

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE TWENTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION

Nuku'alofa, Tonga 13 – 21 August 2025

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

WCPFC-SC21-AR/CNM-32 8 July 2025

ECUADOR

The Commission for the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean

Scientific Committee Fourth Regular Session

Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea 11–22 August 2008

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

Purpose: To provide relevant information to the Commission on fishing activities of CCMs and cooperating non-CCMs, including management and compliance issues. The report should include all fishing activities for highly migratory species being undertaken within the Convention Area as required by the Convention and decisions by the Commission.

PART 1. INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS (Summary information for the <u>previous year</u>, complementary to data submitted¹)

Part 1 of the Annual Report is due one-month prior to the annual regular session of the Scientific Committee.

Part 1 of the Annual Report shall include the following, completed box at the front of the report.

	Scientific data was provided to the Commission	
	in accordance with the decision relating to the	[YES]
	provision of scientific data to the Commission by	
	30 April 2025	
ł	If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended ac	tions:
	It is attached to the current document.	
- 1		

ANNUAL FISHERIES INFORMATION

Essential information

Essential information							
	Annual catch and effort by primary	2019 – purse seiners					
I	species and gear in the WCPFC	SKJ 17 319 t					
	Convention Area	YFT 2 094					
		BET 5 519					
		TOTAL: 24 932					
		2020 – purse seiners					
		SKJ 8 988 t					
		YFT 1 045 t					
		BET 4 122 t					
		TOTAL: 14 155 t					
		10112.11135 (
		2021 – purse seiners					
		SKJ 10 511 t					
		YFT 1 268 t					
		BET 4 449 t					
		TOTAL: 16 228 t					
		101AL. 10 220 t					
		2022 – purse seiners					
		SKJ 14 211 t					
		YFT 2 127 t					
		BET 4 892 t					
		TOTAL: 21 230 t					
		1017LL. 21 230 t					
		2023 – purse seiners					
		SKJ 11 276 t					
		YFT 1 229 t					
		BET 2 289 t					
		TOTAL: 14 749 t					
		101AL. 14 /4/ t					
		2024 – purse seiners					
		SKJ 32 347 t					
		YFT 2 886 t					
		BET 3 595 t					
		TOTAL: 38 828 t					
		101AL: 30 020 t					

II	Number of vessels by gear type and size (fleet structure)	2019 : 7 purse seiners vessels 1500+ (5 active)		
		2020 : 7 purse seiners vessels 1500+ (4 active)		
		2021 : 7 purse seiners vessels 1500+ (5 active)		
		2022 : 7 purse seiners vessels 1500+ (5 active)		
		2023 : 7 purse seiners vessels 1500+ (5 active)		
		2024 : 7 purse seiners vessels 1500+ (5 active)		
III	Fishing patterns (catch by time/area)	The fishing zones of Ecuadorian vessels fluctuated between 00o 19 N and 00o 49 S of Latitude, and 80o1 W and 158o 40 W of Longitude.		

IV Estimated total catches of non-target, associated and dependent species (if available)

2019: About 0.935 tons of non-target species and 642 individuals (released)

2020: About 2.525 tons of non-target species and 353 individuals released (55 alive)

2021: About 3.463 tons of non-target species and 617 individuals released (203 alive)

2022: About 1.106 tons of non-target species and 348 individuals

2023: About 26 tons of non-target species and 932 individuals

2024: About 21 tons of non-target species and 1 483 individuals

Tons

CODE	WEIGHT		
BLM	1.01		
BUM	5.895		
WAH	2.957		
MLS	2.680		
DOX	8.608		

Individuals

The individuals incidentally captured were discarded. No retentions were identified in compliance with CMM and National Regulations:

CODE	INDIVIDUALS
FAL	350 (1 dead)
WAH	415
DOX	117
MLS	5
ocs	25 (alive, not seen before the FAD
	set)
SKH	8
SSP	7
SRX	2
SPN	2
LKV	1

¹ Catch/effort and scientific data in un-aggregated form supplied separately to the Commission in accordance with Scientific Data to be provided to the Commission.

Useful information

V	Developments/trends in the fishery (changes in fishing patterns, fleet operations, target species, level of transhipment, etc.)		
VI	VI Associated socioeconomic factors (which may influence or explain the above trends)		
VII	Disposal of catch (fresh/frozen/other)/market destination (export/domestic)		
VIII	Onshore developments (processing plants, support facilities, etc.)		
IX	Future prospects of the fishery (long term viability, expansion/contraction, etc.)		

RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

X	Summary of observer and port sampling programmes (scientific data)			
XI	Research activities (tunas, other species, species of special interest, oceanographic			
	influences, etc.)			
XII	Statistical data collection systems in use (describe)			
XIII	Data coverage of catch, effort and size data for all species			

Section	Sections in Annual Report				
1*	ABSTRACT/SUMMARY				
	for inclusion in the SC summary report				
2*	Tabular Annual Fisheries Information (see below)				
3	Background				
	for example, a brief historical description of national fisheries in the WCPFC Convention Area				
	WCFC Convention Area				
4*	Flag State Reporting				
•	describe recent activities by national fleets (by gear type) in the				
	Convention Area, including development/trends in each fishery (e.g. changes				
	in fishing patterns, fleet operations, target species, trends in size				
	composition, etc.)				
	Constal State Demonting				
5	Coastal State Reportingdescribe recent activities by foreign and domestic fleets in the waters of				
	national jurisdiction, including development/trends in each fishery (e.g.				
	changes in fishing patterns, fleet operations, target species, trends in size				
	composition, etc.)				
6	Socio-economic factors				
	Associated socioeconomic factors (which may influence or explain the above				
	trends)				
7	Disposal of catch Disposal of catch (fresh/frozen/other)/market destination (export/domestic)				
8	Onshore developments				
0	Onshore developments (processing plants, support facilities etc)				
9	Future Prospects of the fishery				
	Future prospects of the fishery (long-term viability, expansion/contraction,				
	etc.)				
10	Status of tuna fishery data collection systems				
	a. Logsheet data collection and verification				
	b. Observer programme				
	c. Port sampling programme d. Unloading/Transhipment				
	d. Unloading/Transhipment e. Other				
11	Research activities covering target and non-target species				
11	for example, biological studies supporting stock assessments; composition				
	of the catch according to length, weight and sex; research on environmental				
	factors, abundance/biomass surveys, oceanographic and ecological studies,				
	etc.				
Essential in	aformation				

^{*} Essential information

Tabular Annual Fisheries Information - [national fleet], for years [x-5] to [x-1]

The following table shows the suggested captions for the tables and figures required in Annual Report Part 1 covering Annual Fisheries Information.

Suggested	Suggested Table / Figure caption				
Table 1.	Annual catch and effort estimates for the [National fleet], by gear and primary species, for the WCPFC Convention Area and [other broad ocean area], for years [x-5] to [x-1].				
Figure 1	Historical annual catch for the [National fleet], by gear and primary species, for the WCPFC Convention Area presented as a line graph.				
Figure 2	Historical annual vessel numbers for the [National fleet], by gear for the WCPFC Convention Area presented as a line graph				
Table 2.	Number of [National fleet] vessels, by gear and size category, active in the WCPFC Convention Area, for years [x-5] to [x-1].				
Figure 3	Annual distribution of target species catch and effort by the [National fleet] active in the WCPFC Convention Area, for years [x-5] to [x-1].				
Table 3.	Observed annual estimated catches of species of special interest (seabird, turtle and marine mammals) by gear for the [National fleet], in the WCPFC Convention Area, for years [x-5] to [x-1] to the extent available.				
Table 4.	Annual estimated catches of non-target, associated and dependent species, including sharks, by the [National fleet], by gear and species, in the WCPFC Convention Area, for years [x-5] to [x-1] to the extent available.				
Table 5.	Estimated annual coverage of operational catch/ effort, port sampling and observer data for the [National fleet], by gear, active in the WCPFC Convention Area, by gear, for years [x-5] to [x-1].				

Notes

- 1. The **[national fleet]** data must be broken down by gear. Gear includes, but is not limited to, longline, purse seine, pole-and-line, troll, handline, ringnet and driftnet, where relevant. Tables and Figures can be labelled with (a), (b), (c), etc. for each gear.
- 2. The "primary species" catch covered in Table 1 should include, but not limited to, the following species, by gear type:

longline	albacore, yellowfin, bigeye, pacific bluefin and skipjack tuna. black, blue and striped marlin. swordfish		
purse seine	skipjack, yellowfin, bigeye, albacore and pacific bluefin tuna		
pole-and-line	skipjack, yellowfin, bigeye, albacore and pacific bluefin tuna		
troll	albacore, skipjack, yellowfin, bigeye and pacific bluefin tuna		
handline	yellowfin, bigeye, skipjack and albacore tuna		
[others]	albacore, skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna		

- 3. The catch estimates in Table 1 should be broken down by WCPFC Convention Area, depending on species, according to the section on "Annual Catch Estimates" contained in the document "Scientific Data to be provided to the Commission".
- 4. The vessel size classes by gear to be reported in Table 2 are defined in the section on "Number of vessels active" contained in the document "Scientific Data to be provided to the Commission".
- 5. Table 4 should cover all species not included in Tables 1 and 3.



ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORT PART 1

8 April 2024¹

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

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 under charter, lease or other similar mechanism as part of the domestic fishe					
	another CCM;					
	b. vessels operating under charter, lease or other similar mechanism as part of their domestic					
	fishery south of 20°S; and					
CMM 2009-03	c. any other vessels fishing within their waters south of 20°S.					
[Swordfish],	This information shall be provided in Part 1of each CCM's annual report. Initially, this					
Para 8	information will be 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.					
Tayan and a gasa and a gasan care a gasan and a gasan						
	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.					
	CCMs are to compile and include in Annual Report Part 1 to be submitted from 2015					
	onwards, observer coverage for their longline fleet activity in the previous calendar year,					
noting that revisions can be provided at the annual TCC meeting.						
Observer	A sample report format is provided as guidance to assist CCMs with reporting					
coverage (WCPFC	(WCPFC11 Summary Report Attachment L Table 4)					
11 decision – para						
484(b)	CCM Fleet Fishery Total Observe estimated r Ob					
	REPUBLIC OF Distant-water 23,632 1,575 6.6 %					

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.**

CCMs shall report on all transhipment activities covered by this Measure (including transhipment activities that occur in ports or EEZs) as part of their Annual Report in accordance 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 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 transshipped 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						
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	b) transhipped in port,	c) transhipped inside the	d) caught inside the	e) fishing gear
and received	transhipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction	Convention Area and transhipped outside the Convention Area	Convention Area and caught outside the Convention Area	
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
	THE WASHINGTON TO BE RELIGITED ANY MONEET BY COME
	Each CCM shall include in Part 1 of its Annual Report to the Commission:
CMM 2009-06	 (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;
[Transshipment], Para 11 (ANNEX II)	 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 transshipped 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;
	 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.
	CCMs shall include in their Part 1 Annual Report any instances in which cetaceans have been
CMM 2011-03	encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels, reported under paragraph 2(b).
[Impact of PS	AUDIT POINT [RP] Secretariat confirms that CCM submitted a report on instances in which
fishing on cetaceans], Para	cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets of flagged vessels and as reported in
5	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.

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^{0} S; 25^{0} S- 30^{0} S; North of 23^{0} N; or 23^{0} N – 25^{0} 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	Observed seabird captures			
	Number of vessels	Number of hooks	Observed hooks	% hooks observed	Number	Rate ²
[year]						
[year]						
[year]						
[previous year e.g. 2017]						
[current year e.g. 2018]						

¹ Insert 'North of 230N', 'South of 300S', '250S-300S' or '230N – 2500S'. For CCMs fishing in all areas, provide separate tables for each area.

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

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

² Provide data as captures per one thousand hooks.

Other options	SS/BC/WB/DSLS			
north of 23 ⁰ N	SS/BC/WB/(MOD			
	or BDB)			
Provide any other				
combination of				
mitigation				
measures here				
	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 [CCM] longline fisheries, 2012, 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					
[species name]					
[species name]					
[species name]					
[species name]					
[species name]					
[species name]					
Total					

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

I <u>N ANNUAL REI</u>	PORT PART 1, IF NOT OTHERWISE REPORTED ANNUALLY TO WCPFC
CMM 2006-04 [South West striped Marlin], Para	In accordance with paragraph 1, CCMs shall provide information to the Commission, by 1 July 2007, on the number of their vessels that have fished for striped marlin in the Convention area south of 15°S, during the period 2000 – 2004, and in doing so, nominate the maximum number of vessels that shall continue to be permitted to fish for striped marlin in the area south of 15°S. CCMs shall report annually to the Commission the catch levels of their fishing vessels that have 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. 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
	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 vessels that has taken South Pacific albacore, as well as the number of vessels actively fishing for South Pacific albacore, in the Convention area south of 20°S. Catch by vessel shall be reported 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 then updated annually.
CMM 2015-02	CCMs are encouraged to provide data from periods prior to these dates.
[South Pacific 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.

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:

CMM 2019-03

North **Pacific** Albacore], Para 3

Annex I: Average annual fishing effort for 2002-2004 and annual fishing effort for subsequent years for fisheries directed at North Pacific albacore in the North Pacific Ocean

ССМ	Area ¹	Araal	Fishery	2002-04 Average		Ye	ar	Ye	ar	Ye	ar	Ye	ear	Ye	ar	Ye	ar
CCIVI		rishery	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	No. of vessels	Vessel days	

* 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.

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.

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 levels²³.

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			
	CCM	Area ⁴	(gear type)	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days ⁵	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days	Catch (t)	No. of vessels	Fishing days
ĺ															

² 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.

³ 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.

⁴ If collective effort limits across the North Pacific Ocean, report the Area and North Pacific Ocean separately.

⁵ 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.