

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE TWENTIETH REGULAR SESSION

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# ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

WCPFC-SC20-AR/CCM-08

FRENCH POLYNESIA



### **WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC COMMISSION**

## ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH, AND STATISTICS

### **FRENCH POLYNESIA**

Scientific data was provided to the Commission in accordance with the decision	ATEG
relating to the provision of scientific data to the	YES
Commission by the 29 April 2024.	

#### 1. Abstract

French Polynesia professional tuna fleet in 2023 comprised 78 tuna longliners (ranging from 13 m to 24 m) operating only within French Polynesia Economic Zone and 356 small boats (5m to 11 m) using artisanal gears (pole and line, handlines, trolling...) and operating inside the territorial waters.

The overall nominal catches for the professional tuna fisheries in 2023 is estimated around 11 076 metric tons, albacore accounting for 49%, yellowfin tuna for 21 %, and big eye tuna for 11 % and skipjack for 5 %.

Effort and total catch trends of the longline fleet show a slow increase since 2018 after a steady decrease since 2005. The artisanal near shore fishery show a slow and steady decrease since 2015 partly driven by the strengthening of the training of fishermen.

Since 2006, all sharks except make are fully protected inside the entire French Polynesia Economic Zone. In December 2012, the make was also protected making French Polynesia EEZ the biggest sanctuary for sharks.

#### 2. Annual Fisheries Information

Tuna fishery is a major component of the development of French Polynesia economy, either for economical and social aspects. Its professional tuna fishery is divided into two components: a small-scale coastal fishery and an offshore long line fishery. There is no longer fishing agreement inside the EEZ for foreign fleet since December 2000.

The **professional small scale near shore fishery** comprises two types of boat: the *poti marara*, (literally 'flying-fish boats') which are small boats, 6-8 m in length, made from wood or FRP and suitable for many different fishing techniques (trolling, vertical longlining or harpooning) and the *bonitiers* ('skipjack boats'), which are 10-to-12 m long boats made from wood or FRP, targeting skipjack using mainly pole-and-line. This fleet operates inside the territorial waters mostly.

The **longliners fleet** comprises only tuna longliners using drifting longline. Only three boats have freezer capacity. This fleet operates exclusively inside the French Polynesia EEZ

#### 2.1. Annual catch and effort estimates

Table 1 – Annual catch estimates for the longline fleet in the convention area

Species 2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
Species		Retained	Discard	Retained	Discard	Retained	Discard	Retained	Discard
Albacore Catch	3393	2780	32	2662	27	4133	52	5159	62
Bigeye Catch	936	855	19	1020	25	1356	32	1192	40
Pacific Bluefin Catch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0,2
Skipjack Catch	14	14	39	13	66	17	51	16	104
Yellowfin Catch	1310	1080	55	2219	131	1310	63	1424	56
Black Marlin Catch	11	18	0	18	2	8	1	8	1
Blue Marlin Catch	274	240	9	173	3	177	2	200	2
Striped Marlin Catch	88	97	2	128	1	68	1	133	0
Swordfish Catch	168	162	17	172	2	146	8	126	5
Total	6194	5246	173	6405	257	7218	210	8260	270

Table 2 - Annual catch estimates for the small-scale nearshore fleet (Bonitier and Poti marara) in the convention area

Species	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Skipjack	397	350	391	466	487
Yellowfin tuna	844	900	887	826	863
Dolphin fish	215	217	160	327	342
Billfish	275	291	232	249	260
Wahoo	93	77	55	74	77
Albacore tuna	285	175	275	221	231
Other	184	157	169	146	151
Total	2 293	2 167	2 169	2 309	2 411

Table 3 – Annual fishing effort by fleet

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Small scale near shore fleet (fishing days)	37 336	36 651	35 100	35 709	37 388
Longline fleet (million of hooks)	17.6	17.9	19.5	21.3	21

#### 2.2. Fleet structure

Table 4 – Number of vessels by size for the longline fleet

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
00-50 GRT	37	36	37	38	38
51-200 GRT	32	36	36	42	40
201-500 GRT	0	0	0	0	0
500+ GRT	0	0	0	0	0
Total Vessels	69	72	73	80	78

Table 5 – Number of vessels by size for the small-scale near shore fleet

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
00-50 GRT	373	354	363	358	356
51-200 GRT	0	0	0	0	0
201-500 GRT	0	0	0	0	0
500+ GRT	0	0	0	0	0
Total Vessels	373	354	363	358	356

#### 2.3. Fishing pattern

More than three fourth of the nearshore fishery is based in the Society archipelago. Although the individual fishing effort shows some vicissitude the global fishing effort is relatively stable within the year and no clear seasonal trends can be highlighted.

The longliners fleet, most entirely based in Tahiti, usually exploit 40 % of the EEZ but the core fishing ground remains historically in the north part of the EEZ  $(10^{\circ}-20^{\circ} \text{ S}/140^{\circ}-150^{\circ}\text{W})$ .

#### 2.4. Accidental catches and discards

Recorded interactions with species of special interest are summarized in table 6. Interactions with mammals mostly relate to depredation.

Table 6 -Observed catches of species of special interest by the longline fleet

Year	Category	Species	Number	No. Alive	No. Dead
	DIDDC	BIRD (UNIDENTIFIED)	38	1	37
BIRDS		PETRELS AND SHEARWATERS NEI	19	0	19
2023	MARINE REPTILES	MARINE TURTLES NEI	1	0	1
	IVIANINE REPTILES	LEATHERBACK TURTLE	1	1	0
		GULLS - TERNS AND SKUAS	1	0	1
2022	BIRDS	BIRD (UNIDENTIFIED)	7	0	7
		PETRELS AND SHEARWATERS NEI	4	0	4
		BIRD (UNIDENTIFIED)	16	0	16
2021	BIRDS	BOOBIES AND GANNETS NEI	2	0	2
		PETRELS AND SHEARWATERS NEI	11	1	10
		BIRD (UNIDENTIFIED)	1	0	1
		BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS	2	0	2
2020	BIRDS	LAYSAN ALBATROSS	3	0	3
		PETRELS AND SHEARWATERS NEI	21	1	20
	MARINE REPTILES	LOGGERHEAD TURTLE	2	2	0
		BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS	3	0	3
	BIRDS	GULLS - TERNS AND SKUAS	1	0	1
2019		PETRELS AND SHEARWATERS NEI	5	0	5
	MARINE MAMMALS	FALSE KILLER WHALE	1	1	0
	MARINE REPTILES	LOGGERHEAD TURTLE	1	1	0

Discards by the longline fleet are estimated around 3% of the nominal catch. The breakdown for the main key species is reported in table 7 (sharks not included). There is no discard for the coastal fleet.

Table 7 - Catch estimates of discards of target species by the longline fleet in 2023

Species Group	Species Name	Discard (MT)
	ALBACORE	62
	BIGEYE	40
Tuna	PACIFIC BLUEFIN	0.2
	SKIPJACK	104
	YELLOWFIN	56
	BLACK MARLIN	1
Billfish	BLUE MARLIN	2
DIIIIISII	STRIPED MARLIN	0
	SWORDFISH	5
Total		270

All sharks are prohibited to fishing and fining is also prohibited. The caches of sharks represent 3% of the nominal catch. On the overall, 81 % of the sharks caught were alive when released.

Table 8 –Catch estimates of sharks and proportion of sharks caught alive when released by the longline fleet in 2023

Species Name	Number	Weight (MT)	Proportion alive
BLUE SHARK	4 234	88	95%
SILKY SHARK	892	29	74%
GREAT HAMMERHEAD	5	0	-
MAKO SHARK	312	13	64%
OCEANIC WHITE-TIP SHARK	2 802	144	79%
PORBEAGLE SHARK	0	0	-
WHALE SHARK	0	0	-
THRESHER SHARK	139	9	91%
Total	8 384	283	81%

Note: Number and weight estimation use observer and logsheet data, proportion alive use observer data. All sharks are released.

#### 3. Research and statistics

#### 3.1. Statistical data collection system

The data collection system for the longline fishery comprises six components.

#### Fishing license

Fishing license for the domestic vessels is delivered for the life of the boat, presuming it does not change property and clears its annual visit for security. Any change of property or main modification on the vessel is subject to a re-licensing procedure. Currently, French Polynesia has not limited the number of domestic vessels authorised to operate in its EEZ.

Fishing permit for foreign vessels is delivered on an annual basis; no permit has been authorised since the end of the fishing agreement on December 2000.

#### Boat activity

Every week day, the Fisheries office census the activity of the fleet at the fishing port. The main purpose is to monitor (in real time) the gross activity of the fleet. These data are also used as the main input for estimating the production of the vessels which do not report their catches correctly. Since 2013, this census is combined with the analyses of the VMS data.

#### ■ Logbook

Licensed operators are required to record and submit daily records of fishing activities at an operational level to the Fisheries Office. Coverage rate is 100 %.

#### Unloadings

All the licensed long line boats have the obligation to unload their catches within the fishing port of Papeete. The port manager monitor the amount of fish unloaded in order to collect unloading fees. Coverage rate for the overall landings is 100 % of the commercial catches.

#### Observer programme

The French Polynesia's Observer Program began in September 2002 with EU funding by the PROCFISH project (2002-2007) and then by the SCIFISH project. In 2023, the staff was made of six observers, two port samplers and one coordinator. Observers trips were conducted only on board of domestic longliners. The coverage for 2023 is 6.3 % of the days at sea. Protocols and forms are those used by SPC. Data are processed by SPC.

Table 9 – Observers trips in French Polynesia since 2005.

Year	No observers	No trips	No days at sea	No sets	No hooks	% coverage
2005	3	18	422	255	635 114	2.9 %
2006	6	20	487	312	723 149	5.9 %
2007	2	17	217	138	305 977	1.8%
2008	4	17	300	206	510 115	2.5 %
2009	6	51	800	488	1 130 574	6.5%
2010	5	44	768	453	894 426	6.5%
2011	6	33	531	355	1 130 880	6.2 %
2012	6	34	521	282	825 810	4.1 %
2013	6	38	697	346	886 303	4.4%
2014	6	42	717	432	850 452	4.5 %
2015	6	40	556	321	607 455	3.6%
2016	4	25	477	323	555 952	3.4%
2017	10	43	751	467	773 427	5.3%
2018	7	25	430	270	448 780	2.8%
2019	8	45	757	479	726 934	4.9%
2020	7	48	933	591	795 583	6.3%
2021	7	57	1 056	658	874 318	6.6%
2022	8	62	1182	771	1 056 319	6.8%
2023	6	56	1072	676	876 083	6.3%

#### Port sampling

There has been regular but low coverage sampling in Papeete for several years and very limited in recent year due to logistical difficulties. However, these difficulties were partly overcome by the completion of a centralised unloading facility in Papeete and since 2005 a team of two port samplers carried out port-sampling operations.

Table 10 – Port sampling operations since 2005

Year	No unloadings	No unloadings sampled	Sampling coverage
2005	892	232	26%
2006	876	210	24%
2007	926	335	36%
2008	858	439	51%
2009	883	477	54%
2010	841	407	48%
2011	883	446	51%
2012	938	386	41%
2013	972	346	36%
2014	941	433	46%
2015	1014	410	40%
2016	965	416	43%
2017	969	174	18%
2018	1 005	92	9%
2019	1 080	266	25%
2020	999	200	20%
2021	1 068	232	22%
2022	1 122	245	22%
2023	1 161	118	10%

### Coastal fishery

Data collection for the coastal fisheries is more difficult to handle since the vessels are scattered all around the numerous islands of French Polynesia. The monitoring process rely on two components: a licensing procedure and logsheets. Coverage rate for the logsheets is 100 %.

#### 3.2. Research

The observers regularly collect biological samples of the four main tunas (muscle, liver, stomach, gonads and otoliths) and swordfish (otoliths) which are sent to the Oceanic Fisheries Program of the SPC.



#### ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORT PART 1

8 April 2024<sup>[1]</sup>

## <u>SECTION A:</u> SPECIFIC INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED IN ANNUAL REPORT PART 1 AS REQUIRED BY CMMS AND OTHER DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

	CCMs shall report to the Commission the total number of vessels that fished for swordfish and the total catch of swordfish for the following:  a. vessels flying their flag anywhere in the Convention Area south of 20°S other than vessels operating	In 2023, 54 vessels caught 14 MT as bycatch in south of 20°S and no vessels targeted swordfish.
	under charter, lease or other similar mechanism as part of the domestic fishery of another CCM;	There are no vessels operating under charter in FP.
	b. vessels operating under charter, lease or other similar mechanism as part of their domestic fishery south of 20°S; and	No other vessels fishing within
CMM 2009-03 [Swordfish],	c. any other vessels fishing within their waters south of 20°S.  This information shall be provided in Part 1of each CCM's annual report. Initially, this information will be	FP waters south of 20° S.
Para 8	provided in the template provided at Annex 2 for the period 2000-2009 and then updated annually.	
	*Note: WCPFC11 confirmed a common understanding that "total catch" in this reporting requirement refers to both targeted and bycatch catches of swordfish.	
	AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that the CCM submitted the required information contained in the template in Annex 2 of CMM in its AR Pt 1.	

	vessels south of Year 20S Chartered vessels*			Other vessels fishing within the CCM's waters south of 20S						
		Catch (tonnes)	Vessel numbers	Catch (tonnes)	Vessel numbers	Flag	Catch (tonnes)	Vessel numbers		
	2021	43		-	-	_	-	-	1	
	2022	13	42	-	_	_	-	-		
	2023	14	54	-	-	-	-	-		
	coverage f	or their lor		activity in t	•				onwards, observer isions can be	In 2023, the longline observer coverage was 6.3 % based on number of observer
Observer coverage (WCPFC 11 decision – para 484(b)		Summary	Report Atta	of Hooks Observe 96	Day: Fished Total Observe 6	Days	at Sea Observe % To	No. of Trips tal Observe %	See NOTE:	sea days. The French Polynesia observer program operates only in EEZ-FP.  Days at sea Total estimated Observer 4 17075 1072 6,3

CCMs shall report on all transhipment activities covered by this Measure (including No transhipment is allowed, and no transshipment occurred in 2023 transhipment activities that occur in ports or EEZs) as part of their Annual Report in accordance for the French Polynesia national with the guidelines at Annex II. In doing so, CCMs shall take all reasonable steps to validate and where possible, correct information received from vessels undertaking transhipment using all available information such as catch and effort data, position data, observer reports and port monitoring data. WCPFC15 Outcome document para 48: The Commission agreed to the TCC14 recommendation that the template provided in TCC14-2018-RP03 Annex 3 be used by all applicable CCMs for their future reporting in Annual Report Part 1, as per CMM 2009-06 paragraph 11 (Attachment O of WCPFC15). Annex 3 of RP03: Transhipment information to be provided annually by CCMs as required by CMM 2009-06 paragraph 11 in accordance with the guidelines in Annex II of the measure. Each CCM shall include in Part 1 of its Annual Report to the Commission: (1) the total quantities, by weight, of highly migratory fish stocks covered by this measure that were transhipped by fishing vessels the CCM is responsible for reporting against, with those quantities broken down by: a) offloaded b) transhipped in c) transhipped inside d) caught inside e) Species f) Product g) Fishing and received: port, transhipped at the Convention Area the Convention Form gear sea in areas of and transshipped Area and caught national jurisdiction, outside the outside the and transhipped Convention Area; Convention beyond areas of Area; national jurisdiction offloaded received CMM 2009-06 [Transshipment], Para 11 (ANNEX II) (2) the **number of transhipments** involving highly migratory fish stocks covered by this measure by fishing vessels that is responsible for reporting against, broken down by: a) offloaded and b) transhipped in port, c) transhipped inside the d) caught inside the e) fishing gear received transhipped at sea in areas of **Convention Area and Convention Area and** national jurisdiction, and transhipped outside the caught outside the transhipped beyond areas of **Convention Area Convention Area** national jurisdiction

offloaded		
received		

AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms receipt by the CCM in AR Pt 1 of the required information in the prescribed format contained at Annex II of CMM 2009-06, and confirms that the report includes the required information for all CCM transhipment events in the Convention Area of all HMFS covered by the Convention, as well as HMFS taken in the Convention Area and transhipped outside the Convention Area, in accordance with paras 10, 11, and 12 of CMM 2009-06.

#### CMM 2009-06 ANNEX II TRANSHIPMENT INFORMATION TO BE REPORTED ANNUALLY BY CCMs

Each CCM shall include in Part 1 of its Annual Report to the Commission:

- (1) the total quantities, by weight, of highly migratory fish stocks covered by this measure that were transhipped by fishing vessels the CCM is responsible for reporting against, with those quantities broken down by:
  - a. offloaded and received:
  - b. transhipped in port, transhipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction;
  - c. transhipped inside the Convention Area and transhipped outside the Convention Area;
  - d. caught inside the Convention Area and caught outside the Convention Area;
  - e. species;
  - f. product form; and
  - g. fishing gear used
- CMM 2009-06 [Transshipment], Para 11 (ANNEX II)
- (2) the number of transhipments involving highly migratory fish stocks covered by this measure by fishing vessels that is responsible for reporting against, broken down by:
  - a. offloaded and received;

	<ul> <li>b. transhipped in port, transhipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction;</li> <li>c. transhipped inside the Convention Area and transhipped outside the Convention Area;</li> <li>d. caught inside the Convention Area and caught outside the Convention Area; and</li> <li>e. fishing gear.</li> </ul>	
CMM 2011-03 [Impact of PS fishing on	CCMs shall include in their Part 1 Annual Report any instances in which cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels, reported under paragraph 2(b).	French Polynesia does not operate any purse seine vessels as part of the national fleet.
cetaceans], Para 5	AUDIT POINT [RP] Secretariat confirms that CCM submitted a report on instances in which cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets of flagged vessels and as reported in ARPt1 under para 2(b) of CMM.	

CMM 2018-03 [Seabirds] Para 13	CCMs shall annually provide to the Commission, in Part 1 of their annual reports, all available information on interactions with seabirds reported or collected by observers to enable the estimation of seabird mortality in all fisheries to which the Convention applies. (see below for Part 1 reporting template guideline). These reports shall include information on:  1. the proportion of observed effort with specific mitigation measures used; and 2. observed and reported species specific seabird bycatch rates and numbers or statistically rigorous estimates of species- specific seabird interaction rates (for longline, interactions per 1,000 hooks) and total numbers.	All the information is detailed in the tables below.
	AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that CCM submitted a report using the reporting template in Annex 2 of CMM 2018-03 on seabird interactions reported or collected by observers.	

#### CMM 2018-03: [Seabirds] Annex 2. Guidelines for reporting templates for Part 1 report

The following tables should be included in the annual Part 1 country reports, summarising the most recent five years.

Table x: Effort, observed and estimated seabird captures by fishing year for [CCM] [South of 30 $^{\circ}$ S; 25 $^{\circ}$ S-30 $^{\circ}$ S; North of 23 $^{\circ}$ N; or 23 $^{\circ}$ N – 25 $^{\circ}$ S<sup>1</sup>]. For each year, the table gives the total number of hooks; the number of observed hooks; observer coverage (the percentage of hooks that were observed); the number of observed captures (both dead and alive); and the capture rate (captures per thousand hooks).

Year		Fishing	effort	Observed seabird captures Between 25S - 23N			
	Number of vessels	Number of hooks	Observed hooks	% hooks observed	Number	Rate <sup>2</sup>	
2018	66	16 971 488	448 780	2.6%	8	0.0178	
2019	69	17 573 770	749 979	4.3%	9	0.0120	
2020	72	17 945 992	795 583	4.4%	27	0.0339	
2021	73	19 452 602	889 174	4.6%	29	0.0326	
2022	80	21 287 325	106 0693	4.9%	12	0.0113	
2023	78	21 047 688	873 083	4.2%	57	0.0653	

<sup>1</sup> Insert 'North of 23oN', 'South of 30oS', '25oS-30oS' or '23oN - 250oS'. For CCMs fishing in all areas, provide separate tables for each area.

<sup>2</sup> Provide data as captures per one thousand hooks.

Table y: Proportion of mitigation types<sup>1</sup> used by the fleet in [year].

	G 1: C	Proportio	on of observed e	ffort using mitiga	ation mea	sures	
	Combination of Mitigation Measures	South of 30°S	25°S-30°S	25°S to 23°N	North of 23°N		
	No mitigation measures			32.89			
Options required	TL + NS						
south of 25°S	TL + WB						
	NS + WB						
	TL + WB + NS						
	HS						
Other options	WB						
25°S-30°S	TL						
Other options	SS/BC/WB/DSLS						
north of 23 <sup>0</sup> N	SS/BC/WB/(MOD or BDB)			0.15			
Provide any other	MOD			61.48			
combination of	NS			3.56			
mitigation	NS MOD			1.93			
measures here	WB BC DSLS MOD						
	Totals (must equal 100%)			100			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>TL = tori line, NS = night setting, WB = weighted branch lines, SS = side setting, BC = bird curtain, BDB = blue dyed bait, DSLS = deep setting line shooter, MOD = management of offal discharge, HS = hook-shielding device.

Table z: Number of observed seabird captures in [CCM] longline fisheries, 2012, by species and area.

Species	South of 30 <sub>0</sub> S	25 <sub>0</sub> S-30 <sub>0</sub> S	North of 23 <sub>0</sub> N	23 <sub>0</sub> N -25 <sub>0</sub> S	Total
PETRELS AND SHEARWATERS NEI	-	-	1	19	19
BIRD (UNIDENTIFIED)	-	-	-	38	38
Total	-	-	-	57	57

# <u>SECTION B:</u> ADDITIONAL ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS THAT COULD BE INCLUDED IN ANNUAL REPORT PART 1, IF NOT OTHERWISE REPORTED ANNUALLY TO WCPFC

1121 0111 1	TART 1, IF NOT OTHERWISE REPORTED ANNUALLY TO WEFFE	T
	In accordance with paragraph 1, CCMs shall provide information to the Commission, by 1 July	In 2023, 77 vessels caught as bycatch
	2007, on the number of their vessels that have fished for striped marlin in the Convention area	84.6 MT of striped marlin in south of
	south of 15°S, during the period 2000 – 2004, and in doing so, nominate the maximum number of	15°S
	vessels that shall continue to be permitted to fish for striped marlin in the area south of 15°S.	No vessels flagged to French Polynesia
	CCMs shall report annually to the Commission the catch levels of their fishing vessels that have	targeted striped marlin in 2023.
	taken striped marlin as a bycatch as well as the number and catch levels of vessels fishing for	
	striped marlin in the Convention Area south of 15°S.	
CMM 2006-04 [South West striped Marlin], Para 4	AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that the CCM submitted in its ARPt1:	
	a. the number of its flagged vessels that fished for MLS south of 15S between 2001-2004 and has	
	nominated the maximum number of its flagged vessels that are permitted to continue to fish for	
	MLS south of 15S	
	WES SOUTH OF 133	
	b. the catch levels of CCM flagged vessels that have taken MLS as a bycatch	
	the number and catch levels of its vessels fishing for MLS south of 15S.	
	CCMs shall report annually to the Commission the annual catch levels taken by each of their fishing	Addressed through the regular
	vessels that has taken South Pacific albacore, as well as the number of vessels actively fishing for	provision of operational catch/effort
	South Pacific albacore, in the Convention area south of 20°S. Catch by vessel shall be reported	logsheet data to SPC, who
	according to the following species groups: albacore tuna, bigeye tuna, yellowfin tuna, swordfish, other billfish, and sharks. Initially this information will be provided for the period 2006-2014 and	automatically include these data in the
CMM 2015-02	then updated annually. CCMs are encouraged to provide data from periods prior to these dates.	WCPFC databases, as per our authorization.
South Pacific	then apaated anniamly, come are encouraged to provide data nomiperious prior to these dates.	authorization.
Albacore] Para 4	WCPFC20 Outcome: The Commission agreed that the term "actively fishing for" used in CMM	
	2015-02 is applied to: 'Vessels fishing south of 20 degrees South with an annual catch of albacore	
	in that area with South Pacific albacore greater than 50% of the catch of potential target tuna	
	(albacore, yellowfin and bigeye, southern bluefin, skipjack) and swordfish.'	

	AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that the CCM submitted information on annual catch levels by its flagged vessels taking SP Albacore, as well as the number of CCM flagged vessels actively fishing for SP Albacore south of 20S, with catch levels reported by species groups.	
CMM 2019-03 [North Pacific Albacore], Para 3	All CCMs shall report annually to the WCPFC Commission all catches of albacore north of the equator and all fishing effort north of the equator in fisheries directed at albacore. The reports for both catch and fishing effort shall be made by gear type. Catches shall be reported in terms of weight. Fishing effort shall be reported in terms of the most relevant measures for a given gear type, including at a minimum for all gear types, the number of vessel-days fished using the template provided in Annex 1.  Annex 1:  North Pacific albacore in the North Pacific Ocean  **North Pacific albacore in the North Pacific Ocean  **North Pacific albacore in the North Pacific Ocean  **Note: WCPFC10 clarified that this reporting responsibility lies with the flag State  AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that CCM submitted a report of information on catch and effort by CCM flagged vessels engaged in directed fishing for NP albacore north of the equator, by gear type and days fished (effort) and by weight (catch), using the template at Annex 1 of CMM 2019-03.	Our national fleet did not fish north of equator.

All CCMs shall report annually to the WCPFC Commission all catches of North Pacific swordfish in the Area and all fishing effort in those fisheries as well as catch and effort across the North Pacific subject to the measures in paragraph 2, by gear type using the template provided in Annex 1.

Our national fleet did not fish north of equator.

Note: CMM 2023-03:

Paragraph 2: The Members, Cooperating Non-Members and participating territories (hereinafter referred to as CCMs) shall take necessary measures to ensure that the level of fishing effort of their fisheries taking more than 200 metric tons per year of North Pacific swordfish in the Area is not increased beyond 2008-2010 average annual levels<sup>[1][2]</sup>.

CMM 2023-03 [North Pacific Swordfish], para 4

Paragraph 3 clarifies that paragraphs 2 and 4 shall not be applied to those fisheries taking less than 200 metric tons of North Pacific swordfish in the Area per year. However, if the catches of such fisheries exceed 200 metric tons in any given year, the Commission shall adopt appropriate management measure for such fisheries.

# Annex 1. Average annual fishing effort for 2008-2010 and annual fishing effort for subsequent years for fisheries taking North Pacific swordfish

			Fishery		2008-2010 Average			Year			Year		Year	Year		
(	CCM	Area <sup>[3]</sup>	(gear type)	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days <sup>[4]</sup>	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days	

[1] For the US swordfish longline fishery, the level of fishing effort shall not be increased beyond the maximum number of limited entry permits available during 2008-2010.

[1] For the Chinese Taipei's coastal artisanal longline fishery, the level of fishing effort shall not be increased beyond the number of vessels licensed during 2008-2010.

[1] If collective effort limits across the North Pacific Ocean, report the Area and North Pacific Ocean separately.

[1] Fishing days shall be the total days of fishing (both targeting and bycatch). CCMs can consider the plural effort metrics in Annex 1 to this CMM in their entirety and in the case of fisheries that take NPS as bycatch, the metric of "fishing days" may not be appropriate for assessing the compliance with the effort control provision.