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PART 1: INFORMATION OF FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

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Submitted by United States of America

2026 Annual Report to the
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission

PART I. INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH, AND STATISTICS

United States of America

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service

Data Included Through December 2025

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 2023	**YES**
If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions:	

1. Abstract

This report presents estimates of annual catches of tuna, billfish, and other highly migratory species (HMS), and vessel participation from 2021–2025 for fisheries of the United States (U.S.) and its territories operating in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Convention Area. Statistics for 2025 are provisional. Statistics for 2021–2024 have some updates from those reported in previous submissions.

In the WCPFC Convention Area, the U.S. and its territories have large-scale fisheries for HMS in the Pacific Ocean that includes the purse-seine fishery targeting skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) and yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*); longline fisheries targeting bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*), swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*), or albacore (*Thunnus alalunga*); and a troll fishery targeting albacore. Small-scale fisheries include troll fisheries targeting skipjack and yellowfin tuna and other pelagic species, handline fisheries targeting yellowfin and bigeye tuna, as well as other miscellaneous-gear fisheries. In these large- and small-scale fisheries, a variety of other pelagic species are captured incidentally or targeted, including other tunas and billfishes, mahimahi (*Coryphaena hippurus*), wahoo (*Acanthocybium solandri*), moonfish (*Lampris* spp.), escolar (*Lepidocybium flavobrunneum*), and pomfrets (Bramidae).

The large-scale fisheries operate in the high seas and within the U.S. exclusive economic zone

(EEZ). Under the South Pacific Tuna Treaty (SPTT), U.S. purse-seine vessels are allowed to fish in the EEZs of the Pacific island countries party to the treaty. The small-scale fisheries operate in nearshore waters off Hawaii and the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Historically, this report summarized all U.S. and territorial fisheries operating within the WCPFC. However, beginning in 2024, American Samoa-based fisheries are excluded from this document and have since been submitted independently via the American Samoa Annual Report. This change allows the American Samoa Government to better highlight the specific fisheries vital to its local economy. To support this effort, 2023 legislation authorized the Department of Port Administration to issue landing licenses to purse-seine vessels, establishing a formal mechanism to track and record locally-based vessels that regularly land tuna in American Samoa. The criteria for defining the statistics for vessels, catch, and effort data included in the American Samoa Annual Report and excluded from the U.S. Annual Report for 2024–2025 are in Table A.

Table A. Definitions of fishery statistics presented in the American Samoa and U.S. Reports for the WCPFC Convention Area for 2024 and 2025.

Fishery and Report	Vessels Included	Catch and Effort Included
Purse-seine Fishery		
U.S. Report	U.S. flagged purse-seine	1) U.S. EEZ 2) Foreign EEZ 3) High seas
American Samoa Report	Possess a valid Tuna Landing License and landed at least 50% of their catch in American Samoa	High seas
Longline Fishery		
U.S. Report	1) Possess a Hawaii Longline Limited Entry (HILLE) permit	1) U.S. EEZ 2) HILLE permitted (excluding dual-permitted) on the high seas
American Samoa Report	1) Possess an American Samoa Longline Limited Entry (ASLE) permit 2) Possess both HILLE and ASLE permits (dual-permitted)	1) ASLE permitted in the U.S. EEZ and on the high seas 2) Hawaii and American Samoa dual-permitted on the high seas
Tropical Troll and Handline Fisheries		
U.S. Report	CNMI-, Guam-, Hawaii-based	All HMS
American Samoa Report	American Samoa-based	All HMS

Due to the variation of the reported statistics in the past five years, comparisons are only provided between 2024 and 2025. To provide holistic trends in U.S. fishing effort and catch, this report includes maps that compare 2025 to the average of the past five years for the full U.S. purse-seine (Figure 1) and longline (Figure 2a-c) fleets, within and outside of the WCPFC Convention Area.

2. Tabular Annual Fisheries Information

The purse-seine fishery remains the largest U.S. fishery in terms of total retained catch. It accounted for 70% of the total catch of HMS by the U.S. and its territories in the WCPFC Convention Area in 2025. The U.S. longline fishery accounted for 26% of total catch. The small boat fisheries and albacore troll fisheries accounted for the remaining 3% of total catch. Fisheries of the U.S. and its territories had an estimated retained catch of 41,982 t of tunas, billfishes, and other HMS in 2025, which is a 6% decline from 44,604 t in 2024. This may be partially driven by declines in skipjack catch by the purse-seine fishery (Table 1a-e, Table 2a). The 2025 catch consisted primarily of tuna with 56% skipjack tuna, 25% bigeye tuna, 11% yellowfin tuna, and <1% albacore with the remaining 8% of total catch composed of billfish, sharks, and other pelagic fish. Further discussion of the tabular fisheries information is provided in the following section Flag State Reporting.

Table 1a. Annual catch estimates (metric tons) by gear and primary species by U.S. or its territories (Guam and CNMI) in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2025. (Totals may not match sums of values due to rounding. A zero represents no catch or <0.5 t catch and a "-" indicates a species is not reported for a particular fishery.)

Species and FAO Code	Purse Seine[1]	Longline[2]	Albacore Troll	Tropical Troll[3]	Handline	Total
Albacore (ALB), North Pacific	0	109	-	3	58	170
Albacore (ALB), South Pacific	0	0	155	0	-	155
Bigeye tuna (BET)	5452	4785	-	4	53	10294
Pacific bluefin tuna (PBF)	0	3	-	0	-	3
Skipjack tuna (SKJ)	22952	139	-	247	6	23344
Yellowfin tuna (YFT)	1190	3166	-	206	181	4743
Other tuna (TUN KAW FRI)	0	0	-	1	0	1
TOTAL TUNAS	29594	8203	155	459	297	38708
Black marlin (BLM)	1	1	-	1	-	3
Blue marlin (BUM)	1	504	-	125	3	633
Sailfish (SFA)	0	8	-	1	-	9
Spearfish (SSP)	0	85	-	5	0	90
Striped marlin (MLS), North Pacific	0	527	-	13	0	540
Striped marlin (MLS), South Pacific	0	0	-	0	-	0
Other marlins (BIL)	0	7	-	0	-	7
Swordfish (SWO), North Pacific	0	976	-	0	1	977
Swordfish (SWO), South Pacific	0	0	-	0	-	0
TOTAL BILLFISHES	2	2108	-	143	5	2258
Blue shark (BSH)	0	0	-	0	-	0
Mako shark (MAK)	0	0	-	0	-	0
Thresher sharks (THR)	0	0	-	0	-	0
Other sharks (SKH OCS FAL SPN TIG CCL)	0	0	-	0	-	0
TOTAL SHARKS	0	1	-	0	-	1
Mahimahi (DOL)	0	108	-	173	5	286
Moonfish (LAP)	0	117	-	0	-	117
Oilfish (GEP)	0	47	-	1	-	48
Pomfrets (BRZ)	0	119	-	0	1	120
Wahoo (WAH)	0	363	-	66	5	434
Other fish (PEL PLS MOP TRX GBA ALX GES RRU DOT)	0	1	-	9	0	10
TOTAL OTHER	1	756	-	248	10	1015
TOTAL	29597	11067	155	851	312	41982

[1] Excludes catch in the high seas by American Samoa-based vessels.
[2] Excludes catch made by American Samoa-based vessels and catch in the high seas by Hawaii dual-permitted vessels with an American Samoa permit.
[3] Excludes catch by American Samoa-based vessels.

Table 1b. Annual catch estimates (metric tons) by gear and primary species by U.S. or its territories (Guam and CNMI) in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2024. (Totals may not match sums of values due to rounding. A zero represents no catch or <0.5 t catch and a "-" indicates a species is not reported for a particular fishery.)

Species and FAO Code	Purse Seine[4]	Longline[5]	Albacore Troll	Tropical Troll[6]	Handline	Total
Albacore (ALB), North Pacific	-	194	-	2	29	225
Albacore (ALB), South Pacific	0	-	161	0	-	161
Bigeye tuna (BET)	3986	5317	-	6	76	9385
Pacific bluefin tuna (PBF)	0	2	-	0	-	2
Skipjack tuna (SKJ)	25894	128	-	300	4	26326
Yellowfin tuna (YFT)	950	3704	-	182	193	5029
Other tuna (TUN KAW FRI)	0	0	-	1	1	2
TOTAL TUNAS	30829	9346	161	492	302	41130
Black marlin (BLM)	2	1	-	2	-	5
Blue marlin (BUM)	1	655	-	154	4	814
Sailfish (SFA)	0	11	-	1	0	12
Spearfish (SSP)	0	155	-	9	0	164
Striped marlin (MLS), North Pacific	-	554	-	16	0	570
Striped marlin (MLS), South Pacific	0	-	-	0	-	0
Other marlins (BIL)	0	11	-	0	-	11
Swordfish (SWO), North Pacific	-	821	-	0	1	822
Swordfish (SWO), South Pacific	0	-	-	0	-	0
TOTAL BILLFISHES	3	2209	-	183	5	2400
Blue shark (BSH)	0	0	-	0	-	0
Mako shark (MAK)	0	1	-	0	-	1
Thresher sharks (THR)	0	0	-	0	-	0
Other sharks (SKH OCS FAL SPN TIG CCL)	0	0	-	0	-	0
TOTAL SHARKS	0	1	-	0	-	1
Mahimahi (DOL)	1	127	-	182	4	314
Moonfish (LAP)	0	72	-	0	-	72
Oilfish (GEP)	0	38	-	0	0	38
Pomfrets (BRZ)	0	125	-	0	1	126
Wahoo (WAH)	0	406	-	105	6	517
Other fish (PEL PLS MOP TRX GBA ALX GES RRU DOT)	0	1	-	5	0	6
TOTAL OTHER	1	769	-	292	12	1074
TOTAL	30833	12324	161	967	319	44604

[4] Excludes catch in the high seas by American Samoa-based vessels.
[5] Excludes catch made by American Samoa-based vessels and catch in the high seas by Hawaii dual-permitted vessels with an American Samoa permit.
[6] Excludes catch by American Samoa-based vessels.

Table 1c. Annual catch estimates (metric tons) by gear and primary species by U.S. or its territories (American Samoa, Guam, and CNMI) in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2023. (Totals may not match sums of values due to rounding. A zero represents no catch or <0.5 t catch and a "-" indicates a species is not reported for a particular fishery.)

Species and FAO Code	Purse Seine	Longline	Albacore Troll	Tropical Troll	Handline	Total
Albacore (ALB), North Pacific	-	264	-	0	5	269
Albacore (ALB), South Pacific	0	929	328	0	-	1257
Bigeye tuna (BET)	7826	5167	-	5	132	13130
Pacific bluefin tuna (PBF)	0	1	-	0	-	1
Skipjack tuna (SKJ)	57745	106	-	368	8	58227
Yellowfin tuna (YFT)	8373	2766	-	312	250	11701
Other tuna (TUN KAW FRI)	0	0	-	3	1	4
TOTAL TUNAS	73943	9235	328	687	395	84588
Black marlin (BLM)	0	1	-	1	-	2
Blue marlin (BUM)	3	403	-	94	3	503
Sailfish (SFA)	0	13	-	2	-	15
Spearfish (SSP)	0	173	-	6	0	179
Striped marlin (MLS), North Pacific	-	206	-	6	0	212
Striped marlin (MLS), South Pacific	0	2	-	0	-	2
Other marlins (BIL)	0	4	-	0	-	4
Swordfish (SWO), North Pacific	-	1088	-	0	1	1089
Swordfish (SWO), South Pacific	0	3	-	0	-	3
TOTAL BILLFISHES	3	1894	-	110	4	2011
Blue shark (BSH)	0	0	-	0	-	0
Mako shark (MAK)	0	0	-	0	-	0
Thresher sharks (THR)	0	1	-	0	-	1
Other sharks (SKH OCS FAL SPN TIG CCL)	0	0	-	0	-	0
TOTAL SHARKS	0	2	-	0	-	2
Mahimahi (DOL)	1	184	-	197	13	395
Moonfish (LAP)	0	91	-	0	-	91
Oilfish (GEP)	0	44	-	0	-	44
Pomfrets (BRZ)	0	127	-	0	1	128
Wahoo (WAH)	1	277	-	109	4	391
Other fish (PEL PLS MOP TRX GBA ALX GES RRU DOT)	1	1	-	8	0	10
TOTAL OTHER	3	724	-	314	18	1059
TOTAL	73948	11854	328	1111	418	87659

Table 1d. Annual catch estimates (metric tons) by gear and primary species by U.S. or its territories (American Samoa, Guam, and CNMI) in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2022. (Totals may not match sums of values due to rounding. A zero represents no catch or <0.5 t catch and a "-" indicates a species is not reported for a particular fishery.)

Species and FAO Code	Purse Seine	Longline	Albacore Troll	Tropical Troll	Handline	Total
Albacore (ALB), North Pacific	-	129	-	1	5	135
Albacore (ALB), South Pacific	0	1139	1400	0	-	2539
Bigeye tuna (BET)	8457	5355	-	13	239	14064
Pacific bluefin tuna (PBF)	0	1	-	0	-	1
Skipjack tuna (SKJ)	42823	140	-	361	5	43329
Yellowfin tuna (YFT)	4449	2310	-	371	429	7559
Other tuna (TUN KAW FRI)	0	0	-	2	1	3
TOTAL TUNAS	55729	9075	1400	747	679	67630
Black marlin (BLM)	0	0	-	1	-	1
Blue marlin (BUM)	3	520	-	117	3	643
Sailfish (SFA)	0	12	-	3	-	15
Spearfish (SSP)	0	121	-	4	0	125
Striped marlin (MLS), North Pacific	-	288	-	9	-	297
Striped marlin (MLS), South Pacific	0	2	-	0	-	2
Other marlins (BIL)	0	0	-	0	-	0
Swordfish (SWO), North Pacific	-	1080	-	0	1	1081
Swordfish (SWO), South Pacific	0	3	-	0	-	3
TOTAL BILLFISHES	3	2027	-	135	4	2169
Blue shark (BSH)	0	0	-	0	-	0
Mako shark (MAK)	0	1	-	0	-	1
Thresher sharks (THR)	0	2	-	0	-	2
Other sharks (SKH OCS FAL SPN TIG CCL)	0	0	-	0	-	0
TOTAL SHARKS	0	3	-	0	-	3
Mahimahi (DOL)	1	149	-	235	9	394
Moonfish (LAP)	0	94	-	0	-	94
Oilfish (GEP)	0	64	-	0	0	64
Pomfrets (BRZ)	0	155	-	1	2	158
Wahoo (WAH)	2	231	-	86	2	321
Other fish (PEL PLS MOP TRX GBA ALX GES RRU DOT)	2	2	-	8	0	12
TOTAL OTHER	5	695	-	330	14	1044
TOTAL	55738	11800	1400	1212	697	70847

Table 1e. Annual catch estimates (metric tons) by gear and primary species by U.S. or its territories (American Samoa, Guam, and CNMI) in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2021. (Totals may not match sums of values due to rounding. A zero represents no catch or <0.5 t catch and a "-" indicates a species is not reported for a particular fishery.)

Species and FAO Code	Purse Seine	Longline	Albacore Troll	Tropical Troll	Handline	Total
Albacore (ALB), North Pacific	-	135	-	1	5	141
Albacore (ALB), South Pacific	0	832	654	0	-	1486
Bigeye tuna (BET)	6145	5684	-	13	123	11965
Pacific bluefin tuna (PBF)	0	1	-	0	-	1
Skipjack tuna (SKJ)	39507	199	-	526	4	40236
Yellowfin tuna (YFT)	4820	2509	-	389	277	7994
Other tuna (TUN KAW FRI)	0	0	-	3	1	4
TOTAL TUNAS	50472	9359	654	931	409	61825
Black marlin (BLM)	1	0	-	1	-	2
Blue marlin (BUM)	2	455	-	128	3	588
Sailfish (SFA)	0	14	-	1	-	15
Spearfish (SSP)	0	121	-	5	-	126
Striped marlin (MLS), North Pacific	-	255	-	8	-	263
Striped marlin (MLS), South Pacific	0	3	-	0	-	3
Other marlins (BIL)	0	1	-	0	-	1
Swordfish (SWO), North Pacific	-	803	-	0	1	804
Swordfish (SWO), South Pacific	0	3	-	0	-	3
TOTAL BILLFISHES	3	1657	-	144	4	1808
Blue shark (BSH)	0	0	-	0	-	0
Mako shark (MAK)	0	1	-	0	-	1
Thresher sharks (THR)	0	1	-	0	-	1
Other sharks (SKH OCS FAL SPN TIG CCL)	0	0	-	0	-	0
TOTAL SHARKS	0	2	-	0	-	2
Mahimahi (DOL)	2	128	-	194	7	331
Moonfish (LAP)	0	138	-	0	-	138
Oilfish (GEP)	0	58	-	1	0	59
Pomfrets (BRZ)	0	150	-	1	2	153
Wahoo (WAH)	2	373	-	135	4	514
Other fish (PEL PLS MOP TRX GBA ALX GES RRU DOT)	1	3	-	11	0	15
TOTAL OTHER	5	849	-	341	13	1208
TOTAL	50479	11867	654	1418	427	64845

Table 1f. Annual longline catch estimates (metric tons) by primary species by U.S. or its territories (American Samoa, AS, and CNMI) WCPFC Convention Area in North Pacific (NPO) and South Pacific (SPO) Ocean for 2021–2025. (Totals may not match sums of values due to rounding. A zero represents no catch or <0.5 t catch and a "-" indicates a species is not reported for a particular fishery.)

	U.S. (NPO)					CNMI (NPO)					AS (NPO)					AS (SPO)					Total				
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2025[7]	2024[7]	2023	2022	2021	2025[7]	2024[7]	2023	2022	2021	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
VESSELS	146	144	145	142	137	0	0	135	120	131			19	133	24			10	11	12	146	144	155	153	150
Albacore, NPO	109	194	238	108	105	0	0	0	0	0			26	22	30			-	-	-	109	194	264	129	135
Albacore, SPO	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-			929	1139	832	0	0	929	1139	832
Bigeye tuna	4785	5317	3553	3237	3748	0	0	1205	550	1500			371	1547	405			38	22	30	4785	5317	5167	5355	5684
Pacific bluefin tuna	3	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0			0	0	0	3	2	1	1	1
Skipjack tuna	139	128	52	84	130	0	0	0	0	0			5	10	15			48	45	53	139	128	106	140	199
Yellowfin tuna	3166	3704	2329	1971	2022	0	0	0	0	0			211	184	274			227	155	213	3166	3704	2766	2310	2509
Other tuna	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL TUNAS	8023	9346	6174	5402	6006	0	0	1205	550	1500			613	1763	725			1242	1360	1128	8023	9346	9235	9075	9359
Black marlin	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0			0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0
Blue marlin	504	655	333	405	386	0	0	0	0	0			30	62	35			40	53	34	504	655	403	520	455
Sailfish	8	11	10	10	12	0	0	0	0	0			1	1	1			1	1	1	8	11	13	12	14
Spearfish	85	155	162	112	110	0	0	0	0	0			11	8	10			1	1	1	85	155	173	121	121
Striped Marlin, NPO	527	554	191	261	222	0	0	0	0	0			15	28	33			-	-	-	527	554	206	288	255
Striped Marlin, SPO	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-			2	2	3	0	0	2	2	3
Other marlins	7	11	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0			0	0	0	7	11	4	0	1
Swordfish, NPO	976	821	1066	1045	749	0	0	0	0	0			22	35	54			-	-	-	976	821	1088	1080	803
Swordfish, SPO	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-			3	3	3	0	0	3	3	3
TOTAL BILLFISH	2108	2209	1767	1834	1481	0	0	0	0	0			80	133	133			47	60	42	2108	2209	1894	2027	1657
Blue shark	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mako shark	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0			0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Thresher	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	1			0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1
Oceanic whitetip	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Silky shark	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hammerhead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SHARKS	1	1	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	1			0	0	0	1	1	2	3	2
Mahimahi	108	127	164	129	109	0	0	0	0	0			19	14	18			1	6	1	108	127	184	149	128
Moonfish	117	72	79	82	111	0	0	0	0	0			13	12	26			0	1	1	117	72	91	94	138
Oilfish	47	38	39	57	52	0	0	0	0	0			5	7	6			0	0	0	47	38	44	64	58
Pomfret	119	125	118	138	132	0	0	0	0	0			9	17	18			0	0	0	119	125	127	155	150
Wahoo	363	406	240	195	316	0	0	0	0	0			25	25	41			12	12	16	363	406	277	231	373
Other fish	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0			1	0	1	1	1	1	2	3
TOTAL OTHER	756	769	641	603	721	0	0	0	0	0			70	74	109			14	19	19	756	769	724	695	849
TOTAL	11067	12324	8583	7841	8210	0	0	1205	550	1500	N.I.	N.I.	763	1970	968	N.I.	N.I.	1303	1439	1189	11067	12324	11854	11800	11867

[7] In 2024 and 2025, catch is not included (N.I.) for 1) AS-based vessels in SPO or 2) in the high seas by Hawaii-based longline vessels in NPO dual-permitted with a Hawaii-AS permit.

Table 1g. Annual troll catch estimates (metric tons) by primary species by U.S. or its territories (Guam, American Samoa, AS, and CNMI) WCPFC Convention Area for 2021–2025. (Totals may not match sums of values due to rounding. A zero represents no catch or <0.5 t catch and a "-" indicates a species is not reported for a particular fishery.)

	Hawaii					Guam					CNMI					American Samoa					Total Tropical Troll				
	2025	**2024**	**2023**	**2022**	**2021**	**2025**	**2024**	**2023**	**2022**	**2021**	**2025**	**2024**	**2023**	**2022**	**2021**	**2025[8]**	**2024[8]**	**2023**	**2022**	**2021**	**2025**	**2024**	**2023**	**2022**	**2021**
VESSELS	1020	1046	1157	1171	1187	466	447	466	449	546	26	40	87	95	85			9	9	5	1512	1533	1719	1724	1823
Albacore, NPO	3	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	3	2	0	1	1
Albacore, SPO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	-	0	0	0	0
Bigeye tuna	4	6	5	13	13	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	4	6	5	13	13
Pacific bluefin tuna	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Skipjack tuna	132	97	110	101	69	88	185	222	190	302	27	18	35	66	146			2	4	10	247	300	368	361	526
Yellowfin tuna	186	159	259	348	332	14	22	44	15	42	5	1	9	7	12			0	0	3	205	182	312	371	389
Other tunas	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1			0	0	0	0	1	3	2	3
TOTAL TUNAS	326	266	375	463	415	102	207	266	205	344	32	19	45	75	160			2	4	12	460	492	687	747	931
Black marlin	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	1	3	1	1	1
Blue marlin	113	117	88	113	112	12	18	6	4	14	0	0	0	0	2			0	0	0	125	135	94	117	128
Sailfish	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0			0	0	0	0	1	2	3	1
Spearfish	5	9	6	4	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	5	9	6	4	5
Striped marlin, NPO	13	16	6	9	8	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	13	16	6	9	8
Striped marlin, SPO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Other billfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Swordfish, NPO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0
Swordfish, SPO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
TOTAL BILLFISHES	131	145	102	129	128	13	19	7	4	14	0	19	0	2	2			0	0	0	144	183	110	135	144
Blue shark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Mako shark	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Thresher sharks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
TOTAL SHARKS	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mahimahi	159	105	168	163	166	13	77	24	43	14	1	0	5	29	14			0	1	0	173	182	197	235	194
Moonfish	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	-	-	0	0	0
Oilfish	-	-	-	-	-	1	0	0	0	1	-	-	-	-	-			0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Pomfrets	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0			0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Wahoo	52	93	82	50	121	13	12	21	26	10	1	0	6	10	3			0	0	0	66	105	109	86	135
Other pelagics	0	0	0	0	0	7	3	6	5	5	2	2	1	3	6			0	0	0	9	5	8	8	11
TOTAL OTHER	211	198	250	213	287	34	91	50	74	31	3	2	13	43	24			0	1	1	248	291	314	330	343
GEAR TOTAL	668	609	727	805	830	148	317	324	283	389	35	40	57	119	186			2	4	13	851	966	1111	1212	1418

[8] In 2024 and 2025, troll catch is excluded for American Samoa-based vessels.

Table 2a. Number of U.S. and territorial vessels operating in WCPFC Convention Area by gear type from 2021–2025.

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Purse seine	**11**[9]	**12**[9]	**13**	**13**	**21**
Longline (North Pacific-based)	146[10]	144[10]	145	142	137
Longline (American Samoa-based)	N.I.	N.I.	10	11	12
Total U.S. longline [11]	**146**	**144**	**155**	**153**	**150**
Albacore troll (North Pacific)	0	0	0	0	0
Albacore troll (South Pacific)	3	4	10	18	21
Total albacore troll[12]	**3**	**4**	**10**	**18**	**21**
Tropical troll (North Pacific-based)	1512	1533	1710	1715	1818
Tropical troll (American Samoa-based)	N.I.	N.I.	9	9	5
Total U.S. tropical troll	1512	1533	1719	1724	1823
Handline	359	332	377	435	389
Total tropical troll and handline[13]	**1639**	**1615**	**1818**	**1833**	**1921**
TOTAL	**1799**	**1777**	**1996**	**2017**	**2113**

[9] Includes all American-Samoa based purse seine vessels as each of these vessels in 2024–2025 made at least one set in a U.S. or foreign EEZ with some catch attributed to the U.S.
[10] Excludes Hawaii-based longline dual-permitted vessels that only fished on the high seas.
[11] Longline vessels that made trips based out of Hawaii or California and American Samoa are only counted once in total U.S. longline.
[12] Albacore troll vessels that fished on both sides of the equator are only counted once in total albacore troll.
[13] Vessels that used both tropical troll and handline gear are only counted once in total tropical troll and handline.

Table 2b. Number of vessels, by gear and size category (gross registered tonnage), active in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2021–2025.

Gear and year	Gross registered tonnage				
Purse seine				**1001–1500**	**1500+**
2021				5	13
2022				4	9
2023				4	9
2024[14]				4	8
2025[14]				2	9
Longline	**0–50**	**51–200**			
2021	4	146			
2022	3	150			
2023	3	152			
2024[15]	2	142			
2025[13]	3	143			
Albacore troll		**51–150**	**150+**		
2021		12	9		
2022		9	10		
2023		5	6		
2024		1	3		
2025		2	2		

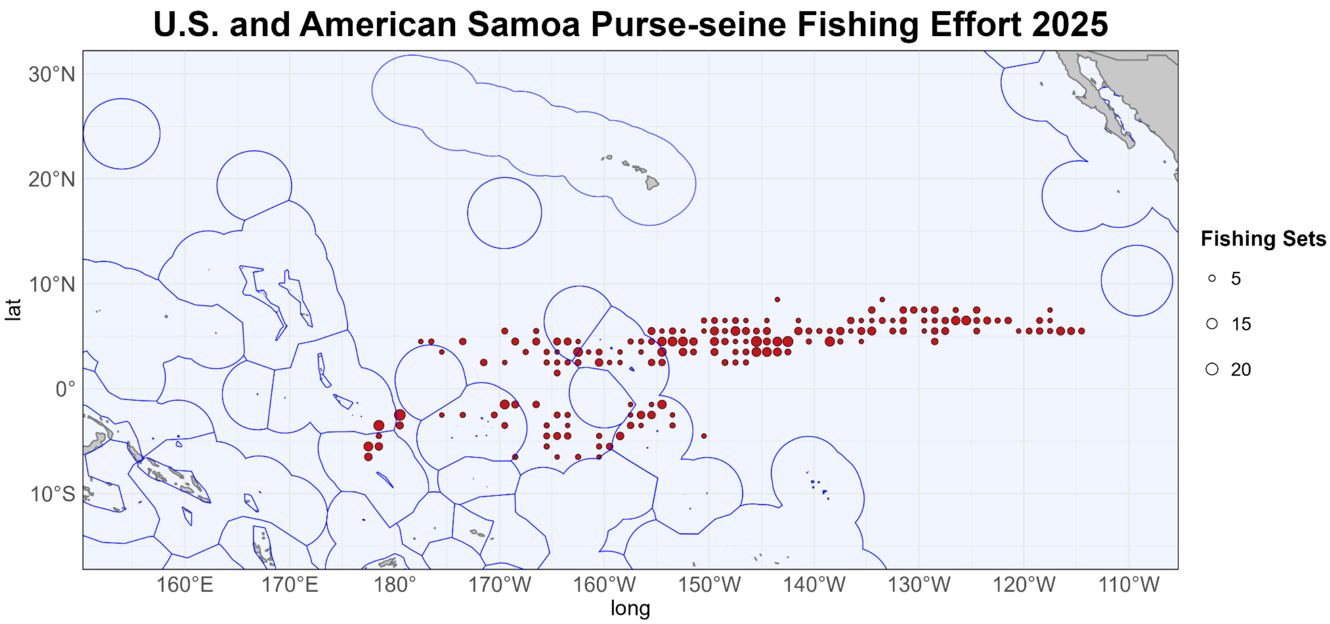
[14] Includes all American-Samoa based purse seine vessels as each of these vessels in 2024–2025 made at least one set in a U.S. or foreign EEZ with some catch attributed to the U.S.

[15] Excludes Hawaii-based longline dual-permitted vessels that only fished on the high seas and American-Samoa based longline vessels.

Table 2c. Annual fishing effort reported in logbooks by gear in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2021–2025. (Effort units vary by gear: purse seine reported in days fished and longline by hooks set.)

	Purse Seine		**Longline**
	WCPFC days fished (excluding overlap area)	WCPFC-IATTC overlap area days fished	Hooks
2021	1,363	98	75,443,183
2022	1,337	29	75,785,600
2023	1,473	177	74,771,660
2024	459[16]	295	57,511,510[17]
2025	688[15]	31	59,417,177[16]

[16] Excludes effort by American-Samoa based purse seine vessels in the high-seas.
[17] Excludes effort by 1) American Samoa-based longline vessels and 2) in the high seas by Hawaii-based longline vessels with Hawaii and American Samoa dual permits.



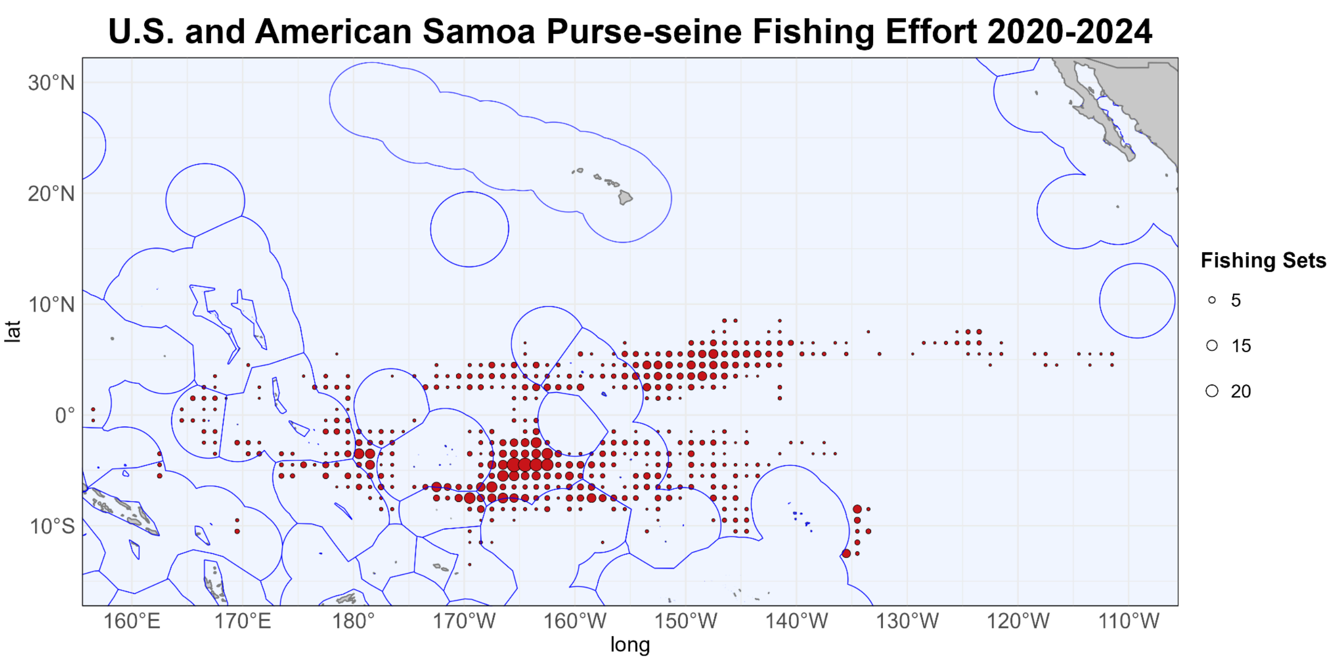
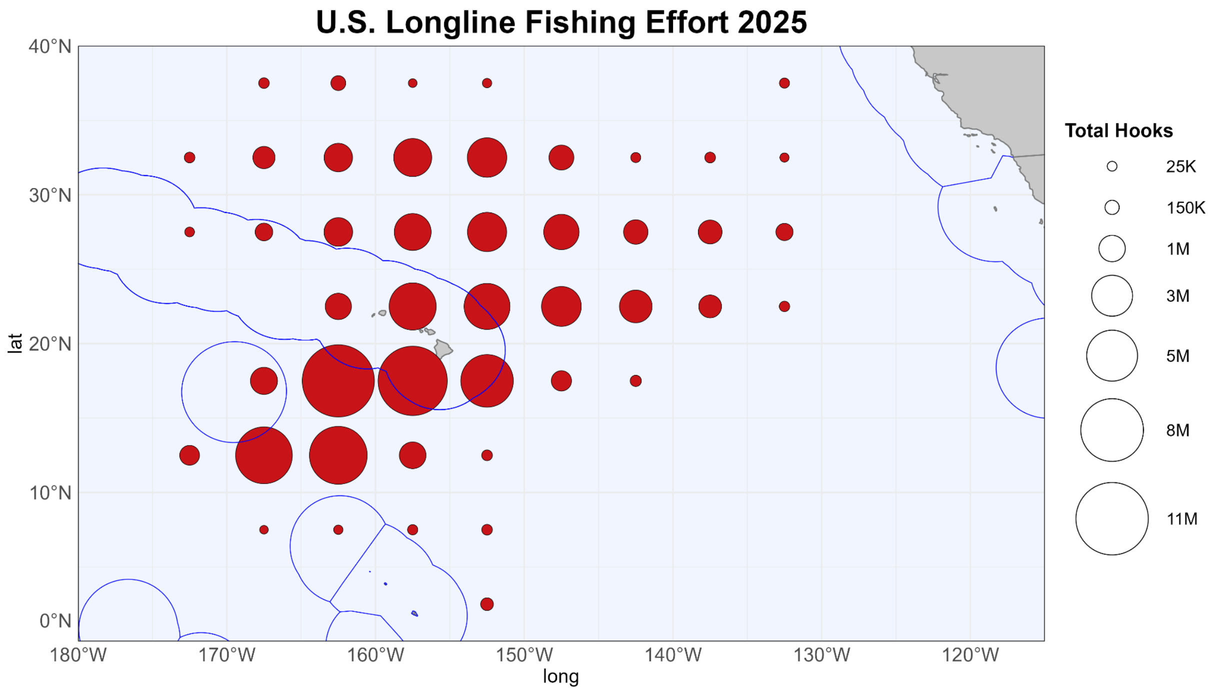


Figure 1. Spatial distribution of reported logbook fishing effort by the U.S.- and American Samoa-based purse-seine vessels fishing in the WCPFC Convention Area within 1° latitude by 1° longitude grids for 2025 (top) and the average of 2020-2024 (bottom). (Effort in some areas is not shown in order to preserve data confidentiality.)



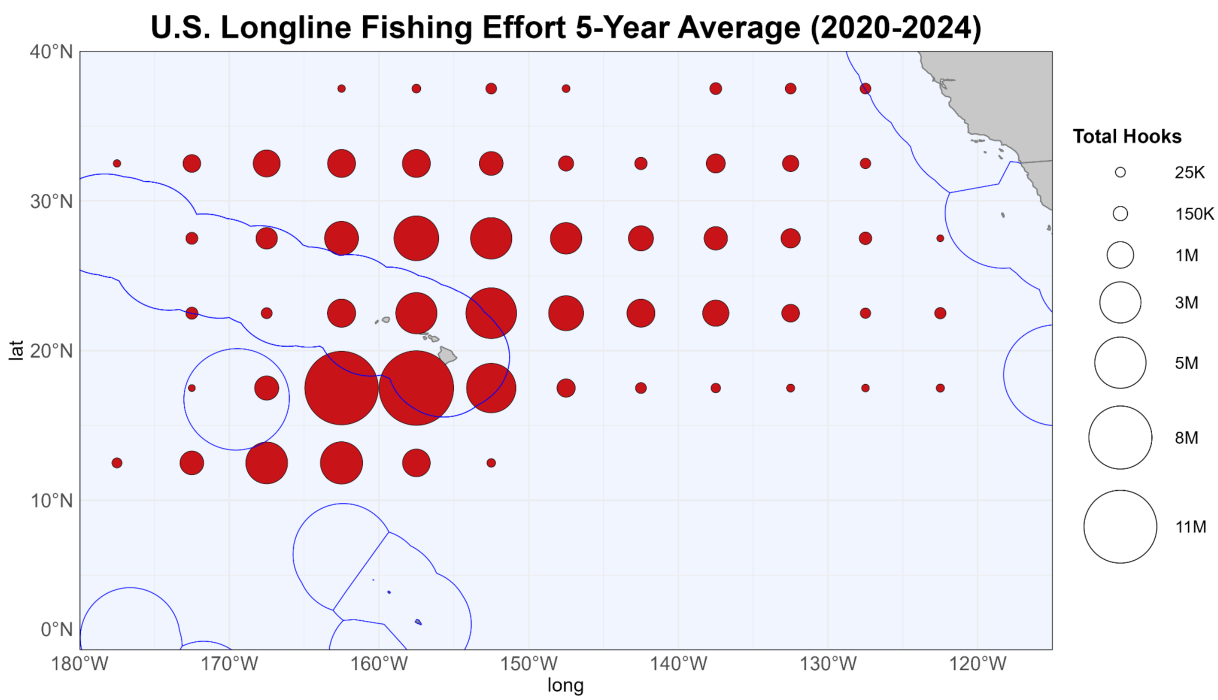
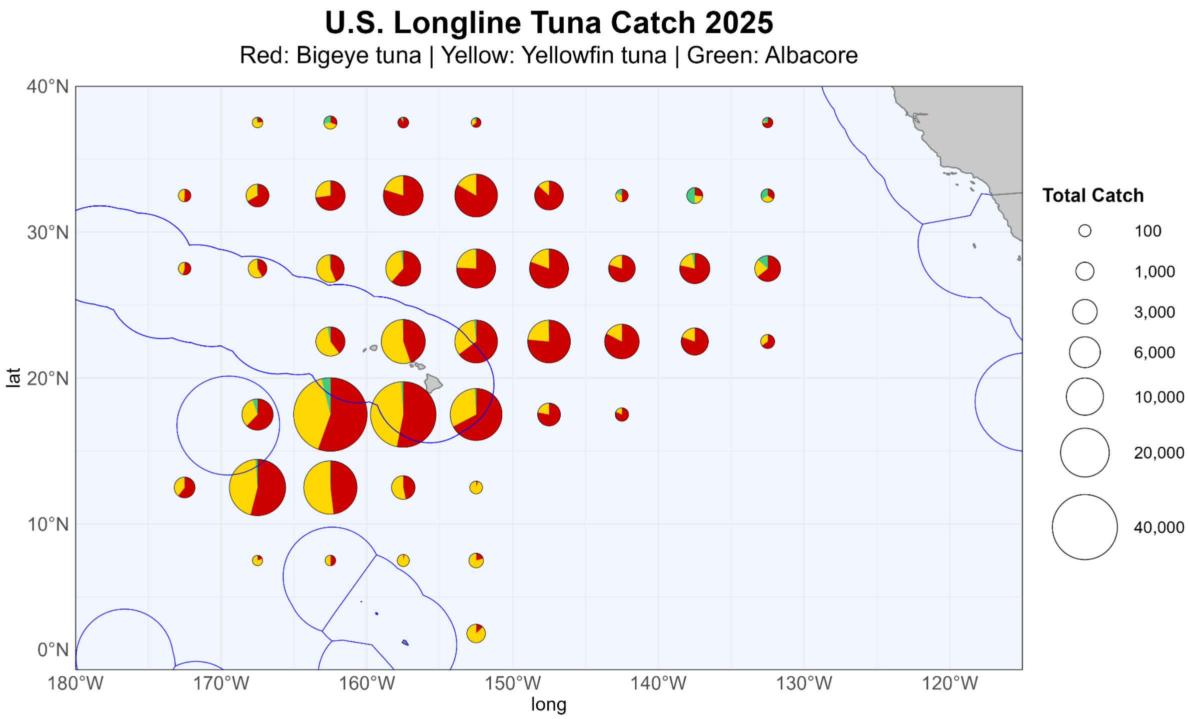


Figure 2a. Spatial distribution of U.S. longline fisheries in the North Pacific Ocean within 5° latitude by 5° longitude grids for 2025 (top) and the average of 2020-2024 (bottom). (Data are based on fisher reports in federal logbooks. Effort in some areas is not shown in order to preserve data confidentiality.)



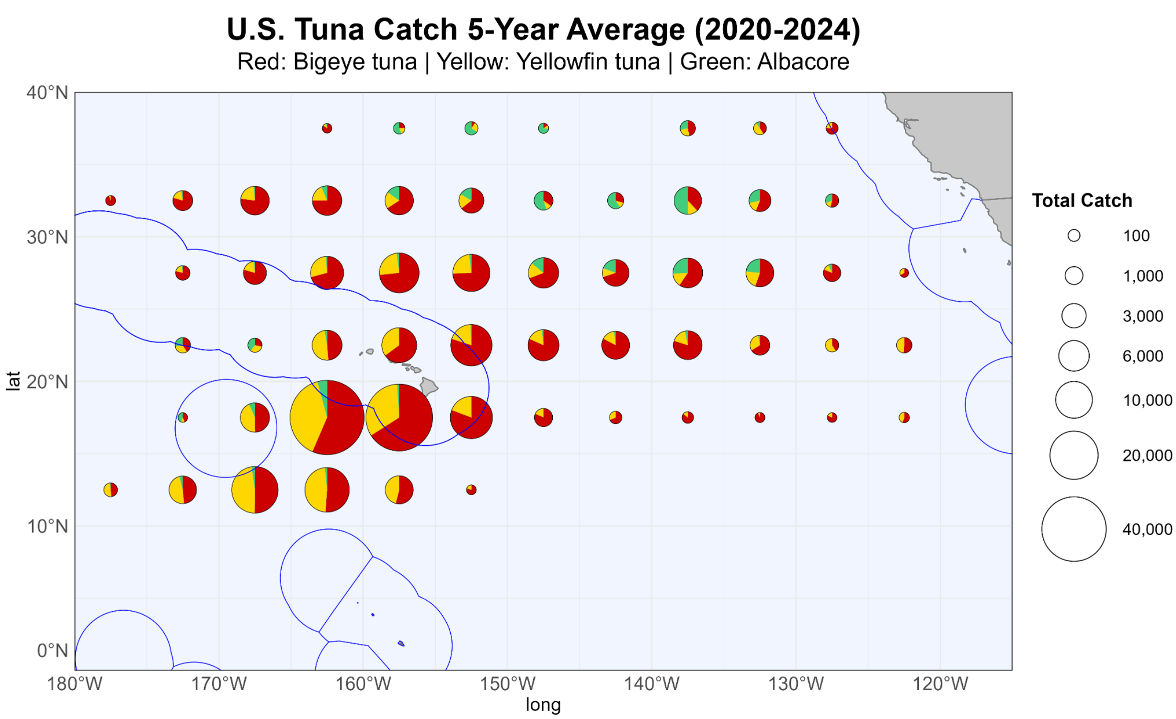
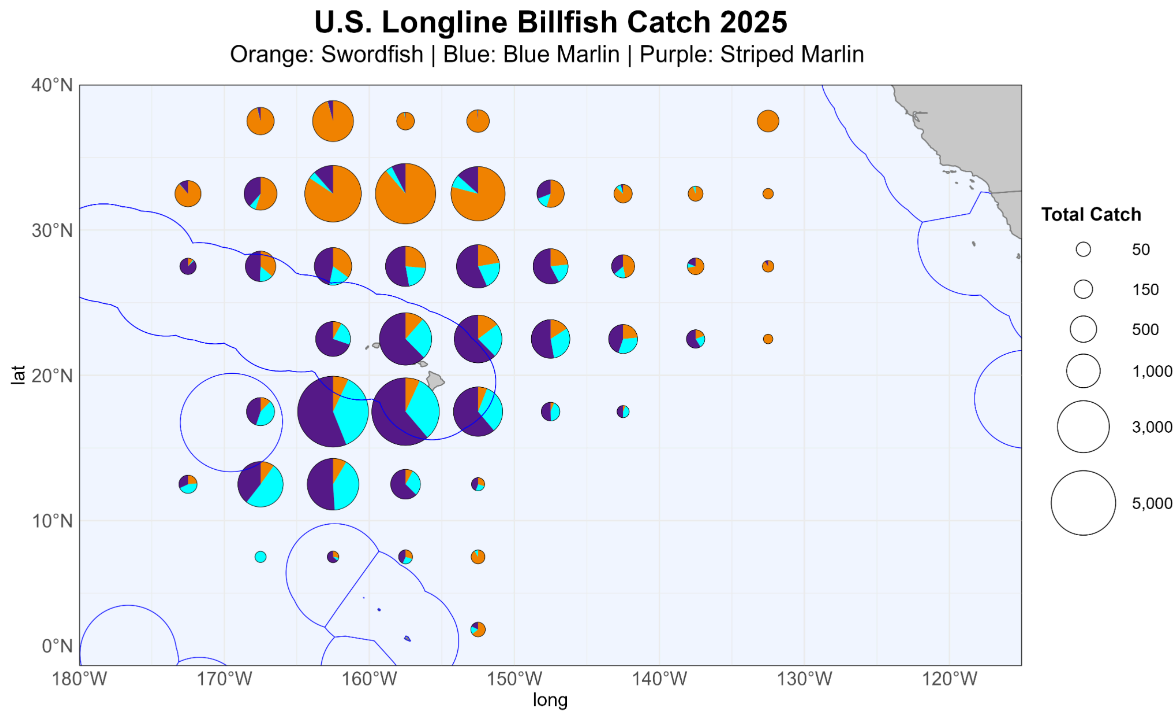


Figure 2b: Spatial distribution of U.S. longline fisheries retained catch in the North Pacific Ocean for bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*), yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*), and albacore tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*) within 5° latitude by 5° longitude grids for 2025 (top) and average of 2020-2024 (bottom). (Data are based on fisher reports in federal logbooks. Catch in some areas is not shown in order to preserve data confidentiality.)



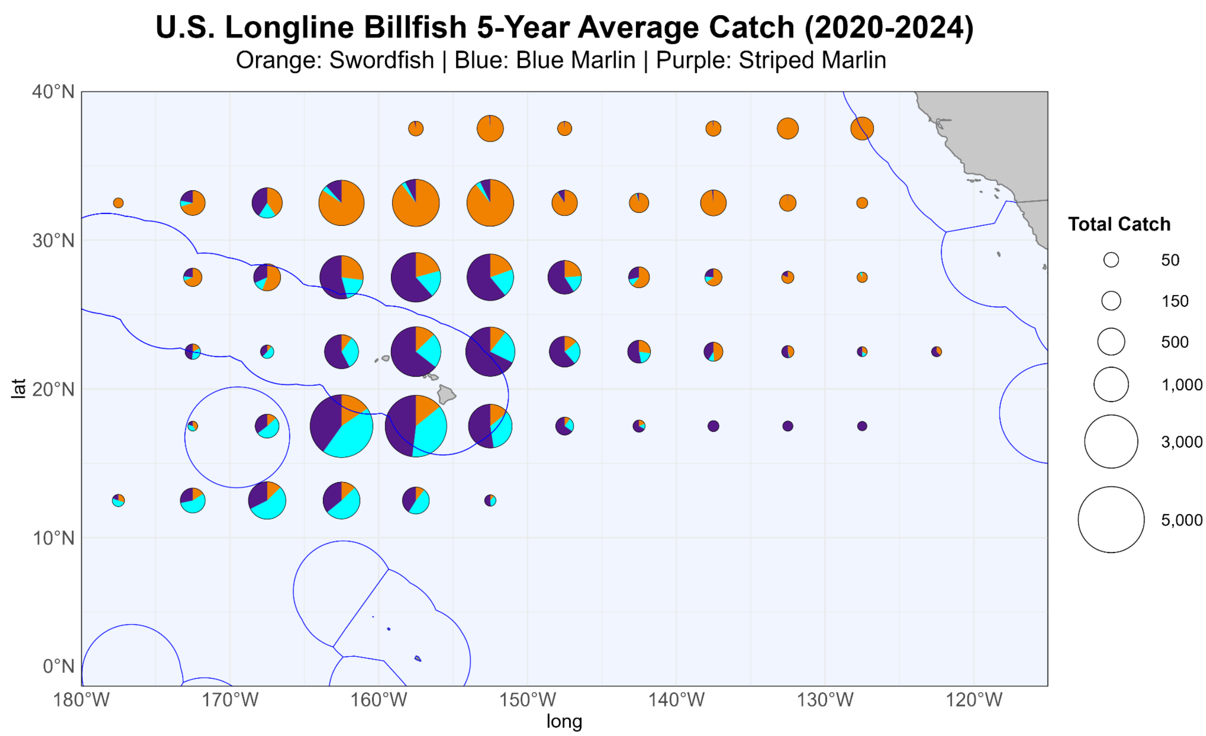


Figure 2c: Spatial distribution of U.S. longline fisheries retained catch in the North Pacific Ocean for blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*), striped marlin (*Kajikia audax*), and swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*) within 5° latitude by 5° longitude grids for 2025 (top) and the average of 2020-2024 (bottom). (Data are based on fisher reports in federal logbooks. Catch in some areas is not shown in order to preserve data confidentiality.)

3. Background

The U.S. fisheries in the WCPFC are described in the Abstract, Flag State Reporting of National Fisheries, and Coastal State Reporting sections. In addition, a history of data collection via logbooks and observer programs is detailed in the section Status of Fisheries Data Collection Systems.

4. Flag State Reporting of National Fisheries

U.S. Purse-seine Fishery

The U.S. purse-seine fleet operates between 10°S and 10°N latitude and 155°E and 110°W longitude; the maps illustrate the effort of the entire purse-seine fleet (Figure 1). In 2025, there was limited fishing west of 180° compared to the previous five years. In 2025, 11 purse-seine vessels fished in the WCPFC Convention Area. A total of 719 days of fishing occurred in the WCPFC Convention Area with 31 of those days in the WCPFC-IATTC overlap area (excludes days fished in the high seas by American Samoa-based vessels) (Table 2c). Participation was lowest in 2025 with slightly higher participation from 2022–2024 (1–2 vessels); however, almost twice the number of vessels operated in 2021 (22 vessels) (Table 2a). All vessels are included in the counts for Tables 2a and 2b because every American Samoa-based vessel made at least one set in a U.S. or foreign EEZ, with a portion of the catch subsequently attributed to the U.S.

In 2025, the catch from the purse-seine fishery continues to dominate U.S. catch in the WCPFC Convention Area with 70% (29,597 t) of the total fisheries catch (41,982 t); a small 4% decline in overall catch occurred from 2024 (30,833 t). The target species, skipjack tuna, comprised the majority of the purse-seine catch at 78% (22,952 t), representing an 11% decline from 2024 levels (25,894 t). Bigeye and yellowfin tuna accounted for 18% (5,452 t) and 4% (1,190 t) of the total volume, respectively. The 2021–2025 purse-seine catch data are reported in Tables 1a–1e.

U.S. Longline Fisheries

The U.S. longline fishery consists of mostly vessels that are based in Hawaii with a few vessels based out of California and American Samoa. Catch from American Samoa-based vessels targeting albacore is reported here for 2021–2023 and for 2024–2025 in the American Samoa Annual Report. The U.S. longline fishery in the NPO operates between 120°W to 180° longitude and from 0° to 40°N latitude with the highest effort directly south and southwest of the Hawaiian Islands with moderate effort extended across the subtropical mid-latitudes. In 2025, effort was similar to previous years; however, the fishery extended further south below 10°N (Figure 2a). In 2025, there were a total of 146 longline vessels (Table 2a) with 3 vessels less than or equal to 50 gross registered tonnage (GRT) and 143 vessels greater than 50 GRT (Table 2b).

These longline vessels set 59,417,177 hooks in 2025 (Table 2c).

The U.S. longline fishery had the second largest retained catch of HMS in the WCPFC Convention Area with 26% (11,067 t) of total catch in 2025 with a 10% decline from (12,324 t) 2024 (Table 1f). In 2025, the U.S. longline fisheries catch composition was dominated by species targeted in the deep-set (bigeye tuna) and shallow-set (swordfish) longline fisheries with 43% (4,785 t) bigeye tuna, 9% (976 t) swordfish, and 29% (3,166 t) yellowfin tuna. The remaining 19% of the total retained catch was comprised of blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*; 5%), striped marlin ((*Kajikia audax*; 5%), wahoo (3%), mahimahi (1%), moonfish (1%), pomfrets (1%), shortbill spearfish (*Tetrapturus angustirostris*; 1%), albacore (1%), and skipjack tuna (1%), with <1% from other pelagic finfish and sharks. In 2025, the bigeye tuna catch declined 10% from 5,317 t (2024) to 4,785 t (2025); yellowfin tuna declined 15% from 3,704 t (2024) to 3,166 t (2025); and swordfish increased by 19% from 821 t (2024) to 976 t (2025).

Retained catches were assigned to the longline fisheries of the U.S., American Samoa, Guam, or the CNMI based on 1) the location of catch, 2) the types of permit(s) registered to the vessel, and 3) if the vessel and year of catch were included in an arrangement allowing bigeye tuna to be assigned to those territorial fisheries[18]. As of 2024, the Hawaii longline fishery no longer can attribute bigeye tuna catch to U.S. territories as revisions in CMM 2023-01 removed the authority to approve territorial allocations of bigeye tuna. However, U.S. catch limits of bigeye tuna were increased from 3,554 t to 6,554 t in accordance with federal fisheries regulations (50 *CFR* 300.224).

The largest U.S. longline catches of tuna occur south and southwest of the Hawaiian Islands (10°N–20°N, 155°W–165°W) (Figure 2b). Bigeye tuna is widespread throughout the fishery footprint and dominates the sub-tropical northern bands (25°N–35°N), while yellowfin tuna makes up a significant portion of the secondary catch, especially south of 20°N and west of 155°W. Albacore catch is more restricted spatially and comprises a portion of the catches in the northern temperate waters (25°N–40°N). Fishing effort increased between 0°N–10°N in 2025; yellowfin tuna dominated catches in these areas. Yellowfin tuna also comprised a larger portion of the catch in the past two years, especially south of the Hawaiian Islands, an area typically dominated by bigeye tuna as seen with the 5-year average. In addition, there was a smaller proportion of albacore catch in 2025 compared to the 5-year average.

Billfish catch is marlin-dominated in the tropics and swordfish-dominated further north (Figure 2b). During 2020–2024, striped and blue marlin proportions were similar in high-effort zones

[18] Agreements allowing bigeye tuna catch from the Hawaii-permitted longline vessels that fished in the high seas or the Hawaii EEZ to be attributed to U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, or CNM: 1) Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, Sec. 113(a), 2012, Pub. L. 112-55, 125 Stat. 552 et seq., 2) of the Pelagics Fishery Ecosystem Plan, Amendment 7)

southwest of Hawaii. Regionally, blue marlin dominated south of 15°N, while striped marlin dominated 15–30°N, east of 145°W. Where the shallow-set and deep-set fisheries overlap (20°N–35°N), swordfish to blue marlin catch ratios shift from comparable proportions in the south to swordfish dominance north of 30°N. In 2025, striped marlin composed a greater proportion of the large billfish catches from 10-20°N, west of 150°W. South of 10°N where the fishery spatial footprint deviated from the previous five-year average, blue marlin dominated western catches and swordfish dominated eastern catches.

U.S. Albacore Troll Fisheries

From 2021 to 2025, participation in the U.S. troll fisheries for albacore in the WCPFC Convention Area has ranged from 3 to 21 vessels with 3 vessels participating in the South Pacific albacore troll fishery in 2025 (Table 2a). The catch in the South Pacific albacore troll fishery is composed almost exclusively of albacore with 155 t of albacore caught in 2025, a 4% decline from 2024 (161 t). The South Pacific albacore troll fishery operates mostly between 30°S and 45°S latitude and 145°W and 175°W longitude. During the last 5 years, there has been no participation in the North Pacific albacore troll fishery in the WCPFC Convention Area.

5. Coastal State Reporting

The small-scale tropical troll and handline fisheries had the largest number of U.S.-flagged vessels, with 1,639 vessels of the 1,799 vessels that operated in the WCPFC Convention Area in 2025; however, this fishery contributed only 3% of the total HMS catch. The troll and handline fisheries mostly operate nearshore and consist of fishers targeting HMS in Hawaii and the territories comprising a mix of commercial and non-commercial fishing. Non-commercial catch supports fishing communities in many important ways, from contributing to food security to social cohesion and upholding cultural traditions; a recreational fishing component also exists, which may include visitors and residents.

The catch statistics for Hawaii troll and handline fisheries are derived from fisher catch reports, which are required for all fishing trips for fishers that are commercially permitted (including charter fishers) no matter if fish are being sold on a trip. However, if Hawaii troll or handline fishing trips are performed solely for subsistence, personal use, or recreational purposes and a fisher is not commercially permitted, then no catch reports are required. Territorial fisheries catches are monitored by creel surveys (i.e. fisheries catch and effort data collected shoreside by technicians through fisher interviews). Fishing trips in the territories may include trips that are for commercial, recreational, or subsistence purposes with trips often including fish that are both sold and retained for personal use. Commercial fishing trips may also include charter fishing trips where fish are not sold but instead profit is derived from paid clients.

The total 2025 catch for tropical troll fisheries was 851 t—a 12% decline from the 966 t landed in 2024; Hawaii handline fisheries contributed an additional 312 t, down slightly from 2024 (319 t) (Table 1a-e; Table 1g). In 2025, the tropical troll catch was comprised of skipjack (29%) and yellowfin (24%) tunas, mahimahi (20%), blue marlin (15%), and wahoo (8%) (Table 1g)—whereas the handline fishery catch was predominantly tuna, led by yellowfin tuna (58%), then albacore (19%) and bigeye tuna (17%). Hawaii-based fishers account for the majority (67%) of the tropical troll vessels (1,020 vessels in 2025) and all of the reported handline vessels (359 vessels in 2025). In 2025, 31% of the tropical troll fishing vessels operated out of Guam with 2% from CNMI. In 2024–2025, there was a drop in the estimated number of vessels participating in the CNMI troll fishery based on expansion of surveyed vessels; however, there was also a decrease in the number of surveys performed, potentially affecting the accuracy of the expanded number of vessels. The 2024 and 2025 American Samoa tropical troll fishery data are included in the American Samoa Annual Report.

6. Socioeconomic Factors

NMFS staff and colleagues conduct surveys and analyses to better understand the socioeconomic considerations of U.S. pelagic fisheries in the WCPFC Convention Area. Economic analyses are performed in American Samoa, CNMI, Guam, and Hawaii (Dombrow and Rollins 2025; Dombrow et al. 2025).

In addition, NMFS staff is working in collaboration with fishers to document their observations to incorporate local and traditional knowledge to science and management and to provide context to fishery-dependent data from American Samoa, Guam, CNMI, and Hawaii (Ayers et al. 2025). Information collected includes social, economic, biological, physical/oceanographic, and management observations.

7. Disposition of Catch

Purse-seine catch is stored onboard as a frozen whole product. Although most of the purse-seine catch was historically off-loaded to canneries in Pago Pago, American Samoa, some vessels unload catches in other Pacific islands, Central American, and South American ports. Some vessels transship their catches from the ports of other Pacific Island countries to canneries in Southeast Asia and Central and South America. Cannery products from American Samoa are typically destined for U.S. canned tuna markets. Catches of non-tuna species are consumed onboard the vessel or discarded at sea.

U.S. longline vessels fishing in the NPO store their catch on ice and deliver their fresh product to the market. Large tunas, marlins, and mahimahi are gilled and gutted before being stored on the vessel, swordfish are headed and gutted, and other species caught are stored whole. These products are primarily sold fresh locally in Hawaii to restaurants and retail markets, or air freighted to U.S. mainland destinations with a very small proportion of high quality bigeye tuna exported to Japan.

Albacore troll catches are frozen for transport from the South Pacific Ocean (SPO) to the U.S. West Coast ports or offloaded to other countries in the SPO. While catches were historically delivered to Canadian ports as well, transport to Canada did not occur for the 2025 season, because the United States and Canada did not reach an agreement on treaty terms.

Most small-scale pelagic fisheries store their catch in ice; large tunas are gilled and gutted while other species are kept whole. The small-scale tropical troll fisheries chill their products with ice and sell it fresh, mainly to local markets.

8. Onshore Developments

No major developments have occurred in processing plants or support facilities for the U.S. fisheries.

9. Future Prospects of the Fisheries

The U.S. longline fishery in the NPO is expected to continue targeting bigeye tuna and swordfish, as well as catch other associated pelagic species in future years and deliver them fresh to both local and mainland markets. In 2024, the annual catch limit of bigeye tuna was increased from 3,554 t to 6,554 t in the WCPFC Convention Area (CMM 2023-01) reducing constraints in potential growth of the deep-set fishery. However the longline fishery will no longer be able to obtain additional quota from the U.S. territories as was done in previous years through an agreement[19].

Historically, bigeye tuna has been the primary source of fishery revenue, however, its market share has declined over the last decade. During the same time, yellowfin tuna has expanded significantly, capturing a much larger share of total fishery ex-vessel value, particularly in 2024 and 2025. Compared to the last decade, the revenue share for swordfish has decreased. In 2025, the nominal fishery revenue increased by 6%, primarily due to higher fish prices.

[19] Agreements allowing bigeye tuna catch from the Hawaii-permitted longline vessels that fished in the high seas or the Hawaii EEZ to be attributed to U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, or CNM: 1) Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, Sec. 113(a), 2012, Pub. L. 112-55, 125 Stat. 552 et seq., 2) of the Pelagics Fishery Ecosystem Plan, Amendment 7).

However, fluctuating fuel and supply costs will remain critical factors, directly impacting fleet participation and how far vessels travel from port.

Commercial fishers may expand operations into areas of the Pacific Islands Heritage Marine National Monument and Papahānaumokuākea targeted for opening to fishing by the April 2025 and June 2026 presidential proclamations. However, legal uncertainty surrounds these openings.

It is possible that the Hawaii longline deep-set fishery may be limited in its geographic distribution if there is an area closure for the management of false killer whale (*Pseudorca crassidens*) populations. If a closure occurs, then the deep-set fishery may have to travel further and incur additional fuel costs to reach fishing grounds. As of February 23, 2024 an area closure would occur within the U.S. EEZ in an management area defined as the Southern Exclusion Zone[20] if a“trigger” of three false killer whales is incidentally caught by the Hawaii deep-set fishery within the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone and the whales are given a determination of mortality or serious injury (https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/02/23/2024-03664/pacific-island-pelagic-fisheries-false-killer-whale-take-reduction-plan-new-trigger-value-for). This “trigger” is published in accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) of 1972 and the False Killer Whale Take Reduction Plan and is defined in § 229.37(e)(2) as the larger of either of the values: (i) 2 observed M/SI of false killer whales within the EEZ around Hawaii, or (ii) the smallest number of observed false killer whale M/SI that, when extrapolated based on the percentage observer coverage in the deep-set longline fishery for that year, exceeds the Hawaii pelagic false killer whale stock's potential biological removal (PBR). The PBR was estimated at 16 false killer whales with a “trigger” of three whales based on the reduced observer coverage in 2024 (13.5% from 20%). In 2025, observer coverage was further reduced to 7%, but the three whale “trigger” remains. Additional changes are expected in the management of false killer whale populations around Hawaii in the near future. In March 2023, NMFS introduced a new False Killer Whale Management Area that included areas inside and outside the EEZ around Hawaii with a PBR calculated to be 33 pelagic false killer whales (Oleson et al. 2023). However, the False Killer Whale Management Area and associated PBR are not yet available for current management use.

It is expected that effort will remain high in the Hawaii shallow-set longline fishery that targets

[20] The Southern Exclusion Zone false killer whale management area is defined by boundaries on the east at 154°30′ W longitude, on the west at 165° W longitude, north by the boundaries of the Main Hawaiian Islands Longline Fishing Prohibited Area and Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, and on the south by the EEZ boundary an area within the main Hawaiian Islands EEZ.

swordfish with market demand, despite rising operational costs. Effort in the shallow-set fishery increased slightly in 2025 and remains high compared to the lower effort observed in 2016 and 2018–2020. The shallow-set fishery overlaps spatially and temporally with seasonal abundance of sea turtles and thus has management regulations to ensure the conservation of sea turtles. However, it is not expected that interactions with sea turtles will result in any fishery closures unless effort increases greatly. Current management regulations do not include an annual interaction limit on loggerhead sea turtles, the species of sea turtle most commonly interacted with in the Hawaii shallow-set fishery. Instead, current regulations include annual limits on leatherback sea turtles (16 sea turtles) and trip interaction limits on loggerhead and leatherback sea turtles (two leatherback and five loggerhead sea turtles).

The Hawaii small-scale troll and handline fisheries and the Guam and CNMI troll fisheries are expected to be challenged by uncertainty in the economy and fish market prices along with increasing fuel and supply costs. In addition, super typhoon Sinlaku will likely affect participation in CNMI in 2026. However, these fisheries are expected to continue to make trips to target tunas, billfish, and other pelagics and to provide these fresh fish to the community and local markets.

The future of albacore fishing fleets in the WCPFC area depends on finding a good balance between protecting the environment, having strong rules, understanding the market, and using new technology. To keep albacore numbers healthy and help the fleets stay profitable, continued teamwork and flexible planning will be needed.

10. Status of Fisheries Data Collection Systems

Logsheet Data Collection and Verification

U.S. pelagic fisheries are monitored using fishery-dependent data collected from various sources: logbooks and fish catch reports submitted by fishers, at-sea observers, market sales reports from fish dealers, and creel surveys (i.e. offshore fisheries catch and effort data collected shoreside by technicians through fisher interviews). The coverage rates for different data collection methods vary considerably.

The primary monitoring system for retained catches for the major U.S. fisheries (purse seine, longline, and albacore troll) in the WCPFC Convention Area is federally-mandated logbooks that provide catches (in numbers of fish or weight), fishing effort, fishing location, and some details on fishing gear and operations. Purse-seine logbook and landings data have been submitted, as a requirement of the SPTT, since 1988 with coverage rates at 100%. Logbooks have been required to be submitted to NOAA fisheries by all Hawaii and American Samoa longline vessels since 1990 with logbook coverage generally at 100%. The Hawaii, California, and American

Samoa-based longline fisheries are monitored using primarily electronic logbooks with some paper logs. Electronic reporting was first tested in the region in 2019 with full implementation mandated in 2021 for the Hawaii longline fleet. The use of electronic reporting throughout the U.S. longline fisheries assists in better real-time estimates of bigeye tuna and striped marlin catches. Currently the U.S. is also developing an electronic logbook to support data collection and monitoring for the albacore troll fisheries.

In Hawaii, fish sales records from the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources (DAR) Commercial Marine Dealer Report database supplement logbook data with sales records covering virtually 100% of the Hawaii-based longline landings. The Western Pacific Fisheries Information Network (WPacFIN) integrates Hawaii longline logbook catch data of numbers of fish caught by trip with the fish weight and sales data from the dealers' purchase reports. As a result, data on the weight and value of most catches on a trip level can be linked. This integration of data provides average fish weight data by gear type, time period, and species that are used to estimate total catch weights for the Hawaii fisheries.

Small-scale pelagic fisheries in Hawaii (i.e. tropical troll and handline) are monitored using the Hawaii DAR Commercial Fishermen's Catch Report data and Commercial Marine Dealer Report data. The tropical troll pelagic fisheries in American Samoa, Guam, and CNMI are monitored by creel surveys and commercial purchase reports.

Observer Programs

Purse seine

Purse-seine vessels operating in the WCPFC Convention Area under the SPTT on Fisheries between the Governments of Certain Pacific Island States and the U.S. of America were monitored by observers provided by the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA) through 2022. Beginning in 2023, purse-seine vessels were monitored by observers provided by the Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA). Monitoring includes both the collection of scientific data, as well as information on operator compliance with various Treaty-related and Pacific island country-mandated requirements (these data are not described in this report). NOAA Fisheries has a field station in Pago Pago, American Samoa, that facilitates the placement of PNA-deployed observers on purse-seine vessels.

Since January 1, 2010, the observer coverage rate in the purse-seine fishery in the Convention Area has been 100%. However, the mandatory observer requirement was suspended during the COVID-19 pandemic and was reinstated January 1, 2023. Data previously collected by FFA-deployed and currently by PNA-deployed observers are provided directly to the WCPFC.

Longline

Under the Fishery Ecosystem Plan for Pacific Pelagic Fisheries of the Western Pacific Region established under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, observers monitor the U.S. and American Samoa longline fisheries under the NOAA Pacific Islands Regional Observer Program (PIROP). In 2025, there was 100% observer coverage for Hawaii-permitted shallow-set trips and 7% overall coverage for Hawaii-permitted deep-set trips. In 2025, observers were placed on 9% of the NPO longline trips that occurred in the high seas outside the U.S. EEZ in the WCPFC Convention Area, which accounted for the monitoring of 9% of the total hooks set and 9% of days fished (Table 3).

The main focus of the longline observer program is to collect scientific data on interactions with protected species. The observer program also collects catch composition and biological data on retained and discarded catch and information on fishing operations. Biological data includes measurements of a systematic subsample of 33% of all fish brought on deck, including bycatch species. Prior to 2006, observers attempted to measure 100% of tunas, billfishes, and sharks brought on deck, but not other species. Researchers use observer-collected protected species data to estimate the total number of interactions with those species.

Since 2017 there has been research and development in the Pacific Islands Region to investigate electronic monitoring (EM) as a tool to collect data in the Hawaii longline fisheries to supplement the at-sea observer program. On June 11, 2025, the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council took final action to authorize the use of EM as a mandatory tool for data collection aboard Hawaii and American Samoa longline vessels. Phased implementation of EM began in 2025 and will continue through 2028. In the future, EM data will be used to provide protected species data in compliance with the Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act, and will be incorporated into the standardized bycatch reporting methodology.

Port Sampling

Weight data are collected from U.S. longline, purse-seine, and albacore troll landings, but no other biological data are collected at port for these fisheries. For the small-boat troll fisheries in Guam, American Samoa, and CNMI, port samplers perform shoreside fisher interviews for catch and effort data and also take length measurements. No biological data for HMS are currently collected at port for the small-boat troll or handline fisheries in Hawaii.

The U.S. provides data systems support for the The International Billfish Biological Sampling Program (IBBS), which has advanced from sample collection into coordinated international exchange and analysis, formalized through a new genetic-research MOU among Japan, the U.S., and Chinese Taipei. The IBBS program made substantial progress during the year, especially in assembling biological samples for maturity, growth, stock-structure, and potential CKMR work across swordfish, striped marlin, and blue marlin. Overall, the program has moved beyond basic sample collection into coordinated international sample exchange, analysis, and development of protocols for genetic use of shared samples. The US reported 1,426 individual billfish sampled in 2025 across over 600 fishing trips, with supplemental efforts targeting the gap between Hawaii and the US mainland and large tournament-caught blue marlin on the Big Island.

Unloading/Transshipment

Purse-seine vessels submit unloading and transshipment logsheet forms as a requirement of the SPTT.

11. Research Activities

In 2025, NOAA Fisheries continued research on Pacific tunas and associated species at its Southwest and Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Centers, often in collaboration with scientists from other organizations. Stock assessment research on tuna and tuna-like species was conducted primarily through collaboration with participating scientists of the International Scientific Committee (ISC) for Tuna and Tuna-Like Species in the NPO and international Regional Fisheries Management Organizations. NOAA Fisheries scientists produced reports summarizing monitoring data collected for pelagic fisheries and fisher observations for small boat fisheries operating out of Hawaii, Guam, and the CNMI. Research studies were conducted on fisheries operating in the waters of the U.S. Pacific coast, Hawaiian Islands, U.S. territories, and the high seas. In 2025, three noteworthy studies investigated ways to improve stock assessments. Other research included: the biology of tuna, tuna-like species, and bycatch species caught in these fisheries; the marine ecosystems where these fisheries occur; and the socio-economics of these fisheries. Highlighted research includes:

- Stock assessment research (Berger *et al.* 2025; Brodziak *et al.* 2025; Lee *et al.* 2025);
- Foraging and dietary studies (Muhling *et al.* 2025; Portner *et al.* 2025; Preti *et al.* 2025);
- Life history characteristics of Pacific blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) (Chang *et al.* 2025) and Pacific bluefin tuna (*Thunnus orientalis*) (Lin *et al.,* 2025);
- Natal origin and migration of Pacific bluefin tuna (Ku *et al.* 2026);
- Applications of species distribution modeling (Karp *et al.* 2025);
- Organic pollutant accumulation and habitat use in thresher sharks (Lyons *et al.* 2025);
- Conditions influencing cookie cutter shark (*Isistius* spp.) damage in longline fisheries (Suca *et al.* 2025); and
- Unintended multi-species conservation consequences of large-scale spatial closures in pelagic

fisheries (Van Wert *et al.* 2025).

Highlighted Research

'Building the (Im)perfect Beast': Strategies for Identifying Appropriate Spatial Stock Assessment Model Complexity From an International, Blinded High-Resolution Simulation Experiment

Berger *et al.* (2025) conducted a blinded international simulation experiment to identify barriers to imple-menting spatial stock assessments and to formulate strategies for managing model complexity. Spatial stock assessments are powerful tools for managing migratory and climate-impacted fish stocks, yet they remain underutilized in management due to technical challenges and the difficulty of balancing model parsimony with physical complexity. Seven analyst teams built spatially aggregated and spatially explicit assessment models using data simulated from high-resolution operating models based on Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna and Ross Sea Antarctic toothfish dynamics. Each team documented how assessment software, data analysis, and diagnostics influenced their model's realism. A clear consensus emerged on key assessment-building approaches: conducting high-resolution data analyses to identify spatial structures; starting with simplified models and incrementally adding complexity; iteratively evaluating diagnostics to determine necessary spatial complexity; and maintaining models that balance physical realism with parsimony. The experiment also highlighted the value of data pre-processing with spatiotemporal models to inform data-sparse regions and regression trees to identify fleet and spatial structures. These findings demonstrate that international collaborations and simulation experiments are crucial for evaluating whether the added complexity of spatial models is justified given management objectives.

Engineering a prototype for a next-generation stock assessment modeling platform

Brodziak *et al.* (2025) proposed and developed a strategy for engineering a next-generation, spatially explicit stock assessment modeling platform to address shifting fish stock distributions and fishing footprints. Traditional stock assessment tools struggle to model complex metapopulation dynamics under changing environmental conditions, which can lead to inaccurate population estimates. To resolve this, the authors designed and tested a system prototype called the Metapopulation Assessment System (MAS), engineered to be easy to use, modular, and extensible. The MAS prototype supports complex metapopulation modeling by successfully handling multiple populations, areas, fleets, surveys, and sex-specific dynamics. The software's infrastructure integrates three core components: GitHub for collaboration and code organization, C++ to model system dynamics and estimation, and R for the input-output interface and systematic testing. Systematic testing was embedded into the development life cycle to ensure the accurate estimation of key management quantities. This technical breakthrough shows how modern software engineering and quality control procedures can successfully modernize stock assessment platforms to support sustainable fisheries management in nonstationary environments.

Estimation of the two-stanza growth curves with age determination uncertainty for Pacific blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) in the western and central North Pacific Ocean

Chang *et al.* (2025) refined age and growth estimates for the highly migratory Pacific blue marlin in the western and central North Pacific Ocean (WCNPO). Accurate descriptions of age-length relationships are vital for stock assessments, but biological parameters are often degraded by age determination uncertainty and sexual dimorphism. To address this, the study integrated daily otolith micro-increment counts from 13 juveniles and sectioned dorsal fin spines from 504 specimens collected off Taiwan, alongside historical WCNPO length-at-age data and bomb radiocarbon dating. Daily growth ring analysis predicted an eye-to-fork length (EFL) of 146.92 cm at age one, and the maximum observed age was 27 years for females and 18 years for males. The growth was highly sexually dimorphic, with females growing faster and consistently attaining larger sizes than males from age one onward. Fitting von Bertalanffy and Two-Stanza Growth Models (TSGM) using a Bayesian errors-in-variables approach revealed that the TSGM provided a superior fit by capturing a distinct growth transition near age one. These refined growth estimates resolve historical uncertainties and enhance the accuracy of growth parameters used in regional stock assessment models.

Spatiotemporal standardization of Taiwanese longline CPUE reveals cohort-resolved recovery patterns in Pacific bluefin tuna (Thunnus orientalis)

Chang et al. (2026) utilized advanced spatiotemporal modeling to analyze a reconstructed 2003–2024 dataset from the Taiwanese longline fishery—the sole remaining indicator of adult Pacific bluefin tuna (Thunnus orientalis) used in international stock assessments. By applying a Vector Autoregressive Spatio-Temporal (VAST) framework to evaluate catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE) by approximate age groups, the study resolved a counterintuitive paradox: why the tuna population was rapidly recovering even though the average size of captured fish was decreasing. The cohort-resolved outputs revealed that the sharp increase in adult abundance after 2012 was heavily dominated by younger adult cohorts (ages 6–11) rather than older fish (>15 years). Ultimately, this provides clear, spatially explicit evidence that international management measures reducing juvenile mortality successfully allowed younger fish to escape, mature, and enter the spawning population, validating the historic rebuilding of the stock.

Applications of species distribution modeling and future needs to support marine resource management

Karp *et al.* (2025) reviewed the diverse ways species distribution and density models (SDMs) can support marine resource management and outlined future needs for their development. Marine resource management operates across multiple spatial and temporal scales, requiring scientific synthesis of environmental variables to predict animal presence. The study highlights that SDMs are powerful statistical tools for characterizing species-environment relationships and predicting distributions in unsampled areas. SDMs can be used to optimize survey designs (by predicting where and when a species is likely to be found), inform single-species stock assessments, designate essential fish habitats, and assess spatial protected species risks. However, the current development and usage of SDMs within fisheries management agencies remain somewhat haphazard. The authors emphasize the need to build a stronger community of practice to streamline SDM use, integrate mechanistic knowledge, and link SDMs to regional climate and ecosystem projection models. By transitioning from static to dynamic spatiotemporal predictions, SDMs will become increasingly vital for climate-ready ocean planning and fisheries decision-making.

Natal Origin and Trans-Pacific Migration of Pacific Bluefin Tuna (*Thunnus orientalis*) Inferred From Otolith Oxygen and Carbon Isotope Analysis

Ku *et al.* (2026) used stable isotope analysis of otoliths to investigate natal origins and migration patterns of Pacific bluefin tuna across the Pacific Ocean. Results showed that the majority of individuals sampled in the California Current originated from the Philippine Sea–East China Sea spawning region, highlighting its dominant contribution to the population. Isotopic signatures also revealed that most adults in western Pacific spawning areas had previously migrated across the Pacific. These findings confirm strong connectivity across regions and support management of Pacific bluefin tuna as a single, highly interconnected stock, with important implications for international fisheries management.

Randomization method for evaluating the reliability of a recruitment index in an integrated assessment model.

Lee et al. (2025) developed a novel diagnostic and randomization framework to evaluate the reliability of recruitment indices within integrated stock assessment models, where early population data is traditionally difficult to estimate. Applied to Pacific bluefin tuna (*Thunnus orientalis*) using a recruitment index from the Sea of Japan, this method verifies that juvenile population fluctuations align statistically with real-world catches and adult abundance rather than introducing model noise. By ensuring that recruitment data accurately reflects actual stock trends, this framework provides fisheries managers with a highly validated tool to forecast population recovery and set sustainable catch limits.

Spawning stock recovery of Pacific bluefin tuna (*Thunnus orientalis*): Evidence from length, age and catch data of Taiwanese longline fishery in 2010–2023

Lin *et al.* (2025) investigated changes in the age and size composition of Pacific bluefin tuna landed in Taiwan from 2010 to 2023. As total catch increased, the population shifted toward younger, smaller individuals, with the spawning stock now dominated by fish aged 8–12 years rather than older age classes. This shift corresponded with earlier reductions in juvenile fishing pressure, suggesting improved survival to adulthood. A lagged relationship between juvenile and adult catches further supported this recovery pattern. These findings provide evidence that management measures reducing juvenile harvest can contribute to rebuilding spawning populations.

Climate change impacts to foraging seascapes for a highly migratory top predator

Muhling *et al.* (2025) developed an energetics-based framework to better understand habitat use and climate vulnerability in juvenile North Pacific Albacore Tuna. By combining laboratory data, field observations, and environmental models, the study identified how energy gain and loss shape seasonal migrations between the California Current and offshore North Pacific. Results showed that migration pathways align with energetically efficient thermal corridors, while foraging success peaks in spring and summer. Climate projections suggest a reduction in total suitable habitat, particularly in subtropical regions, but improved foraging conditions in higher-latitude and coastal areas. This work demonstrates the value of incorporating physiological and energetic processes into species distribution models to improve predictions under climate change.

Relative role of operational patterns and environmental conditions on cookie cutter shark damage in the Hawai'i longline fishery

Suca *et al.* (2025) investigated the factors associated with cookie cutter shark (*Isistius* spp.) damage on hooked fish in the Hawai'i pelagic longline fishery. Depredation by these cryptic sharks causes significant commercial fish damage, yet their deep-water, nocturnal habits make on-the-water distribution studies exceptionally difficult. The researchers analyzed hook damage records alongside spatial, temporal, and environmental data for the nighttime shallow-set fishery targeting swordfish and the daytime deep-set fishery targeting bigeye tuna. They found that cookie cutter shark bites primarily occurred on hooked fish when operations extended longer into nightfall, during periods of low lunar illumination, and along the edges of the North Pacific Subtropical Gyre. While shark damage was historically more common on average in the shallow-set fishery due to its nighttime fishing window, the deep-set fishery has experienced a rising frequency of shark bites over time as fishing sets extend further into nighttime hours. This research provides crucial ecological insights into cookie cutter sharks and warns fishers of the direct economic costs associated with extending daytime operations into nightfall.

Hawai'i's pelagic longline fishery demonstrates the need to consider multispecies impacts in bluewater time-area closures

Van Wert *et al.* (2025) evaluated the unintended conservation consequences of a cap-based, large-scale spatial closure in a pelagic fishery. To protect false killer whales (*Pseudorca crassidens*) in the Hawai'i deep-set longline fishery, managers implemented the Southern Exclusion Zone (SEZ)—a temporary, 343,796 square kilometer closure triggered when bycatch exceeds a set threshold. The authors used an Ensemble Random Forest (ERF) modeling approach to assess how the displacement of fishing effort during SEZ closures altered bycatch risk for eight other protected species of concern. They found that when the SEZ closed, vessels displaced their fishing effort, concentrating sets heavily along the eastern and southern boundaries of the closure. This displaced effort created a highly concentrated bycatch risk for oceanic whitetip sharks, giant manta rays, and olive ridley sea turtles, which were highly susceptible to overlap with the relocated longline sets. In contrast, scalloped hammerhead sharks, green sea turtles, and leatherback sea turtles faced moderate risk near heavy fishing, while loggerheads and false killer whales faced diffuse risks. The study highlights that single-species spatial closures can displace fishing effort in ways that increase bycatch for other threatened taxa, emphasizing that effective ecosystem-based fisheries management must evaluate the entire species portfolio when designing conservation strategies.

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Addendum

Swordfish (CMM 2009-03)

No swordfish were caught and no longline vessels targeted swordfish south of 20°S in the WCPFC Convention Area from 2021–2025.

Observer Coverage (WCPFC 11 decision - para 484(b))

Table 3. Observer coverage in 2025 for U.S. longline fisheries in the WCPFC Convention Area excluding the U.S. EEZ. Includes the total estimated effort in number of hooks, days fished, and number of trips, and the amount of this effort observed in numbers and percent of total effort.

Fishery	Number of Hooks			Days Fished			Number of Trips		
	Total	Observed	%	Total	Observed	%	Total	Observed	%
Hawaii and California	41,990,848	3,554,924	9	14,218	1,608	11	1,249	113	9

Unloading / Transshipment (CMM 2009-06)

In 2025, five purse-seine vessels transhipped 7,768 t of highly migratory species catch, 1,489 t bigeye; 5,628 t skipjack; and 651 t yellowfin tuna in the WCPFC Convention Area and unloaded this catch in foreign ports. An estimated 5,411 t of this catch was caught inside the WCPFC Convention Area with 2,357 t caught outside the WCPFC Convention Area (Table 4a; Table 4b).

Table 4a. The total quantities, by weight, of highly migratory fish stocks that were transhipped by purse-seine vessels in 2025 with reporting according to CMM 2009-06.

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	1,489			BET	Frozen	purse seine
	5,628			SKJ	Frozen	purse seine
	651			YFT	Frozen	purse seine
received						

Table 4b. The number of transshipments involving highly migratory fish stocks by fishing vessels in 2025 with reporting according to CMM 2009-06.

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	7			purse seine
received				

Fishery Interactions with Protected Species

CMM 2011-03 requires CCMs to report instances in which cetaceans have been encircled by purse-seine nets. In 2025, there were no reports of purse-seine vessels encircling cetaceans.

Information is provided on fishery interactions for marine mammals, sea turtles, and seabirds by the Hawaii-based (Table 5a-5b, 5e-5f; McCracken and Cooper 2024) and American Samoa-based (Table 5c-5d, 5e, 5g; McCracken 2024) longline fisheries during 2021–2025. Annual estimates for total fishery interactions are provided when available; otherwise observed counts are provided based on PIROP at-sea observer data. Estimates are made by raising the number of observed interactions by a factor determined according to the sample design of the PIROP; with methods evolved from McCracken 2019. For marine mammal interactions, NOAA staff assess each interaction according to established methodology in NOAA policy directives (NOAA 2012; NOAA 2023) to determine if a non-serious or serious injury or mortality are likely to result from an interaction after release from fishing gear. Observed and estimated marine mammal fishery interactions do not necessarily result in mortality or serious injury.

CMM 2018-03 requires CCMs to report on seabirds including 1) the proportion of observed effort with specific mitigation measures used; and 2) observed and reported species-specific bycatch rates and numbers or statistically rigorous estimates of species-specific seabird interaction rates and total numbers. The number of observed seabird captures and fishing effort for the Hawaii and American Samoa longline fisheries (combined) are provided based on PIROP data (Table 5e) and the annual estimated species-specific seabird catch for the entire fishery is shown for the Hawaii-based for 2021–2025 (Table 5f) and American Samoa-based longline fisheries for 2021–2023 (Table 5g).

Seabird mitigation measures used by the Hawaii longline fisheries are reported by set type (deep-set or shallow-set), location, and method of setting (side- or stern-setting) (Table 4h). Pelagic longline seabird mitigation measures can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations (Title 50, Chapter VI, Part 665, Subpart F, 665.815:
https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-50/part-665/subpart-F#p-665.815).

Mitigation measures and requirements include:

- Mitigation measures - 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, and MOD = management of offal (or bait) discharge, only required for Hawaii shallow-set stern-setting when seabirds are present.
- South of 23° N - No mitigation measures are required for pelagic longline fishing.

- North of 23° N, side-setting - WB and BC required.
- North of 23° N, stern-setting, shallow-set type - BDB, NS, and MOD required.
- North of 23° N, stern-setting, deep-set type - TL (when setting), WB, and DSLS required.

In 2025, 70% of Hawaii deep-set fishing sets and all of American Samoa-based longline fishing sets occurred south of 23° N and did not require mitigation methods. In 2025, 89% of observed shallow sets that were stern-set, utilized the required mitigation methods of BDB + NS + MOD. Of the 8% that did not utilize MOD, birds were only present during 4% of these sets. For the observed deep sets that stern-set north of 23° N, 88% met the new requirement (effective on April 1, 2024) and deployed tori lines, of which 64% also continued to utilize MOD when birds were present.

Table 5a. Marine mammal estimated (2021) or observed (2022–2025) interactions for the Hawaii-based longline fisheries for the entire shallow- and deep-set distribution (including areas outside the WCPFC Convention Area). (Observed interactions are pending review by the PIFSC Protected Species Division, which is required for total fishery estimates.)

Marine Mammals	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Striped dolphin (*Stenella coeruleoalba*)	2	0	0	0	0
Spotted dolphin (*Stenella attenuata*)	0	0	2	0	0
Bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*)	1	1	1	1	10
Risso's dolphin (*Grampus griseus*)	2	4	3	3	0
Rough-toothed dolphin (*Steno bradenensis*)	2	6	2	0	14
False killer whale (*Pseudorca crassidens*)	2	4	6	7	43
Shortfinned pilot whale (*Globicephala*	0	0	0	0	5
Unspecified false killer or shortfinned pilot whale	0	0	0	0	0
Unspecified member of beaked whales (*Ziphiidae*)	0	0	1	1	1
Unidentified Kogia Whale	0	0	0	0	0
Unidentified Cetacean (*Cetacea*)	0	2	5	2	24
Guadalupe fur seal (*Arctocephalus townsendi*)	0	0	0	2	0
Unidentified Pinniped *(Pinnipedia*)	0	0	0	1	0
Unspecified eared seal (*Otariidae*)	0	0	0	0	0
Unidentified earless seal	0	0	0	0	0
Cuvier's beaked whale (*Ziphius cavirostris*)	0	1	0	0	0
Humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*)	1	1	0	0	0
Melon-headed whale (*Peponocephala electra*)	1	0	0	0	0
Unidentified dolphin	1	0	0	0	0
Total Marine Mammals	**12**	**19**	**20**	**17**	**97**

Table 5b. Sea turtle estimated fishery interactions in the Hawaii-based shallow- and deep-set longline fisheries in the WCPFC Convention Area from 2021–2025.

Sea Turtles	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*)	34	35	48	21	18
Leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)	33	61	26	32	11
Olive Ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*)	97	88	70	50	48
Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)	0	9	10	6	18
Unidentified hardshell turtle (Cheloniidae)	0	0	8	0	1
Total Sea Turtles	**164**	**193**	**162**	**109**	**96**

Table 5c. Marine mammal estimated (2021) or observed (2022–2025) fishery interactions in the American Samoa-based longline fishery. (Observed interactions are pending review by the PIFSC Protected Species Division, which is required for total fishery estimates.)

Marine Mammals	2025[21]	2024[21]	2023	2022	2021
Striped dolphin (*Stenella coeruleoalba*)			0	0	0
False killer whale (*Pseudorca crassidens*)			0	0	3
Shortfinned pilot whale (*Globicephala*			0	0	0
Rough-toothed dolphin (*Steno bradenensis*)			0	0	2
Total Marine Mammals			**0**	**0**	**5**

Table 5d. Sea turtle estimated fishery interactions in the American Samoa-based longline fishery from 2021–2025.

Sea Turtles	2025[22]	2024[22]	2023	2022	2021
Leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)			0	2	6
Olive Ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*)			0	8	7
Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)			23	4	10
Hawksbill *(Eretmochelys imbricata*)			0	0	2
Total Sea Turtles			**23**	**14**	**25**

[21] In 2024 and 2025, marine mammal interactions with the American Samoa-based fishery were not included as they are being provided separately in the American Samoa Annual Report.

[22] In 2024 and 2025, sea turtle interactions with the American Samoa-based fishery were not included as they are being provided separately in the American Samoa Annual Report.

Table 5e. The rate (captures per 1,000 observed hooks) and number of observed seabird captures and fishing effort for the Hawaii and American Samoa longline fisheries (combined) from 2021–2025. (For 2021–2024, effort and interactions include the complete distribution of these fisheries within each latitudinal band, including areas outside the WCPFC Convention Area. For 2025, effort and interactions are limited to the WCPFC Convention Area within each latitudinal band. No fishery effort occurred for latitudinal bands south of 25°S.)

Effort and Observed Seabird Captures North of 23° N						
Fishing Effort					Observed Seabird Captures	
Year	**Number of Vessels**	**Number of Hooks Set**	**Observed Hooks**	**% Hooks Observed**	**Number**	**Rate**
2021	137	23,689,608	5,177,025	21.9	159	0.03
2022	131	20,533,974	5,176,012	25.2	201	0.04
2023	139	25,305,441	4,908,034	19.4	77	0.02
2024	144	22,010,161	3,794,947	17.2	99	0.03
2025	140	18,738,574	2,318,983	12.4	136	0.06

Effort and Observed Seabird Captures 23° N–25° S						
Fishing Effort					Observed Seabird Captures	
Year	**Number of Vessels**	**Number of Hooks Set**	**Observed Hooks**	**% Hooks Observed**	**Number**	**Rate**
2020	142	36,320,732	4,293,640	11.8	41	0.01
2021	149	45,642,014	7,392,695	16.2	25	0.00
2022	149	46,593,920	8,777,251	18.8	8	0.00
2023	153	45,076,988	7,782,262	17.3	12	0.00
2024[23]	151	43,694,575	5,541,052	12.7	1	0.00
2025[21]	146	43,183,966	3,248,534	7.5	2	0.00

[23] In 2024 and 2025, American Samoa-based longline fishery interactions are not included as these are covered in a report submitted by American Samoa. This fishery only operates within the band from 23° N–25° S.

Table 5f. Total number of estimated seabird interactions by species in the Hawaii–based longline fishery from 2021–2025. (For 2021**–**2024, estimates include the complete distribution of these fisheries within each latitudinal band, including areas outside the WCPFC Convention Area. For 2025, estimates are limited to the WCPFC Convention Area within each latitudinal band. No fishery effort occurred for latitudinal bands south of 25°S.)

Species	**2025**		**2024**		**2023**		**2022**		**2021**	
	>23° N	**23°N–25°S**	**>23° N**	**23°N–25°S**	**>23° N**	**23°N–25°S**	**>23° N**	**23°N–25°S**	**>23° N**	**23°N–25°S**
Blackfooted albatross (*Phoebastria nigripes*)	171	34	74	0	183	50	315	22	435	146
Laysan albatross (*Phoebastria diomedia*)	91	0	86	0	81	5	394	8	241	13
Red-footed booby (*Sula sula*)	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0
Brown booby (*Sula leucogaster*)	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	6	1	0
Masked booby (*Sula dactylatra*)	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
Sooty shearwater (*Ardenna grisea*)	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	0
Unidentified shearwater (*Procellariidae*)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0
Northern fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	**263**	**34**	**160**	**6**	**269**	**67**	**709**	**36**	**688**	**159**

Table 5g. Total number of estimated seabird interactions by species for the American Samoa-based longline fishery from 2021–2025. No interactions occurred north of 23°N or south of 25°S.

Species	2025[24]	2024[23]	2023	2022	2021
	23°N–25°S	23°N–25°S	23°N–25°S	23°N–25°S	23°N–25°S
Frigate bird (Fregatidae)			0	0	1
Unidentified shearwater (*Procellariidae*)			0	0	1
Totals			**0**	**0**	**2**

[24] In 2024 and 2025, seabird interactions with the American Samoa-based fishery were not included as they are being covered separately in the American Samoa Annual Report.

Table 5h. Seabird mitigation measures used in 2025 by Hawaii-based deep-set (DS) and shallow-set (SS) longline fisheries by type of set, location of set, and method of setting (side-setting or stern-setting).

Set Type	Location Set	Method of Setting	Mitigation Measures[25]	Proportion of Observed Effort Using Mitigation Measures
SS	All locations	Side-setting	SS + WB + BC	0%
SS	All locations	Stern-setting	BDB + NS + MOD	89%
SS	All locations	Stern-setting	NS + MOD	3%
SS	All locations	Stern-setting	BDB + NS	7%
SS	All locations	Stern-setting	NS	1%
SS Total	**All locations**	**All set types**	**-**	**100%**
DS	North 23° N	Side-setting	SS + WB +BC	4%
DS	North 23° N	Side-setting	SS + WB	1%
DS	North 23° N	Stern-setting	TL + WB + DSLS	14%
DS	North 23° N	Stern-setting	TL + WB + DSLS + MOD	9%
DS	North 23° N	Stern-setting	WB + DSLS + MOD	1%
DS	North 23° N	Stern-setting	WB + DSLS	2%
DS	South 23° N	Side setting or stern-setting	No mitigation measures required	70%
DS total	**All locations**	**All set types**	**-**	**100%**

[25] Mitigation measures include: 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, and MOD = management of offal (or bait) discharge when birds present.