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

WCPFC-TCC10-2014-IP11
9 September 2014

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 intended to amongst others ensure consistent and robust application of catch retention in the high seas between 20N and 20S through the specification of minimum standards. The tropical tuna CMMs (CMM 2012-01 and CMM 2013-01) have specified that purse seine catch retention and reporting requirements in high seas waters of the Convention Area are to be in accordance with CMM 2009-02.

2. TCC has included the project “Review of Purse Seine Catch Discard Monitoring arrangements” in its agreed TCC workplan 2013-2015. This paper is provided as information to assist TCC10 with its review.

Summary of reporting received by WCPFC

3. The rules for high seas purse seine catch retention have applied since 1 February 2010 (60 days post-WCPFC6).¹ As part of the reporting WCPFC some CCMs and vessels have provided copies of purse seine catch discard reports voluntarily to WCPFC: EEZ-related catch discard events are by far the majority of 2,382 discard events that have been recorded in WCPFC databases (12% or 281 recorded events were reported to have occurred in the high seas from 1 February 2010 – 9 April 2014)². The primary species reported to have been discarded was skipjack. (see Figure 1 and Figure 2).

4. The majority of high seas purse seine catch discards events are reported to have occurred for reasons of “meshed or crushed in the net” (see Table 2), but “Insufficient Well Space” is a significant amount of reported high seas purse seine discards by quantity (Mt) (see Table 1). A break-down of reported purse seine catch discards by CCM is provided in Table 3.

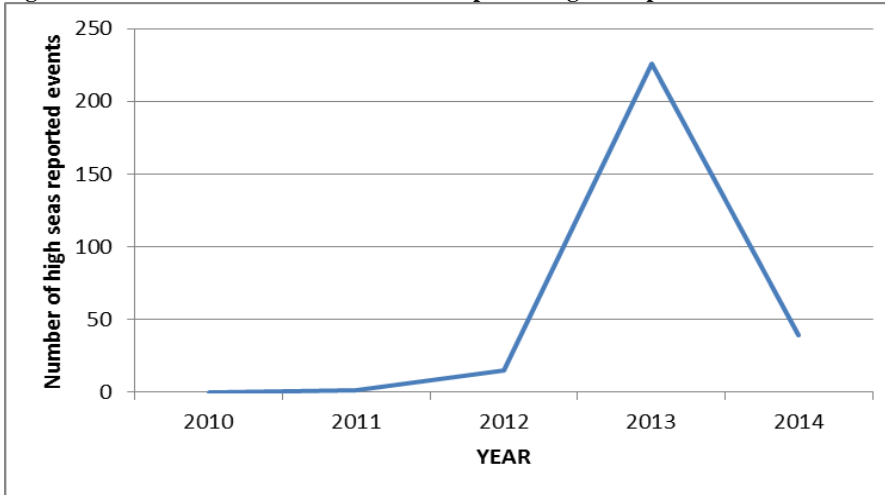
5. The maps that follow provide summaries of the high seas purse seine catch discard event reporting WCPFC has received from 1 February 2010 to 9 April 2014 (Figure 3 - Figure 6).

6. Finally, to confirm that the WCPFC Secretariat has taken note of previous suggestions made by some CCMs that, where possible, VMS data and ROP data should be used to verify and check the high seas purse seine catch discard reporting. This was not possible for this paper for TCC10.

¹ At TCC9 it was clarified that the requirement under CMM 2012-01 to report purse seine discards only applies to the high seas, not to EEZs.

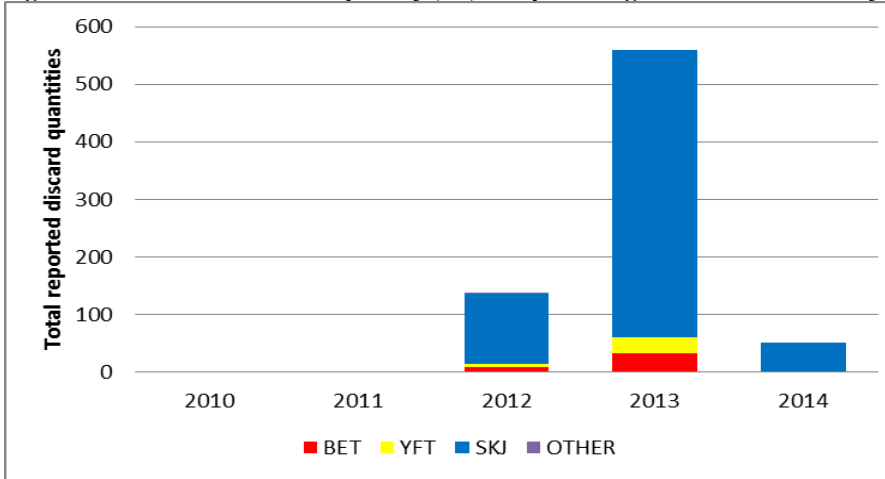
² To clarify that WCPFC has received reporting for 2014, between 9 April – 9 September 2014. However for technical reasons it was not able to be incorporated into this version of the paper.

Figure 1. Trend over time in the number of reported high seas purse seine catch discard events



Year	High Seas
2010	0
2011	1
2012	15
2013	226
2014	39
	281

Figure 2. Trend over time in the quantity (Mt) of reported high seas catch discards by species



YEAR	TOTAL
2010	0.00
2011	0.40
2012	136.07
2013	559.51
2014	50.88

Table 1. Reason reported for purse seine discards in the high seas, by quantity (Mt).

Reason for Discards	2011	2012	2013	2014
Discard: Gear damage	0.400	5.000	1.104	
Discard: Insufficient well space		55.000	353.100	16.000
Discard: Meshed or crushed in net		76.065	205.306	34.883
	0.400	136.065	559.510	50.883

Table 2. Reason reported for purse seine discards in the high seas, by number of events.

Reason for Discards	2011	2012	2013	2014
Discard: Gear damage	1	1	2	
Discard: Insufficient well space		2	13	2
Discard: Meshed or crushed in net		12	211	37
	1	15	226	39

Table 3. Summary of purse seine catch discards based on reports to WCPFC under CMM 2009-02 paragraph 12, by year

Year: 2010

No discards in the high seas

Year: 2011

Flag	N°. Of Vessels	Discard Events	Discard (Mt)
Chinese Taipei	1	1	0.4
	1	1	0.4

Year 2012

Flag	N°. Of Vessels	Discard Events	Discard (Mt)
Ecuador	1	1	1.0
European Union - Spain	3	10	106.0
Kiribati	1	3	28.1
Chinese Taipei	1	1	1.0
	6	15	136.1

Year: 2013

Flag	N°. Of Vessels	Discard Events	Discard (Mt)
European Union - Spain	4	30	202.0
Kiribati	1	44	47.7
Chinese Taipei	1	1	25.0
United States	28	151	284.8
	34	226	559.5

Year: 2014 (1 Jan – 9 Apr)

Flag	N°. Of Vessels	Discard Events	Discard (Mt)
Ecuador	1	1	2.0
European Union - Spain	3	11	42.9
Kiribati	1	16	3.9
United States	4	11	2.1
	9	39	50.9

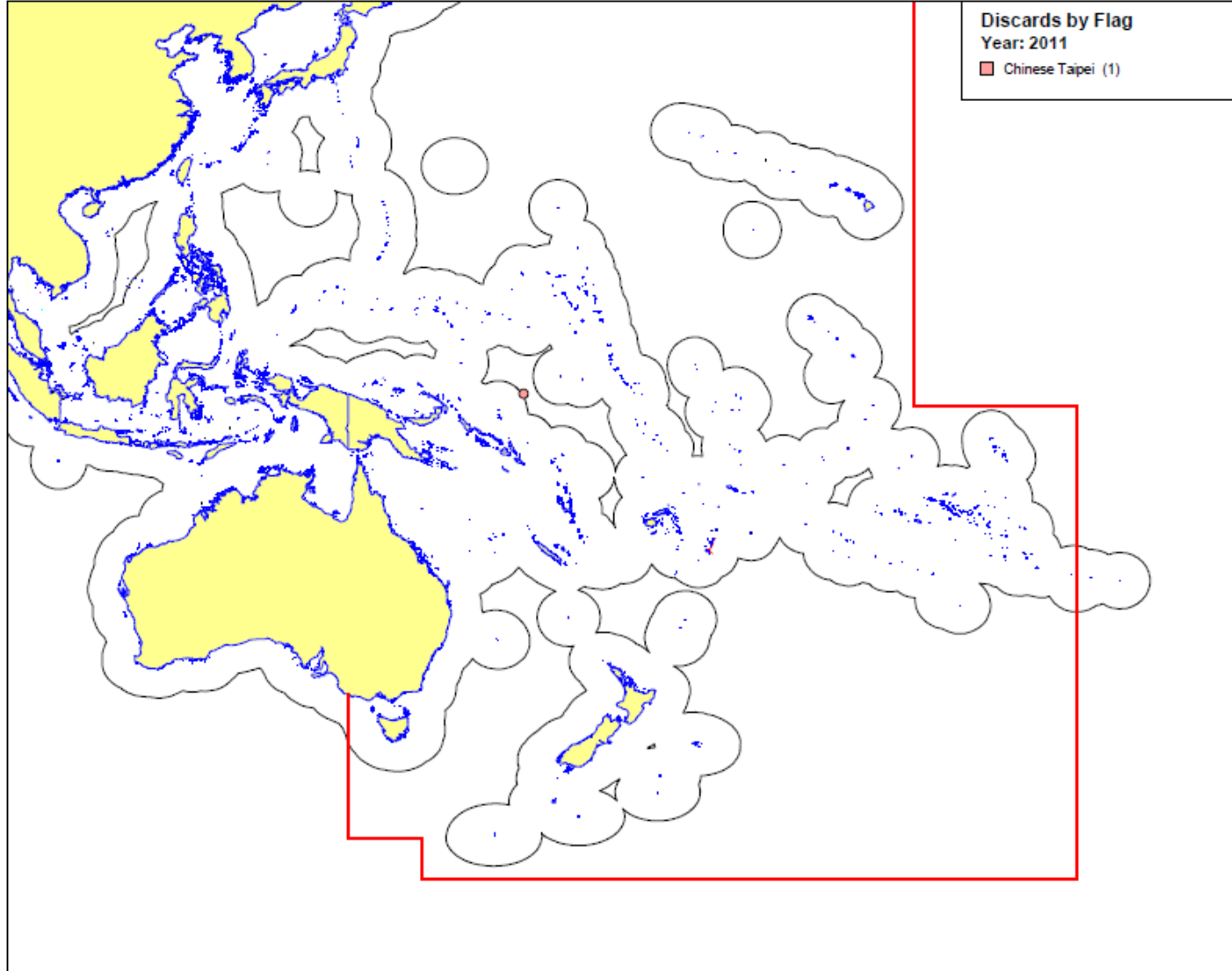


Figure 3. Map plotting reported positions of purse seine catch discards which occurred from 1 February 2010 – 31 Dec 2011, based on reports to WCPFC under CMM 2009-02 paragraph 12.

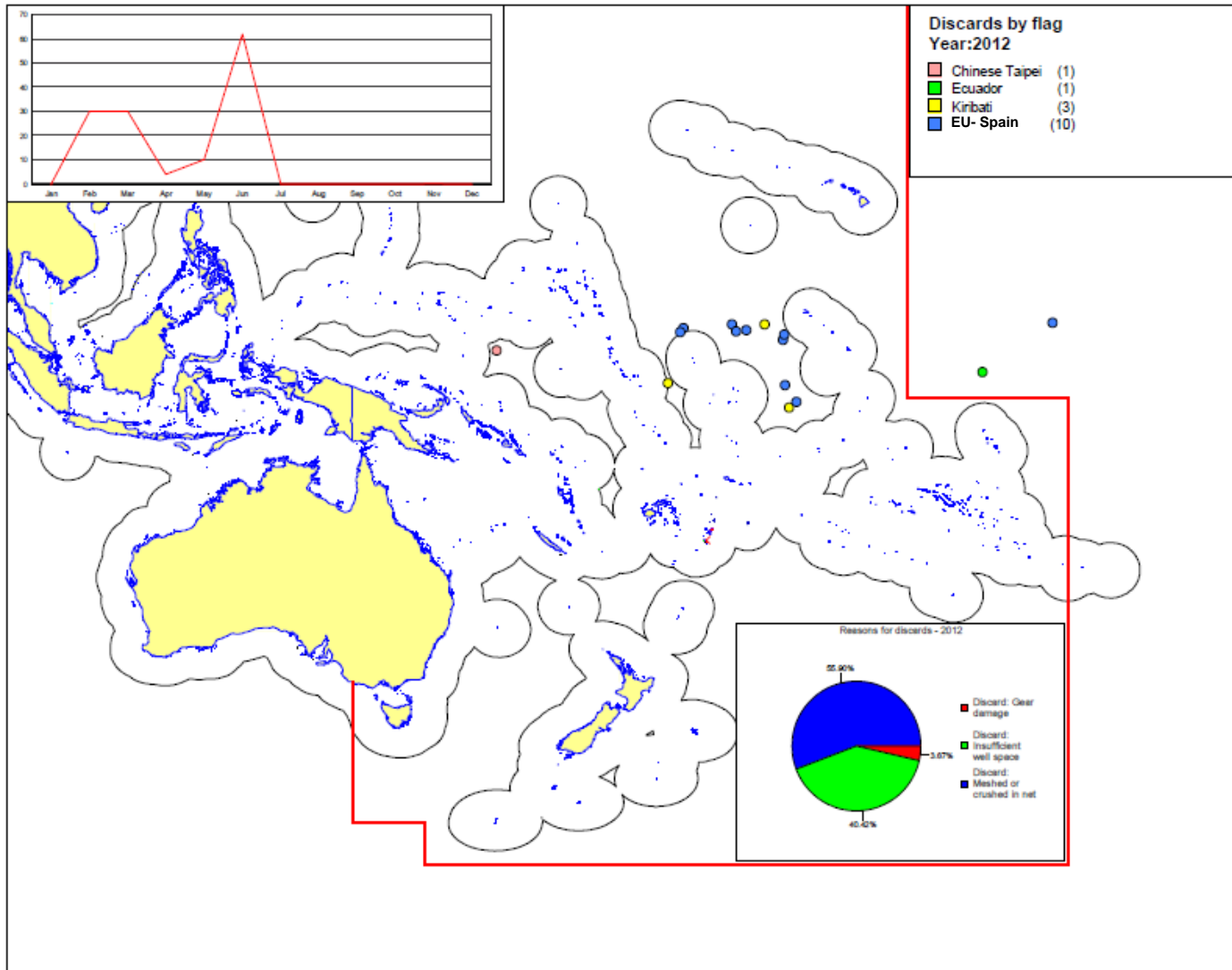


Figure 4. Map plotting reported positions of purse seine catch discards which occurred during 2012, based on reports to WCPFC under CMM 2009-02 paragraph 12. The graph at top left shows the number of purse seine catch discards reported by month, the table at top right show the total number of reported purse seine catch discards by flag CCM, and the pie chart at bottom right illustrates the reason provided for the discards (percentage by quantity).

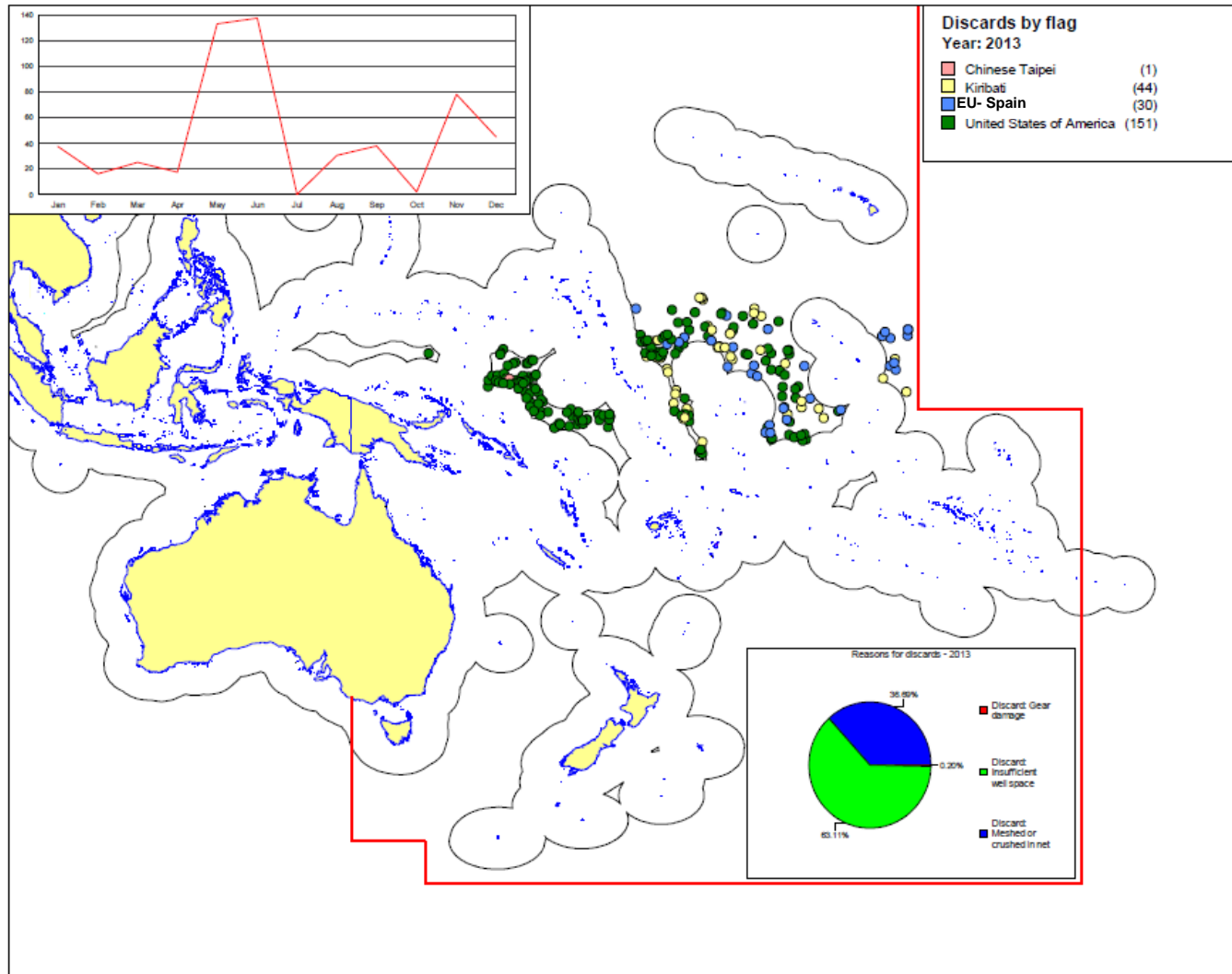


Figure 5. Map plotting reported positions of purse seine catch discards which occurred during 2013, based on reports to WCPFC under CMM 2009-02 paragraph 12. The graph at top left shows the number of purse seine catch discards reported by month, the table at top right show the total number of reported purse seine catch discards by flag CCM, and the pie chart at bottom right illustrates the reason provided for the discards (percentage by quantity).

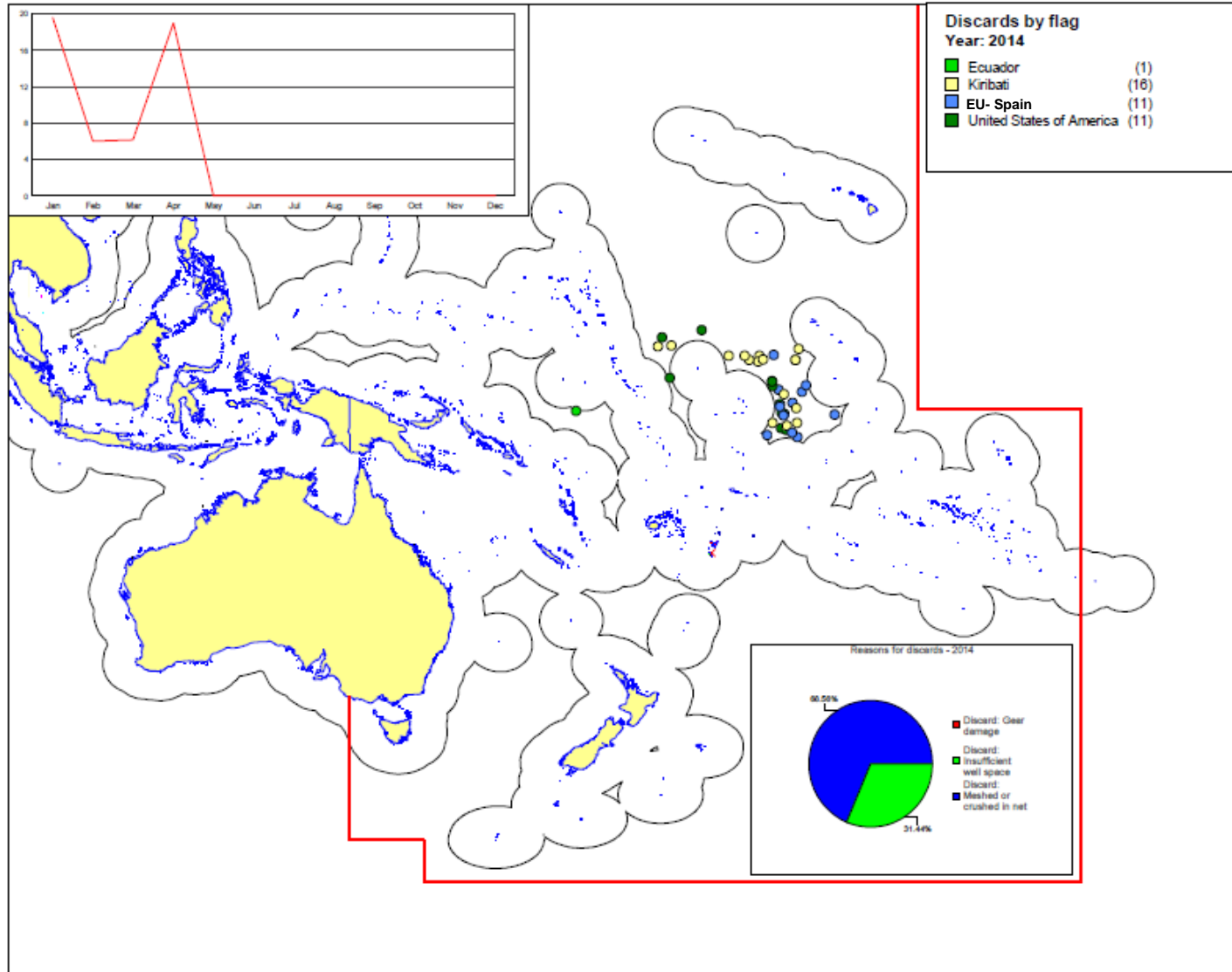


Figure 6. Map plotting reported positions of purse seine catch discards which occurred during 1 Jan – 9 April; 2014, based on reports to WCPFC under CMM 2009-02 paragraph 12. The graph at top left shows the number of purse seine catch discards reported by month, the table at top right show the total number of reported purse seine catch discards by flag CCM, and the pie chart at bottom right illustrates the reason provided for the discards (percentage by quantity).