2 CMM 2015-03 on Seabirds

8.3 CMM 2008-03 on Sea Turtles

8.4 Others

AGENDA ITEM 9. ADOPTION OF REPORTS FROM SUBSIDIARY BODIES

The reports of the subsidiary bodies will be taken as read and will not be presented to the Commission. Recommendations not addressed under other agenda items will be considered here.

9.1 SC13 (*Science Committee*)

9.2 NC13 (*Northern Committee*)

9.3 TCC13 (*Technical and Compliance Committee*)

AGENDA ITEM 10. COMPLIANCE MONITORING SCHEME

10.1 Consideration and adoption of the Final Compliance Monitoring Report

10.2 Update on Independent Review of the Compliance Monitoring Scheme

10.3 Expiry of CMM 2015-07 at the end of 2017

AGENDA ITEM 11. ADOPTION OF THE 2018 IUU VESSEL LIST

AGENDA ITEM 12. REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

12.1 Report of the Eleventh Finance and Administration Committee

12.2 Budget approval for 2018 and Indicative Budgets for 2019 and 2020

AGENDA ITEM 13. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

13.1 Strategic Plan

13.2 Research projects

13.2.1 ABNJ Project (*Area Beyond National Jurisdiction – aka High Seas*)

13.2.2 WPEA Project (*West Pacific East Asia*)

13.3 Election of officers

13.4 Future meetings

AGENDA ITEM 14. OTHER MATTERS

AGENDA ITEM 15. SUMMARY REPORT OF THE WCPFC14

AGENDA ITEM 16. CLOSE OF MEETING