40 Years of Fishery Management in the Western Pacific Pelagic, International & Pacific Remote Islands Area Fisheries

1976 to 1977
- President Carter accepted the Johnston Island National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in 1976.
- President Ronald Reagan declared the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), which replaced the term Fishery Conservation Zone.
- The North Pacific Fisheries Management Council established a 10-year moratorium on drift gillnet fishing.

1977 to 1990
- 1977: The Pacific Fishery Management Plan (PFMP) implemented a closed harvest drift gillnet fishery, as an experiment to test and establish fishing effort levels, and to avoid overfishing. The experiment was halted in 1988, having achieved its objectives.
- 1990: The Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) established the Pacific Remote Islands (PRI) Management Area (PMA), which encompasses the islands and surrounding submerged lands and waters to the 3 nautical mile (nm) boundary.

1991 to 1993
- 1991: The U.S. Marine Fisheries have high value large-scale drift gillnet fisheries, four years after the Council's decision.
  - Council decisions, including open access limits to respond to the North Pacific Fisheries Council's request.
  - President George W. Bush declared the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument.

1994 to 2000
- 1994: The Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) added new species to the list of managed species under the PFMP, including the Magnificent RFMO, Southern Pacific RFMO (SPRFMO), and South Pacific RFMO (SPRFMO).
- 1995: The South Pacific RFMO was created.
- 1996: The South Pacific RFMO was created.
- 1997: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) was established.

2000 to 2008
- 2000: The Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) added new species to the list of managed species under the PFMP, including the Western and Central Pacific RFMO.
- 2001: The Western and Central Pacific RFMO (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
- 2002: The WCPFC established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
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2009 to 2013
- 2009: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
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2014 to 2016
- 2014: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
- 2015: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
- 2016: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

2017 to Present
- 2018: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
- 2019: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
- 2020: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
- 2021: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
- 2022: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).
- 2023: The Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) established the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

Background Photo Credit: Hawaiian Fresh Seafood