



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
THIRTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

**Rarotonga, Cook Islands
9 – 17 August 2017**

**2016 Implementation report of the Management Plan
for Longline Fisheries Targeting Sharks**

WCPFC-SC13-2017/ EB-IP-07

JAPAN

In accordance with paragraph 2 of the Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks (CMM 2014-05), Japan developed Management Plan for Longline Fisheries Targeting Sharks (2016-2020) and submitted to the Scientific Committee 11. Japan hereby submits an implementation report of the Management Plan for its 1st year.

2016 Implementation report of the Management Plan for Longline Fisheries Targeting Sharks

1) Time period of the plan

5 years, starting in January 1st, 2016

(Time period for this implementation report; from January 1st to December 31st, 2016)

2) Fleets conducting the plan

Offshore surface longline fleets based at Kesenuma fishing port (The list of longline boats are shown in Table 1.)

Table 1. Name of the fleet

Vessel name	Vessel size	Call sign	Fresh/Frozen
Toyo-maru No.1	147	JE3104	Fresh
Yahata-maru No.11	119	JE3113	Fresh
Fukuyo-maru No.27	119	JD2675	Fresh
Fukuyo-maru No.17	148	JE3127	Fresh
Taiki-maru No.81	119	7JOB	Fresh
Shintoku-maru No.28	119	JE3103	Fresh
Kinei-maru No.37	119	7JNS	Fresh
Shinei-maru No.17	119	JE3114	Fresh
Yuki-maru No.77	119	JE3102	Fresh
Yuki-maru No.17	119	JD3108	Fresh
Shoryo-maru No.7	145	JD3068	Fresh
Koei-maru No.31	149	JD2294	Fresh
Kifuku-maru No.51	149	JM6090	Fresh

3) Operational area

Subtropical and temperate north Pacific

4) License for the pelagic longline operation

Licenses of the offshore surface longline fleet for the pelagic longline operation were issued by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.

5) Total annual landing for sharks with landing limit

- Blue shark: 4,970 tons (Landing limit is 7,000 tons.)
- Shortfin mako shark: 513 tons (Landing limit is 600 tons.)

6) Measures to conserve stocks of depleted tropical sharks

- Prohibition of the use of shark line

- Sharks landed to the port were limited to blue shark, shortfin mako shark, salmon shark and thresher sharks. All other sharks were released in a way to maximize their survival.

7) Other measures

- Shark fins were attached at the time of landing.
- Shortfin mako sharks smaller than 1m PCL were released in a way to maximize their survival, except for retaining as scientific sample for biological study.

8) Annual landing of all sharks in 2016 (January 1st – December 31, 2016)

species	Annual landing (kg)
Blue shark	4,969,896.0 kg
Shortfin mako shark	512,532.6 kg
Salmon shark	34,211.0 kg
Thresher sharks	41,513.2 kg

All sharks were landed at Kesenuma fishing port in 2016.