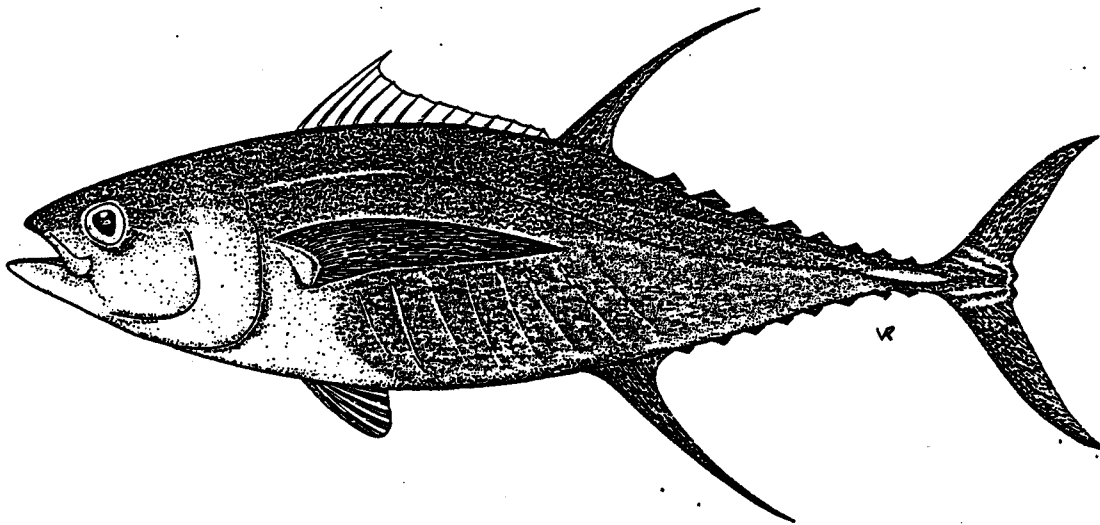


THIRD STANDING COMMITTEE ON TUNA AND BILLFISH

6-8 June 1990
Noumea, New Caledonia

WORKING PAPER 13

**STOCK STATUS OF BIGEYE IN THE WESTERN TROPICAL PACIFIC AND
DATA REQUIREMENTS FOR STOCK ASSESSMENT**



Tuna and Billfish Assessment Programme
South Pacific Commission
Noumea, New Caledonia

June 1990

TABLE 1 Estimates of total bigeye tuna catches (mt x 10³) for the Western Tropical Pacific (all longline).

Year	Catch (mt)
1965	2,100
1966	24,000
1967	22,100
1968	17,800
1969	18,700
1970	18,000
1971	19,700
1972	30,700
1973	26,200
1974	37,037
1975	39,119
1976	36,387
1977	36,010
1978	28,512
1979	31,221
1980	34,801
1981	27,086
1982	27,575
1983	22,032
1984	18,783
1985	23,652
1986	25,181
1987	30,710
1988	15,276

FIGURE 2 Japanese longline bigeye CPUE from the area 10°N-10°S, 130°E-180°. Source: 1962-1980 Japan Fishery Agency annual statistics; 1981-1989 Regional Tuna Fisheries Database.

