

WHO FISHES IN THE WCPFC AREA



PACIFIC POSTCARD:
Pacific tuna for Pacific profit: A key challenge for Pacific member nations of the WCPFC is ensuring sustainable fishing practices are able to meet the demands of those seeking to grow industries from fishing for tuna, whether it be from a family-owned venture providing catches for local hotels and restaurants (left) or a major fishing fleet fishing tonnes of tuna from the convention area to the world market.



Fishing in the WCPO: Keeping Tabs

TUNA FOR FOOD AND PROFIT: NO RIGHTS WITHOUT RESPONSIBILITIES

Rights vs. Responsibilities: If there is one key challenge facing the WCPFC, it is enjoying the right to fish from a national, regional and global resource and also protecting the rights of future generations to fish the same resources by monitoring and ensuring compliance with the rules of fishing in the WCPFC area.

Members only: Harvesting the living resources from the Western and Central Pacific Ocean is the right of any member of the Commission; abiding by its rules and regulations.

Rights of domestic fishers: For Pacific members of the WCPFC, the area is also home. 'Domestic' fishers have the right to

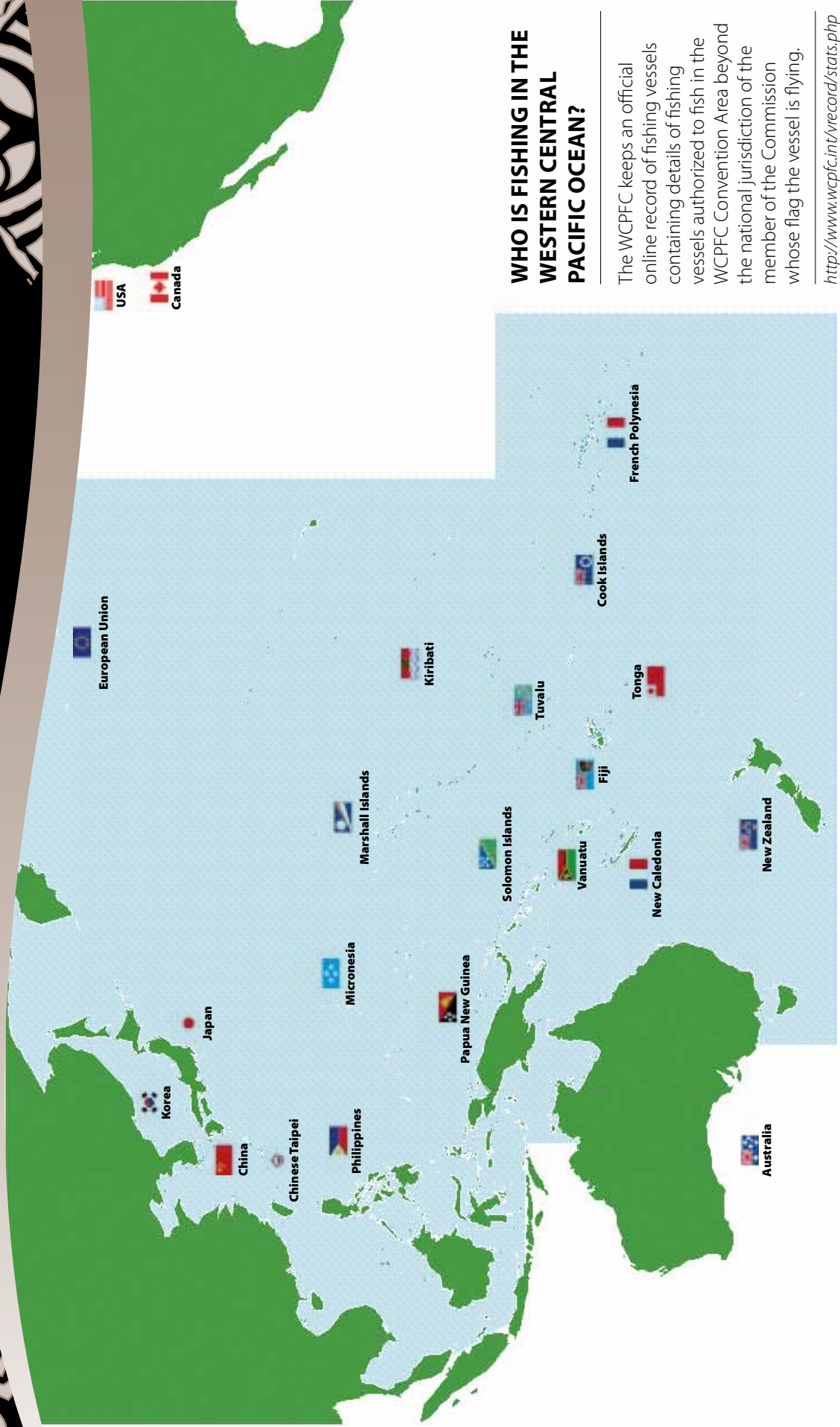
special exemptions to the fishing limits imposed under the VDS to develop their own national industries within their own EEZs, while respecting their obligations as member nations of the WCPFC and the Conservation and Management measures.

No free-for-all: Scientists use data including reports of catch sizes of different species and fish to help them recommend fishing limits for the WCPFC members to endorse and manage. The total allowable catches begin with the projected total catch that may be harvested in any time period, and divides that up amongst members of the Commission so that each one has its own TAC limit.

To help with the record of fishing vessels, all members must keep up to date records of fishing vessels registered under their flag, and authorized to fish in the WCPO area. The information provided below forms part of a WCPFC online register:

- (a) name of the fishing vessel, registration number, WCPFC Identification Number (WIN), previous names (if known) and port of registry;
- (b) name and address of the owner or owners;
- (c) name and nationality of the master;
- (d) previous flag (if any);
- (e) International Radio Call sign
- (f) vessel communication types and numbers
- (g) colour photograph of the vessel;
- (h) where and when the vessel was built;
- (i) type of vessel;
- (j) normal crew complement;
- (k) type of fishing method or methods;
- (l) length;
- (m) moulded depth;
- (n) beam;
- (o) gross registered tonnage;
- (p) power of main engine or engines;
- (q) carrying capacity, including freezer type, capacity and number, and fish hold capacity;
- (r) and the form and number of the authorization granted by the flag State including any specific areas, species and time periods for which it is valid.

WHO IS FISHING IN THE WESTERN CENTRAL PACIFIC OCEAN?



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The WCPFC keeps an official online record of fishing vessels containing details of fishing vessels authorized to fish in the WCPFC Convention Area beyond the national jurisdiction of the member of the Commission whose flag the vessel is flying.

<http://www.wcpfc.int/vrecord/stats.php>