Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

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/CCM-07
15 July 2025

FIJI

Annual Part 1 Report to the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

WCPFC Scientific Committee
Nuku'alofa, Tonga
13–21 August 2025

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES – FIJI

2025-07-14

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 2025: [Yes/No]	Yes
If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions:	

Table of contents

1 Abstract / Summary

Fiji's National Long line Fleet continues to serve as a central pillar in Fiji's offshore fisheries development, underpinned by strong government policy to promote a domesticated tuna industry. From 2020 to 2024, the fleet demonstrated resilience and gradual recovery following the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated market and operational challanges. Total catch increased significantly in 2024, reaching 14,203 metric tons, up from 9,697 metric tons in 2023. This recovery was driven by a notable rebound in albacore catch,the fleet's primary target species,which increased to 8,889.59 metric tons in 2024.

The performance of the fleet reflects the effectiveness of Fiji's continued investment onshore based infrastructure, port services, compliance systems, and vessel monitoring, all of which support the long term vision of a robust, domestically managed fishery. Of the total catch in 2024, 74% was taken within Fiji's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), with the remainder taken in the high seas and in the waters of other Pacific Island countries under access agreements. The active national fleet stood at 50 vessels, operating well within the national license cap of 60 vessels, with the majority fishing exclusively in Fiji's EEZ.

These trends reaffirm the strategic progress made in strengthening Fiji's domestic fleet capacity, ensuring that economic returns, employment opportunities, and value addition remain within national boundaries while upholding regional sustainability commitments.

2 Background

Fiji comprises approximately 330 islands, of which around one-third are inhabited. The nation's maritime territory spans an extensive 1.3 million square kilometers of the South Pacific Ocean, with a total coastline of 1,129 km. The two largest islands, Viti Levu and Vanua Levu, host the majority of the country's population, infrastructure, and fisheries-related economic activity.

Fiji's national tuna fishing fleet is composed of domestically flagged longline vessels targeting albacore, bigeye, and yellowfin tuna,with tuna-like species as a by catch. A Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 12,000 metric tons has been established for the longline fishery operating within Fiji's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). In 2023, the total reported catch by Fiji's longline fleet was 9,829 metric tons, comprising harvests from both Fiji's EEZ, adjacent high seas and adjaccent EEZs. Of this, 66% of the 12,000 metric ton TAC set for the EEZ was harvested. In 2024, the catch recovered strongly, recording a total catch of 14,203 metric tons, 74% of which was caught within Fiji's EEZ,highlighting the increasing capacity and performance of Fiji's domestically based fishing industry.

The Ministry of Fisheries, through the Offshore Fisheries Division, continues to prioritize the effective Monitoring, Control, Surveillance, and Enforcement (MCS&E) of offshore fisheries, underpinned by the Offshore Fisheries Management Act 2012 and Regulations 2014. These

legislative instruments provide the foundation for sustainable management of highly migratory fish stocks within Fiji's jurisdiction, with enforcement provisions applied consistently across the EEZ and Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, including VMS tracking, observer deployment, at-sea inspections, port monitoring and other MCS systems.

From 2020 onward, the sector was significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which introduced logistical and operational constraints across all aspects of the industry. Despite these challenges, Fiji maintained effective oversight of its fleet and ensuring all fishing activities,such as transshipment, unloading, bunkering, and provisioning,were monitored and reported.

Fiji remains a responsible flag State, coastal State, and port State, and continues to support new and emerging initiatives aimed at combating Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, particularly in the post-COVID era. This includes strengthening national legal frameworks, participating and building regional cooperation, and enhancing data reporting and MCS. As an active member of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission , Fiji is committed to advancing science-based and regionally coherent management measures for highly migratory stocks.

At the community level, Fiji continues to implement programs aimed at enhancing the socio-economic well being of fishers and supporting the long-term viability of the sector. In partnership with development partners such as the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and other non-governmental organizations, the government has delivered training and outreach on sustainable fishing practices. These initiatives are complemented by ongoing investment in port infrastructure and capacity development to enhance the participation of local stakeholders in the tuna value chain.

In summary, while Fiji's offshore fisheries sector has faced significant external pressures in recent years, the government, together with industry, regional advisory bodies and development partners, continues to strengthen the resilience and performance of the sector. Through robust MCS systems, strong policy development, and a firm commitment to domestic sectoral development, Fiji is well positioned to support a sustainable future for its tuna fisheries.

2.1 Annual catch estimates for the national longline fleet

Table 2: Annual catch estimates for the Fiji longline fleet, by primary species and year, in the WCPFC Convention Area over 2020-2024

Species	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ALBACORE	6,664	6,438	7,418	6,378.59	8,889.59
BIGEYE TUNA	736	482	426	579.34	542.64
BLACK MARLIN	67	65	73	110.67	123.93
BLUE MARLIN	159	154	113	226.01	184.63
PACIFIC BLUEFIN TUNA	0	0	0	0.08	0.26
SKIPJACK TUNA	434	234	407	234.18	883.40
STRIPED MARLIN	22	24	12	50.81	43.34
SWORDFISH	106	62	41	74.39	63.48
YELLOWFIN TUNA	4,564	2,662	2,127	2,043.12	3,471.73
TOTAL	12,752	10,121	10,617	9,697.19	14,203.00

Table 2 presents the annual catch estimates for Fiji's National Longline Fleet from 2020 to 2024, covering catches from both within Fiji's EEZ,in areas beyond national jurisdiction under licensed arrangements and the High seas. The total catch in 2023 was 9,697 metric tons, representing a slight decrease from 10,617 metric tons in 2022. However, in 2024, the fleet recorded a significant increase in catch, reaching 14,203 metric tons—the highest over the five-year period.

Albacore tuna remained the dominant species throughout the period, with catches ranging from 6,320 mt in 2020 to 8,890 mt in 2024. After a decrease in 2021 and 2023, albacore catch recovered strongly in 2024, reinforcing its position as the principal target of the fleet.

Yellow fin tuna catch exhibited a decreasing trend from 4,279 mt in 2020 to 2,127 mt in 2022, followed by a modest increase in 2023 and a further increase to 3,472 mt in 2024.

Big eye tuna catches fluctuated more modestly, with the lowest volume in 2022 (426 mt) and an increase to 543 mt in 2024, suggesting stable but secondary targeting relative to albacore and yellow fin.

Tuna-like species, including marlins, swordfish, and other billfish, declined from 1,717 mt in 2020 to 883 mt in 2024.

The decline in total catch observed between 2020 and 2023 reflects the lingering impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which disrupted fishing operations, logistics, and demand in markets. Many vessels reduced fishing effort or suspended operations entirely during peak pandemic years. The strong recovery in 2024 highlights renewed fleet activity and improved operational conditions, signalling a positive outlook for Fiji's domesticated longline industry.

2.2 Catch discards for the year 2024

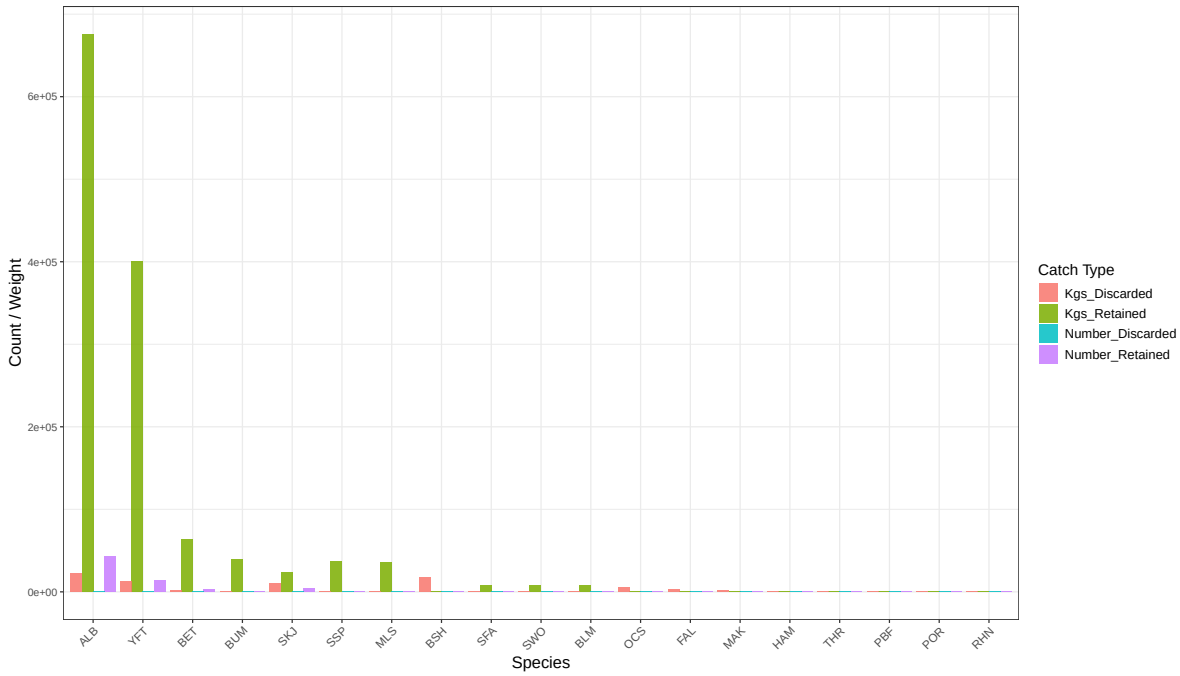

Figure 1: Summary of number and weight of retained and discarded catch by species for the Fiji longline fleet.

Figure 1 provides a breakdown of the number and weight of retained and discarded catch by species for the Fiji longline fleet, based on available observer and logsheet data. The results highlight notable species specific patterns in retention and discarding practices. Albacore, a primary target species, shows high retention rates both in number and weight, reflecting its importance to the fleet. In contrast, species such as blue shark and other non-target sharks contribute significantly to discards by weight, indicating ongoing interactions with bycatch species. These patterns underscore the importance of continued monitoring and bycatch mitigation efforts, particularly for vulnerable or non-commercial species, to support sustainable fisheries management and compliance with WCPFC conservation and management measures.

2.3 Historical annual catch estimates for the national longline fleet

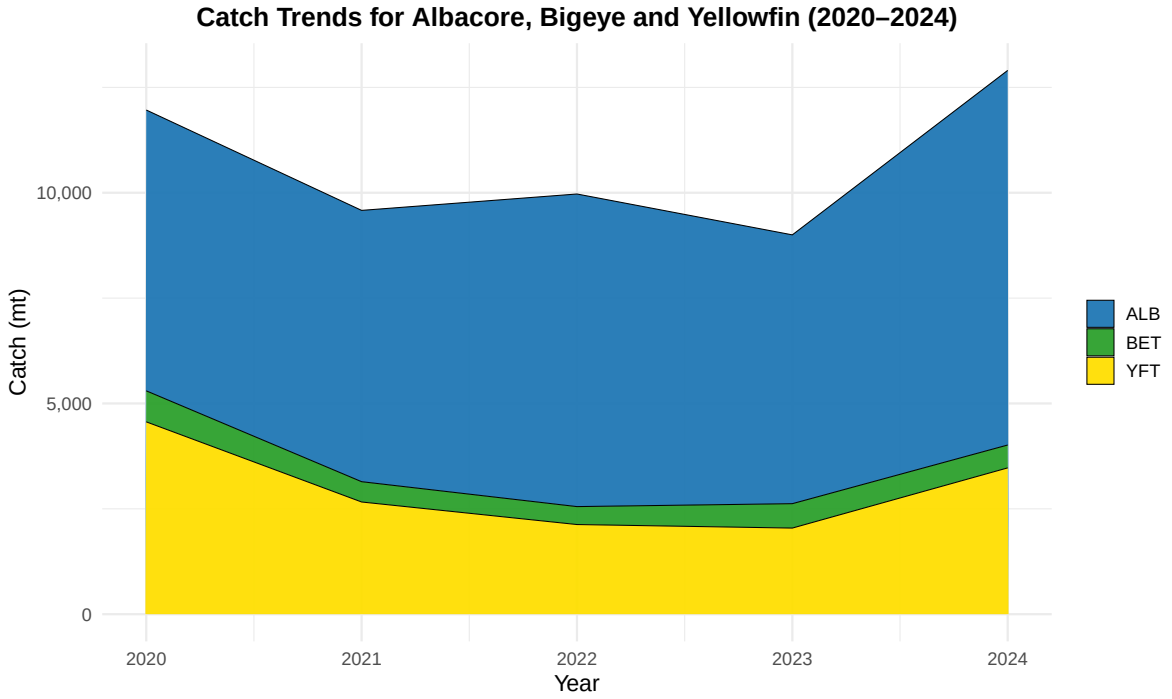

Figure 2: Annual catch [Metric tonnes] trends for Albacore, Bigeye and Yellowfin (2020–2024)

Figure 2 illustrates the annual catch trends from Fiji's national longline fleet for the period 2020 to 2024, by primary tuna species. Consistent with the data presented in Table 1, the fleet's operations remain predominantly focused on albacore tuna, which continues to comprise the largest share of annual catch volumes. This reflects Fiji's long-standing emphasis on targeting albacore as a key species within its domestic longline fishery. Yellow fin tuna represents the second most significant component of the catch, followed by bigeye tuna. While fluctuations in catch volumes are observed across years,partly influenced by oceanographic variability, effort distribution, and market access constraints,the species composition reaffirms commitment to improving by catch mitigation and maintain higher catch rates for targeted species

2.4 Historical annual vessel numbers for the national fleet

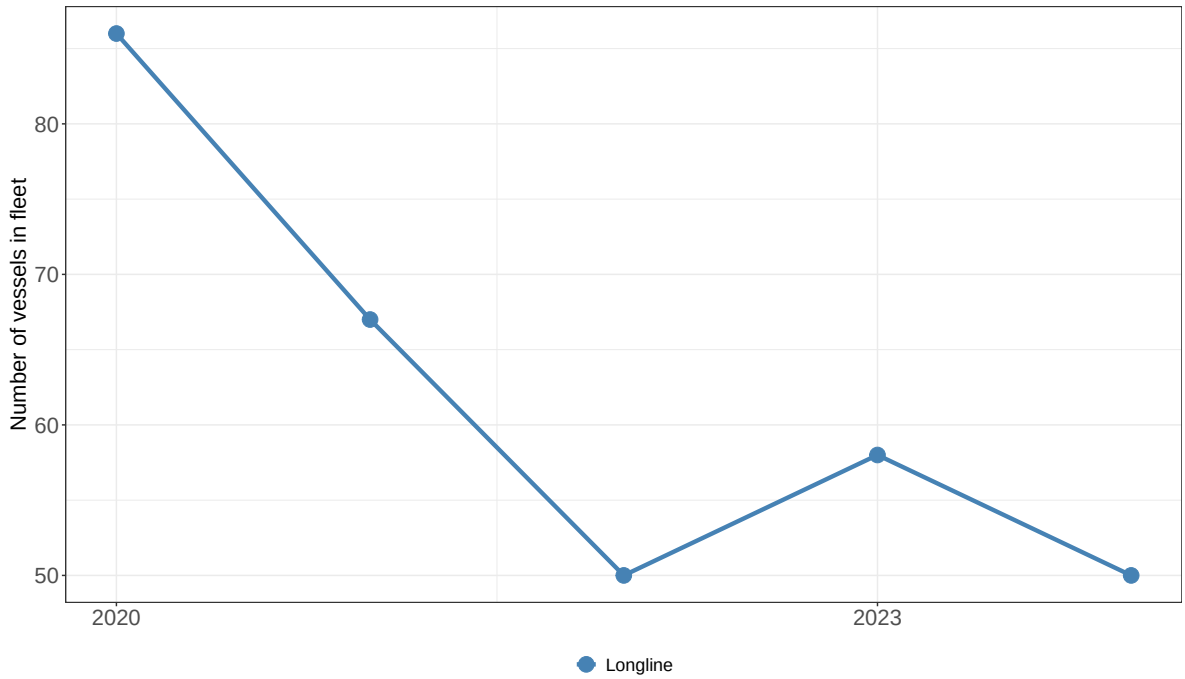

Figure 3: Historical annual vessel numbers for the Fiji fleet, by gear, for the WCPFC Convention Area

Figure 3 displays the total number of active vessels in Fiji's national longline fleet from 2020 to 2024. The fleet has undergone notable fluctuations over this period, beginning with a high of 86 vessels in 2020, followed by a steady decline to a low of 50 vessels in 2022. This trend reversed slightly in 2023 with an increase to 58 vessels before stabilizing at 50 vessels again in 2024.

2.5 Number of active vessels by gear and size category over recent years

Table 3: Number of Fiji longline vessels, by size category, active in the WCPFC Convention Area, over 2020-2024

Gear	Size Category (GRT)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Longline	0 - 50	14	7	5	6	8

Gear	Size Category (GRT)	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	51 - 200	66	54	41	48	42
	201 - 500	6	6	4	4	0
	500+	0	0	0	0	0

Table 3 shows the composition of Fiji's longline fleet by vessel size category (GRT) from 2020 to 2024. The majority of vessels consistently fall within the 51–200 GRT range, indicating a strong presence of medium-scale operations. These vessels typically support frozen-at-sea operations with the capacity for extended fishing trips targeting multiple species. In contrast, the 0–50 GRT category, which has seen a gradual increase in recent years, primarily comprises smaller vessels operating shorter trips focused on supplying fresh tuna markets, a segment often associated with higher product value but limited fishing range. The absence of larger vessels (above 500 GRT) and the decline in the 201–500 GRT class suggest a contraction in large-scale offshore capacity, possibly influenced by operational costs. Overall, the vessel size distribution not only reflects the structure of Fiji's fleet but also points to a balance between supplying both fresh and frozen export markets through differentiated operational strategies.

2.6 Number of hooks deployed vs annual number of vessels

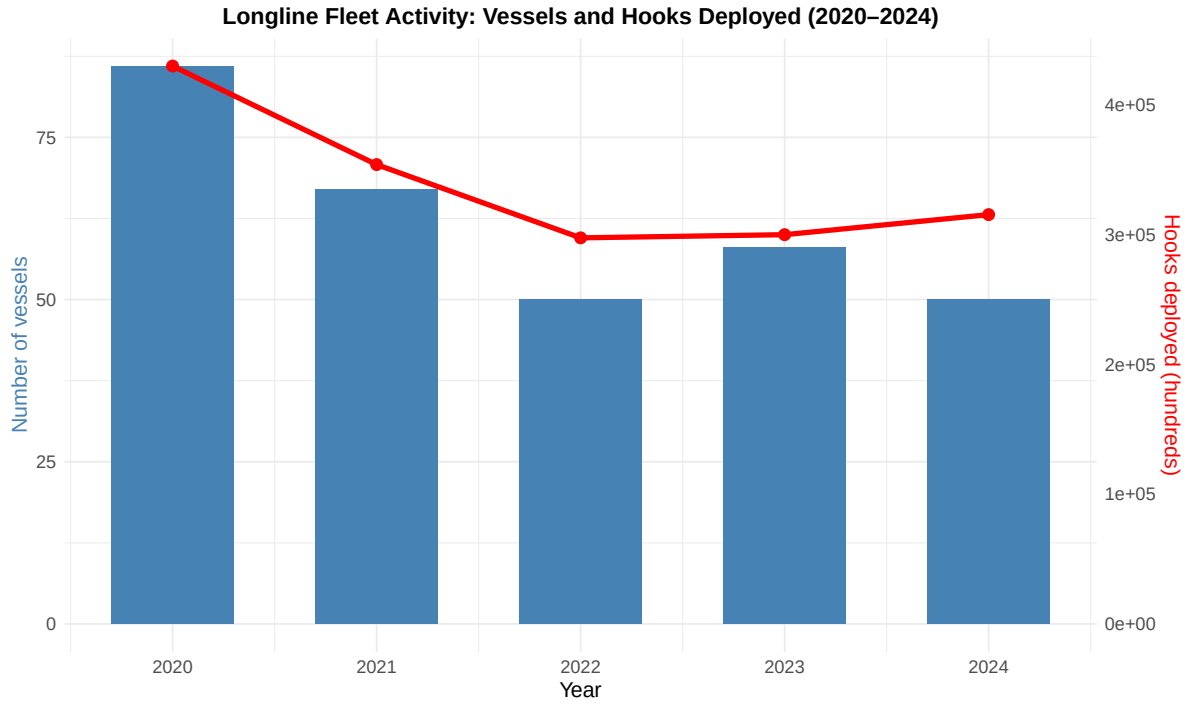

Figure 4: Annual number of vessels (bars) and hooks deployed (line, in hundreds) for the longline fleet, 2020–2024.

Figure 4 illustrates annual trends in the number of vessels and hooks deployed by Fiji's longline fleet from 2020 to 2024. While the number of vessels declined over the period, particularly after 2020, there was a slight upward trend in the number of hooks deployed. This suggests that individual vessels were operating more intensively, maintaining or increasing fishing effort despite fewer active boats. As highlighted in earlier tables, total catch increased during this same period, indicating an overall improvement in catch per unit effort (CPUE). This reflects positively on the operational efficiency of the fleet and may signal favorable fishing conditions .

2.7 CPUE BY SPECIES FROM 2020 TO 2024

Figure 5 illustrates the annual CPUE (catch per 100 hooks) for Fiji's longline fleet between 2020 and 2024, aggregated by key tuna species: albacore, yellowfin, and bigeye tuna, along with a grouped category for other tuna-like species. The graph shows relatively stable overall CPUE, with notable year to year variation in species composition. Albacore dominates the CPUE in most years, reflecting its consistent contribution to the fishery. Yellowfin and bigeye

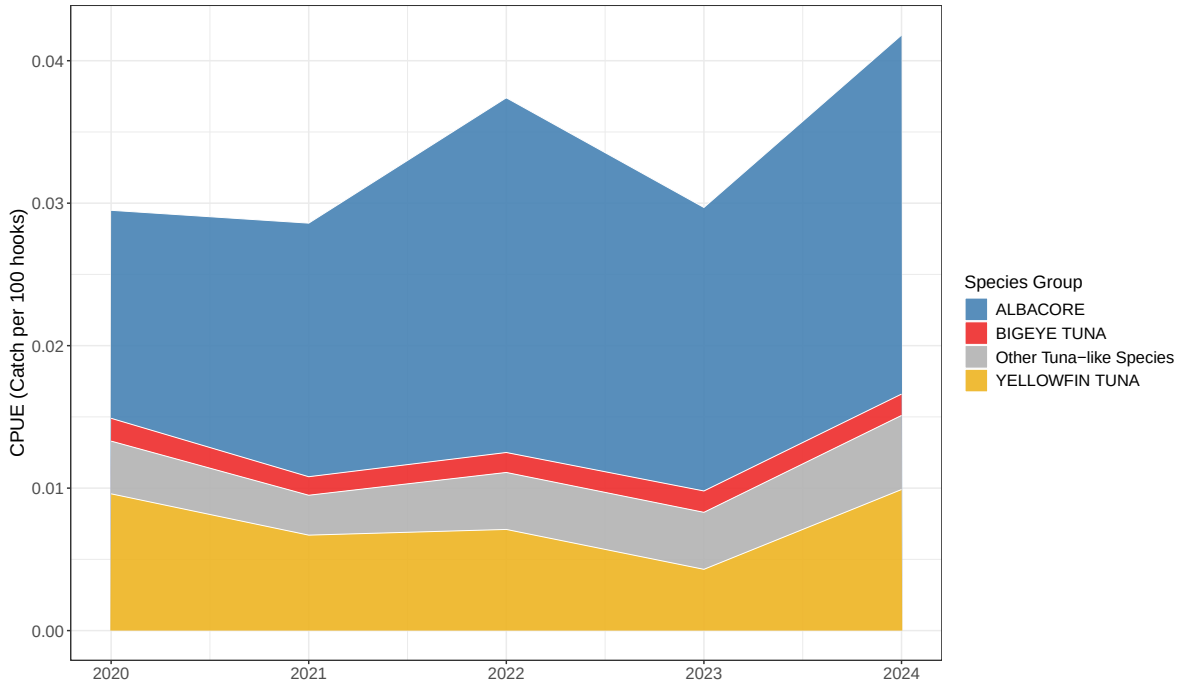

Figure 5: Annual CPUE (Catch per 100 hooks) for the Fiji longline fleet, disaggregated by species group (2020–2024).

tuna contribute smaller but steady proportions, while the "Other Tuna-like Species" category fluctuates.

2.8 Distribution of catches of target species for different national fisheries

Figure 6 presents the spatial distribution of catch (in metric tonnes) by species , Albacore, Bigeye tuna, and Yellowfin tuna , from Fiji's longline fleet across the period 2020–2024. The figure highlights key fishing areas in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, primarily concentrated within and just outside Fiji's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).

Across all years, Albacore catch is the most widely distributed and consistently concentrated in the southern zones, reflecting its dominance in Fiji's longline catch composition and its preference for cooler waters. The intensity of catches (as shown by red and yellow tiles) was highest in 2022, with a noticeable clustering around southern Fiji.

Bigeye and Yellowfin catches show a more dispersed and variable spatial pattern over the years, with Bigeye often caught further north of the main Albacore zones. Yellowfin tuna displays a moderate spread, typically overlapping with Albacore zones but generally lower in volume.

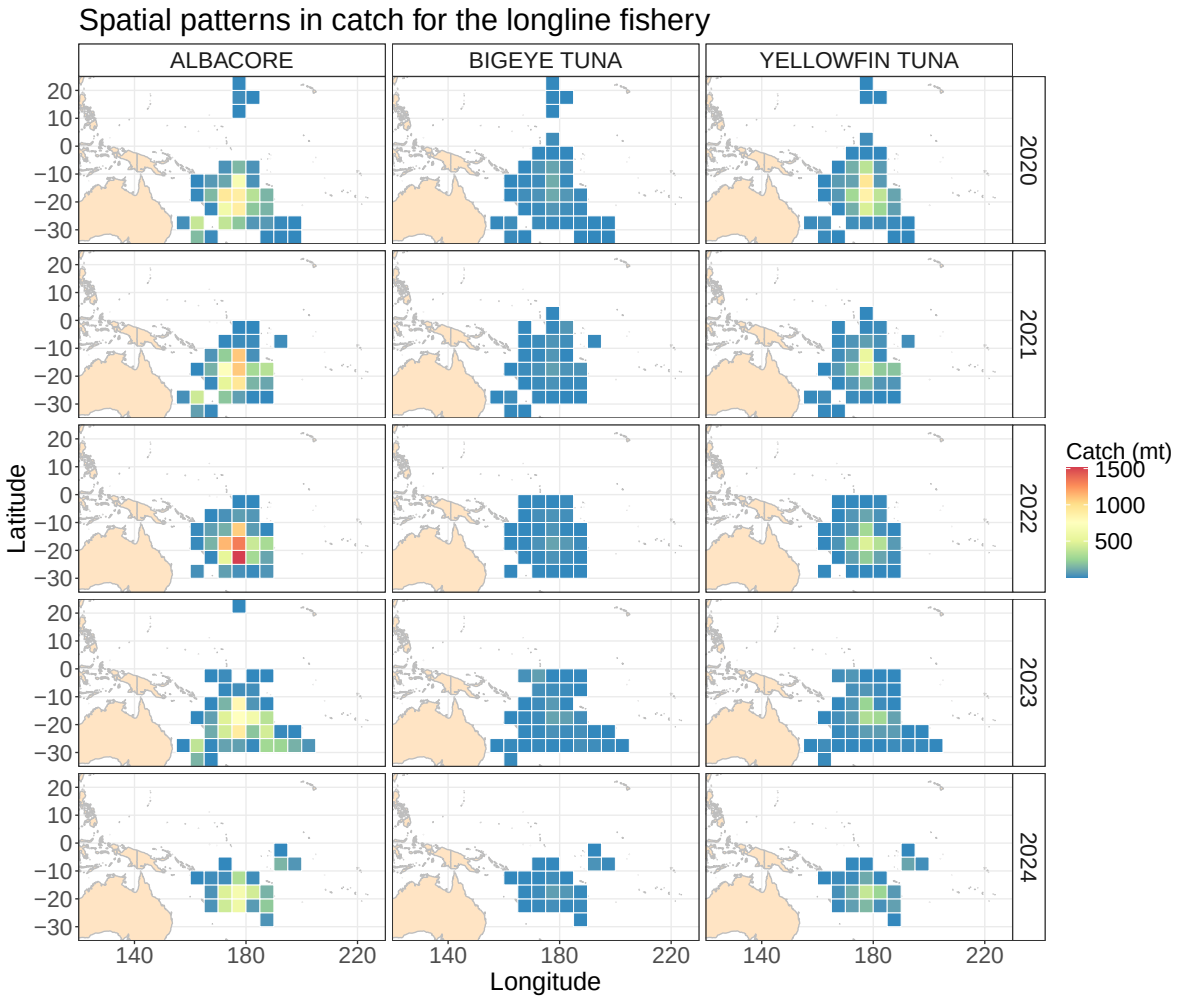

Figure 6: Map showing the distribution of target species catch (mt) for the Fiji longline fishery.

2.9 Distribution of effort by the domestic fleet

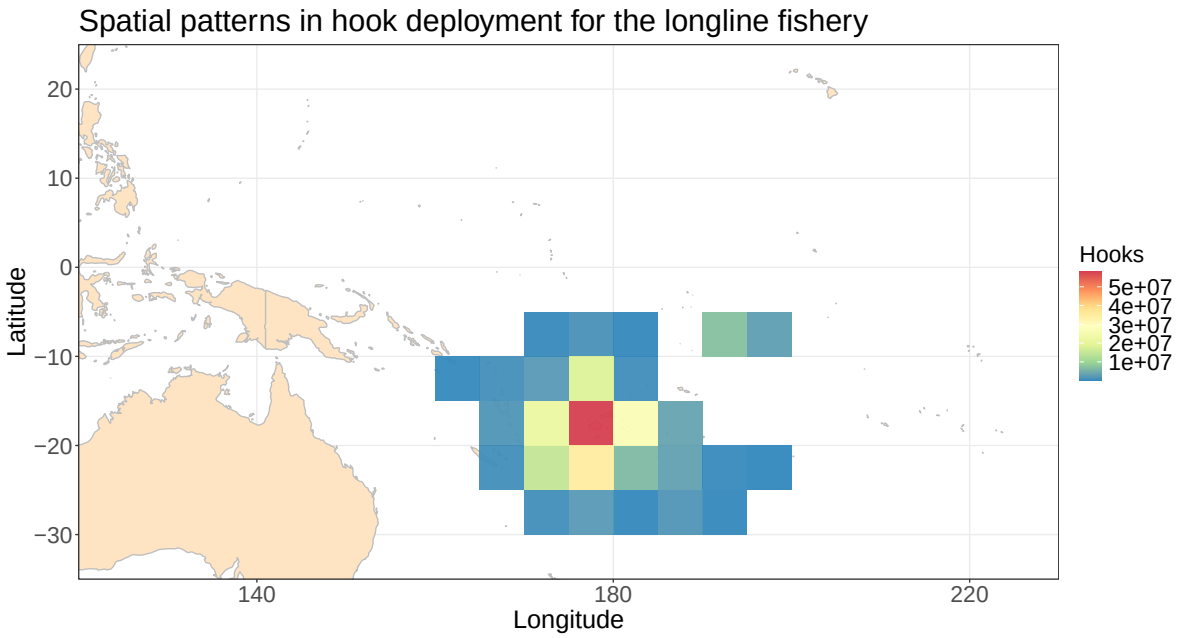

Figure 7: Heatmap showing distribution of hooks deployed by the Fiji longline fleet over 2020-2024.

Figure 7 presents a spatial heat map of hook deployments by Fiji's longline fleet from 2019 to 2023 across the Western and Central Pacific Ocean. The map illustrates fishing effort density, with warmer colors indicating areas of higher hook deployment. The most intensive activity is

concentrated within Fiji's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), demonstrating the strategic focus on domestic operations. Additional moderate effort is observed in high seas pockets to the east and northeast. Some effort is also visible within the EEZs of neighboring Pacific Island countries, notably Tonga.This distribution underscores Fiji's commitment to developing its domestically based fleet while maintaining regional operational flexibility in accordance with WCPFC conservation and management measures.

2.10 Captures of species of special interest (SSIs)

2.10.1 Observed catches of SSIs by the longline fleet

Table 4: Observed annual estimated catches of species of special interest (seabird, turtle and marine mammals) by the Fiji longline fleet, in the WCPFC Convention Area, for years 2020-2024

Year	Category	Species	Alive	Dead	Total
2020	BIRDS	BOOBIES AND GANNETS NEI	0	1	1
2020	MARINE MAMMALS	ROUGH-TOOTHED DOLPHIN	1	0	1
2020	MARINE MAMMALS	SHORT-FINNED PILOT WHALE	0	1	1
2020	MARINE MAMMALS	STRIPED DOLPHIN	0	1	1
2020	MARINE REPTILES	FLATBACK TURTLE	1	0	1
2020	MARINE REPTILES	GREEN TURTLE	10	9	20
2020	MARINE REPTILES	HAWKSBILL TURTLE	3	6	9
2020	MARINE REPTILES	LEATHERBACK TURTLE	2	0	2
2020	MARINE REPTILES	LOGGERHEAD TURTLE	1	6	7
2020	MARINE REPTILES	OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLE	0	1	1
2020	RAYS	GIANT MANTA	8	0	8
2020	RAYS	MOBULA	3	0	3
2021	MARINE MAMMALS	BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN	1	0	1
2021	MARINE MAMMALS	FALSE KILLER WHALE	1	0	1
2021	MARINE MAMMALS	SHORT-FINNED PILOT WHALE	1	0	1
2021	MARINE MAMMALS	SPINNER DOLPHIN	1	0	1
2021	MARINE REPTILES	GREEN TURTLE	0	5	5

Year	Category	Species	Alive	Dead	Total
2021	MARINE REPTILES	HAWKSBILL TURTLE	5	0	5
2021	MARINE REPTILES	MARINE TURTLES NEI	1	0	1
2021	MARINE REPTILES	OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLE	1	0	1
2021	RAYS	GIANT MANTA	7	0	7
2021	RAYS	MOBULA	2	0	2
2022	MARINE MAMMALS	SEI WHALE	0	1	1
2022	MARINE MAMMALS	SPINNER DOLPHIN	0	1	1
2022	MARINE REPTILES	GREEN TURTLE	1	5	6
2022	MARINE REPTILES	HAWKSBILL TURTLE	0	2	2
2022	MARINE REPTILES	LEATHERBACK TURTLE	0	0	1
2022	MARINE REPTILES	LOGGERHEAD TURTLE	1	1	2
2022	MARINE REPTILES	OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLE	0	1	1
2022	RAYS	GIANT MANTA	1	0	1
2023	MARINE MAMMALS	ROUGH-TOOTHED DOLPHIN	0	1	1
2023	MARINE REPTILES	GREEN TURTLE	0	2	2
2023	MARINE REPTILES	HAWKSBILL TURTLE	0	1	1
2023	MARINE REPTILES	LOGGERHEAD TURTLE	1	0	1
2023	RAYS	GIANT MANTA	1	0	1
2024	MARINE REPTILES	GREEN TURTLE	1	1	2
2024	MARINE REPTILES	LOGGERHEAD TURTLE	0	1	1
2024	MARINE REPTILES	OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLE	1	1	2
2024	RAYS	GIANT MANTA	2	1	3
2024	RAYS	MOBULA	2	0	2

Table 4 provides a summary of observed interactions with non-target species by Fiji's long-line fleet from 2020 to 2024. Marine reptiles were the most commonly recorded group, with frequent interactions involving green, hawksbill, and loggerhead turtles. Interactions with marine mammals were limited, including occasional sightings of dolphins and pilot whales. Rays, including giant mantas and mobulas, were recorded across several years and were generally

released alive.

2.11 Annual catch estimates for non-target, associated and dependent species for the national longline fleet

Table 5: Annual estimated catches of non-target, associated and dependent species, including sharks, by the Fiji longline fleet, in the WCPFC Convention Area over 2020-2024

Species	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
BLUE SHARK	82	906	1,242	1,432.67	141.39
HAMMERHEAD SHARKS NEI	0	34	6	0.00	0.00
INDO-PACIFIC SAILFISH	0	0	0	0.00	41.51
MAKO SHARKS	14	179	69	104.87	17.52
OCEANIC WHITETIP SHARK	25	150	92	219.38	46.99
PORBEAGLE SHARK	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
SHORTBILL SPEARFISH	0	0	0	0.00	118.60
SILKY SHARK	72	113	19	119.55	29.12
THRESHER SHARKS NEI	1	4	1	2.44	0.83
WHALE SHARK	0	0	0	0.00	0.00

Table 5 presents reported interactions with various shark and billfish species by Fiji's longline fleet. Blue sharks accounted for the highest number of records, followed by oceanic whitetip and silky sharks. Mako sharks were also observed in moderate numbers. Interactions with thresher, hammerhead, and other shark species were limited, while no records were reported for porbeagle and whale sharks. Billfish encounters, such as shortbill spearfish and Indo-Pacific sailfish, were absent or minimal.

3 Marketing and Development

Fiji's tuna industry plays a vital role in the country's economy and provides employment opportunities for many locals.

The industry primarily focuses on the capture and processing of various fish species, with tuna being one of the key targets and thriving in its major markets, including Japan, the United

States of America, and the EU. These markets primarily demand sashimi-grade fish, while fish products for cannery are exported to Thailand, American Samoa, Taiwan, and Vietnam.

Additionally, Fiji has its own canneries based in Suva and Levuka, which contribute to the domestic market.In the year 2024, a significant quantity of tuna & tuna-like species was unloaded and exported by Fiji licensed vessels, as well foreign vessels licensed in other EEZs, totaling in 34,410MT. Out of this, 61.5% (21,149.98) comprised albacore products, making it the largest category in Fiji's total exports. Bigeye tuna accounted for 4.3 % (1,480.32 mt), followed by yellow fin tuna products at 30.1% (10,362.18 mt). Other species made up the remaining 4.1% (1417.86mt).

The fishing industry in Fiji has encountered significant challenges, particularly in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has disrupted global trade and market dynamics. However, despite these obstacles, the industry has demonstrated remarkable resilience and adaptability.

It has managed to sustain its operations by exporting tuna and tuna-like species to international buyers, while also meeting the local demand by selling both targeted and non-targeted species.

This showcases the industry's ability to navigate through difficult circumstances and maintain its contribution to the domestic and international markets.

The Fijian government recognizes the importance of the fishing industry and has implemented measures to support its growth and sustainability. This includes periodic reviews of Fisheries Regulations, industry support, market access and certifications to ensure they are aligned with current market conditions and industry needs. These efforts aim to create a favorable environment for fishermen, processors, and canneries, fostering the development of Fiji's fishing industry and contributing to the country's overall economic prosperity. Overall, Fiji's tuna industry remains robust, adapting to market demands and implementing regulatory changes to support its growth and resilience in the face of challenges.

4 Status of tuna fishery data collection systems

Table 5. Estimated Annual Coverage, [2018 – 2024]

PERCENTAGE COVERAGE (%)							
DATA TYPE	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
LOGSHEET	96	95	97	97	99	99	99.05
OBSERVER [# OF TRIPS]	38.9	20.6	22.9	16	28.26	20.6	20
PORT SAMPLING	56	28	65	36	60	66	71
TRANSHIPPMENT	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Figure 8: Figure: Coverage of fisheries data types by year

a. Logsheet data collection and verification The reconciliation of data sets (log sheets and landing) was maintained at 99%. The Data Registrar ensures the prompt submission of log sheets and landing by companies to maintain a high reconciliation percentage.

b. Observer programme In 2024, Fiji's national observer coverage stood at 20%, a decrease from 28.26% in 2022, which had reflected a notable recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the decline, coverage remains above the WCPFC's minimum standard of 5% as required under relevant Conservation and Management Measures (CMMs).Fiji deploys national observers on board its domestically flagged fleet operating both within Fiji's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and in areas beyond national jurisdiction (ABNJ). Additionally, Fiji contributes observers to sub-regional programmes, including under the US Multilateral Treaty. The Fiji Observer Programme—encompassing both national and regional placements—has maintained its engagement through continued deployments on Fiji vessels, in accordance with national COVID-19 protocols and guidelines.

c. Fiji's port sampling program is conducted on the national longline fleet at Suva Port. In 2023, a total of 142 port sampling were completed against an annual target of 144 (98% achieved). Sampling is undertaken by the designated port sampler and by observers when not on placements. All species and size composition data are submitted to SPC for processing. All species and size compositions are submitted to SPC.

d. Fiji Observers are de-briefed at the end of every trip to ensure data reporting quality is maintained. In 2024 a total of 75 trips were debriefed, registered and processed. Fiji maintains a minimum 95% accuracy debriefing standards on observer placement trip reports.

e. A total of 35 biological samplings was conducted by Fiji observers in 2024.

5 ADDENDUM TO PART 1 REPORT

5.0.1 Section A

5.0.1.1 CMM 2009-03 [Swordfish], Para 8

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 fishery of another CCM;
b. vessels operating under charter, lease or other similar mechanism as part of their domestic fishery south of 20°S; and
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 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*

Table 6: Total number of vessels fishing for swordfish and the catch (mt) of swordfish south of 20S.

flag	year	vessels	swo_n	swo_mt
FJ	2022	45	300	17
FJ	2023	48	547	35
FJ	2024	48	454	24

In 2024, a total of 24 metric tonnes of swordfish were caught south of 20°S by 48 Fiji-flagged longline vessels, consistent with reporting obligations under WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2009-03. These catches, comprising **454** individual swordfish, were recorded as part of routine operations and were taken as **non-target species**. The data continues to reflect the incidental nature of swordfish catch in Fiji's longline fishery operating in the southern area of the Convention.

5.0.1.2 Observer coverage (WCPFC11 decision - para 484(b))

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.

A sample report format is provided as guidance to assist CCMs with reporting (WCPFC11 Summary Report Attachment L Table 4).

Table 7: Observer coverage of longline fleet activity where hooks are in hundred hooks from logbook data and fishing days, sea days, and trips are all calculated from VMS data. Coverage percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number.

			Hooks			Fishing days			Sea days			Trips		
year	flag	gear	hooks	obs	cov %	fish days	obs	cov %	sea days	obs	cov %	trips	obs	cov %
2,024	FJ	L	336,970	40,335	12	11,835	1,712	14	12,536	2,966	24	581	118	20

The table 2 shows 2023 Observer coverage for Fiji was 20 % based on observed trips.

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

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; and

g. fishing gear used

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2009-06 on transhipment, 124 transhipment events occurred in Fiji's Fisheries Waters by 9 Fiji National longline fleet as in Tables below. The transshipped species which are listed in the tables below were all caught inside the Convention Area.

Table 3A; the total quantities, by weight, of highly migratory fish stocks covered by this measure that were transshipped by fishing vessels the CCM is responsible for reporting against, with those quantities broken down by:

a) Offloaded and Received	b) Transhipped in port, transhipment at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipment beyond aread of national jurisdiction	c) Transhipped inside the convention Area transhipped outside the Convention Area	d) Caught inside the convention Area and caught outside the convention Area	e) Species	Weight(MT)	f) Product From	g) Fishing Gear
Offloaded [43.22 MT]	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	ALBACORE	24.82	FRESH	LL
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	BIGEYE	2.20	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	YELLOWFIN	16.84	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	BLUE MARLIN	-	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	BLACK MARLIN	0.68	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	MAHIMAHI	0.73	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	SKIPJACK	0.58	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	SPEARFISH	0.30	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	STRIPED MARLIN	0.47	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	SWORDFISH	0.62	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	WAHOO	1.10	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	OTHERS	0.31	FRESH	

Figure 9: Offloaded Summary

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

Table 3C; the number of transshipments 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, transhipment at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipment beyond aread of national jurisdiction	c) Transhipped inside the convention Area transhipped outside the Convention Area	d) Caught inside the convention Area and caught outside the convention Area	e) Species	Weight(MT)	f) Product From	g) Fishing Gear
Received [43.22 MT]	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	ALBACORE	24.82	FRESH	LL
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	BIGEYE	2.20	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	YELLOWFIN	16.84	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	BLUE MARLIN	-	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	BLACK MARLIN	0.68	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	MAHIMAHI	0.73	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	SKIPJACK	0.58	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	SPEARFISH	0.30	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	STRIPED MARLIN	0.47	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	SWORDFISH	0.62	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	WAHOO	1.10	FRESH	
	Fiji Archipelagic and Territorial Sea	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	OTHERS	0.31	FRESH	

Figure 10: Received Summary

Table 3C; the number of transshipment 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, transhipment at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipment beyond aread 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	g) Fishing Gear
Offloaded [49.22MT]	Fiji's Archipelagic and Territorial Seas	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	LL
Received [49.22MT]	Fiji's Archipelagic and Territorial Seas	Transhipped inside the Convention Area	Caught inside the Convention Area	LL

Figure 11: Overview Summary

No transshipment occurred in Fiji Ports by Fiji National Fleet for the year 2024.

It should be noted that all transshipment in Fiji Fisheries Waters had 100% observer coverage.

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

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).

No cetacean encirclements by purse seine nets were reported in .

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2011 03 on Cetaceans, it should be noted that Fiji does not have a purse seine fleet.

5.0.1.5 CMM 2018-3 [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

See the tables x, y and z below for Fiji fleet seabird interaction based on currently available observer data.

Table(s) x (by area)

Year	Fishing Effort				Observed seabird captures	
	Number of Vessels	Number of Hooks	Observed Hooks	%hooks observed	Number	Rate[2]
2018	96	51,678,899	8,233,351	15.9	3	0.0003644
2019	93	55,496,244	6,643,022	12.0	15	0.002258
2020	86	43,483,642	4,042,865	9.3	1	0.0002473
2021	67	36,546,339	3,354,588	9.2	0	0
2022	73	29,058,613	4,664,487	16.1	0	0
2023	65	30,094,985	2,756,316	9.2	0	0
2024	54	31,494,661	3,944,697	12.5	0	0

Figure 12: Fishing Effort and Seabird Captures

Table x: Effort, observed and estimated seabird captures by fishing year for [CCM] [South of 30oS; 25oS-30oS; North of 23oN; or 23oN – 25oS1]. 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).

Table(s) y

	Combination of Mitigation	ion of observed effort using mitigation m			
		South of	25°S-30°S	25°S-23°N	North of
	No mitigation	0	0	34.4	0
Options required south of 25°S	TL + NS	0	0	0	0
	TL + WB	0	0	0	0
	NS + WB	0	0	0.05	0
	TL + WB	0	0	0	0
	HS	0	0	0	0
	WB	0	0	0.05	0
	TL	0	0	0	0
	SS/BC/WB/	0	0	0.05	0
	SS/BC/WB/ (MOD OR	0	0	0	0
Provide any other combination of mitigation measures here	BC MOD	0	0	0	0
	BDB	0	0	0.32	0
	BDB MOD	0	0	0.27	0
	DSLS	0	0	0.1	0
	MOD	0	0	61.3	0
	DSLS MOD	0	0	0.1	
	NS	0	0	1.7	0
	NS BDB	0	0	0.1	
	NS MOD	0	0	1.6	0
	WB MOD	0	0	0.1	
	Totals (must equal	0	0	100%	0

Figure 13: Mitigation Measures Table

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(s) z

Species	South of 30°S	25°S-30°S	North of 23°N	23°N-25°S	South of 30°S	Total
Boobies and Gannets Ne	0	0	0	0	0	0

Figure 14: Seabird Interaction by Area

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

5.0.2 Section B

5.0.2.1 CMM 2006-04 [Southwest Pacific striped marlin], Para 4

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.

Table 8: There is currently no agreed definition of "fishing for" stripe marlin, therefore, this table summarises all longline vessels fishing south of 15S and all associated catch of striped marlin.

flag	year	vessels	num	mt
FJ	2022	49	246	10
FJ	2023	56	1,166	43
FJ	2024	50	1,084	34

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2006- 04, 34 mt of striped marlin were reported by 50 Fiji National Fleet vessels south of 15 degrees south.

It should be noted that these catches were caught as non - targeted species.

5.0.2.2 CMM 2015-02 [South Pacific Albacore], Para 4

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. CCMs are encouraged to provide data from periods prior to these dates.

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.'

Table 9: Summary of the number of vessels fishing for (as defined above) South Pacific albacore as well as the number and mt of albacore harvested from the past 5 years. It should be noted that southern bluefin tuna is not a key species in the SciData, and therefore, catches are not currently required to be reported to the WCPFC. This lack of reporting could result in more vessels determined to be fishing for albacore, if in fact southern bluefin were targeted.

gear	flag	year	vessels	days	n	mt
L	FJ	2024	48	3,613	249,890	4,080
L	FJ	2021	56	3,438	166,734	2,568
L	FJ	2022	45	2,801	168,901	2,705
L	FJ	2020	61	4,637	203,314	3,007
L	FJ	2023	48	3,752	192,655	3,147

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure CMM 2015-02 this is addressed through the regular provision of operational catch/effort log sheet data to SPC, who automatically include these data in the WCPFC databases, as per our authorization.

5.0.2.3 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.

Table 10: Summary of vessels fishing in the North Pacific and the number and metric tonnes of North Pacific albacore catches reported in the past 5 years. The number of vessels reported in this table represents all longline vessels fishing in the North Pacific.

gear	flag	year	vessels	days	n	mt
L	FJ	2020	2	10	122	3

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2019-03, on north Pacific albacore, No Fiji National Fleet vessels fished for North Pacific Albacore in 2024, last catch recorded in 2020.

5.0.2.4 CMM 2023-03 [North Pacific Swordfish], Para 4

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 levels.

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.

Table 11: Summary of vessels fishing in the North Pacific and the number and metric tonnes of North Pacific swordfish catches reported in the past 5 years. The number of vessels reported in this table represents all longline vessels fishing in the North Pacific.

flag	year	vessels	swo_n	swo_mt
FJ	2020	2	0	0
FJ	2021	0	0	0
FJ	2022	0	0	0
FJ	2023	0	0	0
FJ	2024	0	0	0

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2019-03, on north Pacific swordfish, No Fiji National Fleet vessels fished for North Pacific Swordfish in 2024.

Scientific Data Submission Status