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SUMMARY OF PURSE CATCH DISCARD REPORTING RECEIVED BY WCPFC
UNDER CMM 2009-02

WCPFC-2013-WGTT/04
WCPFC-SC9-2013/ EB-IP-01
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**SUMMARY OF PURSE CATCH DISCARD REPORTING RECEIVED BY WCPFC UNDER
CMM 2009-02**

**WCPFC-SC9-2013/ EB-IP-01
5 August 2013**

Paper prepared by WCPFC Secretariat

SUMMARY OF PURSE CATCH DISCARD REPORTING RECEIVED BY WCPFC UNDER CMM 2009-02

Background

1. At WCPFC6, the Commission adopted CMM 2009-02 *Conservation and Management Measure on the Application of the High Seas FAD Closures and Catch Retention*. Of relevance to this paper, CMM 2009-02 was adopted to among others, ensure consistent and robust application of catch retention in the high seas between 20N and 20S through the specification of minimum standards. As noted in the preamble, CMM 2009-02 was to be read as part of CMM 2008-01 *Conservation and Management Measure for Bigeye, Yellowfin Tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean*, and recognized the PNA rules for the implementation of catch retention in their EEZs.

2. From 1 February 2010 (60 days post-WCPFC6) until 4 February 2013, CMM 2009-02 applied to the high seas waters of the WCPF Convention Area. The adoption of CMM 2012-01 *Conservation and Management Measure for Bigeye, Yellowfin and Skipjack tuna in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean* led to the rules contained in CMM 2009-02 being applied from 4 February 2013 to purse seine fisheries operating both in EEZs and high seas waters of the Convention Area.

Preliminary Analysis

3. At this point in time, the reported positions of many of the purse seine catch discards are not presently able to be verified using WCPFC VMS data (the WCPFC VMS area of coverage during the period was mostly high seas waters). Data and observer reports from the ROP observer programme have not yet been used to verify the reported quantities of catch discards. However indications from the catch discard reports were that a ROP observer was on board all purse seine vessels that reported catch discard events to WCPFC. The maps and tables that follow provide summaries, as a preliminary analysis, of the reporting WCPFC has received from 1 February 2010 to 29 July 2013.

4. Over the period there has been an increase in the number of reported purse seine catch discard events to WCPFC, and the majority of reported purse seine catch discards have provided reported positions in EEZ areas.

5. In 2010 and 2011, some CCMs had provided purse seine catch discard reports to WCPFC for events that were reported to have occurred within EEZ areas (see Figure 1 and 2). During 2012 there was a build-up of reported purse seine catch discards events, reaching 260 events, with 12 of these with reported positions in high seas waters (132.01 Mt) and 2 in waters outside the WCPF Convention Area (5 Mt) (see Figure 3). For the first seven months of 2013, the levels of reported purse seine catch discard events has increased significantly to around 160 reported discard events per month: 185 events had reported positions in high seas waters (reported quantity of 343.24 Mt), while 830 events in areas under national jurisdiction (with reported quantities of 2,807.17 Mt).

6. Noting that the majority by quantity of reported purse seine discards, are due to insufficient well space, the WCPFC is currently rechecking all catch discard reports received to check that where the reason provided was “insufficient well space” that a positive statement is provided by the Master that no further fishing will be undertaken until the catch onboard has been unloaded. If completed in time, a revision of this paper can be provided to TCC9.

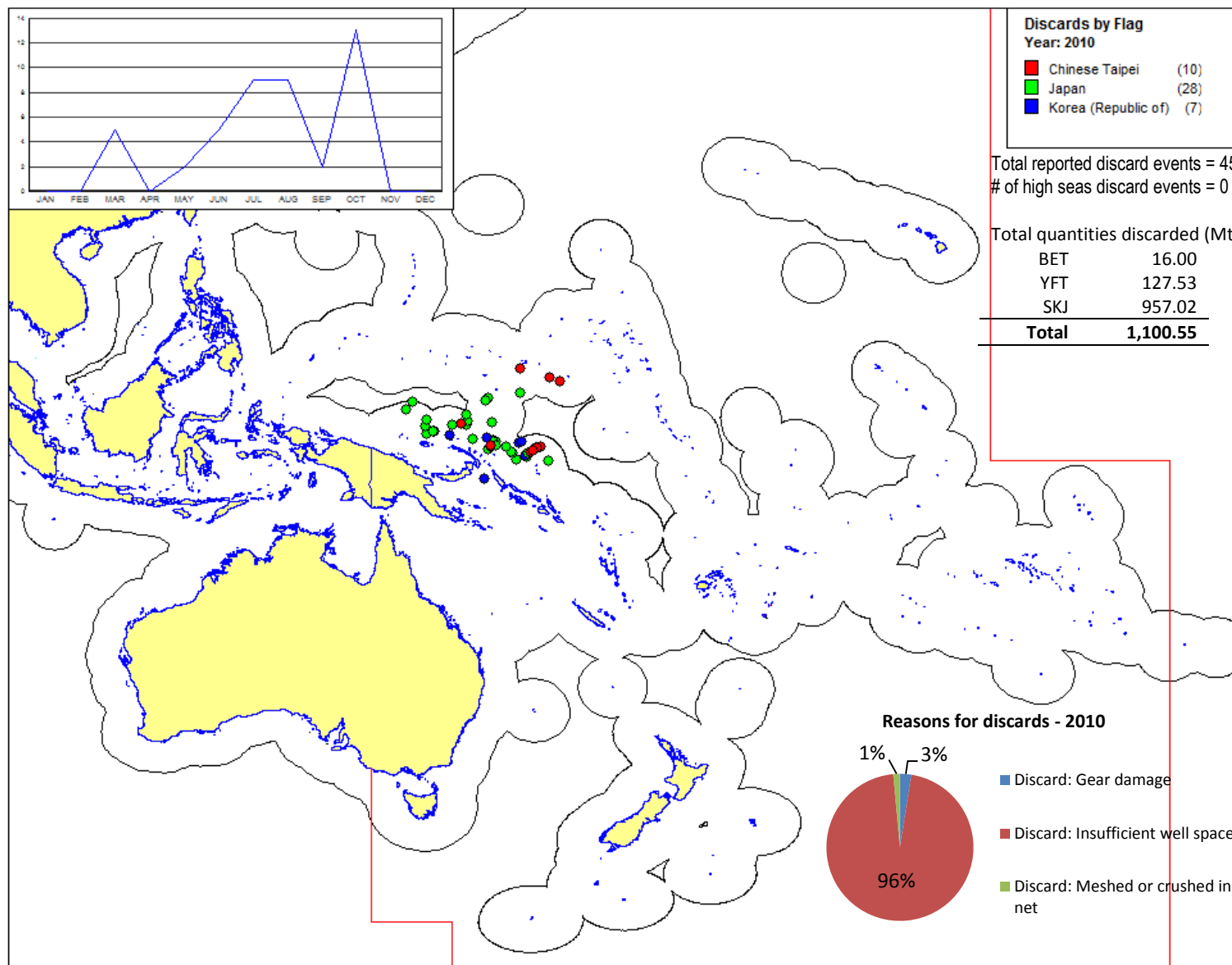


Figure 1. Map plotting reported positions of purse seine catch discards which occurred during 2010, based on reports to WCPFC under CMM 2009-02 paragraph 12. The graph at top left shows the number of purse seine catch discards reported by month, the table at top right show the total annual quantities (Mt) of discards, with number of transshipments by flag CCM, and the pie chart at bottom right illustrates the reason provided for the discards (percentage by quantity).

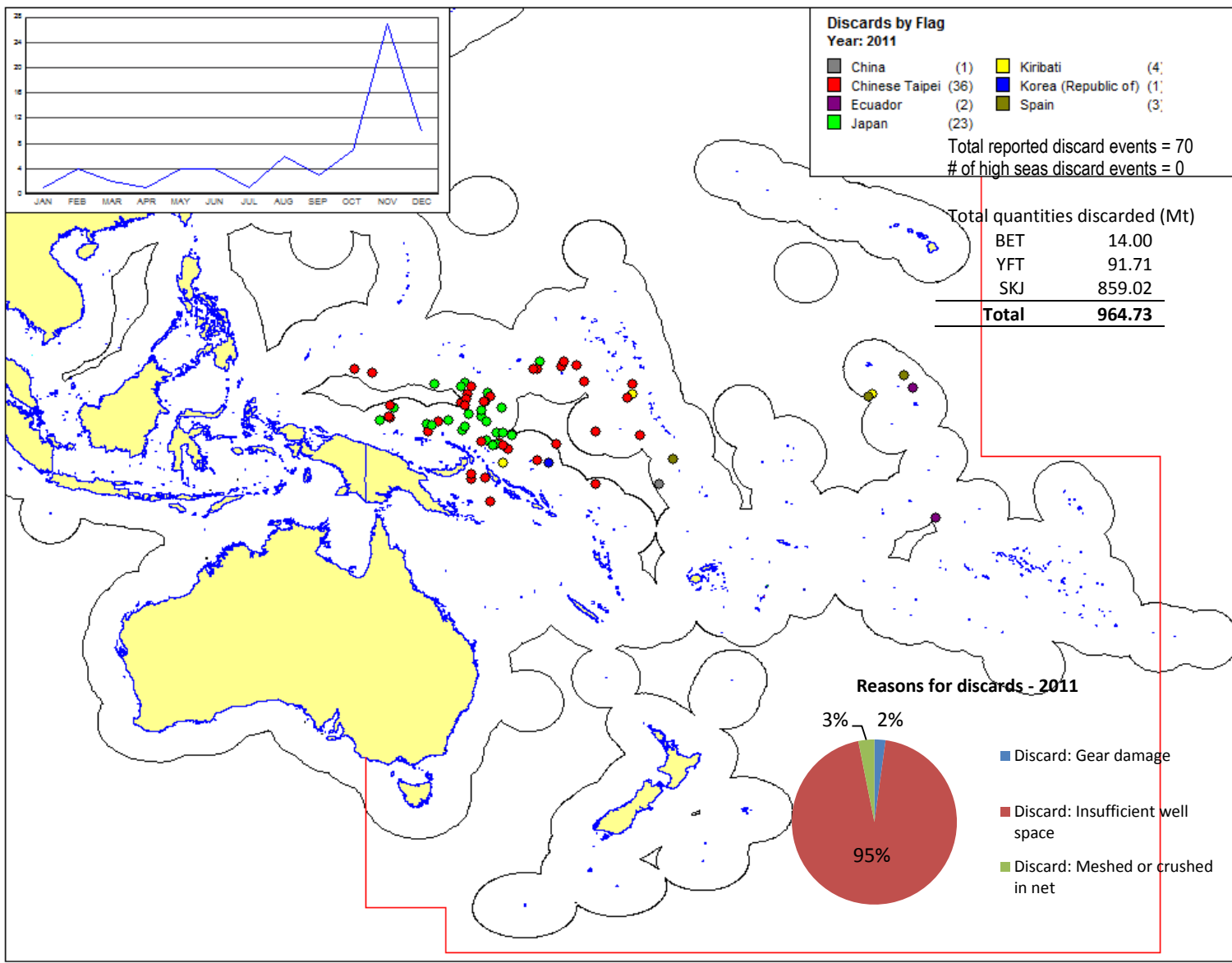


Figure 2 Map plotting reported positions of purse seine catch discards which occurred during 2011, based on reports to WCPFC under CMM 2009-02 paragraph 12. The graph at top left shows the number of purse seine catch discards reported by month, the table at top right show the total annual quantities (Mt) of discards, with number of transshipments by flag CCM, and the pie chart at bottom right illustrates the reason provided for the discards (percentage by quantity).

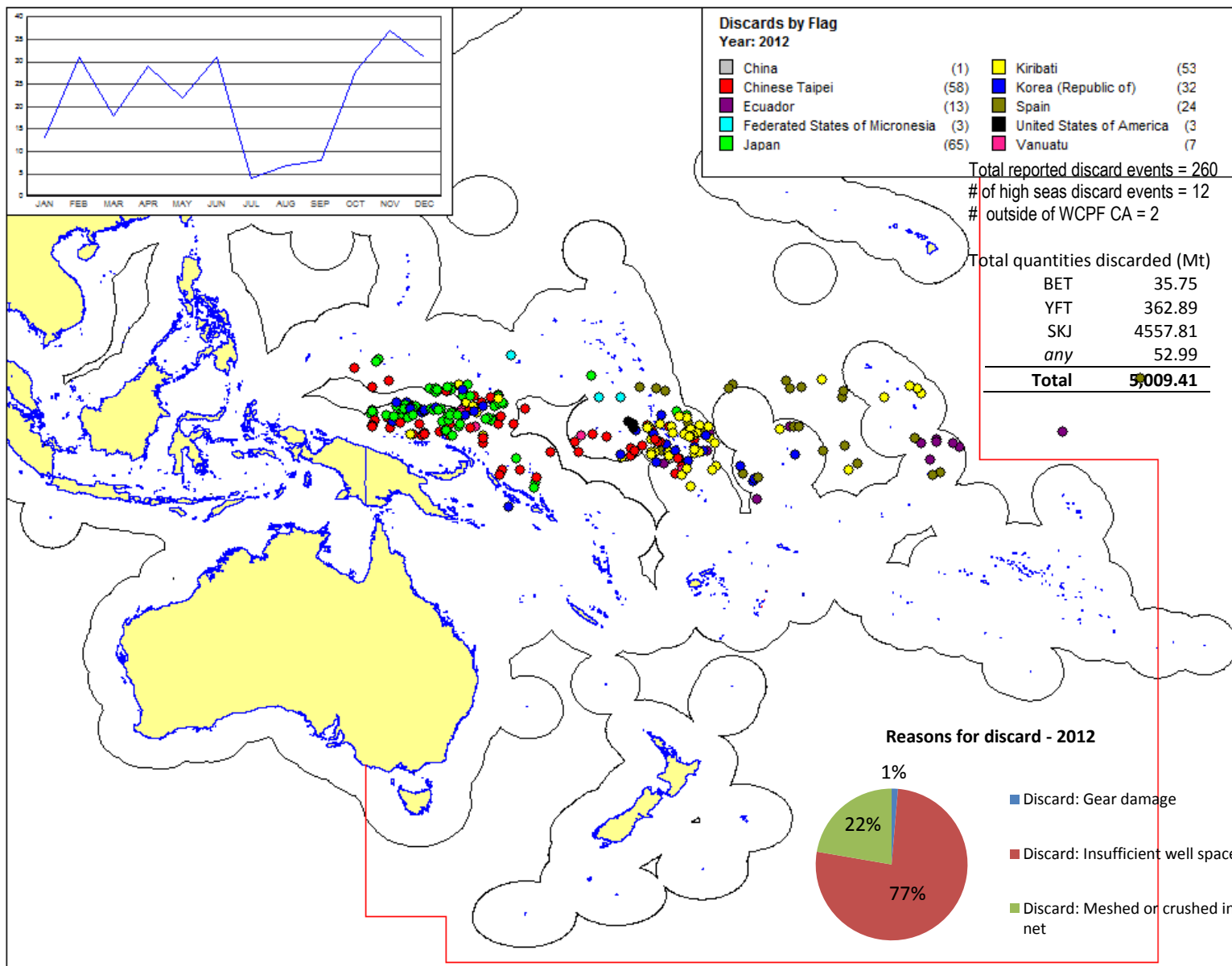


Figure 3. Map plotting reported positions of purse seine catch discards which occurred during 2012, based on reports to WCPFC under CMM 2009-02 paragraph 12. The graph at top left shows the number of purse seine catch discards reported by month, the table at top right show the total annual quantities (Mt) of discards, with number of transshipments by flag CCM, and the pie chart at bottom right illustrates the reason provided for the discards (percentage by quantity).

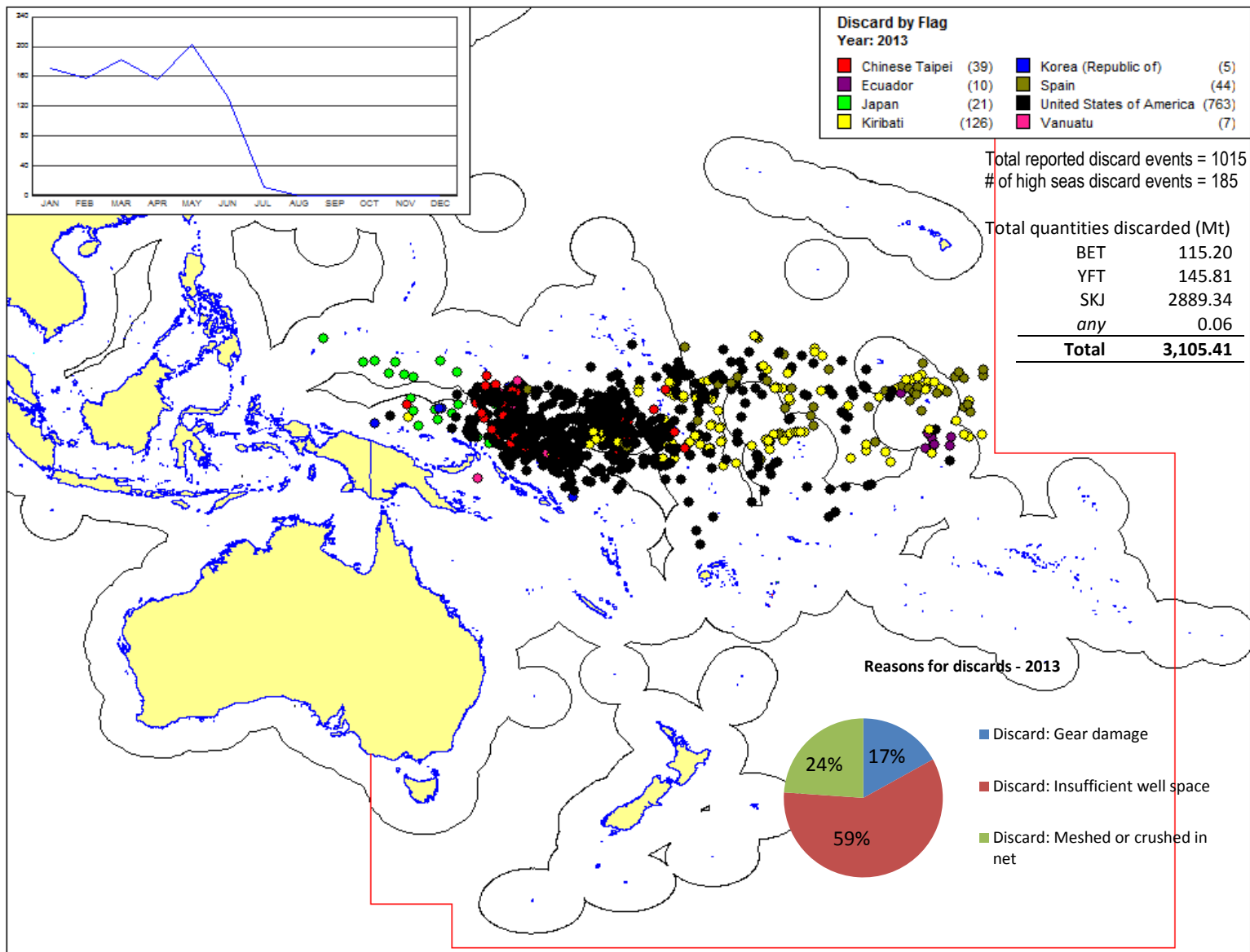


Figure 4. Map plotting reported positions of purse seine catch discards which occurred from 1 Jan – 29 July 2013, based on reports to WCPFC under CMM 2009-02 paragraph 12. The graph at top left shows the number of purse seine catch discards reported by month, the table at top right show the total annual quantities (Mt) of discards, with number of transshipments by flag CCM, and the pie chart at bottom right illustrates the reason provided for the discards (percentage by quantity).

Table 1. Summary of purse seine catch discards based on reports to WCPFC under CMM 2009-02 paragraph 12, by year
Year: 2010

Flag	N°. Of Vessels	Discard Events	Discard (Mt)
Chinese Taipei	6	10	49.55
Japan	16	28	690.00
Korea	5	7	355.00
	27	45	1,094.55

Year: 2011

Flag	N°. Of Vessels	Discard Events	Discard (Mt)
China	1	1	2.00
Chinese Taipei	13	36	199.17
Ecuador	2	2	27.00
Japan	14	23	660.50
Kiribati	3	4	48.00
Korea	1	1	5.00
European Union - Spain	2	3	23.06
	36	70	964.73

Year: 2012

Flag	N°. Of Vessels	Discard Events	Discard (Mt)
China	1	1	50.00
Chinese Taipei	15	58	701.51
Ecuador	4	13	39.18
Federated States of Micronesia	1	3	90.00
Japan	20	65	1,928.02
Kiribati	6	54	568.19
Korea	12	32	1,295.00
European Union - Spain	4	24	154.20
United States	1	3	0.31
Vanuatu	4	7	183.00
	68	260	5,009.41

Year: 2013 (1 Jan – 29 July)

Flag	N°. Of Vessels	Discard Events	Discard (Mt)
Chinese Taipei	15	39	942.63
Ecuador	3	10	47.55
Japan	12	21	555.00
Kiribati	2	126	179.74
Korea	4	5	140.00
European Union - Spain	4	44	187.10
United States	36	764	951.89
Vanuatu	4	6	146.50
	80	1,015	3,150.41