



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE  
TENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Majuro, Republic of the Marshall Islands  
6-14 August 2014

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

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**WCPFC-SC10-AR/CCM-24**

**TOKELAU**

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

**Scientific Committee  
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**TOKELAU**

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 2014	Yes
If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions:	

## **Background**

Tokelau has and will continue to take its obligations in trying to achieve sustainable management of its EEZ for the benefit of its people seriously.

The 2012 Tokelau (EEZ) Fishing Regulations has assisted in strengthening the legal framework as well as the implementation of fishery policy. Tokelau has developed a rolling Offshore Fisheries Management Plan (OFMP) to assist with achieving sustainable development and management strategies. While Fisheries development strategies in the OFMP aim to increase the wealth of Tokelau through securing and leasing harvesting rights for target fisheries, Fisheries management strategies aim to ensure that fishing activities in the EEZ are sustainable, and that all rules are effectively monitored and enforced.

Rules and management measures set out in OFMP requiring legislative authority are implemented via vessel licensing terms and conditions which are reviewed and updated regularly. Inclusion of such measures in the license conditions ensures that international obligations are met in respect of the management of Tokelau's offshore fisheries.

While Tokelau places emphasis on developing its offshore fisheries, it also acknowledges that coastal fisheries is of critical importance for its people's food security and is committed to making sure its sustainable use.

Tokelau has continued to build on developments put in place several year ago with the focus being on strengthening capacity and capability within fisheries, sharing the information with other government departments as well as the general public.

These are highlights of some of the more prominent developments in the management of Tokelau's Fisheries in 2013. Tokelau continued to build and develop partnerships and relations made when it joined the PNA in 2012 as well leading the trial pooling system; continued to strengthen reporting requirements and obligations via license terms and conditions, committed to the zone-based limits as was set out in last year's report.

Tokelau is still on target to keeping its purse seine limits through the PNA VDS, as well as the long-line fishery limits controlled by the number of fishing vessels licensed to fish in its waters. Log-sheet data for vessels fishing in Tokelau waters in 2013 are available at SPC.

The assistance and ongoing support received by Tokelau from New Zealand, SPC and FFA must be acknowledged and for that Tokelau is very grateful. For Tokelau to sustainably manage and develop its fishery it depends on regional agencies for assistance and we are confident that the support will continue to be available to us. We also welcome any other assistance offered to us in the attainment of Tokelau's goals.

## **Annual Fisheries Information Coastal State Reporting**

Tuna Fisheries in Tokelau includes two elements:

*National Fleet – Artisanal Tuna Fishery.*

Tokelau realises the importance of quality catch and effort data relating to its EEZ fisheries. Tokelau acknowledges that for various reasons – including poor administration and IUU fishing as well as lack of resources both human and financial – available data for the Tokelau zone is less than adequate. This is a challenge that Tokelau is ready to take on and improve upon with the assistance of specialised agencies like SPC.

## TUFMAN - TUF-ART

The SPC Oceanic Fisheries Programme support and meet the tuna research and statistical needs of Tokelau. In 2012 SPC assisted with the implementation of the Tuna Management System (TUFMAN) in Tokelau. It has been fully functional since the end of September 2012. This initiative has empowered the fisheries division with a tool to assist in providing advice to local government and also help fulfil its obligations and commitments to the commission and other regional organisations. Whilst TUFMAN manages the commercial data (offshore fisheries) TUF-ART has also been implemented for managing the artisanal fishery (inshore fisheries).

### *Artisanal/Coastal*

This consists of small aluminium boats/dinghies ranging from 12 – 16 ft in length with power outputs ranging from 15 – 30hp outboard motors. The artisanal fishery is primarily for local consumption and uses troll and handline methods targeting mainly skipjack and yellowfin tuna.

Most artisanal fishing activities in Tokelau waters occur within 4 nautical miles from shore. Since 2012 not a lot has changed with the constraints of Tokelau pertaining to markets and infrastructure. Though the Government is committed to developing strategies that will provide opportunities for participation in small-scale commercial tuna fishery developments, other obligations and responsibilities have prevented any major developments in this area.

Tokelau is always open to assistance in improving data collection in this fishery. The following table however provides an estimated annual catch and effort by the Tokelau artisanal fleet from 2009 to 2013. The SPC Artisanal Catch Forms introduced in 2012 have somewhat assisted improving data collection.

**Table 3.** Estimated Artisanal tuna catches in Tokelau waters, 2012

Year	Month	RAISED CATCH (kgs)			
		SKJ	YFT	OTH	TOTAL
2013	1	241	30,076	1,345	31,662
2013	2	1,770	11,775	1,825	15,370
2013	3	4,827	5,122	3,471	13,421
2013	4	5,108	1,290	891	7,290
2013	5	660	6,273	2,950	9,883
2013	6	2,515	5,335	4,925	12,775
2013	7	6,765	3,848	4,939	15,551
2013	8	560	2,345	4,200	7,105
2013	9	7,390	5,136	2,924	15,631
2013	10	46,174	3,521	2,787	52,481
2013	11	9,857	8,182	4,672	22,711
2013	12	4,187	4,288	4,506	12,981
2013	TOTAL	90,054	87,373	39,435	216,862

### *Foreign Purse-Seine and Longline fishing.*

Offshore fishing is undertaken by foreign fishing vessels of distant water fishing nations and neighbouring Pacific Island States. The levels of fishing by these vessels and revenues generated from vessel licensing have fluctuated substantially over the last few years.

There has been little movement regarding the following and there is no indication that it is likely to change over the next few years. Tokelau does not have the capacity to flag fishing vessels so there are no Tokelau-flagged fishing vessels. There are no port, wharfage and mooring infrastructure and facilities, port sampling or processing of large-scale tuna catches in Tokelau. Tokelau does not allow transshipment in zone. All catches by foreign licensed vessels are offloaded outside Tokelau.

Logsheet data for all fishing vessels licensed to fish in the Tokelau EEZ can be obtained from SPC. Data for the New Zealand purse-seine vessels can also be obtained from the SPC pending Tokelau requesting NZ to authorise SPC to release these data.

Logsheet data for the foreign longliners that have been licensed by Tokelau have improved over the past year and Tokelau will continue to ensure it continues to improve. The reviewed vessel licensing regimes in 2013 should strengthen the reporting obligations in the conditions of the licenses. The following tables show the annual catch and effort levels in Tokelau waters by foreign fishing vessels for the period 2009 to 2013. All catches reported in Table 1 are by US flagged purse-seine vessels licensed under the Treaty.

### ***Monitoring***

All foreign fishing vessels that are licensed to fish in Tokelau waters are required to carry an FFA approved Automatic Location Communicator (ALC) or Mobile Transmitting Unit (MTU) and whilst within Tokelau waters, they are monitored by the FFA installed Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) workstation which was installed in Tokelau in 2005. All purse seine vessels must carry an observer.

Tokelau is keen to start an Observer Programme, but the lack of resources both man power and financial has put some constraint on these effort. While it is being developed the required observer services are provided by other FFA members' country observer programmes. Tokelau has no port and wharfage infrastructure so there is no Port Sampling Programme.

Tokelau has been a party to the Te Vaka Toa arrangement since 2011. This provides for parties to work collaboratively with respect to monitoring and enforcement in their EEZs. Parties can share MCS assets, information technology, and trained personnel. It is hoped that over time the Te Vaka Toa arrangement will strengthen the MCS arrangements for Tokelau's EEZ.

**Table 6.** Annual Foreign purse-seine catches in Tokelau waters from 2009 to 2013. (based on raised logsheet data)

VESSEL FLAG	YEAR	EFFORT (days)	CATCH (mt)			
			BET	SKJ	YFT	TOTAL
EC	2011	6.022	8.591	105.132	6.038	119.761
	2012	23.809	90.907	876.636	33.21	1000.754
	2013	39.073	208.24	2245.752	63.97	2517.962
ES	2011	7.864	7.084	201.854	4.016	212.954
	2012	2.041	6.184	152.498	7.034	165.716
	2013	16.426	137.414	1486.998	89.227	1713.639
KI	2011	146.971	53.1	1893.793	76.105	2022.998
	2012	25.427	5.782	788.957	23.405	818.144
	2013	3.992	15.284	358.492	15.299	389.075
KR	2012	37.488	0.86	1295.438	94.726	1391.024
	2013	14.684	60.448	733.587	123.653	917.688
NZ	2009	42.685	52.447	1194.812	251.044	1498.303
	2010	22.567	3.211	621.855	0.997	626.063
	2011	97.889	22.083	2337.077	48.212	2407.372
	2012	22.948	11.371	346.55	29.24	387.161
	2013	60.971	40.229	486.486	107.796	634.511
SV	2011	9.496	175.73	881	89.973	1146.703
	2012	44.855	198.27	1359.637	60.234	1618.141
US	2009	170.992	259.435	4660.737	809.519	5729.691
	2010	155.156	102.829	2770.458	281.086	3154.373
	2011	601.201	288.883	12628.26	862.847	13779.99
	2012	548.644	610.176	12730.062	1510.976	14851.214
	2013	195.416	364.261	6211.696	691.097	7267.054

**Table 2.** Annual Foreign longline catches in Tokelau waters from 2009 to 2013. (based on raised logsheet data)

Year	CATCH (metric tonnes)				
	ALB	BET	SKJ	YFT	TOTAL
2009	0	0	0	0	0
2010	0	0	0	0	0
2011	76	106	0	0	282
2012	93	47	0	55	195
2013					

As approved by WCPFC9, and updated by the Secretariat to include CMMs adopted at WCPFC9  
(CMM 2012-04 and CMM 2012-07)




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**ADDENDUM TO THE TEMPLATE TO BE USED BY CCMS FOR ANNUAL REPORT PART 1-  
NATIONAL FISHERY REPORT**  
(as an addition to Attachment N of the SC4 Summary Report)

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**SPECIFIC INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED IN PART 1 AS REQUIRED BY CMMs**

Tokelau's responses are shown in red below

<b>CMM 05-03, North Pacific Albacore para 4</b>	<p>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.*</p> <p>[* footnote 1: The first such report shall be due on April 30th, 2006 and shall cover calendar year 2004. Small Island Developing States will make their best efforts to comply with this first reporting deadline.]</p> <p><b>Tokelau is not a flag state</b></p>
<b>CMM 06-04 South West striped Marlin para 4</b>	<p>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.</p> <p><b>Tokelau is not a flag state</b></p>
<b>CMM 07-04, Seabirds para 9</b>	<p>CCMs shall annually provide to the Commission, in part 1 of their annual reports, all available information on interactions with seabirds, including bycatches and details of species, to enable the Scientific Committee to estimate seabird mortality in all fisheries to which the WCPF Convention applies.</p>

	<b>No seabird interactions reported</b>
<b>CMM 09-03, Swordfish para 8</b>	<p>CCMs shall report to the Commission the total number of vessels that fished for swordfish and the total catch of swordfish for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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;</li> <li>b. vessels operating under charter, lease or other similar mechanism as part of their domestic fishery south of 20°S; and</li> <li>c. any other vessels fishing within their waters south of 20°S.</li> </ul> <p>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.</p> <p><b>Tokelau is not a flag state, and has no charter vessels.</b></p>

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<b>CMM 09-06, Transshipment para 11 (annex II)</b>	<p>11. 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.</p> <p><b>Tokelau does not permit transshipment in its waters.</b></p> <p><b>ANNEX II</b>  <b>TRANSHIPMENT INFORMATION TO BE REPORTED ANNUALLY BY CCMs</b>  Each CCM shall include in Part 1 of its Annual Report to the Commission:</p> <p>(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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. offloaded and received;</li> <li>b. transhipped in port, transhipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction;</li> <li>c. transhipped inside the Convention Area and transhipped outside the Convention Area;</li> <li>d. caught inside the Convention Area and caught outside the Convention Area;</li> <li>e. species;</li> <li>f. product form; and</li> <li>g. fishing gear used</li> </ul> <p>(2) the number of transhipments involving highly migratory fish stocks covered by this measure by fishing vessels that is responsible for reporting against, broken down by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. offloaded and received;</li> <li>b. transhipped in port, transhipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction;</li> <li>c. transhipped inside the Convention Area and transhipped outside the Convention Area;</li> <li>d. caught inside the Convention Area and caught outside the Convention Area; and</li> <li>e. fishing gear.</li> </ul>
<b>CMM 10-05, south Pacific albacore</b>	<p>CCMs shall report annually to the Commission the catch levels of their fishing vessels that have taken South Pacific Albacore as a bycatch as well as the number and catch levels of vessels actively fishing for South Pacific albacore in the Convention area south of 20°S. Initially this information will be provided for the period 2006-2010 and then</p>



<b>para 4</b>	updated annually. N/A - Tokelau is not a flag state and it is located north of 20S.
<b>CMM 10-07, Sharks para 4</b>	Each CCM shall include key shark species*, as identified by the Scientific Committee, in their annual reporting to the Commission of annual catch and fishing effort statistics by gear type, including available historical data, in accordance with the WCPF Convention and agreed reporting procedures. ... *footnote 2: The key shark species are blue shark, silky shark, oceanic whitetip shark, mako sharks, and thresher sharks, porbeagle shark (south of 20°S, until biological data shows this or another geographic limit to be appropriate) and hammerhead sharks (winghead, scalloped, great, and smooth).] Whale Sharks (Rhincodon typus) was included as a key shark species by SC8 (2012) **** check data summaries
<b>Commencing in reports that cover activities post-1 January 2013</b>	
<b>CMM 11-03 Cetaceans and Purse Seine fisheries, para 5</b>	CCMs shall include in their Part 1 Annual Report any instances in which cetaceans have been encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels, reported under paragraph 2(b).  No interaction with cetaceans reported
<b>CMM 2011-04 Oceanic whitetips, para 3</b>	CCMs shall estimate, through data collected from observer programs and other means, the number of releases of oceanic whitetip shark, including the status upon release (dead or alive), and report this information to the WCPFC in Part 1 of their Annual Reports.  No interaction with oceanic white tip shark including the status upon released (dead or alive) reported

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<b>Commencing in reports that cover activities post-1 January 2014</b>	
<b>CMM 2012-06</b>	CCMs shall advise in their Part 1 Annual Report of any instances in which whale sharks have been encircled by the purse seine nets of their flagged vessels, including details required under paragraph 4(b)  No interaction with whale sharks reported
<b>Commencing in reports that cover activities post-1 July 2014</b>	
<b>CMM 2012-07 Seabirds para 9</b>	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, including mitigation used, observed and reported species specific seabird bycatch rates and numbers, to enable the Scientific Committee to estimate seabird mortality in all fisheries to which the WCPF Convention applies. See Annex 2 for Part 1 reporting template guideline. Alternatively, statistically rigorous estimates of species-specific seabird interaction rates (for longline, interactions per 1,000 hooks) and total numbers should be reported.  No seabird interaction reported including seabird bycatch.

<b>CMM 2013-01 Tropical Tunas</b>	
<b>CMM 2013-08 Silky Sharks</b>	No silky shark interaction reported

## CMM 2012-07 Annex 2. Guidelines for reporting templates for Part 1 report related to seabird fishery interactions

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

**Table x: Effort, observed and estimated seabird captures by fishing year for [CCM] [South of 30oS; North of 23oN; or 23oN - 30oS]. For each year, the table gives the total number of hooks; the number of observed hooks; observer coverage (the percentage of hooks that were observed); the number of observed captures (both dead and alive); the capture rate (captures per thousand hooks) and mitigation types used by the fleet.**

Year	Fishing effort				Observed seabird captures	
	Number of vessels	Number of hooks	Observed hooks	% hooks observed	Number	Rate <sup>2</sup>
2006						
2007						
2008						
2009						
2010						
2011						
2012						

<sup>1</sup> State North of 23oN, South of 30oS or 23oN - 30oS, for CCMs fishing in all areas provide separate tables for each; <sup>2</sup> Provide as captures per one thousand hooks.

Tokelau does not have a national observer program, no reported seabird interactions for 2013

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

Species	South of 30°S	North of 23°N	23°N – 30°S	Total
E.g. Antipodean albatross				
E.g. Gibson's albatross				
E.g. Unidentified albatross				
E.g. Flesh footed shearwater				
E.g. Great winged petrel				
E.g. White chinned petrel				
E.g. Unidentified				
<b>Total</b>				