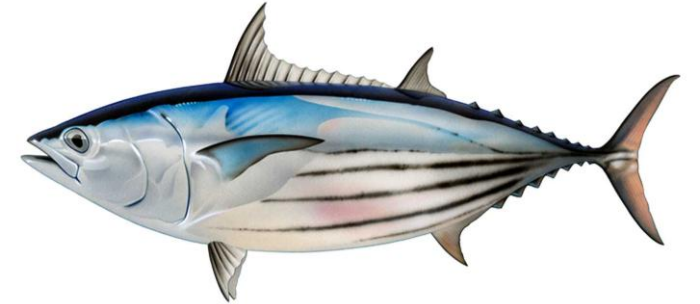




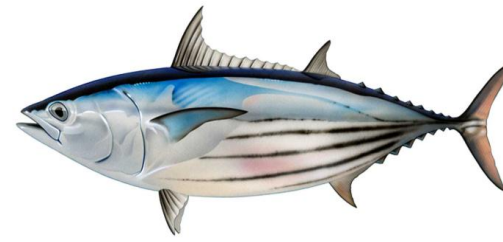
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Evaluation of exceptional circumstances for IO skipjack in 2026

IOTC-2026-WPM17-14



IOTC-2026-WPM17-14

Exceptional Circumstances

INTRODUCTION

The IOTC adopted a Management Procedure for skipjack tuna during its Annual Meeting in 2024.

This MP is used for the first time in 2025 to set catch limits for 2027-2029.

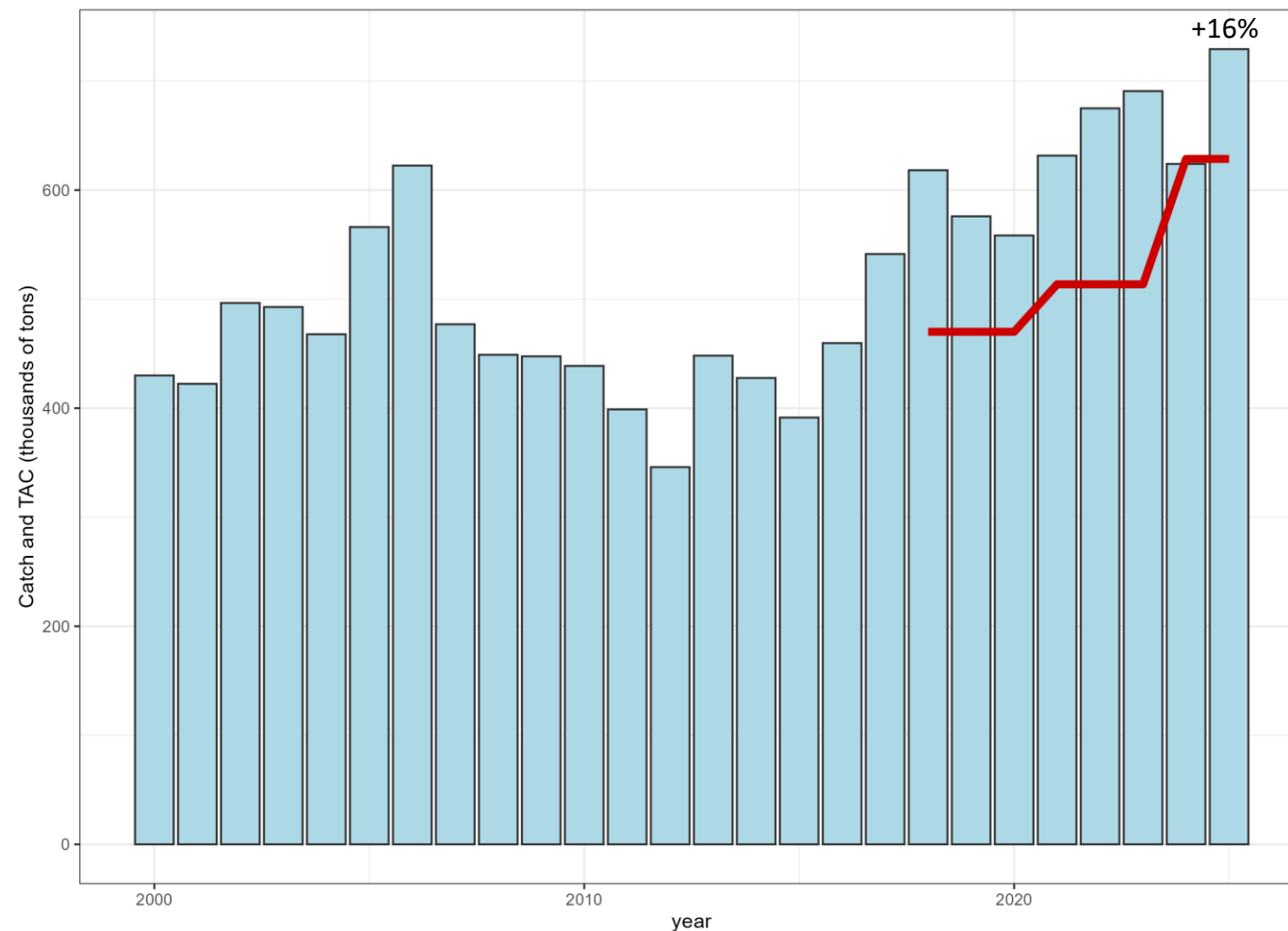
The application of the MP in 2025 is described in document IOTC-2025-WPM16-12 and this document reviews recent data to help the IOTC's Scientific Committee evaluate if the implementation of the TAC for the period 2027-2029 may pose the sustainability of skipjack at risk.



IOTC-2026-WPM17-14

Exceptional Circumstances

1. CATCH in 2025: 729,283 tons
2. Excess of 16% (~100 th tons) from the 628,606 tons TAC.

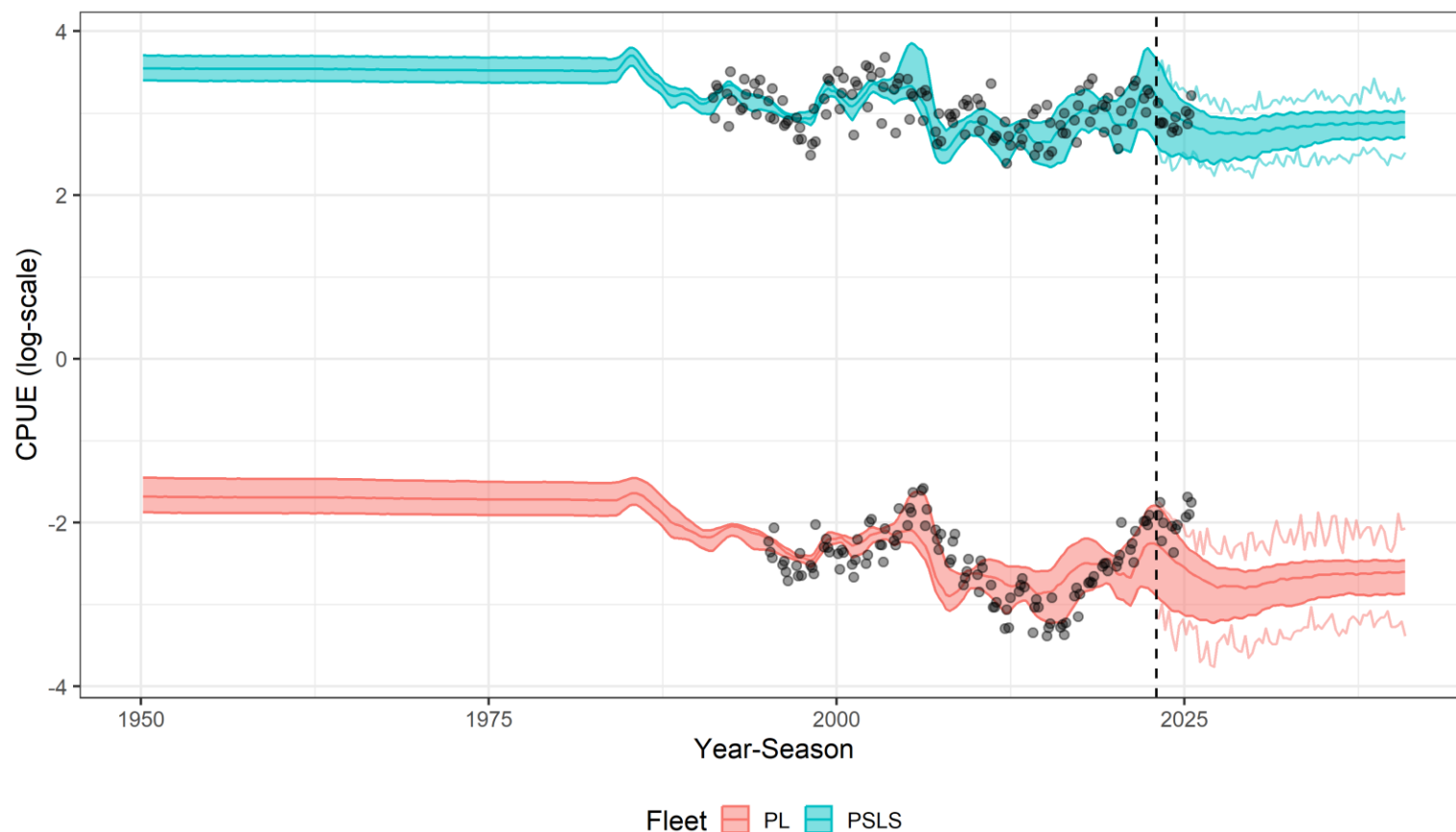




IOTC-2026-WPM17-14

Exceptional Circumstances

1. CATCH in 2025: 729,283 tons
2. Excess of 16% (~100 th tons) from the 628,606 tons TAC.
3. CPUE: Within simulated ranges, MDV PL higher range.



RESOLUTION 24/07

ON A MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE FOR SKIPJACK TUNA IN THE IOTC AREA OF COMPETENCE

IOTC-2026-WPM17-14

Exceptional Circumstances

Estimation of TAC

7. The Scientific Committee shall run the MP and advise the Commission of the outcome, including a recommended TAC and any advice on exceptional circumstances in accordance with the Commission endorsed Guidelines for the Provisions of Exceptional Circumstances for IOTC MPs as documented in Appendix 6a of IOTC-2021-SC24-R.

Requests for the Scientific Committee

17. The Scientific Committee is requested to specifically consider if catches exceed the TAC, as part of the annual evaluation of exceptional circumstances.

Report of the 24th Session of the IOTC Scientific Committee

APPENDIX 6A

GUIDELINES FOR THE PROVISIONS OF EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES FOR IOTC SPECIES MPs

IOTC-2026-WPM17-13

Exceptional Circumstances

The process has three stages: 1) determine whether any exceptional circumstances exist, 2) determine the severity and impact of the exceptional circumstances on achieving the objectives of the MP, and 3) if necessary, identify the research or management actions that could be taken by the IOTC.

Stage 1: When an MP is adopted, the IOTC Scientific Committee (SC) will annually review the following items for evidence of exceptional circumstances:

1. Information on the stock, fishing operations, population dynamics parameters, or biology that is outside the range (90% probability interval from MSE projections – or % to be decided by the SC) considered during MSE of the adopted MP.
2. Input data to the MP that are missing, have changed, or outside the range (90% – or % to be decided by the SC) simulated in the MSE.
3. Implementation of the MP that is inconsistent with the MP advice (e.g. total catch is greater than the TAC recommended by the MP).

Stage 2: If there is evidence for exceptional circumstances the SC will review the potential impact and severity on implementation and performance of the MP.

Stage 3: Depending on the impact of the exceptional circumstance, the SC will provide advice on the action required, such as a collection of ancillary data to be reviewed, review of the MP and, if necessary, provide updated management advice (e.g. TAC advice). As a guide, the SC could consider the following:



IOTC-2026-WPM17-14

Exceptional Circumstances

In the 2026 review of EC:

- CATCH in 2025: 729,283 tons
- Excess of 16% (~100 th tons) from the 628,606 t TAC.
- CPUE: Within simulated ranges, MDV PL higher range.