



**Western and
Central Pacific
Fisheries
Commission**

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
TWENTIETH REGULAR SESSION**

Manila, Philippines
14 – 21 August 2024

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

WCPFC-SC20-AR/CCM-22

SOLOMON ISLANDS



MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES

SOLOMON ISLANDS

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES
COMMISSION**

PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS 2023

Scientific data was provided to the Commission in accordance with the decision relating to the provision of scientific data to the Commission by 30 April 2024	YES
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Section 1: ABSTRACT

The Solomon Islands' tuna fishery has emerged as a critical component of the nation's economy, driven by the government's dedication to expanding the fisheries sector and implementing progressive initiatives. Over the past five years, from 2019 to 2023, the fisheries sector has made significant contributions to the national economy. This period saw increased activities by fishing fleets and onshore-based industries, bolstered by both local and foreign investments. The fleet consists of locally registered flag vessels and foreign flag vessels that are licensed to fish within the national waters or the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The active fleet includes purse seine, longline, and pole-and-line vessels, each playing a vital role in the fishery's operations.

In 2023, the domestic purse seine fleet operating in the Solomon Islands EEZ made substantial contributions to the tuna fishery sector. The catch data indicates that the fleet captured a total of 31,232 metric tons (mt) of tuna, with Skipjack tuna being the most abundant at 21,513 mt, followed by Yellowfin tuna at 9,270 mt. There were no catches of Albacore or Pacific Bluefin tuna. Additionally, the fleet caught other species such as billfish (14 mt) and sharks (75 mt), bringing the overall total catch to 31,321 mt. These figures underscore the diverse and productive nature of the Solomon Islands' purse seine fishing activities and their significant role in the national economy.

The domestic chartered longline fleet also demonstrated notable performance in 2023, with a total tuna catch of 8,358 mt. This included 2,409 mt of Albacore tuna, 947 mt of Bigeye tuna, 54 mt of Skipjack tuna, and a substantial 4,947 mt of Yellowfin tuna. Additionally, the fleet caught 297 mt of billfish and 54 mt of sharks, making the overall total catch 8,709 mt. The fleet, consisting of 42 vessels, completed 135 trips and accumulated 6,997 sea days, of which 5,596 were designated as fish days. The deployment of 180,175 hooks throughout the year highlights the extensive operational efforts of the longline fleet, underscoring its critical contribution to the fisheries sector.

In the main group archipelagic waters of the Solomon Islands, the domestic pole-and-line fleet achieved a total catch of 533 mt in 2023. This catch was predominantly composed of Skipjack tuna (521 mt) and included 12 mt of Yellowfin tuna. The fleet, consisting of four vessels, made 36 trips, aggregate to 497 sea days, with 466 designated as fish days. These figures highlight the diligent efforts of the pole-and-line fleet, emphasizing its contribution to the local fisheries sector and the importance of maintaining sustainable fishing practices within the archipelago.

Foreign fleets operating within the Solomon Islands' waters in 2023 also showed significant activity and catch volumes. The foreign purse seine fleet captured a total of 26,030 mt, including 21,487 mt of Skipjack tuna, 293 mt of Bigeye tuna, and 4,137 mt of Yellowfin tuna, along with 113 mt of other species. The fleet operated 122 vessels, making 190 trips, with a cumulative total of 1,081 sea days and 812 fish days. These figures highlight the extensive contributions of the foreign purse seine fleet to the overall fisheries output and their role in supporting the Solomon Islands' economic interests. The foreign longline fleet operating in Solomon Islands' waters in 2023 demonstrated notable catch figures, with a total catch of 3,439 mt. This included 1,603 mt of Albacore tuna, 298 mt of Bigeye tuna, and 1,165 mt of Yellowfin tuna, along with 373 mt of other species. The fleet, consisting of 54 vessels, made approximately 100 trips, accumulating 5,210 sea days and 4,278 fish days, and deploying 136,046 hooks.

Therefore, for 2023, the Solomon Islands' tuna fishery highlighted substantial contributions to the national economy through diverse and extensive fishing operations. The domestic fleet, comprising purse seine, longline, and pole-and-line vessels, achieved a combined tuna catch of 40,563 metric tons (mt), with significant contributions from Skipjack and Yellowfin tuna. Foreign fleets, including purse seine and longline vessels, added another 29,470 mt, bringing the total catch within the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) to approximately 70,033 mt. These operations involved both local and foreign investments, with fleets making numerous trips and deploying thousands of hooks, underscoring the sector's critical role in the Solomon Islands' economic and marine resource management.

Section 2: ANNUAL FISHERIES INFORMATION (NATIONAL FLEET)

2.1 Annual Catch Estimates for National Purse Seine Fleet

Table 1.1: Annual catch and effort estimates for Solomon Islands National fleet (flagged) Purse Seine vessel by primary species and discards for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2019 to 2023.

WCPFC Key Species	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%
ALBACORE	2	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%
BIGEYE TUNA	533	1%	308	1%	250	1%	362	1%	449	1%
PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
SKIPJACK TUNA	40,355	71%	20,191	60%	26,143	62%	25,678	69%	21,513	69%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	16,088	28%	13,003	39%	15,974	38%	11,036	30%	9,270	30%
BLACK MARLIN	4	0%	0	0%	2	0%	3	0%	4	0%
BLUE MARLIN	11	0%	5	0%	5	0%	4	0%	9	0%
STRIPED MARLIN	1	0%	0	0%	1	0%	1	0%	1	0%
SWORDFISH	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
BLUE SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
SILKY SHARK	93	0%	89	0%	68	0%	100	0%	71	0%
HAMMERHEAD SHARKS	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
MAKO SHARKS	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
OCEANIC WHITETIP SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	0%
PORBEABLE / SALMON SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
WHALE SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3	0%
THRESHER SHARKS	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	57,087		33,596		42,443		37,185		31,321	

2.2 Annual Catch Estimate for National Chartered Longline Fleet

Table 1.2: Annual catch and effort estimates for Solomon Islands national fleets (foreign locally based (chartered) longline vessels by primary species and discards in the WCPFC Convention area from 2019 to 2023.

WCPFC Key Species	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%
ALBACORE	2,617	27%	1,728	31%	1,885	31%	2,724	29%	2,409	28%
BIGEYE TUNA	1,398	14%	623	11%	635	10%	874	9%	947	11%
PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	1	0%
SKIPJACK TUNA	109	1%	49	1%	33	1%	72	1%	54	1%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	5,094	53%	2,732	49%	3,288	53%	5,470	58%	4,947	57%
BLACK MARLIN	13	0%	48	1%	2	0%	9	0%	5	0%
BLUE MARLIN	282	3%	121	2%	217	4%	220	2%	235	3%
STRIPED MARLIN	9	0%	46	1%	3	0%	7	0%	2	0%
SWORDFISH	82	1%	95	2%	46	1%	75	1%	55	1%
BLUE SHARK	65	1%	62	1%	23	0%	14	0%	16	0%
SILKY SHARK	2	0%	4	0%	20	0%	4	0%	30	0%
HAMMERHEAD SHARKS	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	3	0%
MAKO SHARKS	24	0%	20	0%	9	0%	7	0%	5	0%
OCEANIC WHITETIP SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
PORBEABLE / SALMON SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
WHALE SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
THRESHER SHARKS	0	0%	2	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	9,695		5,530		6,161		9,476		8,709	

2.3 Annual Catch Estimate for National Pole and Line fleet

Table 1.3: Annual catch and effort estimates for Solomon Islands pole and line national fleets (flagged) in the WCPFC Convention area from 2019 to 2023.

WCPFC Key Species	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%
ALBACORE	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
BIGEYE TUNA	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
SKIPJACK TUNA	943	84%	980	82%	1,053	87%	1,224	95%	521	98%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	178	16%	220	18%	158	13%	59	5%	12	2%
BLACK MARLIN	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
BLUE MARLIN	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
STRIPED MARLIN	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
SWORDFISH	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
BLUE SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
SILKY SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
HAMMERHEAD SHARKS	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
MAKO SHARKS	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
OCEANIC WHITETIP SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
PORBEABLE / SALMON SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
WHALE SHARK	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
THRESHER SHARKS	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total	1,121		1,200		1,211		1,283		533	

2.4 Historical Information on National fleet

2.4.1 National Purse Seine fleet

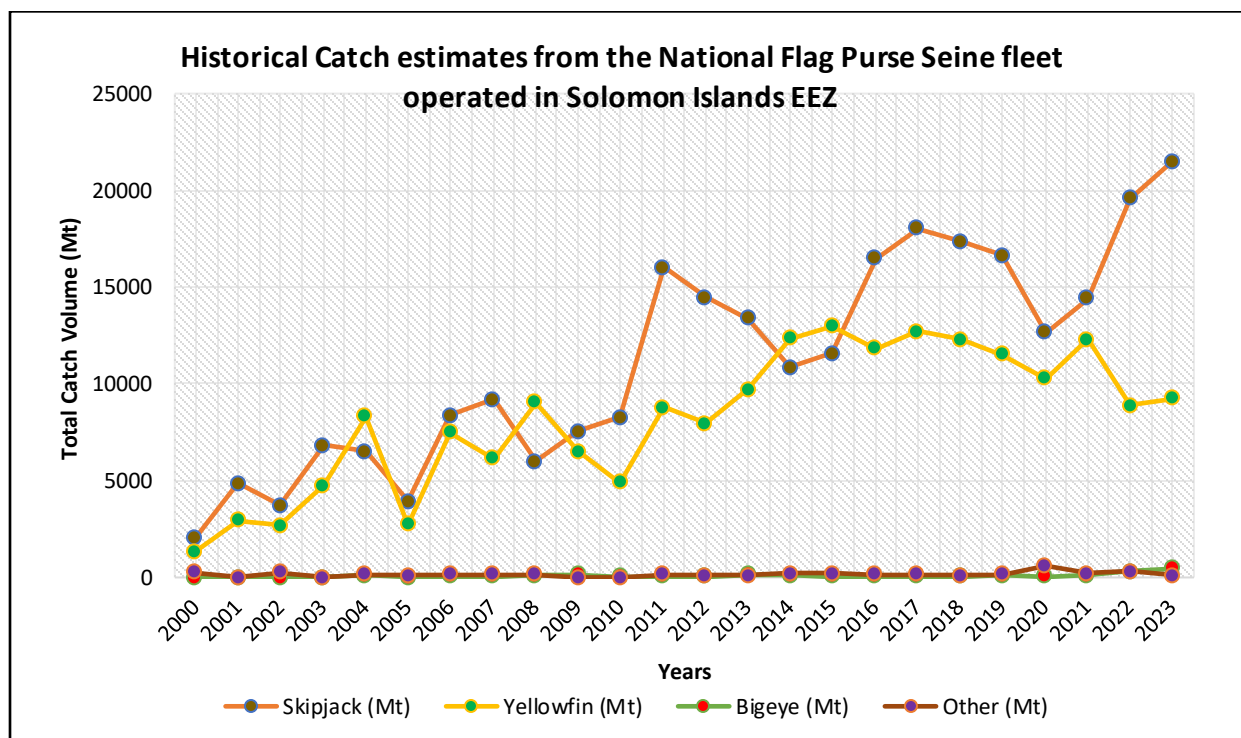


Figure 1.1: Historical annual catch for the National Purse Seine fleet by primary species for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2000-2023.

2.4.2 National Chartered Longline fleet

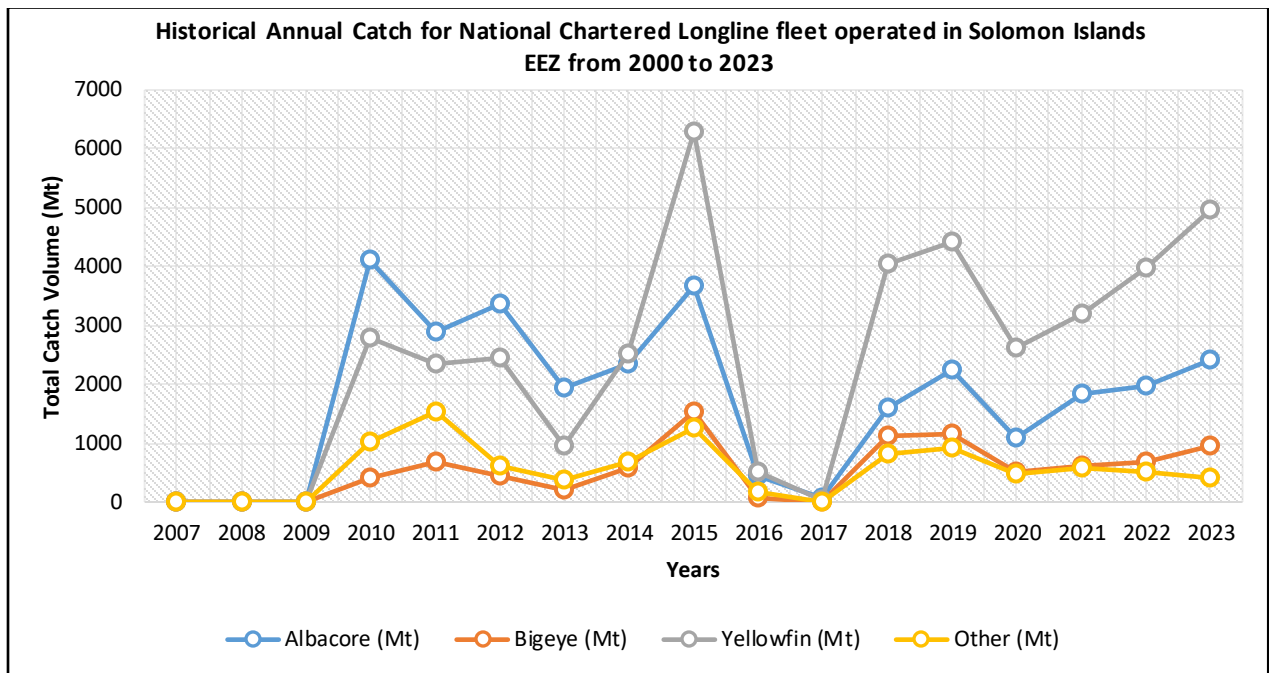


Figure 1.2: Historical annual catch for the National chartered Longline fleet by primary species for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2007-2023.

2.4.3 National Pole & Line fleet

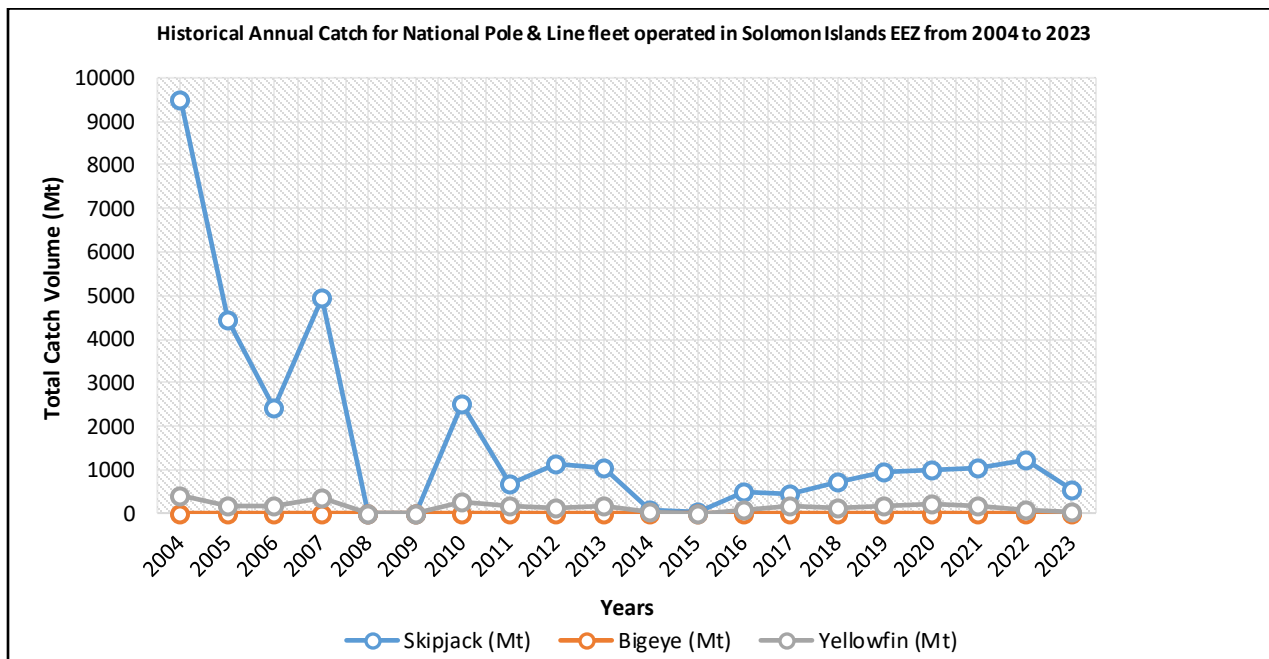


Figure 1.3: Historical annual catch for the National Pole and Line fleet by primary species for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2004-2023.

2.5 Historical Annual vessel numbers

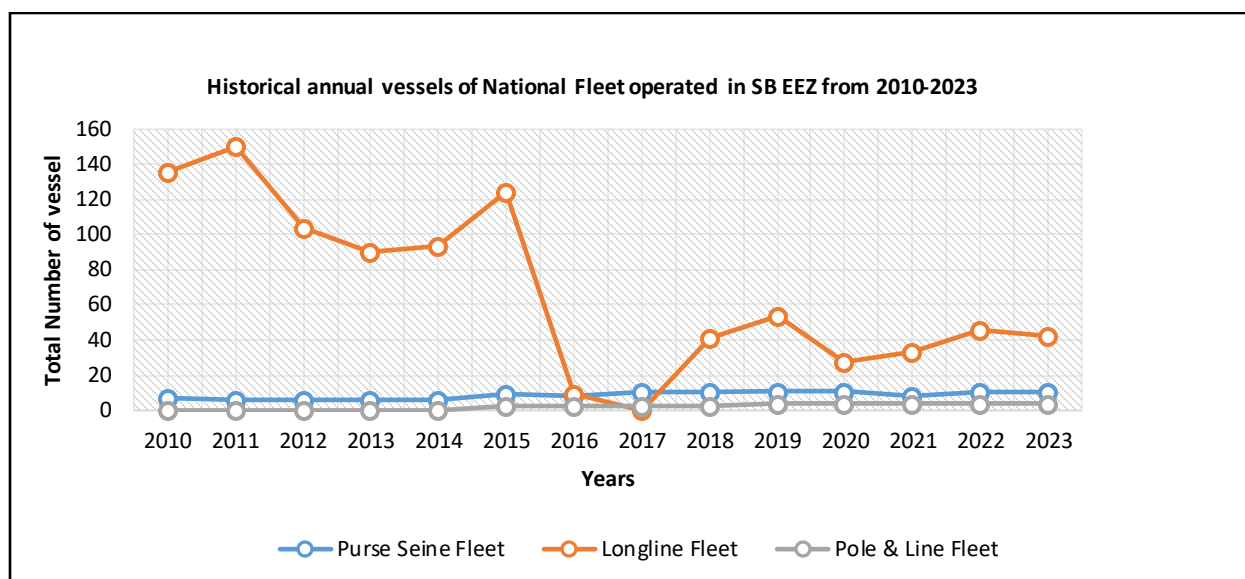


Figure 2: Historical annual vessel numbers for the national purse seine, longline and pole & line fleets for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2010-2023.

2.6 Size Category

Table 2: Number of National fleet category by Purse seine, Longline and Pole & Line vessels actively operated in the WCPFC convention area for 2019 to 2023.

SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL FLEETS - SIZE CATEGORY (GRT)					
Gear	PURSE SEINE				
Size Category(GRT)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
0 - 500	0	0	0	0	0
501 - 1000	5	8	5	5	6
1001 - 1500	5	3	3	5	4
1500+	1	0	0	0	0
Gear	LONGLINE				
Size Category(GRT)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
0 - 50	0	0	0	0	0
51 - 200	41	28	25	35	36
201 - 500	12	4	7	7	6
500+	0	0	1	1	0
Gear	POLE & LINE				
Size Category(GRT)	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
0 - 50	0	0	0	0	0
51 - 200	4	4	4	4	4
201 - 500	0	0	0	0	0
500+	0	0	0	0	0

2.7 Annual Catch Distributions

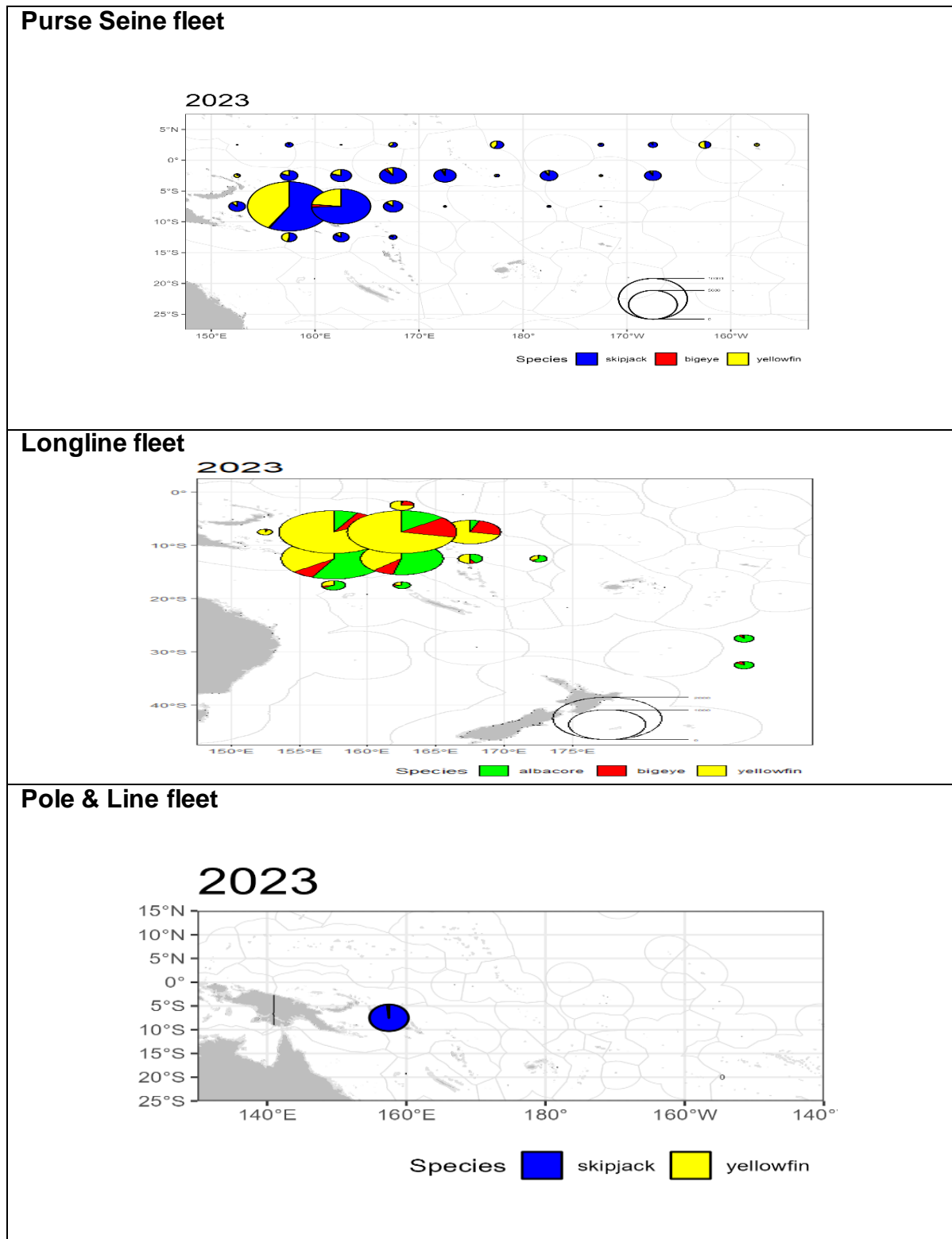


Figure 3: Annual catch distribution of key target species by the National Purse seine, National Chartered Longline and Pole & Line fleets actively operated in WCPFC Convention Area for 2023

2.8 Species of Special Interest

Table 3: Observed annual estimated catches of species of special interest (seabird, turtle and marine mammals) by gear types for National Purse Seine and Longline fleet. (Source: T2 Report 2953 -Catches of species of special interest, 2023)

Annual Estimated Catches for Observed Species of Special Interest by National Purse Seine and Longline fleet in the WCPFC Convention area from 2019 to 2023																
Gear	Species Category	2019			2020			2021			2022			2023		
		Number	Alive	Dead	Number	Alive	Dead	Number	Alive	Dead	Number	Alive	Dead	Number	Alive	Dead
National Purse Seine	Marine Mammals	64	58	5	33	32	0	19	17	0	19	4	15	14	6	1
	Marine Reptiles	8	8	0	2	2	0	4	4	0	0	0	0	5	5	0
	Whale Shark	17	17	0	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
National Longline	Marine Mammals	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
	Marine Reptiles	14	9	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
	Birds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1

2.9 Non-target, associated and dependent species

Table 4.1: Annual estimated catches for non-target, associated and dependent species, including sharks by National Purse seine fleet in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2019-2023.

National Purse Seine Annual Estimated Catches of non-target, associated and dependent species, including sharks in WCPFC Convention Area from 2019 to 2023					
Species Category	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	Species MT	Species MT	Species MT	Species MT	Species MT
BILLFISH	0.035	0.1	1.195	5.41	3.275
MAMMALS	65.98	0.3	0.03	0.05	1.053
RAYS	10.614	2.6	3.99	4.351	1.261
SHARKS	1.915	0.4	0.13	79.511	59.596
TUNAS	25.79	10.266	45.284	139.342	173.563
TURTLES	0.03	0.126	0.05	0.005	0
OTHER FISH	93.232	90.4	101.389	58.034	18.999

Table 4.2: Annual estimated catches for non-target, associated and dependent species, including sharks for National Longline fleet in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2019-2023.

National Longline Annual estimated catches of non-target, associated and dependent species, including sharks in the WCPFC Convention Area from 2019 to 2023					
Species Category	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
	Species MT	Species MT	Species MT	Species MT	Species MT
TUNA	125.434	84.529	38.466	42.493	33.016
BILLFISH	438.898	266.386	314.061	278.447	264.876
INVERTERBRATE	0.004	0	0	0	0
RAYS	4.6796	0	0	0	0
SHARKS	85.447	151.529	30.348	12.061	14.017
OTHER FISH	381.356	313.176	204.957	185.412	176.081
UNSPECIFIED	0	2.629	4.085	0.604	0.369

2.10 Estimated Annual Coverage

Table 5: Estimated annual coverage of operational catch/effort, port sampling and observer data for the National Purse Seine, Pole & Line and Longline fleet in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2019-2023.

GEAR	YEAR	CATCH/EFFORT DATA COVERAGE	PORT SAMPLING COVERAGE	OBSERVER DATA COVERAGE
Purse Seine	2019	100%	NIL	24%
	2020	100%	NIL	29%
	2021	100%	NIL	30%
	2022	100%	NIL	40%
	2023	100%	NIL	41%
Pole and Line	2019	82%	NIL	0%
	2020	100%	NIL	2.9%
	2021	100%	NIL	0%
	2022	100%	NIL	0.87%
	2023	100%	NIL	0%
Longline	2019	96%	0.52%	6%
	2020	100%	0.66%	0%
	2021	99%	1.27%	0%
	2022	78%	0.43%	0.8%
	2023	72%	0.51%	2.5%

Section 3: BACKGROUND

The tuna fisheries industry in the Solomon Islands is a vital sector for the nation's economy, providing significant revenue and income through fishing operations within the country's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This sector has a long history of contributing to national aspirations and has played a crucial role in sustainable resource management. Several locally based companies are involved in fishing, processing and exporting tuna, enhancing economic growth and employment opportunities. The industry employs various fishing methods, including Purse Seine, Longline and Pole & Line fisheries, with specific management measures in place to sustain tuna stock distributions.

The Solomon Islands' tuna industry has faced challenges, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, which impacted unloading activities and operations. However, local companies such as National Fisheries Development Ltd (NFD), Southern Seas Logistics (SSL), Lucky Win Trading Ltd, Global Fishery Ltd, Solong Seafood Development Ltd and Will Fish Investment Ltd have maintained their operations, contributing to the processing and export of tuna. The flagship cannery, Soltuna Company Ltd, continues to produce a variety of tuna products for local and international markets, providing employment to around 3,000 workers and supporting food security in the Solomon Islands.

Artisanal fishery operations have also expanded, though they face challenges in data collection and management. This sector, primarily involving small-scale fishers using outboard motors and hand lining techniques, supplies local markets with fresh tuna despite high fuel costs and pandemic-related declines in fishing activities. The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources emphasizes food security and sustainable resource management, supporting stakeholders and investors in developing a viable tuna industry.

The Ministry's governance and regulatory frameworks, including the Fisheries Management Act 2015, Fisheries Management Regulation 2017 and the Tuna Management Development Plan (TMDP) currently under review, align with national and regional strategies for sustainable fisheries management. Solomon Islands actively participates in regional and international fisheries organizations, contributing to initiatives such as the Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) and maintaining bilateral and multilateral fishing agreements. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic in the past years from 2019 until 2022, the Ministry has adapted and embrace the facts to actively involve its participation in regional meetings and continued its efforts in fisheries management and development.

Section 4: FLAG STATE REPORTING

4.1 Overview of Domestic Fleet Operations

In 2023, the Solomon Islands reported on its registered domestic or national flag vessels. The main gear types used include purse seine, longline and pole and line fleets. The domestic fleets are operated by several locally based companies, namely National Development Ltd (NFD), Southern Seas Logistic Ltd (SSL), Lucky Win Trading Ltd, Global Fishery Ltd, Will Fish Investment Ltd, and Solong Seafood Development Ltd.

4.2 Fleet structure for the National Flag Gear Types

Table 6.1: National gear types category operating in the Solomon Islands EEZ and WCPFC Convention Area for 2019-2023.

National Gear Types by Year from 2019-2023					
GEAR	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Purse Seine	11	11	8	10	10
Longline	53	27	33	43	42
Pole & Line	4	4	4	4	4
Total	68	42	45	57	104

4.3 Annual Catch Composition for National Flag fleet

4.3.1 National (domestic) Purse Seine Fleet Operations

The domestic purse seine fleet, ranging from 500 to 1000 GRT, has access arrangements to fish within the main group archipelagic water (MGA) of the Solomon Islands. National flag vessels with capacities exceeding these requirements are permitted to fish within the 12 to 200 nautical miles zone and beyond the national jurisdiction under the FSMA arrangement with PNA member countries. For information, local companies that operates the Purse seine fleet are National Fisheries Development Ltd (NFD), Southern Seas Logistics Ltd (SSL), and Lucky Win Trading Ltd.

Table 6.2: Annual Catch for key tuna species by Purse Seine fleet operated in Solomon Islands EEZ from 2019 to 2023 respectively.

WCPFC Key Species	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%
BIGEYE TUNA	183	0%	155	0%	259	1%	473	1%	449	1%
SKIPJACK TUNA	42,304	74%	20,714	62%	26,552	63%	26,209	71%	21,513	69%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	14,489	25%	12,633	38%	15,557	37%	10,394	28%	9,270	30%
Total	56,976		33,502		42,368		37,076		31,232	

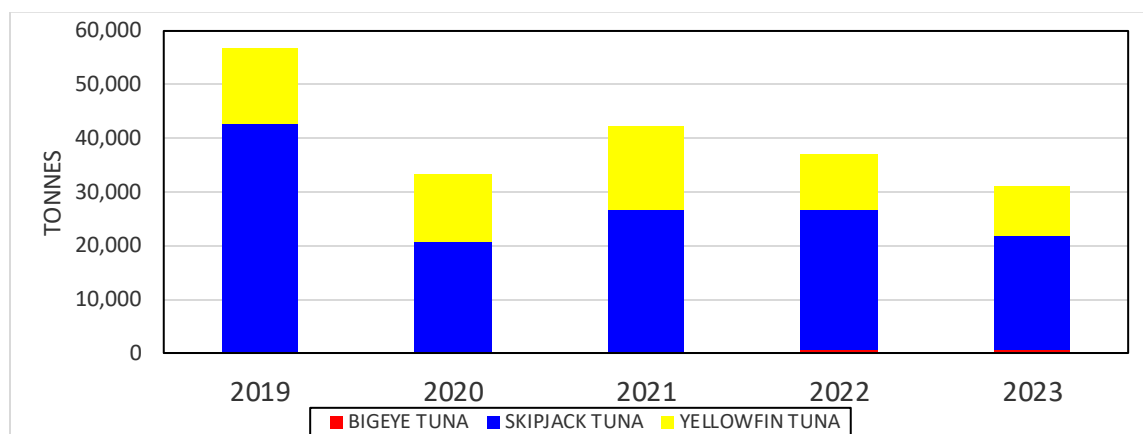


Figure 4.1: National Purse Seine fleet annual Catch estimates by key tuna species caught in Solomon Islands EEZ from 2019 to 2023.

4.3.2 National chartered Longline Fleet Operations

For the domestic longline fleet, there are charter arrangements in place where foreign-flagged vessels are chartered by locally based companies to operate within the Solomon Islands Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). This fishing arrangement is duly reported in the flag state records as required. The fleet are operated by the following companies, Global Fishery Ltd, Will Fish Investment Ltd, Solong Seafood Development Ltd and National Fisheries Development Ltd (NFD).

Table 6.3: Annual Catch for key tuna species by Longline fleet operated in Solomon Islands EEZ from 2019 to 2023 respectively.

WCPFC Key Species	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%
ALBACORE	2,617	28%	1,728	33%	1,885	31%	2,724	29%	2,408	28%
BIGEYE TUNA	1,398	15%	623	12%	635	10%	874	9%	947	11%
SKIPJACK TUNA	109	1%	49	1%	33	1%	72	1%	54	1%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	5,094	54%	2,732	52%	3,288	54%	5,470	58%	4,947	58%
BLACK MARLIN	13	0%	48	1%	2	0%	9	0%	5	0%
BLUE MARLIN	282	3%	121	2%	217	4%	220	2%	235	3%
Total	9,513		5,301		6,060		9,369		8,596	

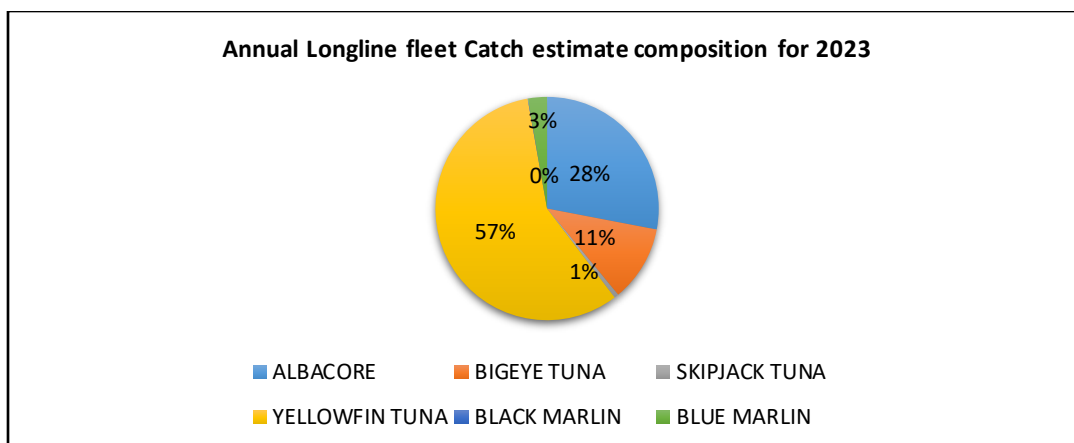


Figure 4.2: National chartered Longline fleet annual Catch estimates by key tuna and billfish species caught in Solomon Islands EEZ for 2023.

4.3.3 Pole and Line Fleet Operations

The pole and line fleet primarily operates within the archipelagic waters (MGA). These vessels are managed by the National Fisheries Development Ltd (NFD). In 2023, the domestic pole-and-line fleet in the Solomon Islands faced notable challenges that led to a decline in catches and operational efforts. Out of the four vessels in the fleet, only two were actively used for fishing, while the other two were repurposed as scouting vessels to support the purse seine fleet operations. This reduction in active fishing vessels resulted in a total catch of 533 metric tons (mt), predominantly Skipjack tuna (521 mt) and Yellowfin tuna (12 mt). The fleet's operational days also reflected this decline, with 36 trips made up 497 sea days and 466 fish days. These constraints highlight the operational difficulties and reduced fishing capacity, underscoring the need for strategic interventions to support and enhance the pole-and-line fleet's efficiency and productivity.

Table 6.4: Annual Catch for key tuna species by Pole and Line fleet operated in Solomon Islands EEZ from 2019 to 2023 respectively.

WCPFC Key Species	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%	MT	%
SKIPJACK TUNA	943	84%	980	82%	1,053	87%	1,224	95%	520	98%
YELLOWFIN TUNA	178	16%	220	18%	158	13%	59	5%	11	2%
Total	1,121		1,200		1,211		1,283		531	

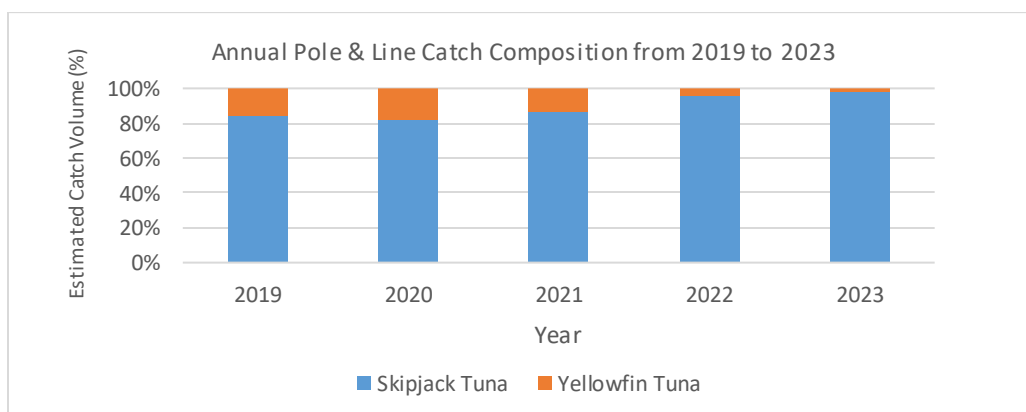


Figure 4.3: National Pole and Line fleet annual Catch estimates by key tuna species caught in Solomon Islands EEZ from 2019 to 2023.

4.4 Catch and Effort Distributions by National flag fleet

Fishing trends and operations by the national flag fleet in the Solomon Islands EEZ reveal significant indicators through catch and effort distributions. The fishing patterns across the national waters clearly illustrate the proportion of key target species caught and the concentrated fishing efforts during 2023. The figures below provide an overview of the catch and effort for the domestic or national flag fleet (purse seine, longline and pole & line) as depicted in the distribution maps.

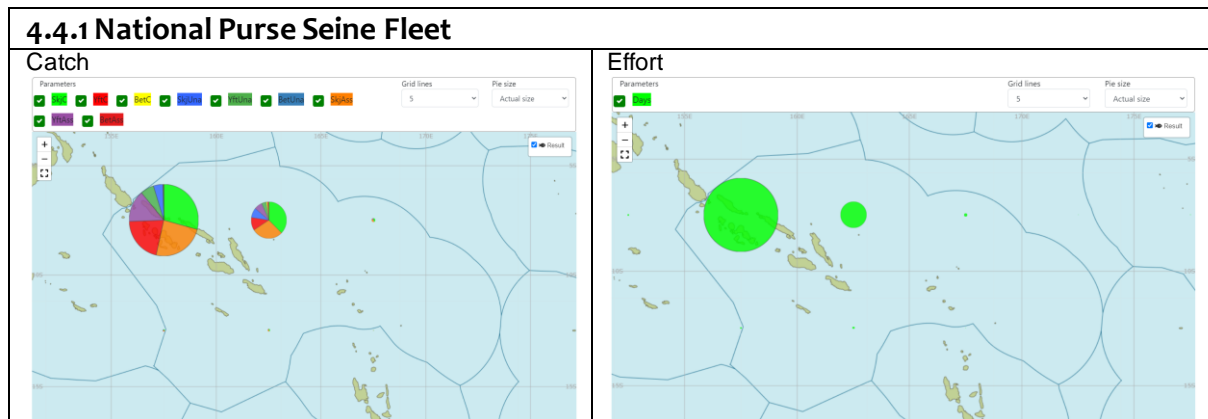


Figure 4.4: Catch and Effort distributions for National Purse Seine fleet operated in the Solomon Islands EEZ in 2023. (Source: Tufman 2- Catch report 2903 & Effort report 3097, 2023).

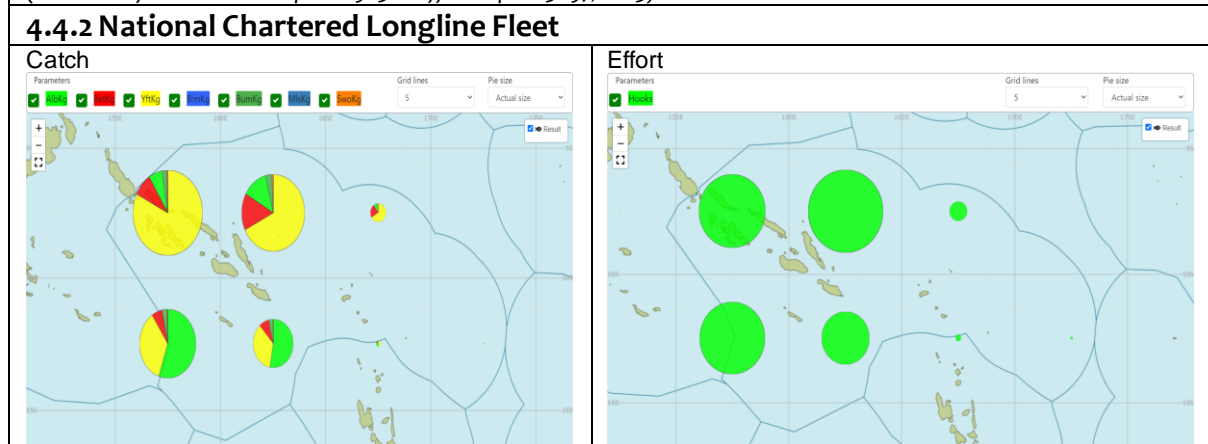


Figure 4.5: Catch and Effort distributions for the National chartered Longline fleet operated in the Solomon Islands EEZ in 2023. (Source: Tufman 2 –Catch report 2895 & Effort report 3268, 2023).

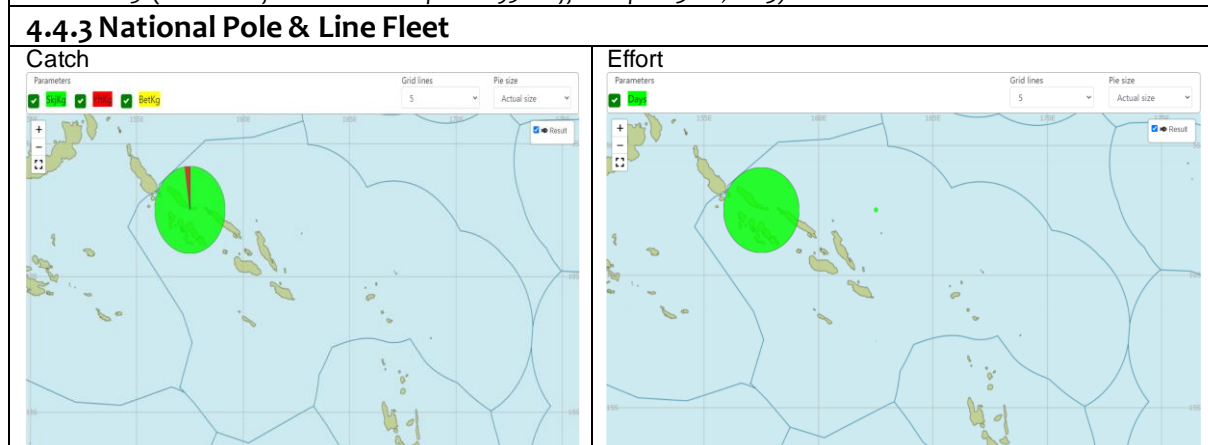


Figure 4.6: Catch and Effort distributions for the National Pole and Line fleet operated in the Solomon Islands EEZ in 2023. (Source: Tufman 2 –Catch report 2998 & Effort report 3096, 2023).

Section 5: COASTAL STATE REPORTING

Foreign fishing fleets licensed to access and operate within the Solomon Islands EEZ are required to report all their catches under the coastal state reporting system. This includes fleets from Distant Water Fishing Nations (DWFNs) and other countries. These fleets operate under various fishing arrangements, including multilateral, bilateral, PNA-FSMA, and sub-pooling agreements, using different gear types such as Purse Seine and Longline fleet.

5.1 Fleet structure for the Foreign Fishing Vessels

The structure of the foreign fishing fleet in 2023 included various gear types such as bunkers, carriers, longline, pole and line and purse seine fleets. These fleets were licensed to operate and fish within the Solomon Islands EEZ. Based on specific fishing arrangements, such as the bilateral agreements for purse seine fleets with Distant Water Fishing Nations (DWFNs), and similar engagements under PNA FSMA and sub-pooling agreements, the licensed foreign vessels had access to the national waters.

In 2023, the foreign fleet comprised 17 bunker vessels, 39 carriers, no licensed longline vessels, no licensed Japanese pole and line vessels, and 119 purse seine vessels (under bilateral and FSMA/Sub-pooling agreements), as detailed in Table 7.1 below.

Table 7.1: Summary of the Foreign fishing vessels licensed to operate in the Solomon Islands EEZ in 2023.

Number of Foreign licensed vessels by flag and gear in 2023							
Flag	Bunkers	Carriers	Longline	Pole & Line	Purse Seine		Total by Flag
					Bilateral	FSMA/Sub-pooling	
China	0	0	0	0	0	18	18
Cook Islands	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
Japan	0	0	0	0	27	0	26
Kiribati	1	0	0	0	0	4	5
Korea	2	11	0	0	22	0	35
Marshall Islands	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Nauru	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Panama	11	24	0	0	0	0	30
Papua New Guinea	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Philippines	0	0	0	0	6	0	6
Taiwan	0	4	0	0	25	0	28
Tuvalu	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
Vanuatu	0	0	0	0	8	0	8
Total by Gear	17	39	0	0	87	32	175

5.2 Foreign Fleet Catch and Effort Composition

5.2.1 Foreign Purse Seine Fleet

In 2023, fishing operations by the foreign purse seine fleet increased compared to previous years, as indicated by the rise in catch quantity shown in Table 8 below. The estimated total catch in the Solomon Islands EEZ was 26,030 metric tons, comprising 21,487 metric tons of skipjack tuna, 293 metric tons of bigeye tuna, 4,137 metric tons of yellowfin tuna, and 113 metric tons of other species. The foreign purse seine fleet's effort included 112 vessels conducting 190 fishing trips, which amounted to 1,081 sea days and 812 fishing days in 2023.

Table 7.2 Summary record for the foreign flag Purse seine fleet operated in Solomon Islands EEZ in 2023.(Source: Tufman 2 Report 2900,2023).

FOREIGN PURSE SEINE FLEET-Total catch and efforts estimates for primary tuna species caught in the Solomon Islands EEZ for 2023										
Flag Code	Year	Efforts				Catches				
		Vessels	Trips	Sea Days	Fish Days	Skipjack (MT)	Bigeye (MT)	Yellowfin (MT)	Other (MT)	Total Catch (MT)
FM	2023	12	16	147	117	2199.64	12	917.1	10.47	3139.21
JP	2023	4	5	13	10	218	4	163	4.01	389.01
KI	2023	20	33	227	195	4166.61	28.5	172.5	3.33	4370.94
KR	2023	20	50	245	159	3849.18	79.6	314	5.18	4247.96
MH	2023	8	12	46	44	1268.46	16.59	35	1.84	1321.89
NR	2023	10	13	59	47	1643.36	8.66	182.66	4.86	1839.54
PG	2023	9	11	51	40	889.7	0	806.7	56.57	1752.97
TV	2023	5	9	42	27	426	2	72	0.9	500.9
TW	2023	18	31	203	152	5493.31	117.06	1292.05	25.15	6927.57
VU	2023	6	10	48	21	1333	25	182	0.35	1540.35

5.2.2 Foreign Longline Fleet

For 2023, foreign longline vessels operating in the Solomon Islands EEZ recorded an estimated total catch of 3,439 metric tons. This catch included 1,603 metric tons of albacore tuna, 298 metric tons of bigeye tuna, 1,165 metric tons of yellowfin tuna and 373 metric tons of other species. The fishing effort involved approximately 54 foreign longline vessels, which made 100 fishing trips, over 5,210 sea days and 4,278 fishing days, using a total of 136,046 hooks.

Table 7.3: Coastal report for the Foreign Longline Fleet with the total catch estimates and efforts for primary tuna species in the Solomon Islands EEZ for 2023 (Source: Tufman 2 Report 2891, 2023).

FOREIGN LONGLINE FLEET-Total catch and efforts estimates for primary tuna species caught in the Solomon Islands EEZ for 2023											
Flag Code	Year	Efforts					Catches				
		Vessels	Trips	Sea Days	Fish Days	Nb. of Hooks (100)	Albacore (MT)	Bigeye (MT)	Yellowfin (MT)	Other (MT)	Total Catch (MT)
CN	2023	38	68	3293	2765	91787	1307.18	85.74	544.96	253.54	2191.42
TW	2023	16	32	1917	1513	44259	296.15	212.52	620.03	119.09	1247.78

5.3 Historical Catch and Effort for Foreign fleet

5.3.1 Foreign Purse Seine fleet historical catch and effort trends

Figure 5.1 illustrates the historical annual catch and effort trends of the foreign purse seine fleet with access licenses from 2000 to 2023. The data shows that from 2000 to 2002, the fishery operated slowly, with a low catch volume and a small number of vessels. Around 2003, there was a slight increase, followed by fluctuations until 2010, when a peak occurred. From 2011 to 2023, there was a notable increase in catch and effort, marking nearly 11 years of significant changes in fishing trends. In 2017, the highest catch and effort levels were recorded. However, there was a slight decline of 27% in catch and effort for 2023 compared to previous year (2022), as reflected in the reporting year.

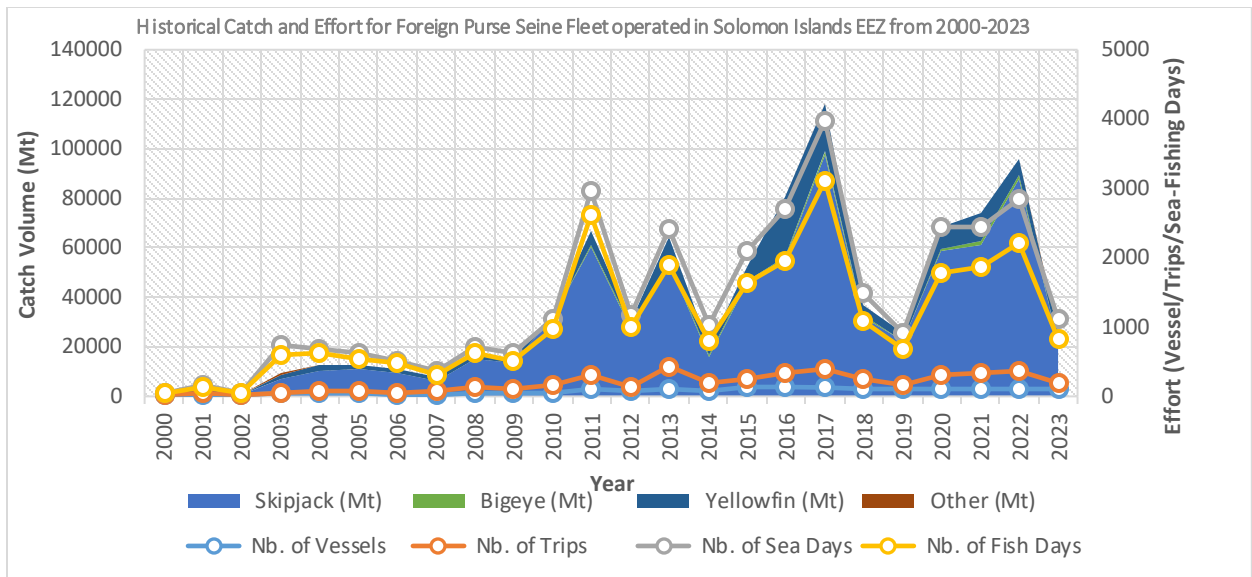


Figure 5.1: Historical annual estimated catch and effort for Foreign Purse Seine fleet operated in Solomon Islands EEZ from 2000 to 2023.

5.3.2 Foreign Longline fleet historical catch and effort trends

The foreign longline fleet with licensed access to fish within the Solomon Islands EEZ has shown significant operations over the years, as depicted in Figure 5.2. From 2003 to 2009, the catch and effort were relatively low. However, there was a drastic increase in 2010, followed by fluctuations until 2015, when a rapid decline occurred. The catch and effort peaked again in 2016 and 2017, reaching the highest levels recorded. In 2018, the trend declined sharply, and continued to do so until 2021. In 2023, there was a slight increase overall, although the albacore catch showed a rapid decline, with effort remaining relatively constant, as reflected in Figure 5.2.

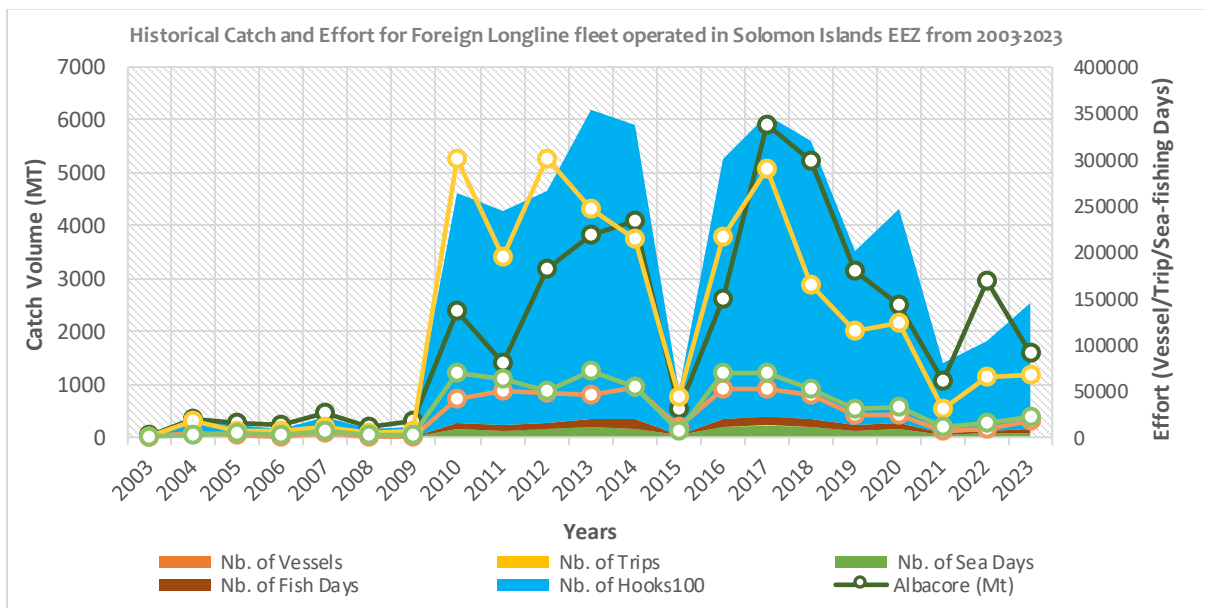


Figure 5.2: Historical annual estimated catch and effort for Foreign Longline fleet operated in Solomon Islands EEZ from 2003 to 2023.

5.4 Foreign Catch and Effort Distribution

5.4.1 Foreign Purse Seine fleet catch and effort distribution

The catch and effort distributions of the foreign purse seine fleet in 2023 reflect the fishing patterns across the Solomon Islands EEZ, as shown in Figure 5.3. The figure details the proportion of key tuna catches and classifies fishing efforts by the number of fishing days. The fishing trend indicates heavy operations concentrated in the north and northwest, with a smaller portion in the northeast of the EEZ. The catch per unit effort (CPUE) shows that skipjack tuna constitutes the largest portion of the catch, followed by yellowfin tuna and bigeye tuna.

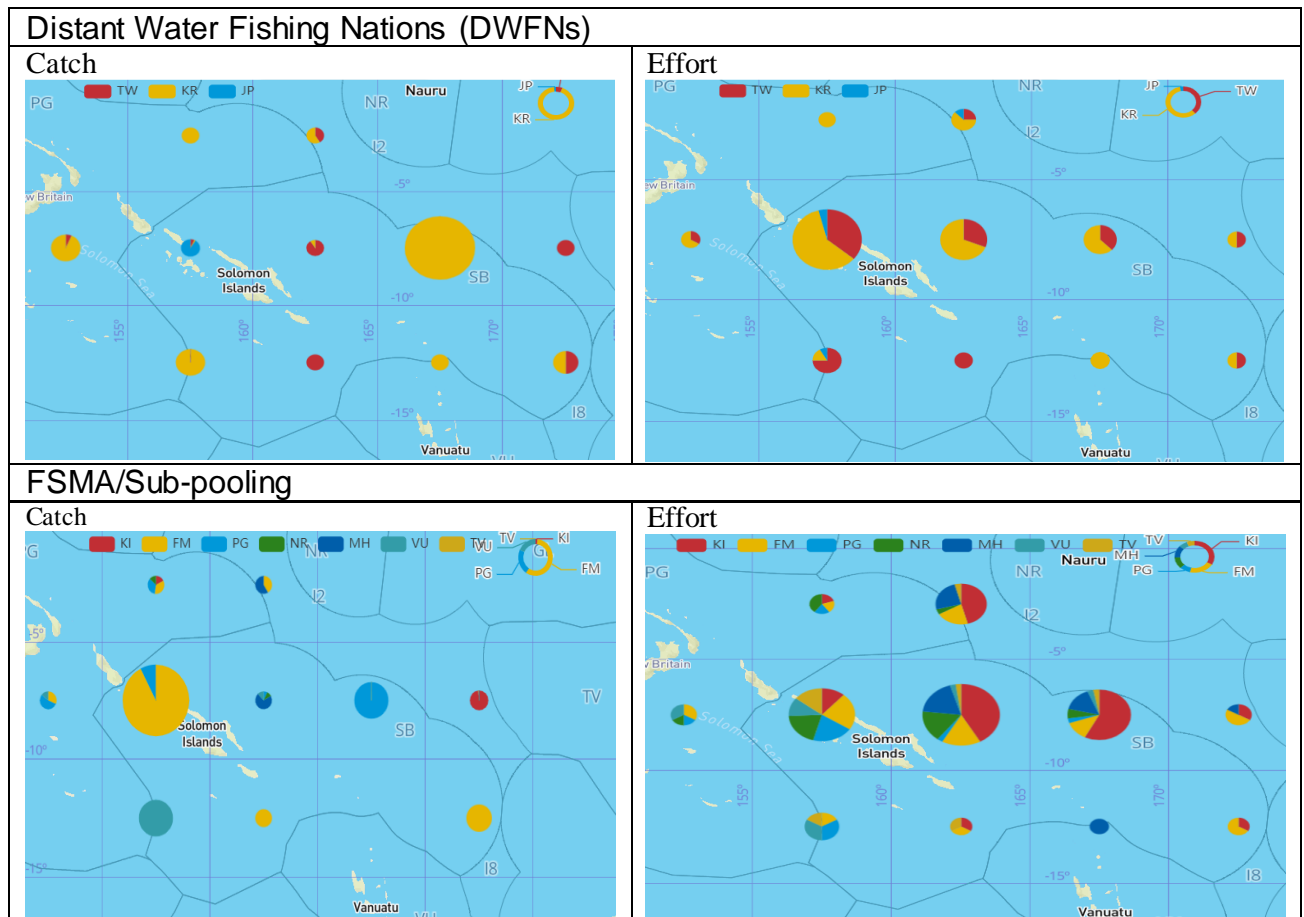


Figure 5.3: Annual catch and effort distribution for Foreign Purse Seine fleet (DWFNs & FSMA/Sub-pooling) in 2023. (Source: SPC CES 2 Report, 2023).

5.4.2 Foreign Longline fleet catch and effort distribution

In 2023, the foreign longline fleet's catch and effort distribution mainly occurred in the southwest, with smaller portions spread across the EEZ. The catch distribution showed a large volume of albacore tuna, followed by yellowfin and smaller amounts of bigeye tuna. In the northwest zone of the EEZ, yellowfin tuna catches were dominant, followed by bigeye and albacore. A similar fishing pattern was observed in the effort distribution, with the number of hook sets corresponding to the catch distribution, as shown in Figure 5.4. This indicates that the catch per unit effort (CPUE) for the entire EEZ was highest for southern albacore and yellowfin tuna, which were highly concentrated in the fished zones.

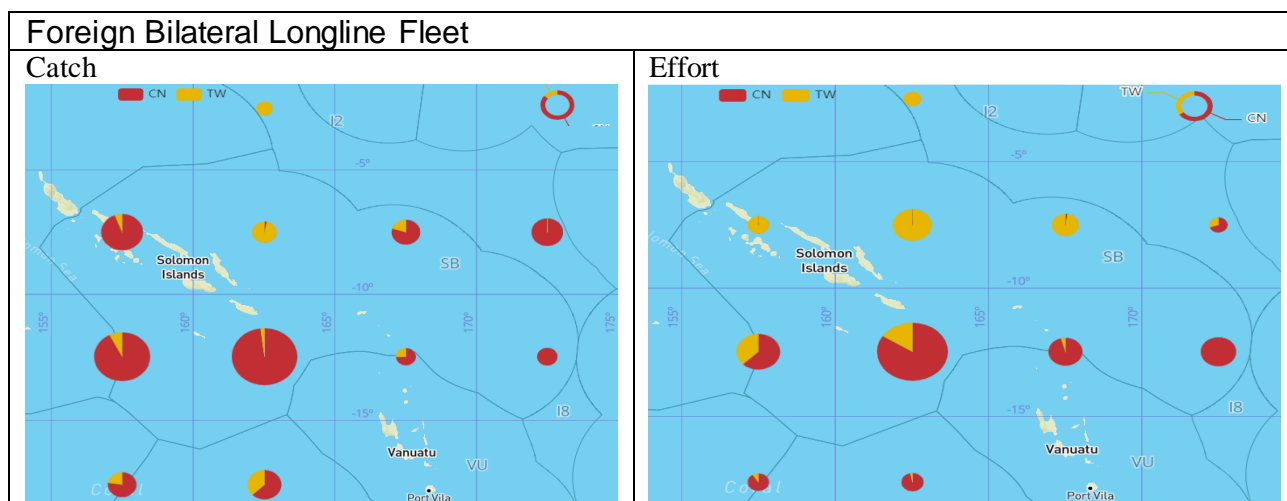


Figure 5.4 Annual catch and effort distribution for Foreign Longline fleet in 2022. (Source: SPC CES 2 Report, 2023).

Section 6: SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS

The tuna fisheries of the Solomon Islands play a crucial role in the country's socio-economic development, providing significant income and incentives both directly and indirectly. This sector is vital for the national economy, contributing to revenue generation and social progress. The government prioritizes the tuna fishery as a strategic platform, focusing on processing and branding locally caught tuna to enhance value and attract investment, ensuring long-term food security and sustainable benefits.

Government initiatives include facilitating access operations for fishing activities through bilateral arrangements, generating financial remuneration from license fees, taxes, fines, levies, and other charges. These revenues are reinvested into national infrastructure and public services, significantly impacting the socio-economic structure of the country. The production of canned tuna by Soltuna Company Ltd, widely consumed domestically, exemplifies the sector's long-term benefits and the country's valuation of its tuna resources.

Employment in the tuna industry is substantial, with companies like Soltuna employing around 3,000 workers annually as of 2023. Other fishing industries also provide jobs for fishing crews, onshore workers, logistics personnel, and casual workers at ports. The artisanal fishery sector further boosts employment, involving numerous fishers and operators. This widespread employment supports the livelihoods of many and indicates growth within the fisheries sector.

Export revenues from tuna have been valuable for decades, providing opportunities for overseas markets and attracting genuine investors. The government seeks to expand global market access for its tuna products through trade negotiations, driving socio-economic reforms domestically and gaining momentum on the regional and international stages. Domestically, tuna is a culturally valuable asset and a primary protein source, with commercial and artisanal fisheries normalizing reliance on fishers for processed tuna products. This widespread consumption underscores the profound impact of the tuna industry on the local economy and the daily lives of the Solomon Islands' population.

Section 7: DISPOSAL OF CATCH

In 2023, the disposal of catch offloaded and processed in Honiara and Noro ports in Solomon Islands. Following the distribution process of landing catches from port through the processing chain where container storages and cannery to exports. Landing of catches are monitored and all processed information are collected for ensuring quality data and traceability of the fish products (tuna) are properly handled and meet the standard requirements. Below table shows the disposal of catches landed from the vessel fleet (Purse Seine, Longline and Pole & Line) operated in Solomon Islands EEZ in 2023.

Table 8: Disposal of Catches distributions in Honiara and Noro port from the fishing fleet (Purse Seine, Longline and Pole & Line) operated in Solomon Islands EEZ. (Source: MFMR Fish Accountancy extracted records, 2023)

DISPOSAL OF CATCHES DISTRIBUTIONS MONITORED IN HONIARA AND NORO PORT FROM FISHING FLEET OPERATED IN SOLOMON ISLANDS EEZ IN 2023																
Activities	Skipjack(Mt)			Yellowfin(Mt)			Bigeye(Mt)		Albacore(Mt)		Billfish(Mt)		Sharks(Mt)		Other(Mt)	
	PS	LL	PL	PS	LL	PL	PS	LL	PS	LL	PS	LL	PS	LL	PS	LL
Catch Declared at Port	56269	80	848	17797	6323	155	983	1429	0	4009	0	866	0	28	265	447
Transshipment	27373	3	0	4706	1776	0	466	389	0	7	0	109	0	7	799	378
Unloading for Export	0	0	0	0	166	0	0	35	0	2217	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sashimi Grade	0	0	0	0	1682	0	0	391	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Soltuna Cannery	0	0	592	0	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NFD Container	1265	0	228	654	0	130	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kitano Cold storage	0	0	0	211338	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Undersize	0	36	0	0	33	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1756	0
Local Sales	67	22	7	38	77	0	252	6	0	41	0	0	0	0	0	39
Bycatch	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	51

Offloading at Port (Honiara and Noro, where catches are landed and involves steps of sorting and initial processing to prepare the tuna catches for further distribution. From the offloading, catch portion are distributed to the cannery facilities (Soltuna Ltd) that play a crucial role in processing the fish into canned products or other processing forms. The fish undergoes further processing, which include cleaning, filleting, canning and packaging. From the quality control measures ensure the products meet health and safety standards for export. Through the process for exportation involves logistical coordination to ensure timely delivery and compliance with import regulations of various destination countries. For Solomon Islands fish products comprises of canned, loins, flakes, fish meal and oil with whole round fish container exports. Below is the reflection of the disposal of catches to overseas markets by country with export percentages for 2023.

Disposal of Catches Exported to Market Destination in 2023

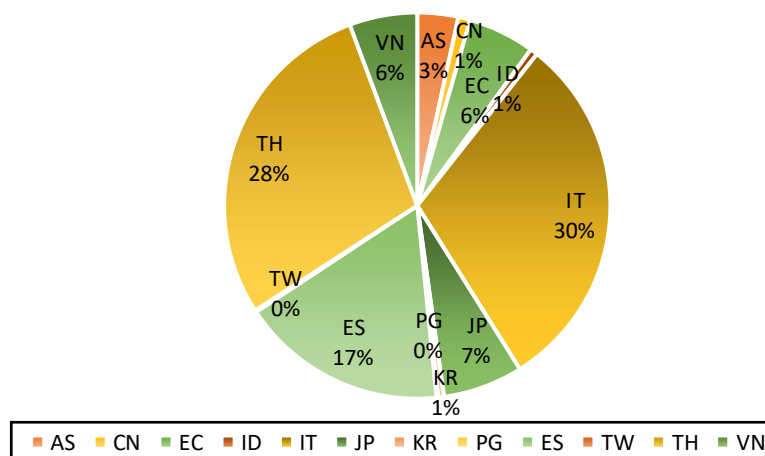


Figure 6: Disposal of Tuna catches exported by percentages to overseas market destination (country code) for 2023.

Section 8: ONSHORE DEVELOPMENT

The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources in the Solomon Islands has been diligently prioritizing fisheries projects for investment, particularly focusing on onshore development. These national initiatives aim to attract medium and large-scale investments across the country. A key government project is the Bina Processing Cannery plant, planned as the second processing facility in Malaita province. This significant investment is expected to enhance the fisheries sector by expanding the capacity to utilize and maximize fisheries resources, thus providing substantial economic benefits. Currently, the development is in progress with ongoing feasibility groundwork, logistical planning and site demarcation.

In addition to the Bina Processing Cannery, another major fisheries project is nearing completion: an Aquaculture hatchery and research centre. This facility is set to play a crucial role in securing food security and empowering domestic farmers by enabling their active participation in aquaculture. The Ministry is also focused on expanding fisheries services to provincial and local communities, working on strategic plans and a robust legal framework to support these efforts. These initiatives reflect the Ministry's commitment to enhancing the fisheries sector's contribution to the socio-economic development of the Solomon Islands.

Section 9: FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE FISHERY

The Solomon Islands government, through the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, is prioritizing the sustainability of tuna and other marine resources in response to challenges affecting their conservation. This effort involves implementing drastic measures and strategies to maintain resource stocks, with a focus on food security. The heavy demand on tuna stocks and changing fishing patterns require thorough scientific and technological investigation, alongside capacity building to address these challenges.

Economically, the government aims to maintain and enhance the benefits derived from tuna fisheries, acknowledging the historical significance of this resource for revenue generation. Future sustainability will require innovative strategies and alternative initiatives to sustain tuna fisheries. Investment in information technology and skilled human resources is paramount for developing the capacity to manage and sustain fisheries effectively. By adapting new technological approaches, the Ministry can enhance monitoring and evaluation processes, ensuring sustainable fishing practices.

Protected fisheries zones and a zone-based management approach are proposed to secure sustainable fishing activities within the archipelagic waters of the Solomon Islands. Given tuna's migratory nature and economic importance, these management steps are crucial. Effective fisheries governance, grounded in scientific procedures and thorough monitoring, will ensure that all catches are processed locally, boosting the economy through value-added exports. Collaborative negotiations with neighbouring island states and localized initiatives, such as operating small-scale vessels by domestic fishers and developing medium processing and cold storage facilities, are also key strategies. These efforts aim to enhance the fisheries sector's sustainability, ensuring long-term socio-economic benefits for the Solomon Islands.

Section 10: STATUS OF TUNA FISHERY DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS

Over the years, the Solomon Islands have seen significant improvements in their tuna fishery information systems due to enhanced data collection and monitoring efforts. The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources has effectively leveraged modern information systems to streamline these processes, ensuring efficiency and reliability in their operations.

10.1 Logsheet Data Collection and Verification

The Ministry has established robust mechanisms for collecting and disseminating logsheet data, working closely with fishing industries and operators who hold access licenses. Logsheet data, which include catch and effort records, unloading logs, and weekly reports, are received through hardcopies, emails, and e-log submissions. These logsheets are then entered into the SPC Tufman 2 database system by dedicated officers. Additionally, e-log data captured through FIMs-eReporting apps are integrated into the system. The verification process ensures that all data collected are validated and consistent with fishing trip reports, maintaining high data quality standards.

10.2 Observer Programme

The Observer Programme places human observers on fishing vessels to monitor operations and collect critical data, including catch rates, incidental catches, species biological samples and fishing tools used. These observers act as the Ministry's eyes and ears at sea. Despite challenges, particularly during the Covid-19 pandemic, the programme continues in 2023 where a good number of observers are boarding the fishing fleet as required. For 2023, the domestic fleet observer coverage for purse seine increased to 41% and for longline coverage is 2.5%, which requires reaching the 5% threshold as expected.

10.3 Port Sampling Programme

The port sampling programme has been inactive since 2015, with no sampling activities conducted at the designated ports of Noro and Honiara during this period by the Ministry.

10.4 Unloading/Transshipment

In 2023, unloading activities for both purse seine and longline fleets were successfully conducted. At Noro port, catches were stored in cool containers for export or processed at the Soltuna cannery, with undersized fish sold domestically. Honiara port facilitated similar operations. However, transshipment activities at Honiara port saw few records for purse seine fleet offloading and longline fleet transshipments were slowly peaking as fishing fleets are allowed to process the activities in port. Monitoring data from these operations were captured and input into the SPC Tufman 2 database system, enabling comprehensive reporting for the Ministry's operations.

10.5 Other Data Collection Methods

The Ministry has implemented the EReporting and EMonitoring systems on longline fleets as an alternative to human observers. These systems collect operational fishing data via on-board cameras, which are then analysed and processed. EReporting uses FIMs e-logs reporting apps on tablets, transmitting data to the PNA FIMs database system and subsequently importing it into the SPC Tufman 2 database system, although there have been issues with data flow

consistency. Additionally, the Ministry introduced the ePort system under the CDS implementation programme to enhance traceability from catch offloading to food chain distribution. This system currently operates at the Noro MFMR office, with plans for future expansion to the MFMR Honiara Head office.

These initiatives demonstrate the Ministry's commitment to improving data accuracy and resource management, ensuring the sustainable development of the tuna fishery in the Solomon Islands.

Section 11: RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

The fisheries sector in the Solomon Islands holds immense potential for research and exploration, crucial for sustainable management and effective decision-making. Scientific and technological advancements serve as the foundation for this endeavour, enabling thorough analysis, value addition and innovative solutions. Prioritizing research is essential to secure and sustain marine resources for future generations. Research focuses on several critical areas, each contributing significantly to the overall management of tuna resources.

11.1 Biological Studies Supporting Stock Assessments

The Ministry is dedicated to enhancing its efforts in gathering biological samples from key tuna species, with observers collecting data that scientists at the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) further process. SPC plays a pivotal role, providing training and programs such as annual Stock Assessment, Port Sampling, and Tagging Programs. These initiatives enable Solomon Islands to actively participate and implement effective stock assessment strategies, ensuring sustainable tuna fishery management.

11.2 Composition of Catch According to Length and Weight

Data collected at the national level regarding the length, weight and sex of catches are vital for sustainability and informed decision-making. These records indicate the appropriate sizes for harvesting and the distribution of tuna within the national Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Implementing such activities is facilitated by the scientific and technological support from SPC, which supplies log books and forms for accurate data recording on licensed fleets.

11.3 Environmental Factors, Abundance/Biomass Surveys, Oceanographic and Ecological Studies

The Ministry relies on scientific providers for advice and outcomes concerning environmental factors, abundance, and biomass surveys, as well as oceanographic and ecological studies. Understanding the impacts of environmental changes and fishing trends is crucial for informed management decisions. By focusing on these scientific analyses, the Ministry can better anticipate and mitigate the effects of environmental factors on tuna stocks, ensuring long-term sustainability. Overall, investing in scientific and technical research capacities is imperative for the Solomon Islands. These efforts will provide the necessary data and insights to manage tuna resources effectively, making informed decisions that balance economic benefits with sustainability. By building a robust research foundation, the Solomon Islands can ensure the prosperity of its fisheries sector for generations to come.



ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORT PART 1

8 April 2024¹

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

<p>CMM 2009-03 [Swordfish], Para 8</p>	<p>CCM-flagged# vessels south of 20S</p>		<p>Chartered vessels*</p>		<p>Other vessels fishing within the CCM's waters south of 20S</p>										
	<p>Year</p>	<p>Catch (tonnes)</p>	<p>Vessel numbers</p>	<p>Catch (tonnes)</p>	<p>Vessel numbers</p>	<p>Flag</p>	<p>Catch (tonnes)</p>	<p>Vessel numbers</p>							
	2019			1.336	2										
	2020			23.25	15										
	2021			0	0										
	2022			0	0										
	2023			0.948	1										
<p>Note: Refer to the information provided from 2019 to 2023 reporting year. Specific to 2023, indicates SWO catches as per recorded at the south of 20°S. Provided data set report are from the Longline chartered notification by CCM. (Source: SPC Tufman 2 Reporting 2918[Dorado 22], 2023).</p> <p>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.</p>															
<p>Observer coverage (WCPFC 11 decision – para 484(b))</p>	<p>CCM Fleet</p>	<p>Fishery</p>	<p>No. of Hooks</p>			<p>Days Fished</p>			<p>Days at Sea</p>			<p>No. of Trips</p>			<p>See NOTE</p>
			<p>Total estimated</p>	<p>Observer</p>	<p>%</p>	<p>Total estimated</p>	<p>Observer</p>	<p>%</p>	<p>Total estimated</p>	<p>Observer</p>	<p>%</p>	<p>Total estimated</p>	<p>Observer</p>	<p>%</p>	
Solomon Islands	Solomon Islands EEZ				10793	173	1.6	11440	259	2.3	242	6	2.5	Report against the 5% coverage.	
<p>Note: Information provided for 2023 and as per required the Observer coverage is very low and approximately 2.5% recorded. (Source SPC-Tufman 2 Database system-Report 2986, (2023)).</p>															

¹ Reporting requirements requested by CMMs and decisions of the Commission, as of WCPFC20 (Dec 2023). First issued on 8 April 2024. Changes made from Addendum for 2022 include the revised CMM 2023-03 for North Pacific Swordfish and **WCPFC20 Agreed Audit Points**.

CMM 2009-06
[Transshipment],
Para 11 (ANNEX
II)

(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	g) Fishing gear
offloaded	Kaohsiung	Transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	SKJ-409mt YFT-242mt BET-14mt	Frozen whole	Purse Seine
	Honiara	Transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	SKJ-0mt YFT-0mt BET-0mt	Frozen whole	Purse Seine
	Majuro	Transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	SKJ-256mt YFT-148mt BET-1mt	Frozen whole	Purse Seine
	Noro	Transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	SKJ-18,658mt YFT-8,658mt BET-416mt	Frozen whole	Purse Seine
	Rabaul	Transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	SKJ-421mt YFT-40mt BET-24mt	Frozen whole	Purse Seine
	Tarawa	Transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	SKJ-3,699mt YFT-462mt BET-78mt	Frozen whole	Purse Seine
received	Honiara	Transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	SKJ-19mt YFT-260mt BET-41mt ALB-455mt OTH-40mt	Frozen whole	Purse Seine
	Noro	Transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	SKJ-7mt YFT-101mt BET-34mt ALB-132mt OTH-2mt	Frozen whole	Purse Seine
	Suva	Transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	SKJ-1mt YFT-23mt BET-6mt ALB-64mt OTH-8mt	Frozen whole	Purse Seine

(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	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) fishing gear
offloaded	Kaohsiung (2 PS vessels)	Nb. Of Offloaded (2) transhipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	Purse Seine
	Honiara (1 PS vessel)	Nb. Of Offloaded (1) transhipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	Purse Seine
	Majuro (1 PS vessel)	Nb. Of Offloaded (1) transhipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	Purse Seine
	Noro (10 PS vessels)	Nb. Of Offloaded (72) transhipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	Purse Seine

CMM 2009-06
[Transshipment],
Para 11 (ANNEX
II)

	Rabaul (1PS vessel)	Nb. Of Offloaded (1) transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	Purse Seine
	Tarawa (3 PS vessels)	Nb. Of Offloaded (6) transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	Purse Seine
received	Honiara (39 LL vessels)	Nb. Of Offloaded (62) transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	Longline
	Noro (11 LL vessels)	Nb. Of Offloaded (9) transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	Longline
	Suva (1 vessel)	Nb. Of Offloaded (3) transshipped inside convention area	Caught inside convention area	Longline

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 transshipment 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
- (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;
 - 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; and
 - e. fishing gear.

**CMM 2011-03
[Impact of PS
fishing on
cetaceans], Para
5**

Flag	Gear	Species	Individuals	Fate	Gear Interact Type/Code	EEZ
SB	Purse Seine	Bottlenose Dolphin	3	DPA	Other	GL
		False Killer Whale	1	DPD	Entangled in gear	SB
		Pantropical Spotted Dolphin	3	DPU	Landed	SB
			2	DPD	Landed	PG
		Sei Whale	2	DPA	Broke through net	H4
		Spinner Dolphin	1	DPD	Landed	SB
2	DPD		Landed	PG		

Note: Master does not report any unintentionally encircled cetaceans as per required. Only provided data are extracted from the CCM [SB] flag purse seine fleet caught cetaceans as recorded from the observer data report on interactions. (Source: SPC Tufman 2 Database system-Report 3222, 2023).

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

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 [Solomon Islands] [South of 30°S; 25°S-30°S; North of 23°N; or 23°N – 25°S¹]. 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	
	Number of vessels	Number of hooks	Observed hooks	% hooks observed	Number	Rate ²
2019	53	12497194	1769001	15%	0	0
2020	27	5531700	0	0	0	0
2021	33	19565759	0	0	0	0
2022	43	20433472	0	0	0	0
2023	42	30599164	17744455	58%	0	0

1 Insert 'North of 23°N', 'South of 30°S', '25°S-30°S' or '23°N – 25°S'. For CCMs fishing in all areas, provide separate tables for each area.

2 Provide data as captures per one thousand hooks.

Table y: Proportion of mitigation types¹ used by the fleet in [2023].

Combination of Mitigation Measures	Proportion of observed effort using mitigation measures					
	South of 30°S	25°S-30°S	25°S to 23°N	North of 23°N		
No mitigation measures	0	0	6	0	0	0
Options required south of 25°S	TL + NS	0	0	0	0	0
	TL + WB	0	0	0	0	0

	NS + WB	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TL + WB + NS	0	0	0	0	0	0
	HS	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other options 25°S-30°S	WB	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TL	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other options north of 23°N	SS/BC/WB/DSLS	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SS/BC/WB/(MOD or BDB)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Provide any other combination of mitigation measures here	MOD	0	0	65	0	0	0
	NS	0	0	5	0	0	0
	NS + BDB	0	0	1	0	0	0
	NS + MOD	0	0	53	0	0	0
	NS + WB	0	0	2	0	0	0
	NS + WB + MOD	0	0	22	0	0	0
	WB + MOD	0	0	19	0	0	0
Totals (must equal 100%)							

¹ 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 [Solomon Islands] longline fisheries, 2023, by species and area.

Species	South of 30°S	25°S-30°S	North of 23°N	23°N –25°S	Total
E.g. Antipodean albatross					
Albatrosses Nei	0	0	0	1	1
Total					

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

<p><u>CMM 2006-04</u> [South West striped Marlin], Para 4</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="386 322 1133 600"> <thead> <tr> <th>Flag</th> <th>Year</th> <th>Vessels</th> <th>Catch (Number)</th> <th>Catch Weight (MT)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="5">Solomon Islands flag vessels</td> <td>2019</td> <td>26</td> <td>45</td> <td>2.313</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020</td> <td>24</td> <td>10</td> <td>0.445</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021</td> <td>19</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022</td> <td>10</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2023</td> <td>13</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: Information are records of SW-MLS caught by the flag chartered Longline fleet from 2019 to 2023. For 2023, no records of SW-MLS caught as required. (Source: SPC Tufman 2 Database system-Report 2917, 2023).</p> <p>AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that the CCM submitted in its ARPt1:</p> <p>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</p> <p>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.</p>	Flag	Year	Vessels	Catch (Number)	Catch Weight (MT)	Solomon Islands flag vessels	2019	26	45	2.313	2020	24	10	0.445	2021	19	0	0	2022	10	0	0	2023	13	0	0																									
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<p><u>CMM 2015-02</u> [South Pacific Albacore] Para 4</p>	<p>Addressed through the regular provision of operational catch/effort logsheet data to SPC, who automatically include these data in the WCPFC databases, as per our authorisation.</p> <p>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.</p>																																																			
<p><u>CMM 2019-03</u> [North Pacific Albacore], Para 3</p>	<table border="1" data-bbox="386 1214 1513 1406"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">CCM</th> <th rowspan="2">Area</th> <th rowspan="2">Fishery</th> <th colspan="3">2019</th> <th colspan="3">2020</th> <th colspan="3">2021</th> <th colspan="3">2022</th> <th colspan="3">2023</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Nb. of Vessels</th> <th>Vessel days</th> <th>Catch (Mt)</th> <th>Nb. of Vessels</th> <th>Vessel days</th> <th>Catch (Mt)</th> <th>Nb. of Vessels</th> <th>Vessel days</th> <th>Catch (Mt)</th> <th>Nb. of Vessels</th> <th>Vessel days</th> <th>Catch (Mt)</th> <th>Nb. of Vessels</th> <th>Vessel days</th> <th>Catch (Mt)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Solomon Islands</td> <td>Covention Area (North of Equator)</td> <td>Longline</td> <td>8</td> <td>380</td> <td>67.841</td> <td>3</td> <td>122</td> <td>57.507</td> <td>5</td> <td>64</td> <td>16.312</td> <td>6</td> <td>47</td> <td>31.839</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>0.42</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Note: Specific catch for NP-ALB caught at the prescribed areas does not applies for SB fleet as required North of equator. Provided information are records from 2018 to 2022. (Source: SPC Tufman 2 Database system-Report 2916, 2022).</p> <p>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.</p>	CCM	Area	Fishery	2019			2020			2021			2022			2023			Nb. of Vessels	Vessel days	Catch (Mt)	Nb. of Vessels	Vessel days	Catch (Mt)	Nb. of Vessels	Vessel days	Catch (Mt)	Nb. of Vessels	Vessel days	Catch (Mt)	Nb. of Vessels	Vessel days	Catch (Mt)	Solomon Islands	Covention Area (North of Equator)	Longline	8	380	67.841	3	122	57.507	5	64	16.312	6	47	31.839	2	3	0.42
CCM	Area				Fishery	2019			2020			2021			2022			2023																																		
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<p><u>CMM 2023-03</u> [North Pacific Swordfish], para 4</p>	<p>No Solomon Islands flagged vessels fished in the CMM area north of 20 degrees north and no catch was taken in 2023 respectively.</p>																																																			