



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
TWENTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION
11-19 August 2026
Apia, Samoa (Hybrid)

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

WCPFC-SC22-2026-AR-CCM18

6 August 2026

Submitted by Palau

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION
PART I: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS
REPUBLIC OF PALAU

Republic of Palau

Division of Oceanic Fishery Management
Bureau of Fisheries
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Environment

July 4, 2026

Scientific data was provided to the Commission in accordance with the decision relating to the provision of scientific data to the Commission by <u>30 April 2025</u>	<u>YES</u>
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I. ABSTRACT

In 2025, Palau licensed a total of 38 fishing vessels, including 6 Longlines (five JP flagged and one TW flagged) and 32 Purse Seines (26 JP flagged and 6 TW flagged). The Longline vessels reported catching approximately 219.94 metric tons (MT) of fish, comprising 13.02 MT of Albacore, 130.45 MT of Bigeye Tuna, 52.66 MT of Yellowfin Tuna, and 23.81 MT of other species. Purse Seine vessels caught about 8.5 MT of skipjack tuna within Palau's EEZ. Of the total recorded catch for the year, 17.60 MT were landed at Palau's port and were sold or donated locally.

II. BACKGROUND

The Division of Oceanic Fishery Management is mandated under Title 27 of the Palau National Code to support fisheries regulation, negotiate and conclude fishing agreements, issue fishing permits, and perform management, conservation, monitoring, and reporting functions for living marine resources within the Republic of Palau's extended and exclusive fishery zone. Title 27 is the principal national legislation governing highly migratory fish stocks and fishing vessels operating in Palau waters.

III. FLAG STATE REPORTING

In 2025, there were no Palau-flagged longline or purse seine vessels operating within or outside the WCPFC Convention Area. Consequently, there was no fishing activity undertaken by a Palau national fleet, and no catch, fishing effort, or related operational data were reported during the reporting year. Accordingly, all Flag State reporting tables and figures included in this section reflect zero activity for 2025.

Table 1. National Catches

SPECIES	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Ret.	Disc.	Ret.	Disc.	Ret.	Disc.	Ret.	Disc.	Ret.	Disc.
ALB	0	0	0	0	0.14	0	0	0	0	0
BET	0	0	0.99	0	2.66	0	0	0	0	0
PBF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SKJ	0	0	0.06	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
YFT	0	0	4.68	0	4.96	0	0	0	0	0
BLM	0	0	0.05	0	0.11	0	0	0	0	0
BUM	0	0	0.28	0	0.2	0	0	0	0	0
MLS	0	0	0	0	0.09	0	0	0	0	0
SWO	0	0	0.03	0	0.16	0	0	0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL	0	0	6.09	0	8.32	0	0	0	0	0

Figure 1. Trend of National catch

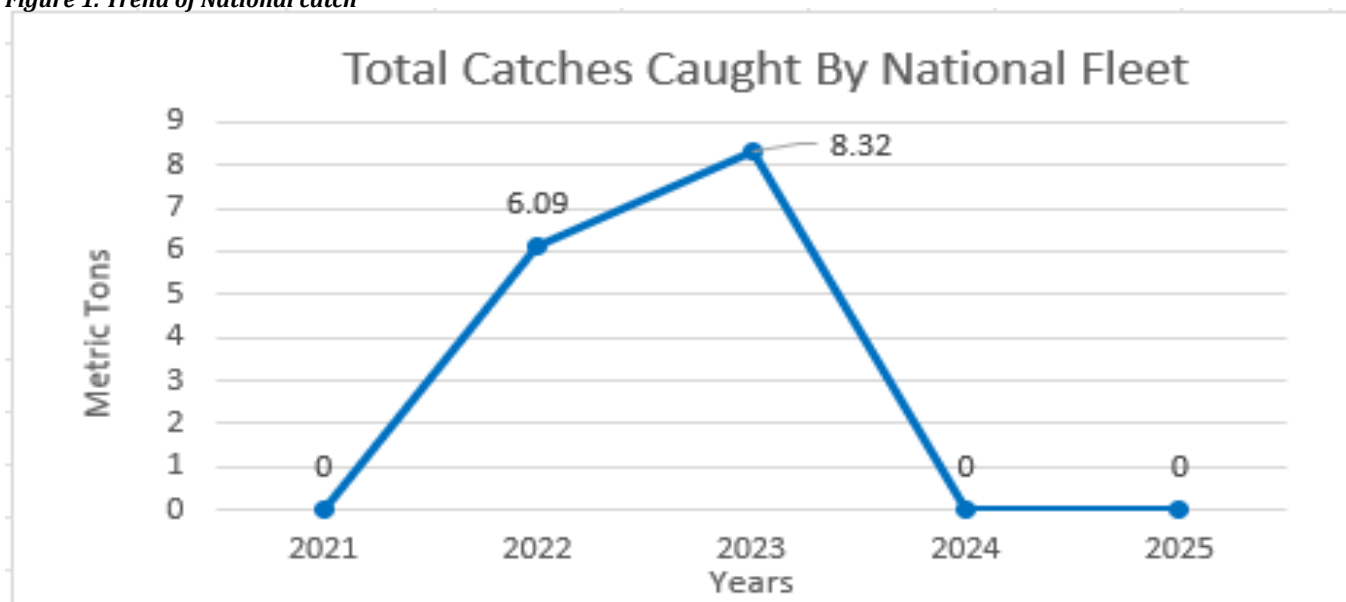
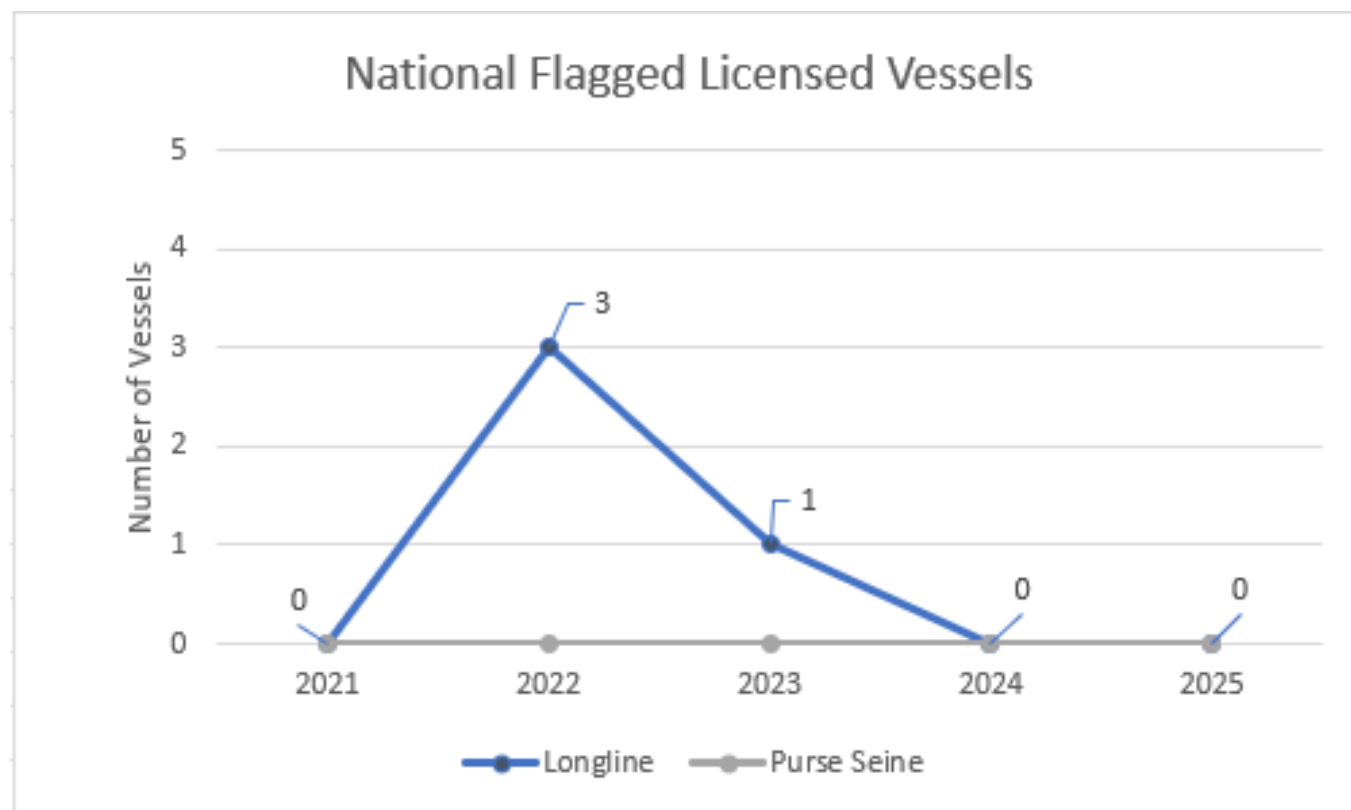


Table 2 shows the number of the licensed national vessels by gear and size category while Figure 2 displays its trend over the years.

Table 2. Number of Licensed Fishing Vessel (National and Chartered) by Gear and Size Category

GEAR	LONGLINE (National& Chartered)						PURSE SEINE (National)					
YEAR GRT	0-25	26-50	51-75	76-100	100+	Total Vessels	0-25	26-50	51-75	76-100	100+	Total Vessels
2025	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	0	2	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	2	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0

Figure 2. Trend of Licensed National Fishing Vessels



IV. COASTAL STATE REPORTING

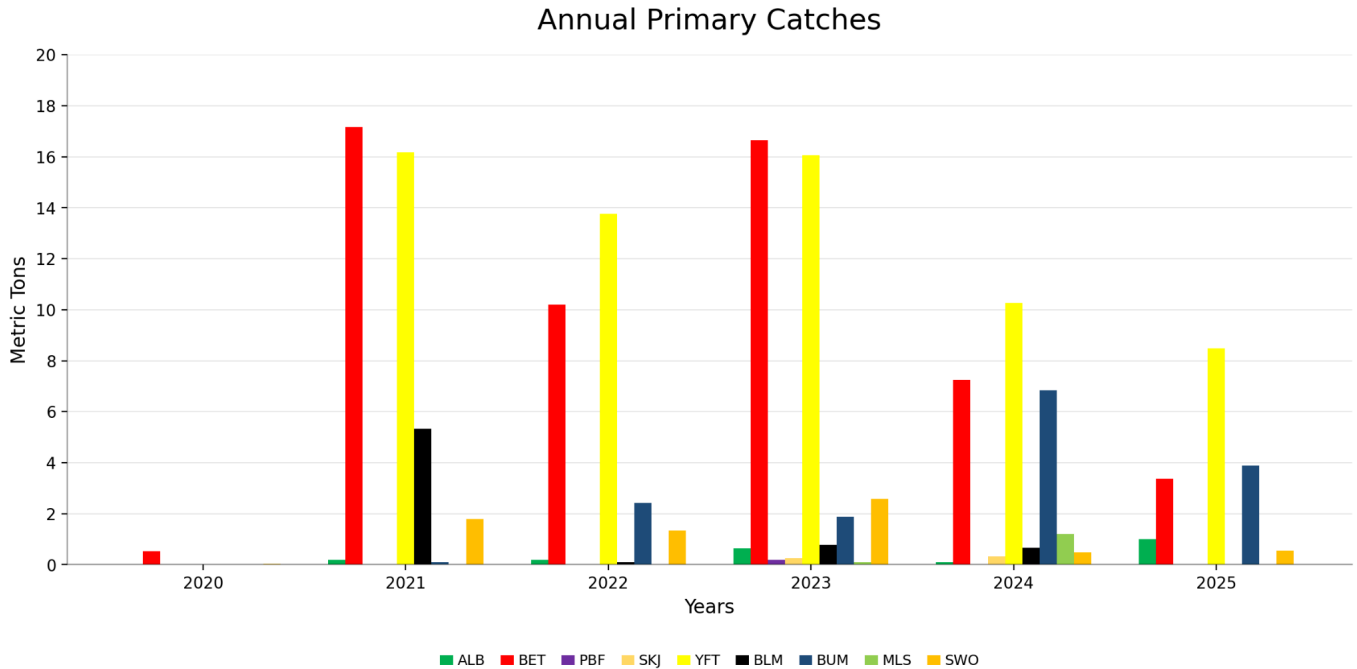
In 2025, Palau licensed a total of 38 foreign-flagged fishing vessels, comprising 6 longline vessels (five Japanese-flagged and one Chinese Taipei-flagged) and 32 purse seine vessels (26 Japanese-flagged and six Chinese Taipei-flagged). The licensed longline vessels reported a combined catch of 219.94 metric tons, while purse seine vessels reported approximately 8.5 metric tons of skipjack tuna caught within Palau's Exclusive Economic Zone. Table 3 presents the annual longline catch by species, with Figure 3 illustrating the historical catch trend. Additional information on licensed vessels, longline catches, and purse seine catches is presented in the tables and figures that follow.

Table 3. Annual catch (MT) by species for the Republic of Palau Longline fishery.

SPECIES	2020		2021		2022		2023		2024		2025	
	Ret.	Disc.	Ret.	Disc.	Ret.	Disc.	Ret.	Disc.	Ret.	Disc.	Ret.	Dis.
ALB	0	0	0.18	0	0.2	0	0.65	0	0.1	0	1	0
BET	0.52	0	17.17	0	10.2	0	16.65	0	7.241	0	3.36	0
PBF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0.02	0
SKJ	0	0	0	0	0.01	0	0.25	0	0.328	0	0	0
YFT	0	0	16.18	0	13.76	0	16.06	0	10.265	0	8.48	0
BLM	0	0	5.34	0	0.1	0	0.77	0	0.666	0	0	0
BUM	0	0	0.1	0	2.43	0	1.87	0	6.847	0	3.89	0

MLS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.09	0	1.205	0	0	0
SWO	0.04	0	1.79	0	1.35	0	2.59	0	0.494	0	0.54	0
GRAND TOTAL	0.56	0.00	40.76	0.00	28.05	0.00	39.13	0.00	28.20	0.00	16.28	0.00

Figure 3. Historical Annual Primary Catch presented as a bar graph.



There were no catches of Species of Special Interest as presented in Table 4. Other than the primary species caught presented in Table 3, there were some non-targeted species collected as well. Displayed below in Table 5, are the estimated number of different species caught for each year from 2020 to 2025 by the domestic based fishing vessels. As seen in the table below, data throughout the years show that Sailfish were the most caught non-target species.

Table 4. Observed Annual Estimated catches of Species of Special Interests.

YEAR	Species	SEABIRD			TURTLE				MARINE MAMMAL			
		No. Alive	No. Dead	Total	Species	No. Alive	No. Dead	Total	Species	No. Alive	No. Dead	Total
2025	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
2024	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
2023	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
2022	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
2021	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0
2020	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0	N/A	0	0	0

Table 5. Annual Estimate Catch of Non-Target, Associated, and Dependent Species

Species Name	Total Annual Longline Catches (MT)						Total Catch
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
BARRACUDA NEI	0	0	0.01	0.088	0.119	0.03	0.247
COMMON DOLPHINFISH	0	0.06	0.532	0.722	1.685	0.02	3.019
ESCOLAR	0	0.87	0.024	0.032	0	0	0.926
OILFISH	0	0.28	0.007	0	0	0	0.287
OPAH	0.17	0.07	0.302	1.199	0.135	0.03	1.906
SAILFISH (INDO-PACIFIC)	0	0.76	0.494	0.531	2.257	0.42	4.462
SICKLE POMFRET	0	0.09	0.125	0.521	0.047	0.013	0.796
WAHOO	0	0	0.01	0.026	0.085	0.031	0.152
OTHER FISH	0	0.09	0	0		0.43	0.52
Annual Grand Total	0.17	2.22	1.504	3.119	4.33	0.974	12.317

Distant Water Fleet

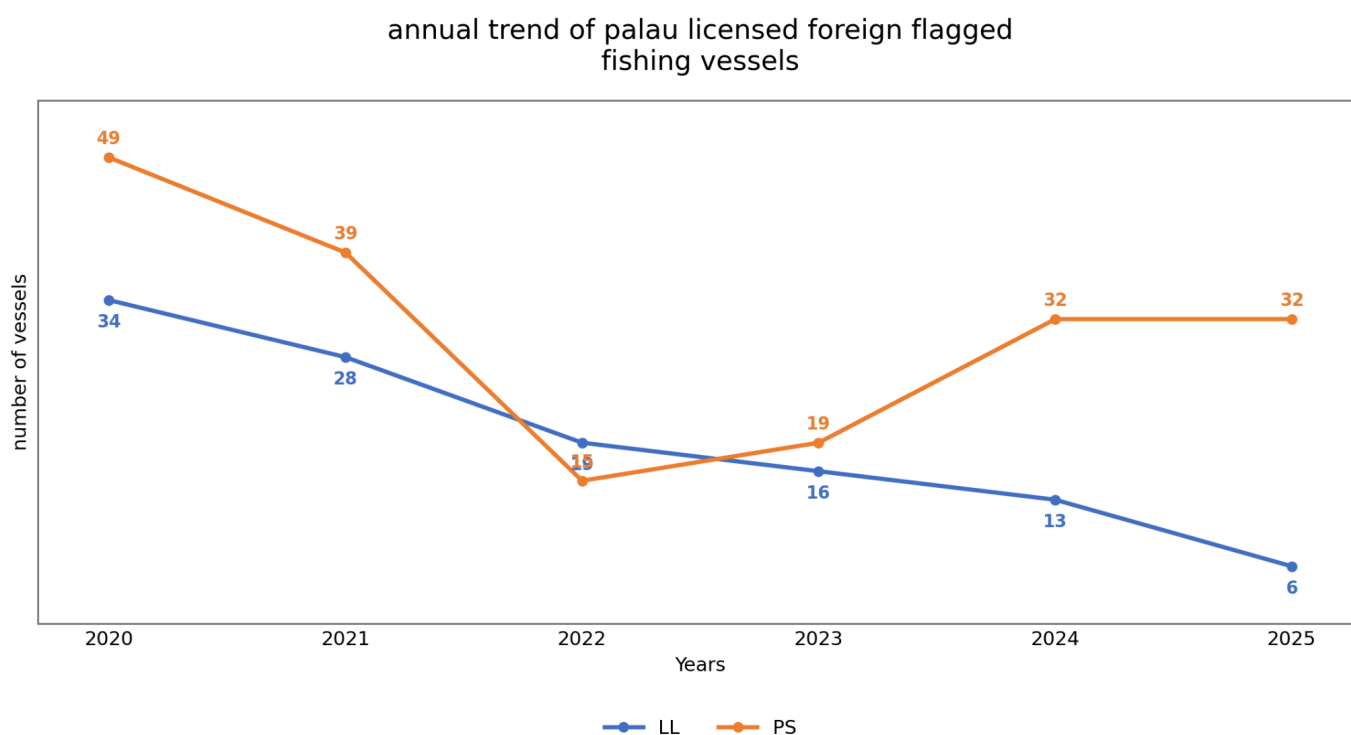
In 2025, Palau licensed a total of 38 foreign-flagged fishing vessels, comprising 6 longline vessels (five Japanese-flagged and one Chinese Taipei-flagged) and 32 purse seine vessels (26 Japanese-flagged and 6 Chinese Taipei-flagged). These vessels were authorized to operate in accordance with Palau's fisheries legislation and the terms and conditions of their respective fishing agreements. Table 6 presents the breakdown of licensed vessels by year, flag, gear, and size category, while Figure 4 illustrates the annual trend in the number of licensed foreign-flagged fishing vessels.

Table 6. Number of foreign fishing vessels active in the WCPFC Convention Area.

YEAR	FLAG	GEAR	Size Category (GRT)				Total Vessels
			0-500	501-1000	1001-1500	1501+	
2025	JP	LL	5	0	0	0	5
	JP	PS	0	0	15	11	26
	TW	LL	1	0	0	0	1
	TW	PS	0	0	5	1	6
2025 Total Vessels			6	0	20	12	38
2024	JP	LL	13	0	0	0	13
	JP	PS	0	0	16	10	26
	TW	PS	0	0	5	1	6
2024 Total Vessels			13	0	21	11	45
2023	JP	LL	16	0	0	0	16
	JP	PS	0	0	13	6	19
2023 Total Vessels			16	0	13	6	35

2022	JP	LL	19	0	0	0	19
	JP	PS	0	0	9	6	15
2022 Total Vessels			19	0	9	6	34
2021	JP	LL	27	0	0	0	27
	JP	PS	0	0	20	7	27
	PG	PS	0	0	1	0	1
	PH	PS	0	0	11	0	11
2021 Total Vessels			28	0	32	7	66
2020	JP	LL	32	0	0	0	32
	JP	PS	0	0	23	6	29
	PH	PS	0	3	16	1	20
	TW	LL	2	0	0	0	2
2020 Total Vessels			34	3	39	7	83

Figure 4. Annual trend of Palau licensed foreign flagged-based fishing vessels



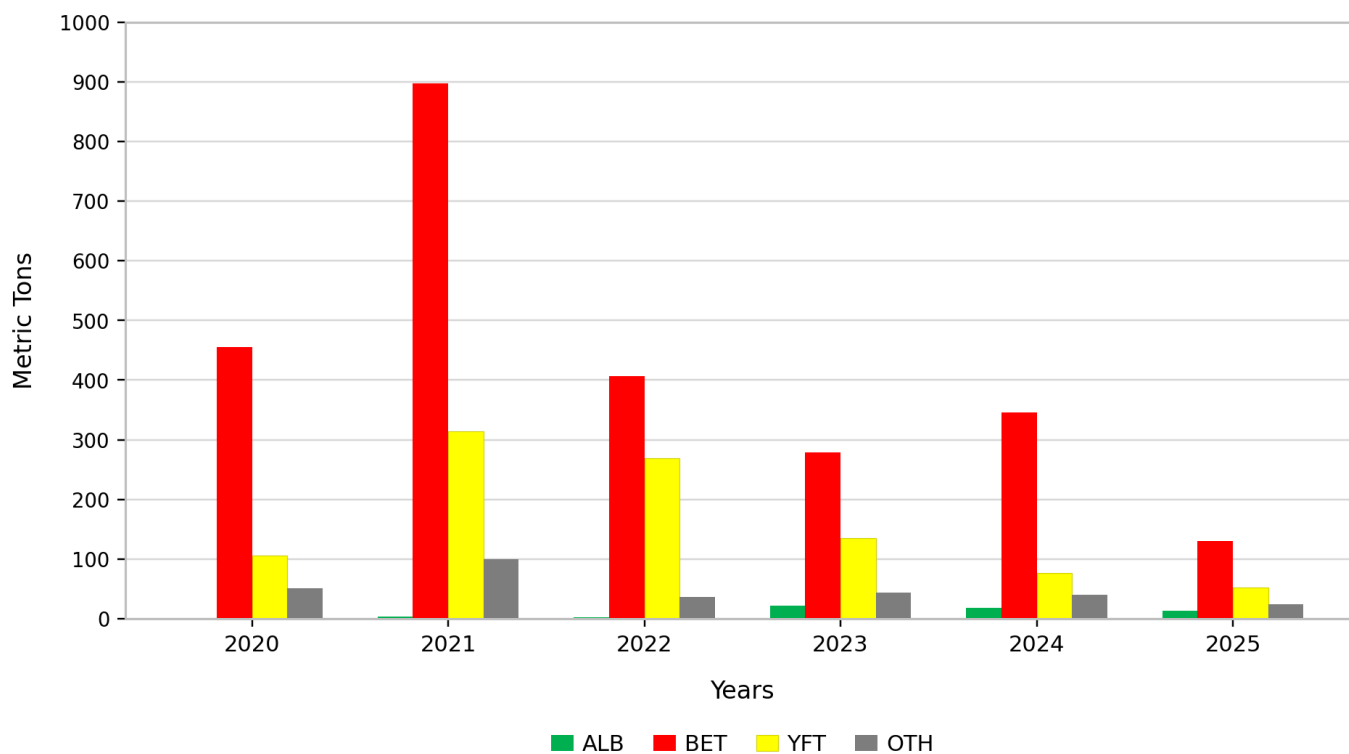
Distant Water Longline Catch Report

The Palau-licensed foreign-flagged longline vessels reported a provisional catch of 219.94 metric tons in 2025. Bigeye tuna accounted for 130.45 metric tons (59.3%) of the total reported catch, followed by Yellowfin tuna (52.60 metric tons), Other species (23.81 metric tons), and Albacore tuna (13.02 metric tons). Table 7 presents the annual longline catches in Palau's Exclusive Economic Zone by flag and species for the period 2020–2025, while Figure 5 illustrates the annual trend in primary catches.

Table 7. Longline Catches (MT) by year, by flag, and by species in Palau EEZ

YEAR	FLAG	ALB	BET	YFT	OTH	Total Catches
2025	JP	13.00	127.09	44.12	18.42	202.69
	TW	0.02	3.36	8.48	5.39	17.25
<i>2025 Total</i>		<i>13.02</i>	<i>130.45</i>	<i>52.60</i>	<i>23.81</i>	<i>219.94</i>
2024	JP	18.47	345.96	76.96	40.15	481.54
<i>2024 Total</i>		<i>18.47</i>	<i>345.96</i>	<i>76.96</i>	<i>40.15</i>	<i>481.54</i>
2023	JP	21.71	279.13	135.56	43.81	480.21
<i>2023 Total</i>		<i>21.71</i>	<i>279.13</i>	<i>135.56</i>	<i>43.81</i>	<i>480.21</i>
2022	JP	1.85	406.49	269.47	36.63	714.43
<i>2022 Total</i>		<i>1.85</i>	<i>406.49</i>	<i>269.47</i>	<i>36.63</i>	<i>714.43</i>
2021		3.36	897.06	314.53	99.97	1314.92
<i>2021 Total</i>		<i>3.36</i>	<i>897.06</i>	<i>314.53</i>	<i>99.97</i>	<i>1314.92</i>
2020	JP	0.54	438.83	91.18	39.92	570.47
	PW	0.7	15.85	14.34	11.15	41.41
<i>2020 Total</i>		<i>1.24</i>	<i>454.68</i>	<i>105.52</i>	<i>51.07</i>	<i>611.88</i>

Annual Primary Catches



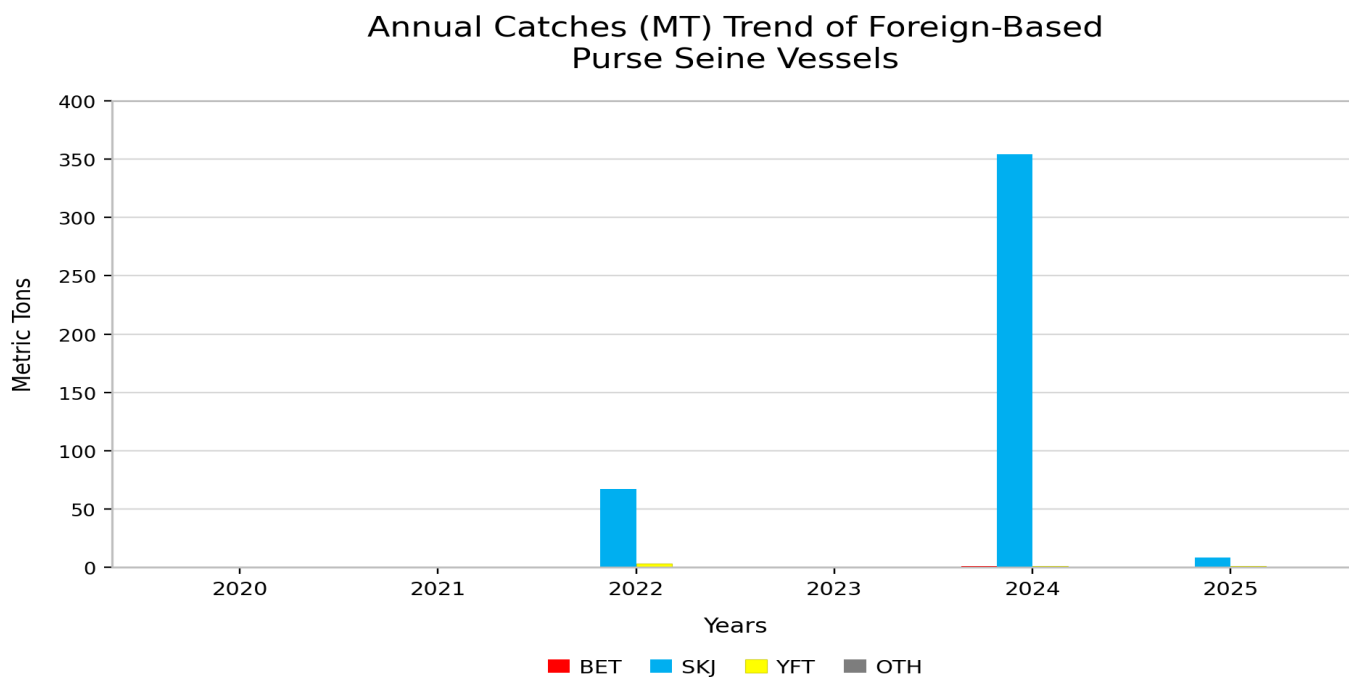
Distant Water Purse Seine Catch Report

In 2025, approximately 10.0 metric tons of tuna were caught by purse seine vessels operating in Palau waters, comprising 8.5 metric tons of Skipjack tuna, 1.0 metric ton of Yellowfin tuna, and 0.5 metric tons of Bigeye tuna. Over the six-year period from 2020 to 2025, purse seine vessels reported a combined catch of approximately 436 metric tons in Palau's Exclusive Economic Zone. Table 8 presents the annual purse seine catches by species, while Figure 5 illustrates the catch trend from 2020 to 2025.

Table 8. Purse Seine Catches (MT) by year, by flag, and by species in the Palau EEZ.

YEAR	FLAG	BET	SKJ	YFT	OTH	TOTAL
2025	JP	0.50	8.50	1.00	0.00	10.00
	TW	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2025 Total		0.50	8.50	1.00	0.00	10.00
2024	FM	1	308	1	0	310
	JP	0	46	0	0	46
2024 Total		1	354	1	0	356
2023	JP	0	0	0	0	0
2023 Total		0	0	0	0	0
2022	FM	0	67	3	0	70
2022 Total		0	67	3	0	70
2021	JP	0	0	0	0	0
	PG	0	0	0	0	0
	PH	0	0	0	0	0
2021 Total		0	0	0	0	0
2020	JP	0	0	0	0	0
	PH	0	0	0	0	0
2020 Total		0	0	0	0	0

Figure 5. Purse Seine: Annual Catch Trend in Palau EEZ.



V. SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS

Palau's locally based tuna fishing industry continues to contribute to the national economy through employment, domestic fish supply, and the provision of goods and services that support fisheries operations. The industry plays an important role in supporting food security and providing fresh tuna products to local markets, restaurants, and tourism-related businesses, while generating economic benefits for local companies and communities.

The tuna fishery also provides an important source of government revenue through the Vessel Day Scheme (VDS), fisheries licensing, management fees, and other fisheries-related charges. These revenues support fisheries management, monitoring, compliance, scientific data collection, and other national development priorities.

Recognizing the importance of maintaining healthy tuna stocks and marine ecosystems, the Government of Palau continues to implement fisheries management measures through national legislation, licensing conditions, monitoring and compliance programmes, and active participation in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). These measures are intended to ensure that the economic and social benefits derived from tuna fisheries are achieved in a sustainable manner while protecting the marine environment for future generations.

VI. DISPOSAL OF CATCH

From the total recorded catch caught in Palau's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in 2025, approximately 17.61 metric tons of fish were landed at Malakal Port. The landings were made exclusively by the domestically based foreign-flagged longline fleet, as there were no purse seine unloading operations conducted in Palau. Of the total landed catch, 17.26 metric tons were sold locally and 0.35 metric tons were donated. Palau's Fishery Port remains incapable of accommodating purse seine unloading operations; therefore, no purse seine catches were landed in Palau during the reporting year. Table 9 presents the breakdown of landed catches by species.

Table 9. 2025 Landed Catches (MT) by Species

Species	Local sales	Donations	Total
BET	3.36	0.06	3.42
YFT	8.49	0.29	8.78
SWO	0.54	0	0.54
BUM	3.89	0	3.89
BLM	0	0	0
PBF	0.43	0	0.43
SSP	0.55	0	0.55
OTH	0	0	0
Total	17.26	0.35	17.61

VII. ONSHORE DEVELOPMENTS

During 2025, Palau continued to strengthen its fisheries management and monitoring systems to support the sustainable development of its oceanic fisheries. No major new fish processing facilities, cold storage infrastructure, ice plants, or port expansion projects were commissioned during the reporting year. Fish landing operations continued to be undertaken at Malakal Port by the domestically based foreign-flagged longline fleet, while purse seine vessels continued to unload their catches outside Palau due to the limited capacity of existing port infrastructure.

Palau continued to support the operation of its domestic fishing companies, including the locally based longline fleet, which supplied fresh tuna to the domestic market. Fisheries support services, including licensing, port inspections, catch monitoring, and data collection, continued to be provided by the Bureau of Fisheries.

During the reporting year, Palau also continued to advance the implementation of electronic monitoring (EM) and electronic reporting (ER) systems as part of its efforts to improve fisheries monitoring, control, surveillance, and data collection. These initiatives complement existing observer and port sampling program and support Palau's commitments under the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and other regional fisheries management arrangements.

Planning also continued for future fisheries infrastructure improvements, including the development of enhanced fisheries port facilities to support the expansion of Palau's domestic tuna fishing industry and improve fisheries-related services.

VIII. FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE FISHERY

Palau will continue to promote the sustainable development of its oceanic fisheries while ensuring the long-term conservation of tuna resources through science-based management and regional cooperation. The Government will continue to strengthen fisheries management, monitoring, control and surveillance systems, and data collection program in accordance with national legislation and obligations under the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

Future developments are expected to focus on increasing domestic participation in the tuna fishery, particularly through the continued development of the locally based longline industry. Efforts will continue to improve the economic benefits derived from Palau's tuna resources while maintaining sustainable fishing practices and effective management of fishing effort.

Palau will continue to implement and expand the use of electronic reporting (ER) and electronic monitoring (EM) systems to improve fisheries compliance, operational efficiency, and the quality and timeliness of fisheries data. These initiatives are expected to complement existing monitoring program and strengthen national fisheries management.

The Government also intends to continue improving fisheries infrastructure and support services, including future fisheries port development and other facilities required to support domestic fisheries operations. Improvements in fisheries infrastructure are expected to enhance operational efficiency, increase domestic value added opportunities, and strengthen the long-term viability of the domestic tuna fishing industry.

Palau will continue to work closely with regional fisheries organizations, development partners, and fishing nations to maintain responsible fisheries access arrangements, strengthen fisheries governance, and maximize the long-term social and economic benefits derived from the sustainable use of its tuna resources.

IX. STATUS OF TUNA FISHERY DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS

Palau continues to implement the latest versions of SPC regional data collection forms and utilizes the SPC TUFMAN 2 database as the national tuna fisheries information management system for the storage, validation, and reporting of fisheries data. Locally based foreign fishing companies are required to submit fishing reports on a monthly basis, while foreign-based Japanese longline and purse seine operators continue to submit logsheet data electronically or through other approved submission methods. All submitted data are verified, reconciled, and entered into the TUFMAN 2 database before being transmitted to SPC in accordance with regional reporting requirements.

Palau continues to strengthen the implementation of Electronic Reporting (ER) to improve the timeliness, accuracy, and efficiency of fisheries data collection. Electronic reports will be used to verify against port sampling, licensing, and other monitoring information before being incorporated into the national database.

Dedicated fisheries port samplers and compliance officers are present during the unloading of domestically based longline vessels at Malakal Port to collect catch data and verify logsheet and landing information. Verification procedures include checking species composition, landed weights, and ensuring that required reporting forms are complete and accurately submitted.

Observer and Electronic Monitoring Program

There were no observer placements in 2025. Palau continues to advance the implementation of Electronic Monitoring (EM) as part of its fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance programme. EM is intended to complement existing monitoring programmes and improve fisheries data collection and compliance while supporting national and regional fisheries management requirements.

Transshipment

There were no transshipment activities conducted in Palau during 2025.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES COVERING TARGET AND NON-TARGET SPECIES

During 2025, Palau continued to support fisheries research and scientific data collection through collaboration with the Pacific Community (SPC), the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA), the Parties to the Nauru Agreement Office (PNAO), and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). Research activities were primarily based on fisheries-dependent data collected through logsheet reporting, port sampling, catch monitoring, licensing records, and other fisheries monitoring programmes.

Data collected from Palau's longline and purse seine fisheries contributed to regional stock assessments and scientific analyses of target tuna species, including Bigeye Tuna (*Thunnus obesus*), Yellowfin Tuna (*Thunnus albacares*), Skipjack Tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*), and Albacore Tuna (*Thunnus alalunga*).

Palau also continued to strengthen fisheries data collection through the implementation of Electronic Reporting (ER) and the ongoing development of Electronic Monitoring (EM) systems. These initiatives are expected to improve the quality, accuracy, and timeliness of fisheries data available for scientific research and fisheries management.

No dedicated national research programmes targeting non-target species were undertaken during 2025. Information on bycatch species, including sharks, billfish, sea turtles, seabirds, and other associated species, continued to be collected through routine fisheries monitoring and reporting programmes, where applicable, and contributed to regional scientific assessments and conservation initiatives.



ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORT PART 1

20 February 2026³

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

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 1 of 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. <i>*Note: WCPFC11 confirmed a common understanding that “total catch” in this reporting requirement refers to both targeted and bycatch catches of swordfish.</i> AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that the CCM submitted the required information contained in the template in Annex 2 of CMM in its AR Pt 1. Not Applicable. No Palau Flagged Vessel for 2025 <table><tr><th colspan="5">Swordfish</th></tr><tr><th>Flag</th><th>Year</th><th>Vessels</th><th>Catch (Numbers)</th><th>Catch (MT)</th></tr><tr><td>PW</td><td>2025</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr></table>	Swordfish					Flag	Year	Vessels	Catch (Numbers)	Catch (MT)	PW	2025	0	0	0																									
Swordfish																																									
Flag	Year	Vessels	Catch (Numbers)	Catch (MT)																																					
PW	2025	0	0	0																																					
Observer coverage (WCPFC 11 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) Not applicable. No Palau Flagged Vessel for 2025 <table><tr><th rowspan="2">CCM Fleet</th><th rowspan="2">Fishery</th><th colspan="3">No. of Hooks</th><th colspan="3">Days Fished</th><th colspan="3">Days at Sea</th><th colspan="3">No. of Trips</th></tr><tr><th>Total Est.</th><th>Obs.</th><th>%</th><th>Total Est.</th><th>Obs.</th><th>%</th><th>Total Est.</th><th>Obs.</th><th>%</th><th>Total Est.</th><th>Obs.</th><th>%</th></tr><tr><td>Palau</td><td>National -LL</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0 %</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0 %</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0 %</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0 %</td></tr></table>	CCM Fleet	Fishery	No. of Hooks			Days Fished			Days at Sea			No. of Trips			Total Est.	Obs.	%	Total Est.	Obs.	%	Total Est.	Obs.	%	Total Est.	Obs.	%	Palau	National -LL	0	0	0 %	0	0	0 %	0	0	0 %	0	0	0 %
CCM Fleet	Fishery			No. of Hooks			Days Fished			Days at Sea			No. of Trips																												
		Total Est.	Obs.	%	Total Est.	Obs.	%	Total Est.	Obs.	%	Total Est.	Obs.	%																												
Palau	National -LL	0	0	0 %	0	0	0 %	0	0	0 %	0	0	0 %																												

³ Reporting requirements requested by CMMs and decisions of the Commission, as of WCPFC20 (Dec 2023). First issued on 8 April 2024. Changes made to the Addendum for 2022 include the revised CMM 2023-03 for North Pacific Swordfish and WCPFC20 Agreed Audit Points. In 2025, WCPFC22 also agreed new Audit Points.

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

CCMs shall report on all transshipment activities covered by this Measure (including transshipment 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 transshipment 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: Transshipment 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:

Not Applicable. No Palau Flagged Vessels for 2025. There were no transshipment activities approved, authorized, or conducted in Palau waters or at its Ports for 2025.

(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) Transshipped in port, transshipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction	c) Transshipped inside the Convention Area and transhipped outside the Convention Area;	d) Caught inside the Convention Area and caught outside the Convention Area;	e) Species	f) Product Form	g) Fishing gear
offloaded	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
received	0	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A

(2) 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) Transshipped in port, transshipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction	c) Transshipped 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	0	0	0	N/A
received	0	0	0	N/A

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

CMM 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).

Not Applicable. No Purse Seine Vessels operates as Palau Flag Vessel or chartered by Palau in 2025.

AUDIT POINT [RP] Secretariat confirms that CCM submitted a report on instances in which cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets of flagged vessels and as reported in ARPt1 under para 2(b) of CMM.

CMM 2018-03
[Seabirds] Para 13

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

CCMs shall annually provide to the Commission, in Part 1 of their annual reports, all available information on interactions with seabirds reported or collected by observers to enable the estimation of seabird mortality in all fisheries to which the Convention applies. (see below for Part 1 reporting template guideline). These reports shall include information on:

1. the proportion of observed effort with specific mitigation measures used; and
2. observed and reported species specific seabird bycatch rates and numbers or statistically rigorous estimates of species- specific seabird interaction rates (for longline, interactions per 1,000 hooks) and total numbers.

AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that CCM submitted a report using the reporting template in Annex 2 of CMM 2018-03 on seabird interactions reported or collected by observers.

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

Not Applicable. No Palau Flagged Vessels for 2025. There was no fishing in the areas South of 30°S; 25°S-30°S; North of 23°N; or 23°N-25°S as specified in the CMM 2018-03 (Seabirds), therefore there are no records of catch from the designated area.

Table X: Effort, observed and estimated seabird captures by fishing year for Palau [South of 30°S; 25°S-30°S; North of 23°N; or 23°N-25°S¹].

Year	No. of Vessels	Fishing Effort			Observed Seabird Captures	
		Number of Hooks	Hooks Observed	% Hooks Observed	Number	Rate
2025	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024	0	0	0	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	0	0	0
2021	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table Y: Proportion of mitigation types used by the fleet in 2024.

	Combination of Mitigation Measures	Proportion of observed effort using mitigation measures			
		South of 30°S	25°S-30°S	25°S to 23°N	North of 23°N
	No mitigation measures	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Options required south of 25°S	TL + NS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	TL + WB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	NS + WB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	TL + WB + NS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	HS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other options 25°S-30°S	WB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	TL	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other options north of 23°N	SS/BC/WB/DSLS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	SS/BC/WB/(MOD or BDB)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Provide any other combination of mitigation measures here					
	Totals (must equal 100%)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table Z: Number of observed seabird captures in Palau longline fisheries, by species and area.

Species	South of 30°S	25°S-30°S	North of 23°N	23°N-25°S	Total
N/A	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0

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

**CMM 2006-04
[South West 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.

AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that the CCM submitted in its ARPt1:
a. the number of its flagged vessels that fished for MLS south of 15S between 2001-2004 and has nominated the maximum number of its flagged vessels that are permitted to continue to fish for MLS south of 15S
b. the catch levels of CCM flagged vessels that have taken MLS as a bycatch
the number and catch levels of its vessels fishing for MLS south of 15S.

Not Applicable. No Palau Flagged Vessels for 2025. There was no fishing south of 15°S, therefore there are no records of catch from the designated area.

South West Striped Marlin				
Flag	Year	Vessels	Catch (Numbers)	Catch (MT)
PW	2025	0	0	0

**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.’

AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that the CCM submitted information on annual catch levels by its flagged vessels taking SP Albacore, as well as the number of CCM flagged vessels actively fishing for SP Albacore south of 20S, with catch levels reported by species groups.

Not Applicable. No Palau Flagged Vessels for 2025. There was no fishing south of 20°S, therefore there are no records of catch from the designated area.

South Pacific Albacore				
Flag	Year	Vessels	Catch (Numbers)	Catch (MT)
PW	2025	0	0	0

CMM 2019-03
[North Pacific
Albacore], Para 3

All CCMs shall report annually to the WCPFC Commission all catches of albacore north of the equator and all fishing effort north of the equator in fisheries directed at albacore. The reports for both catch and fishing effort shall be made by gear type. Catches shall be reported in terms of weight. Fishing effort shall be reported in terms of the most relevant measures for a given gear type, including at a minimum for all gear types, the number of vessel-days fished using the template provided in Annex 1.

Annex I: Average Annual Catch (MT) and fishing Effort (Days) of North Pacific Albacore

CCM	Area	Fishery	2002–04 Average	2021			2022			2023			2024			2025		
				No. of vessels	Total catch	Total effort	No. of vessels	Total catch	Total effort	No. of vessels	Total catch	Total effort	No. of vessels	Total catch	Total effort	No. of vessels	Total catch	Total effort
Palau	WCPO	LL	Put text here if no North Pacific albacore were caught or effort occurred in this area per year	0	0	0	1	0.85	0	1	43.33	610.5	0	0	0	0	0	0

** Note: WCPFC10 clarified that this reporting responsibility lies with the flag State*

AUDIT POINT [RP] The Secretariat confirms that CCM submitted a report of information on catch and effort by CCM flagged vessels engaged in directed fishing for NP albacore north of the equator, by gear type and days fished (effort) and by weight (catch), using the template at Annex 1 of CMM 2019-03.

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 levels¹².

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

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

Not Applicable. No Palau Flagged Vessels for 2025.

CCM	Area	Fishery	2004–2010 Average	2021			2022			2023			2024			2025		
				No. of vessels	Total catch	Total effort	No. of vessels	Total catch	Total effort	No. of vessels	Total catch	Total effort	No. of vessels	Total catch	Total effort	No. of vessels	Total catch	Total effort
Palau	WCPO–North	LL	Put text here if no North Pacific swordfish were caught or effort occurred in this area per year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

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

² For the Chinese Taipei's coastal artisanal longline fishery, the level of fishing effort shall not be increased beyond the number of vessels licensed during 2008-2010.

