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NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
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Subject:	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EU) 2017/2107 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Convention area of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), Regulation (EU) 2018/975 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) Convention Area, Regulation (EU) 2019/833 laying down conservation and enforcement measures applicable in the Regulatory Area of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, Regulation (EU) 2021/56 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Convention area, Regulation (EU) 2022/2056 laying down conservation and management measures applicable in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Area, Regulation (EU) 2022/2343 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) Area of Competence, and Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean - Presidency compromise

Delegations will find herewith a Presidency compromise on the above-mentioned proposal. Additions to the Commission's text are highlighted in **bold underlined**.

2026/0111 (COD)

Proposal for a

REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

amending Regulation (EU) 2017/2107 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Convention area of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), Regulation (EU) 2018/975 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) Convention Area, Regulation (EU) 2019/833 laying down conservation and enforcement measures applicable in the Regulatory Area of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, Regulation (EU) 2021/56 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Convention area, Regulation (EU) 2022/2056 laying down conservation and management measures applicable in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Area, Regulation (EU) 2022/2343 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) Area of Competence, and Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 43(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee[(1)],

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure,

Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EU) 2017/2107[(2)] implemented management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Convention area of the International Commission for the Conservation of

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(1) OJ C [...], [...], p. [...]

(2) Regulation (EU) 2017/2107 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2017 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Convention area of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), and amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1936/2001, (EC) No 1984/2003 and

Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) that had been adopted by ICCAT up to, and including at, its annual meeting in 2015. This Regulation was subsequently amended by Regulations (EU) 2019/1154, (EU) 2023/2053 and (EU) 2024/897 of the European Parliament and of the Council in order to implement further measures adopted by ICCAT.

(2) At its 2024 and 2025 annual meetings, ICCAT adopted further measures in relation to tropical tunas as well as to blue marlin, white marlin and roundscale spearfish, Regulation (EU) 2017/2107 should therefore be amended to implement those new ICCAT measures.

(3) Regulation (EU) 2018/975[3] implemented management, conservation and control measures applicable to the Convention Area of the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) that had been adopted by SPRFMO up to, and including at, its annual meeting in 2017.

(4) The SPRFMO Commission adopted at its 2025 annual meeting further measures prohibiting subsidies to a vessel or operator of a vessel listed on SPRFMO Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Vessel list and the Regulation (EU) 2018/975 should therefore be amended to implement new SPRFMO measure.

(5) Regulation (EU) 2019/833[4] implemented into Union law the most updated rules for conservation and enforcement measures applicable in the Regulatory Area of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO). This Regulation was subsequently amended in order to implement the NAFO measures adopted at its annual meetings in 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022[5].

(6) The NAFO subsequently adopted at its 47th Annual Meeting in 2025 a number of legally binding measures as regards its observer scheme and the requirements to be met when using an electronic observation programme, as well as relevant additional procedure for serious infringements.

(7) Regulation (EU) 2019/833 should therefore be amended in order to implement these new NAFO measures.

(EC) No 520/2007, (OJ L 315, 30.11.2017, p. 1), ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2017/2107/oj

[3] Regulation (EU) 2018/975 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2018 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO) Convention Area (OJ L 179, 16.7.2018, p. 30), ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/975/oj.

[4] Regulation (EU) 2019/833 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 May 2019 laying down conservation and enforcement measures applicable in the Regulatory Area of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1627, and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2115/2005 and (EC) 1386/2007 (OJ L 141, 28.5.2019, p. 1), ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/833/oj.

[5] Regulation (EU) 2019/833 laying down conservation and enforcement measures applicable in the Regulatory Area of the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation, amending Regulation (EU) 2016/1627, and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2115/2005 and (EC) 1386/2007 (OJ L 141, 28.5.2019, p. 1), ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/833/oj.

(8) Certain provisions of the CEM are likely to be amended at future NAFO annual meetings following the introduction of new measures in relation to the technical specifications for a compliant electronic observation programme. In order to implement swiftly into Union law such future amendments to the CEM, the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the TFEU of the should be delegated to the Commission in respect of Member State duties related to derogations from to the observer programme.

(9) Regulation (EU) 2021/56[(6)] implemented into Union law conservation and management measures applicable to the Convention area of the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) that had been adopted by IATTC up to, and including at, its 2020 annual meeting.

(10) IATTC adopted at its 2021 annual meeting measures related to definitions and the transmission of information related to FADs and satellite buoy. These measures are binding on the Union and they should therefore be implemented into Union law.

(11) Regulation 2022/2056[(7)] implemented into Union law conservation and management measures applicable to Convention area of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) that had been adopted by WCPFC up to, and including at, its 2021 annual meeting.

(12) WCPFC amended at its 2024 and 2025 annual meetings measures related to chartering and protection of sensitive species, including reporting. Those measures are binding on the Union. They should therefore be implemented into Union law.

(13) Regulation (EU) 2022/2343[(8)] implemented into Union law management, conservation and control measures applicable in the area of competence of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) and that had been adopted by IOTC up to, and including at, its annual meeting in 2021.

(14) The IOTC subsequently adopted at its 29th Annual Meeting in 2025 a number of legally binding measures as regards its Regional observer scheme, its vessel monitoring system programme, its conservation measures for sharks, including shortfin and longfin mako sharks, and underage and overage of quotas of tropical tuna quotas. Regulation (EU) 2022/2343 should therefore be amended in order to implement these new IOTC measures.

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(6) Regulation (EU) 2021/56 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 January 2021 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Convention area and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 520/2007 (OJ L 24, 26.1.2021, pp. 1) ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/56/oj.

(7) Regulation (EU) 2022/2056 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 October 2022 laying down conservation and management measures applicable in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Area and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 520/2007 (OJ L 276, 26.10.2022, p. 1), ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2022/2056/oj.

(8) Regulation (EU) 2022/2343 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 November 2022 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) Area of Competence, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1936/2001, (EC) No 1984/2003 and (EC) No 520/2007.

(15) Regulation (EU) 2023/2053[9] implements into Union law measures adopted by ICCAT for the management of bluefin tuna. At its 2025 annual meeting ICCAT adopted measures in relation to the management of bluefin tuna. Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 should therefore be amended to implement those new ICCAT measures,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2017/2107

Regulation (EU) 2017/2107 is amended as follows:

(1) Article 5 is deleted;

(2) in Article 7, paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:

"3. Union fishing vessels not authorised to fish for tropical tunas pursuant to Article 6 may be allowed to retain on board, tranship, transport, process or land bycatch of tropical tunas in accordance with a maximum per trip onboard bycatch limit of 5% by species.

Member States shall report to the Commission, as part of their annual report :

(a) the maximum bycatch limit they allow for such vessels,

(b) the total amount of tropical tuna harvested as bycatch that year;

(c) information about how the Member State ensures compliance with the limit; and

(d) the maximum per trip bycatch limit the Member State will allow per stock for the coming fishing year.";

(3) Article 28 is deleted.

Article 2

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2018/975

[9] Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 September 2023 establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, amending Regulations (EC) No 1936/2001, (EU) 2017/2107, and (EU) 2019/833 and repealing Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 (OJ L 238, 27.9.2023, p. 1), ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2023/2053/oj.

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In Article 38 of Regulation (EU) 2018/975 the following paragraph 3 is added:

“3. Member States shall not grant or maintain any subsidy to vessels on the SPRFMO IUU Vessel List, or to the owner of such vessels, or to any person who is in charge of or directs or controls such vessels."

PUBLIC

Article 3

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2019/833

Regulation (EU) 2019/833 is amended as follows:

(1) in Article 3, the following point (32) is added:

"(32) “Electronic Monitoring System (EMS)” means a system on board a fishing vessel that acquires, stores and, as appropriate, transmits data from sensors and video camera footage that can be reviewed and analysed by a human reviewer, data analysis software, or edge based automation."

(2) Article 27 is amended as follows:

(a) the following paragraph (1a) is inserted between paragraph 1 and paragraph 2:

"(1a) All observers’ data, electronic reports and the data collected under the electronic observation program under this Chapter and supporting documentation shall be treated as confidential."

(b) paragraph 3, point (d) is replaced by the following:

"(d) where vessels utilize an electronic observation program compliant with the requirements established in paragraph 11a;"

(c) in paragraph 6 point (b) "discrepancies" is replaced by "potential non-compliance".

(d) in paragraph 11 point (d) "discrepancies" is replaced by "potential non-compliance".

(e) in paragraph 11 point (h): "discrepancies" is replaced by "potential non-compliance".

(f) paragraph 11a is inserted between paragraphs 11 and 12:

"11a. Each Member States making use of the derogation in, paragraph (3), point (b) shall ensure that:

(a) the EMS installation and components of each fishing vessel are approved by the competent authorities of the flag Member States and correspond to an EMS Vessel Monitoring Plan (VMP);

(b) the VMP includes the following information:

(i) the fishing vessel details and the identification of the owner;

(ii) pictures, the technical characteristics and specifications and the location on board of the EMS components, including cameras, sensors, antenna and control box;

(iii) pictures and the measurement details of sorting and discard areas;

(iv) the obligations of the master of the fishing vessel relating to:

(-) the use of designated discard areas;

(-) the maintenance and cleaning of the EMS and its components;

(-) the testing and system diagnosis of the EMS; and

(-) the fallback procedures to be followed in case of system or power failures;

(c) the EMS includes:

(i) cameras in all designated discard areas placed in such a way as to allow the identification and quantification of discarded catch, the main deck or the area where the catches are hauled on board and the processing area;

(ii) sensors providing information on the position, speed, winch or power block usage, and hold temperatures;

(d) the EMS has a minimum data storage capacity sufficient to store the EMS data until all catch onboard from the NAFO Regulatory Area has been landed;

(e) the footage and sensor data collected by the EMS follows a specified format allowing that all sensors and video footage data can be analysed using an EMS analyser software to identify and quantify the catch and discards from all fishing operations;

(f) a copy of the VMP and changes thereof are submitted to the Commission and EFCA for any vessels not carrying an observer before the beginning of a fishing trip in which the vessel will be subject to the electronic observation programme referred to in paragraph 3, point (b);

(g) the NAFO Executive Secretary is notified by flag Member State, with the Commission and EFCA in copy, at least 72 hours in advance of the period during which a vessel will be subject to the electronic observation programme referred to in Article 27, paragraph 3, point (b) ;

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(h) the EMS is turned on, recording, and fully operational as soon as the vessel enters the Regulatory Area and until the vessel offloads all of its catch from the Regulatory Area, barring use of any system failure contingency plan outlined in the VMP; and

(i) a fishing trip report based on the template of Annex II.M, using the results of the EMS data analysis is sent to EFCA with the Commission in copy within 3 months after the end of the trip without human observer on board for at least 5% of the fishing trips subject to the electronic observation programme."

(g) in paragraph 12, the following point (h) is added:

"(h) comply with the obligations and conditions established in the VMP of a vessel subject to the electronic observation program referred to in paragraph 3, point (b).";

(h) Paragraph 15 is replaced by the following:

"(15) The information that Member States are required to provide in accordance with paragraph 3 (c) and (d), paragraph 5(a), paragraph 6(c) and paragraph 7(c), paragraph 11a(g) and (j) shall be transmitted to the Commission or a body designated by it."

(3) in Article 35, paragraph 1, point (m) is replaced by the following:

"(m) committing an infringement where there is no observer on board and the vessel is not subject to electronic observation;";

(4) in Article 35, paragraph 1, the following points (s) and (t) are added:

"(s) failing to carry on board an EMS contrary to Article 27, paragraph 11a, or to tamper with the EMS;

(t) failing to comply with the obligations of the master established in the VMP in a manner that prevents the EMS on board from being fully operational."

(5) In Article 41, paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:

“3. The master of the vessel shall not commence landing or transhipment operations, or make use of other port services, before authorisation has been given by the competent port authority or prior to the expiry of the estimated time of arrival (ETA) as reported in PSC1 or PSC2. However, landing or transhipment operations and making use of other port services may commence prior to ETA with permission from the competent authorities of the port Member State.";

(6) In Article 50, paragraph 2, the following point (t) is added:

"(t) the technical specifications of an electronic observation program set out in Article 27, paragraph 11a."

Article 4

Amendment to Regulation (EU) 2021/56

Regulation (EU) 2021/56 is amended as follows:

(1) In Article 3, the following points (25) to (29) are added:

"(25) 'Satellite buoy' means a buoy clearly marked with a unique identification code that uses satellite network service to indicate its geographical position and is compliant with this Regulation.

(26) 'Activation of a satellite buoy' means the act of initializing network service for receiving the satellite buoy's position by the buoy supplier company at the request of the vessel owner or manager.

(27) 'Deactivation of a satellite buoy' means the act of cancelling network service for receiving the satellite buoy's position by the buoy supplier company at the request of the vessel owner or manager.

(28) 'Reactivation of a satellite buoy' means the act of re-initializing network service for transmission of a satellite buoy's position after deactivation by the buoy supplier company at the request of the vessel owner or manager.

(29) 'Signal loss' means the situation in which, without it being caused by the owner, operator or manager, a satellite buoy cannot be located by the owner on a monitoring device, including due to buoy being retrieved by another vessel or person (at sea or on-shore), FAD sinking and buoy failure."

(2) in Article 6, the following paragraph (3a) is inserted as follows:

"3a. The information referred to in paragraph 3 shall be reported in accordance with Annex X.";

(3) in Article 28, paragraph 1, the following point (p) is added:

"(p) the buoy data format referred to in Article 6(3a)."

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(4) the Annex X is added to Regulation (EU) 2021/56 in accordance with Annex I to this Regulation.

Article 5

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2022/2056

Regulation (EU) 2022/2056 is amended as follows:

(1) in Article 14, the following paragraphs 2 and 3 are added:

"2. For sharks that are caught by longline vessels and are not retained, fishing vessels shall release these sharks, as soon as possible, taking into consideration the safety of the crew and observer, using the following rules:(1) Leave the shark in the water, where possible; and (2) Use a line cutter to cut the branchline as close to the hook as possible.

3. Fishing vessels shall ensure that sharks that are caught and are not to be retained, are hauled alongside the vessel before being cut free in order to facilitate a species identification. This requirement shall only apply when an observer or electronic monitoring camera is present, and should only be implemented taking into consideration the safety of the crew and observer."

(2) in Article 19, the following paragraph 2a is inserted between paragraphs 2 and 3:

"2a. As from 1 January 2028, the above requirement under paragraph 1 shall also apply in the region West of 175°W between 25°S - 30°S, whereas, the requirement under paragraph 2 shall only apply in the region East of 175°W between 25°S - 30°S. **Prior to 1 January 2028, the requirement to use only one mitigation measure under paragraph 1 shall apply in the region West of 175°W between 25°S and 30°S."**

(3) in Article 20, the following paragraph 4a is added:

"4a: The measures referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, shall be reported in the logbook in accordance with Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009. The information to be reported shall include whether the status is dead or alive life upon release."

(4) in Article 27, paragraph 1 the following point (g) is added:

"(g) area of application (EEZ and/or High Seas)".

(5) in Article 38, paragraph 3 the following point (j) is added:

"(j): Information on the implementation of the finning ban in line with the template provided in Annex 2 of CMM 2025-06."

Article 6

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2022/2343

Regulation (EU) 2022/2343 is hereby amended as follows:

(1) In Article 3, paragraph (8) is replaced by the following:

"(8) 'Fish Aggregating Device' or 'FAD' means a permanent, semi-permanent or temporary object, structure or device of any material, man-made or natural, which is deployed and/or tracked, and may aggregate fish."

(2) the following paragraph (4a) is inserted between paragraphs (4) and (5):

"(4a) 'Sharks' means all species belonging to the 8 orders of *Selachimorpha* (*Carcharhiniformes, Lamniformes, Orectolobiformes, Heterodontiformes, Squaliformes, Squatiniformes, Hexanchiformes, and Pristiophoriformes*) and all species of the order of *Rhinopristiformes."*

(3) the following paragraphs (19) to (26) are added:

"

(19) 'biodegradable' means non-synthetic materials and/or bio-based alternatives for materials that are biodegradable in marine environments;

(20) 'log' means a floating object of natural source or accidentally lost from anthropic activities and that was not built and deployed for the purpose of aggregating and/or locating target tuna species for subsequent capture;

(21) 'instrumented buoy' means a buoy clearly marked with a unique reference number allowing identification of its owner and equipped with a satellite tracking system to monitor at least its position;

(22) 'buoy owner' means the owner/master/operator of a fishing vessel who is in charge of tracking an instrumented buoy and is authorised to request its activation and/or deactivation;

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(23) ‘Active buoy’ means an instrumented buoy from which the satellite communication service has been initiated and switched on, which has been deployed at sea on a DFAD or log and which is transmitting position.

(24) ‘deactivation of a buoy’ means the act of ending satellite communications service, which is done by the buoy supplier company at the request of the vessel owner or buoy owner;

(25) ‘reactivation of a buoy’ means the act of re-enabling satellite communications services by the buoy supplier company at the request of the buoy owner;

(26) ‘abandoned DFAD’ means a DFAD which was initially deployed with the intention of later retrieval but that is deliberately left at sea due to force majeure;

(27) ‘lost DFAD’ means a DFAD over which the buoy owner has lost control and that cannot be located by the buoy owner;

(28) ‘discarded DFAD’ means a DFAD that is released at sea without any attempt for further control or recovery by the buoy owner;"

(4) the following Article 5a is inserted between Article 5 and Article 6:

"Article 5a Underage or overage of skipjack, bigeye and yellowfin tuna

1. Any unused or excess portion of a Member State’s annual quota or catch limit for skipjack and bigeye tuna may be added to or shall be deducted from, as appropriate, the relevant quota or catch limit during or before the adjustment year in accordance with the IOTC Resolution in force for skipjack tuna and bigeye tuna .

2. The maximum underage of skipjack and bigeye tuna that a Member State may carry-over in any given year shall not exceed the amount permitted in that particular year by IOTC in accordance with the IOTC Resolution in force for skipjack tuna and bigeye tuna .

3. Any excess portion of a Member State’s annual quota or catch limit for yellowfin tuna shall be deducted from, as appropriate, the relevant quota or catch limit during or before the adjustment year in accordance with the IOTC Resolution in force for yellowfin tuna."

(5) in Chapter II, Section 3 is renamed "Blue Sharks and Mako Sharks".

(6) Article 7a is added:

"Article 7a Shortfin and longfin Mako sharks

1. Unionfishing vessels shall promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, shortfin mako sharks (Isurus oxyrinchus) and longfin mako sharks (Isurus paucus) when brought along side for taking on board the vessel. Member States shall require vessels flying their flag to implement, while giving due consideration to the safety of the crew, the minimum standards for safe handling and release procedures of shortfin and longfin mako sharks, as provided under Annex 13 of this Regulation, in order to promptly release unharmed, to the extent practicable, and to improve survivability of live shortfin and longfin mako sharks.

2. Any sharks retention is permissible only when the fish is dead at haulback, and the vessel has an observer or a functioning and compliant electronic monitoring system (EMS) on board to verify the condition of the sharks. In the absence of an observer or a functioning EMS, all shortfin and longfin mako sharks shall be released or discarded.

3. It is prohibited to tranship, whole or in part, shortfin or longfin mako sharks caught in association with IOTC fisheries and retained on board.

4. Union fishing vessels shall record and report all catches including dead discards and live releases of mako sharks, at species level.

5. Member States shall provide all relevant data for IOTC mako sharks in line with Article 51, paragraph 1(b).

6. Member States are encouraged to continue undertaking scientific research that provides information on key biological/ecological parameters, life-history, migrations and post-release survival of shortfin and longfin mako sharks."

(7) in Article 15, the following paragraphs 4 and 5 are added:

"4. Union fishing vessels shall fully utilise all sharks retained on board their vessels, meaning retain all parts of the shark except head, guts and skin, to the point of first landing.

5. Where possible, Member States and the Commission shall endeavour to conduct research on sharks taken in the Area, in order to:

a) identify ways to make fishing gears more selective and reduce the mortality of incidentally caught sharks, in particular oceanic whitetip sharks, thresher sharks, whale sharks;

b) improve knowledge on key biological/ecological parameters, life-history, behavioural traits, migration patterns, and post-release survival of key shark species, including oceanic whitetip sharks, thresher sharks, whale sharks and silky sharks, hammerhead sharks and mako sharks;

c) facilitate capacity building of CPCs in shark species identification to improve data reporting at species level;

d) identify key shark mating, pupping and nursery areas, including for oceanic whitetip sharks, thresher sharks, whale sharks, and silky sharks, hammerhead sharks and mako sharks; and

e) improve handling practices for live sharks to maximise post-release survival."

(8) the following Article 15a is inserted between Articles 15 and 16:

"Article 15a Bycatch mitigation measures

1. Union long-line vessels do not use branch lines running directly off the longline floats or drop lines, known as shark lines, depicted as a schematic diagram of a shark line is set out in Annex 12 of this Regulation.

2. Union fishing vessels shall:

a) promptly release, to the extent practicable, oceanic whitetip sharks, thresher sharks, whale sharks if recognised before bringing them on board the vessel or when brought alongside to ensure safe identification;

b) release, in fisheries in which sharks are unwanted species, sharks (in particular juveniles and pregnant sharks) alive that are caught incidentally and are not used on board for food and/or subsistence

3. Flag Member State shall ensure that their flag recreational and sport fishing vessels:

a) release alive all caught oceanic whitetip sharks, thresher sharks and whale sharks; and

b) are equipped, if they are carrying out fishing with high probability of catching oceanic whitetip sharks, thresher sharks, whale sharks, with instruments suitable to release the animals alive.

4. Union fishing vessels shall release the shark as soon as practically possible, taking into consideration the safety of the crew and observer, in accordance with the Minimum Standards for Safe Handling And Live Release Procedures set out in Annex 13 of this Regulation."

(9) in Article 31, paragraph (2) is replaced by the following:

"2. The observer shall, within 30 days of completion of each trip, provide a report to the flag Member State. The report shall be provided by area of 1° latitude by 1° longitude. Member States shall send each report and observer data to the Commission, or to a body designated by it, for the previous year no later than 15 June of the following year. For the observer placed on the longline fleet, Member States shall ensure that the provisional data are provided by 15 June, and the final data are provided no later than 10 December, to the Commission or to a body designated by it."

(10) in Article 34, the following paragraph 3 is added:

"3.When the vessel in the e-RAV first appears inside the EEZ of another CPC on a given trip and is not transiting and not authorised to fish in that CPC's EEZ, and is encouraged to provide ongoing vessel position reports while the vessel remains inside the EEZ, except for port entry in accordance with Chapter VI on Port State Measures, Member States shall ensure the following information is transmitted to the competent authority of other CPC:

(a) the vessel identification;

(b) the geographical position of the vessel (longitude, latitude) with a position error which shall be less than 500 metres, at a confidence level of 99%; and

(c) the date and time (expressed in UTC) of the fixing of the said position of the vessel."

(11) in Article 19, the following paragraphs 1a and 1b are inserted between paragraphs 1 and 2:

"1a. Union fishing vessels shall not retain on board, transship, land and store any part or whole carcass of whale sharks.

1b. By way of derogation from paragraph 1a, scientific observers shall be allowed to collect biological samples from whale sharks taken in the Area that are dead at haul back, provided that the samples are a part of a research project approved by the IOTC Scientific Committee or the IOTC Working Party on Ecosystems and Bycatch."

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(12) in Article 51, paragraph 1 the following point (g)is added:

"(g) all relevant data for IOTC mako sharks, including estimates of dead discards and live releases using the methods approved by the IOTC Scientific Committee."

(13) in Article 54, paragraph 1 point (i) is replaced by the following:

"(i)Annexes 1 to 13;"

(14) the Annexes are amended in accordance with Annex II of this Regulation.

Article 7

Amendments to Regulation (EU) 2023/2053

Regulation (EU) 2023/2053 is amended as follows:

(1) in Article 15, paragraph 2 is replaced by the following:

"2. In the annual farming management plan, each Member State shall ensure that the total input capacity is commensurate with the estimated amount of bluefin tuna available for farming."

(2) in Article 28a, paragraph 1, point (d) is replaced by the following:

"(d) the input capacity allocated to each farm;"

(3) in Article 56a, paragraph 6 is replaced by the following:

"6. When the destination of the bluefin tuna is a processing vessel, the master of the processing vessel or its representative, shall complete a processing declaration. When the harvested bluefin tuna is to be landed directly into port, the operator of the farm or trap shall complete a harvesting declaration. The processing and harvesting declarations shall be verified and, where appropriate, signed by the national observer or ICCAT regional observer present at the harvesting operation."

Article 8

Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the European Parliament
The President
[...]

For the Council
The President
[...]

PUBLIC

Annex I

PUBLIC

1. Annex X is added

'Annex X

(a) A. Daily information on buoy location

The following data fields should be included for all the buoys and positions recorded daily, in fishing company-specific csv files:

a) date [dd-mm-yyyy],

b) time [hh.mm],

c) unique buoy identifier code [the format varies for each buoy manufacturer but is always an alphanumeric code],

d).IMO of the vessel associated to the buoy and receiving the information,

e) latitude [expressed as decimal degrees],

f) longitude [expressed as decimal degrees],

g) speed [knots]

h) echosounder [on/off]

Additionally, whenever possible, the following information corresponding to each transmission will be included:

i) water temperature,

j) buoy in the water (only for those buoys with sensors that allow identifying buoys in the water),

k) Activation and deactivation dates,

l) Status or transmission mode of the buoy (e.g. immediate information, retrieving, etc.)

Data should be received in csv files named “X-YYYY-MM-ZZZZZZZ.csv” where X is the code of the buoy manufacturer, YYYY is the year, MM the month, and ZZZZZZZ the name of the fishing company. A single csv file shall be prepared for company, year and month.

B. Information on acoustic records

The following data fields must be included for all the buoys and acoustic records recorded daily, in fishing company-specific csv files:

-ZUNIBAL: company, unique buoy identifier code, date (date, time), type (position or sounder), latitude, longitude, speed, drift, total.

-SATLINK: company, unique buoy identifier code, Message Descriptor (MD), date (date,time), latitude, longitude, battery charge (bat), temp, speed, drift, layer1, layer2, layer3, layer4, layer5, layer6, layer7, layer8, layer9, layer10, sum, max, mag1, mag2, mag3, mag4, mag5, mag6, mag7, mag8.

-MARINE INSTRUMENTS: company, unique buoy identifier code, Transmission Date, Transmission Hour, lat, lon, mode, light, poll, temperature, vcc, Sounder Date, gain, layers, layerbits, maxdepth, sd1, sd2, sd3, sd4, sd5, sd6, sd7, sd8, sd9, sd10, sd11, sd12, sd13, sd14, sd15, sd16, sd17, sd18, sd19, sd20, sd21, sd22, sd23, sd24, sd25, sd26, sd27, sd28, sd29, sd30, sd31, sd32, sd33, sd34, sd35, sd36, sd37, sd37, sd39, sd40, sd41, sd42, sd43, sd44, sd45, sd46, sd47, sd48, sd49, sd50.

Data should be received in csv files named “X-YYYY-MM-ZZZZZZZ-Sounder.csv” where X is the code of the buoy manufacturer (M, S, Z, for Marine Instruments, Satlink, and Zunibal, respectively), YYYY is the year, MM the month, and ZZZZZZZ the name of the fishing company. A single csv file shall be prepared for company, year and month'.

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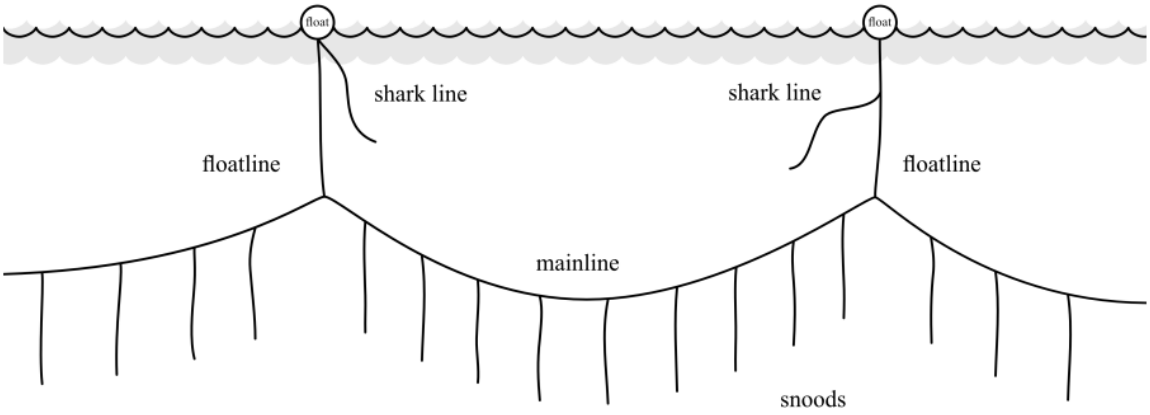
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2. Annexes 12 and 13 are added to Regulation (EU) 2022/2343 as follows:

"ANNEX 12

Schematic diagram of a shark line

LONGLINE



ANNEX 13

Minimum standards for safe handling and live release procedures

To maximise the efficacy and utility of adopted Best Handling and Release Practices (BHRPs), Member States shall have crew are educated and trained by qualified staff on these practices regularly. Illustrated best handling and release practices shall be available on the vessels.

Safety first: These minimum standards shall be considered in light of safety and practicability for crew. Crew safety shallalways come first. At a minimum, crew shall wear suitable gloves and avoid working around the mouths of sharks.

Be prepared: Tools shall be prepared in advance (e.g. canvas or net slings, stretchers for carrying or lifting, large mesh net or grid to cover hatches/hoppers in purse seine fisheries, long handled cutters and dehookers in longline fisheries, etc., listed at the end of this document).

General recommendations for all fisheries:

• if operationally safe to do so, stop the vessel or substantially reduce its speed.

• when entangled (in netting, fishing line, etc.), if safe to do so, carefully cut the net/line free from the animal and release to the sea as quickly as possible with no entanglements attached.

• where feasible, and while keeping the shark in the water, try to measure the length of the shark.

• to prevent bites, place an object, such as a fish or big stick / wooden pole, in the jaw.

• if, for whatever reason, a shark must be brought on the deck, then minimise the time it takes to return it to the water to increase survival and reduce risks to the crew.

• bring the shark as close to the vessel as possible without putting too much tension on the branch line to avoid that a released hook or branch line break could shoot hook, weights and other parts toward the vessels and crew at high speed.

• secure the far side of the longline mainline to the boat to avoid that any remaining gear in the water pulls on the line and the animal.

• if hooked, and the hook is visible in the body or mouth, use a dehooking device or long-handled bolt cutter to remove the hook barb, and then remove the hook.

• if it is not possible to remove the hook or the hook cannot be seen, cut the line of the trace (or snood, leader) as close to the hook as possible (ideally leaving as little line and/or leader material as possible and no weights attached to the animal).

• if in purse seine net: Scan the net as far ahead as possible to spot the sharks early to react quickly. Avoid lifting them up in the net towards the power block. Reduce vessel speed to slacken the tension of the net and allow the entangled animal to be removed from the net. If necessary, use clippers to cut the net.

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• if in brail or on deck: Use a purpose-built large-mesh cargo net or canvas sling or similar device. If the vessel layout allows, these sharks could also be released by emptying the brail directly on a hopper and release ramp held up at an angle that connects to an opening on the top deck railing, without need to be lifted or handled by the crew.

Do not (all fisheries):

• to the greatest extent practicable, lift sharks from the water using the branch line, especially if hooked unless it is necessary to lift sharks for species identification.

• lift sharks using thin wires or cables, or by the tail alone.

• strike a shark against any surface to remove the animal from the line.

• attempt to dislodge a hook that is deeply ingested and not visible.

• try to remove a hook by pulling sharply on the branch line.

• cut the tail or any other body part.

• cut or punch holes through the shark.

• gaff or kick a shark, or insert hands into the gill slits.

• expose the shark to the sun for extended periods.

• wrap your fingers, hands or arms in the line when bringing a shark or ray to the boat (may result in serious injury).

Useful tools for safe handling and release:

• gloves (shark skin is rough; ensures safe handling of shark and protects crew's hands from bites)

• towel or cloth (a towel or cloth soaked in seawater can be placed on the eyes of the shark; used to calm sharks down)

• dehooking devices (e.g., pig tail dehooker, bolt or plier cutters)

• shark harness or stretcher (if needed)

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• tail rope (to secure a hooked shark if it needs to be removed from the water)

• saltwater hose (If anticipated that it may require more than 5 minutes to release a shark, then place a hose into its mouth so seawater is moderately flowing into it. Make sure deck pump has been running several minutes before placing it in a sharks mouth)

• measuring device (e.g., mark a pole, leader and float, or a measuring tape)

• data sheet for recording all catch.

• tagging gear (if applicable)."

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