



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

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**WCPFC-SC11-AR/CCM-07  
Rev 1 (11 September 2015)**

**FIJI**

# ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC REPORT TO THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION

## PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS FOR 2014

FIJI

OFFSHORE FISHERIES DIVISION

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT  
MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND FORESTS

JUNE 2015

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Scientific data was provided to the Commission in accordance with the decision relating to the provision of scientific data to the commission by 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2015	[YES]
If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions:	

## **ABSTRACT**

The Fiji National I Fleet<sup>1</sup> is one that predominantly targets albacore. In 2014, approximately 66% of the fishing occurred in Fiji's waters with 34% in the High Seas. When taking into consideration the overall catches by this fleet that is to include catches in other EEZs, approximately 23% was caught in other EEZs, where they were licensed.

There has been a significant increase in the Fiji National Fleet's catches when compared to 2013 catch, which indicates a degree of recovery. The most significant increase was on the Bigeye catches of 1560mt, the highest catch recorded since 2012.

Through collaboration work with other line Government agencies and industry's stakeholders, the Fisheries Department was able to make significant effort to ensure that the offshore fisheries is maintained in the sustainable manageable form, whilst encouraging economic growth. This was further boosted through continuous support from the Pacific Islands Forum Fisheries Agency and Secretariat to the Pacific Community in the areas of monitoring, control, surveillance and enforcement (MCS&E).

In 2014 the Fiji National Fleet consisted of 60 longline vessels licensed to fish of which 10 were foreign flagged and chartered by locals and 50 Fiji flagged. In addition to this, another 45 Fiji flagged vessels were authorised to exclusively fish beyond our national jurisdiction. .

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<sup>1</sup> Fiji National Fleet – Inclusive of Fiji Flagged Vessels and Fiji Chartered Vessels

## **1. BACKGROUND**

Fiji is located between 10° S and 25° S latitude and 177° E 173°W longitude and has an EEZ area of 1.29M km<sup>2</sup> and is made up of more than 300 islands.

This EEZ is flanked by the five Pacific Island nations of Vanuatu to the west, Solomon Islands to the North West, Tuvalu in the North, Wallis and Futuna to the North East and the Kingdom of Tonga to the South East. In addition to this, approximately 40% of the EEZ is bordered by the high seas to the southern area, western and north western region.

The enforcement of the Offshore Fisheries Management Decree and its Regulations in 2014, the Department has made every effort to effectively implement the MCS&E of Fiji's offshore fishing industry and the fishery in general with the aim of sustainably managing the Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in its waters.

With aspects of the sustainable management in mind, the development of both the' National and Regional Observer Programmes and the advancement of its Compliance and Enforcement capabilities Fiji is determined to play its role in the management of the highly migratory fish stocks that pass through its EEZ. As a responsible flag State, coastal State and port State, Fiji will continue to welcome any new MCS&E initiatives that will contribute to global combat of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.

It should be noted that Fiji's current licensing and high seas authorisations requires all vessels to comply with relevant WCPFC CMMs and report all catches on all trips under Fiji's national laws.

## 2. ANNUAL FISHERIES INFORMATION

### 2.1. TUNA CATCHES

Table 1. Annual Catch estimates for the Fiji National Fleet, 2010 – 2014

TOTAL ANNUAL CATCH ESTIMATE FOR FIJI NATIONAL LONGLINE FISHING FLEET 2010 - 2014[MT]					
Species	2010	2011	2012	2013	Provisional 2014
ALBACORE	7,279	7,793	7,958	6,202	6702.526
BIGEYE	532	681	1,019	685	1560.431
YELLOWFIN	2,144	2,248	2,081	1,328	3558.221
TUNA LIKE SPECIES	4,441	1,422	1,388	1293	1,667.105
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,396</b>	<b>12,144</b>	<b>12,446</b>	<b>9,508</b>	<b>13,488</b>

Table 1 above shows the total catches for 2014 as well as for the past 4 years. Despite the drop in catches for 2013 to 9,508mt, 2014 shows an increase in catch mainly due to accessibility to a wider fishing area within WCPO.

Where there is seen to be an annual fluctuating pattern of high and low total catches over five year period, the years 2011 and 2012 catch remained in close proximity at 12,144 mt to 12,446 mt respectively.

It should be noted that there is a steady rise in Albacore catches from 2010 to 2012 with visible drop in 2013; however, there is some indication in recovery in 2014. Additionally, the Fiji National Fleet saw a significant rise in Bigeye catches over the last five years.

Yellowfin catches reflected a decrease from 2011 to 2013, however, these catches increased in 2014.

## 2.2. BILLFISH AND NON TARGET SPECIES CATCHES

Table 2. Annual Estimated Catches of Non-targeted Species, Associated and Dependent Species for the Fiji National Fleet, 2014.

TOTAL ANNUAL NON TARGET SPECIES CATCH FOR FIJI NATIONAL LONGLINE FISHING FLEET 2014 [MT]	
SPECIES	WEIGHTS [MT]
<b>BILLFISH</b>	
SWORDFISH	127
BLUE MARLIN	263
BLACK MARLIN	79
STRIPED MARLIN	39
SPEARFISH	44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>552</b>
<b>NON TARGET SPECIES</b>	
WAHOO	225
MAHIMAHI	386
BARRACUDAS	13
ESCOLARS	1
OPAH	123
OTHER SPECIES	367
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,115</b>

Table 2 above shows the catch estimates of Billfish and non-targeted Species from Fiji's National Fleet. It should be noted that the shark catches are now listed under topic 2.6, titled "Catch Based on Relevant CMMs".

## 2.3. FLEET STRUCTURE

Table 3. Fiji National Fleet Structure, 2011 – 2014.

FIJI NATIONAL LONG LINE FLEET STRUCTURE 2011 -2014				
LENGTH (m)	2011	2012	2013	2014
<21m	8	11	11	11
21m-30m	42	38	37	47
>31m	71	64	59	47
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>105</b>

The fleet structure for 2014 consists of the 105 Fiji national vessels; of which 10 vessels are chartered foreign flagged vessels. The remaining 95 vessels are Fiji flagged and fished in Fiji's EEZ, other EEZs and high seas within the WCPO.

Fiji National Fleet are categorised as follows:

1. Less than 21m category - there are 11 vessels under this category and mainly use ice for preserving their catch which is targeted for the fresh sashimi market. They predominantly fish within Fiji's Archipelagic Waters and Territorial Seas spending one to two weeks on each trip.
2. 21m and less than 30m category – there are 47 vessels under this category and they use ice slurry and freezers to preserve their catch. This category of vessels mainly fish within Fiji's EEZ and spends three weeks to two month per fishing trip. Fresh catch are usually caught towards the end of the fishing trip to maintain its standard for the market preference.
3. Greater than 30 m category – there are 47 vessels under this category and they use freezers to preserve their catch. This category of vessels mainly fish within Fiji's EEZ and outside Fiji's national jurisdiction targeting Albacore. They spend more than three months on each trip.

## 2.4. FISHING PATTERNS

Figure 1. Fiji Flagged Fleet Structure, 2014.

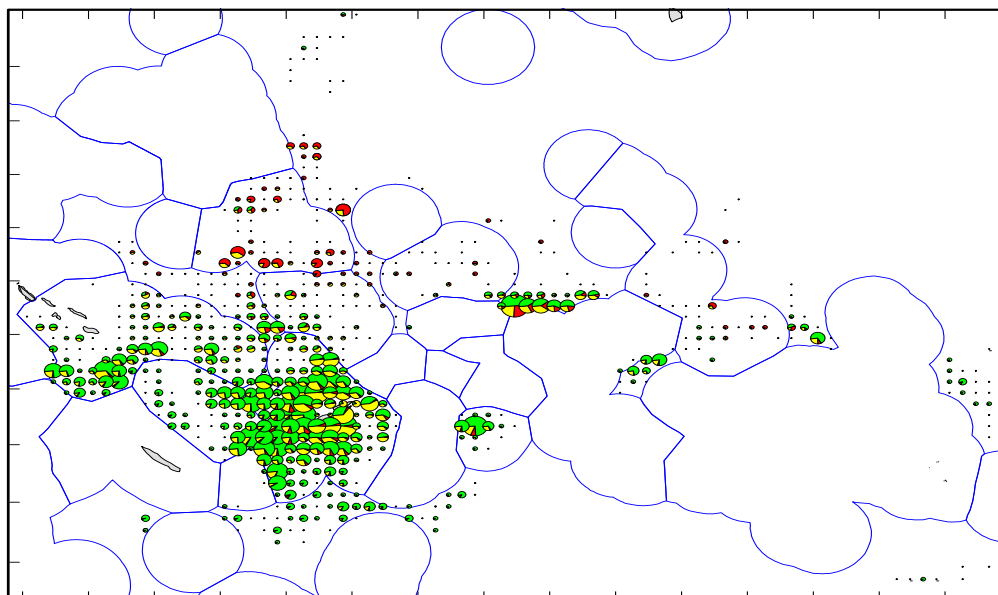


Figure 1 is a snapshot of Fiji's National Fleet catches for the 3 tuna species in 2014, namely Albacore [Green], Bigeye [Red] and Yellowfin [Yellow]. As in the imagery, much of the catch is caught in Fiji's EEZ with certain portions in other EEZs, where the vessels are licensed to and in the high seas.

## 2.5. OBSERVED INTERACTIONS OF SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST.

**Table 4 A. Annual Tables of Interactions for Species of Special Interest, 2010 – 2014**

ANNUAL SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST TABLE OF GEAR INTERACTIONS[2010 - 2014]											
CATERGORY	SPECIES	YEARS									
		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
		No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD
MARINE TURTLES	GREEN TURTLES	0	0	1	1	1	0	18	4	20	7
	LOGGERHEAD TURTLES	3	2	7	4	2	1	4	3	14	6
	HAWKSBILL TURLE	2	1	1	1	0	0	3	0	12	6
	LEATHERBACK TURTLES	3	3	2	0	2	1	7	1	8	2
	OLIVE RIDLEY TURTLES	0	0	1	1	1	1	8	6	14	6
	FLATBACK TURTLE	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1
	TURTLES [UNIDENTIFIED]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2
TOTAL TURTLES		8	6	12	7	6	3	41	15	73	30

Table 4A above shows the observed incidences of gear interactions with marine turtles by the Fiji Observers, whilst on placement trips from the years 2010 to 2014. It should be noted that 43 turtles were released alive and 30 were landed dead.

A point to note is that all observers in the Fiji Observer program are certified and trained in the mitigation/handling/releasing of sea turtles under the SPC/FFA PIRFO Standards.

Fiji ensures that all its licensed vessels change their hooks arrangements to Circle Hooks, through awareness and trainings, on the proper mitigation and turtle handling techniques.

**Table 4B. Annual Table of Interactions for Species of Special Interest, 2010 – 2014.**

ANNUAL SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST TABLE OF VESSEL INTERACTIONS AND SIGHTINGS											
CATERGORY	SPECIES	YEARS									
		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
		No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD
MARINE MAMMALS	DOLPHINS AND PORPOISES	11	0	5	0	6	0	81	0	6	0
	TOOTHED WHALES	8	0	11	0	11	1	121	0	0	0
	NON-TOOTHED WHALES	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
	MARINE MAMMALS [UNIDENTIFIED]	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	0
	WHALE SHARKS	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
TOTAL MARINE MAMMALS		20	0	16	0	17	1	208	0	17	0



Table 4B above shows the observed incidences of vessel interactions and sightings of marine mammals by the Fiji observers whilst on placement trips from 2010 to 2014.

The 17 interactions were sighted as either swimming in the vicinity of the vessel, during the hauling process or taking bait fish that is thrown back into the sea.

**Table 4C. Annual Table of Interactions for Species of Special Interest, 2010 - 2014.**

ANNUAL SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST TABLE OF GEAR INTERACTIONS [2010 - 2014]											
CATERGORY	SPECIES	YEARS									
		2010		2011		2012		2013		2014	
		No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD	No.	DEAD
SEA BIRDS	SEAS BIRDS	2	0	0	0	0	0	8	5	1	1
TOTAL SEA BIRDS		2	0	0	0	0	0	8	5	1	1

The gear interactions of the sea birds with the Fiji National Fleet fishing vessels were observed by the Fiji observers.

The species interacted was a cape pigeon that was caught on the hook on its abdomen during hauling time and was discarded dead.

Note: All Fiji vessels employ deep setting line shooter and also use weighted branch-lines.

## 2.6. CATCH BASED ON RELEVANT CMMs.

### 2.6.1 SCIENTIFIC DATA TO BE PROVIDED TO THE COMMISSION/IATTC OVERLAP [E 150 DEGREES W]

Concerning the overlap area with IATTC, 13 Fiji flagged vessels were logged in this area having a Bigeye catch of 44.39 mt, Albacore catch of 179.05mt, Yellowfin catch of 66.57 mt, Swordfish catch of 3.85 mt and also Striped marlin catch of 0.05 mt with other species having a total catch of 44.51mt.

**Table 5. Annual Table Fiji flagged long line catches in the IATTC overlap area, 2014.**

TOTAL ANNUAL 2014 CATCH ESTIMATES EAST 150 DEGREES WEST (IATTC OVERLAP AREA)		
FIJI FLAGGED VESSELS NO.	SPECIES	TOTAL [MT]
13	ALBACORE	179.05
	BIGEYE	44.39
	YELLOWFIN	66.57
	SWORDFISH	3.85
	STRIPPED MARLIN	0.05
	OTHERS	44.51
TOTAL		338.41

Table 5 above shows the vessel numbers and weights in metric tonnes the Fiji National Fleet catch estimates for the years 2014, along the IATTC overlap area based on Log-sheet data.

### **2.6.2 CMM 2005-03-NORTH PACIFIC ALBACORE**

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2005-03, on North Pacific Albacore, 15 Fiji National Fleet vessels were logged to have caught a total of 52.47mt of North Pacific Albacore, fishing for 56 days in 2014.

One Fiji vessel was logged to have caught 0.08mt of North Pacific Albacore north of 20 degrees north. It should be noted that these catches were caught as non - targeted species.

### **2.6.3 CMM 2006-04 STRIPED MARLIN IN THE SOUTH WEST PACIFIC**

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2006-04, 27.32mt of Striped Marlin were logged to have been caught by 39 Fiji National Fleet vessels south of 15 degrees south. Of the 27.32 mt, 2.15mt were logged by 5 of the 10 chartered foreign flagged vessels which were licensed in Fiji's EEZ for 2014.

It should be noted that these catches were caught as non - targeted species.

### **2.6.4 CMM 2007-04 & CMM 2012-07 SEA BIRDS**

Concerning the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2007-04 & 2012-07 on Sea Birds, based on available observer data one seabird interaction was observed and reported for 2014.

The interacted species was a cape pigeon that was caught on the hook on its abdomen during hauling time and was discarded dead.

The Fiji flagged long lining fleet employs both the recommended "weighted branch line" and "deep setting line shooter" mitigation methods, as prescribed in Table 1 of the mitigation methods listed in CMM 2007-04 & 2012-07 on Sea Birds.

### **2.6.5 CMM 2012-01 BIGEYE AND YELLOWFIN**

For 2014, no purse seine fishing was reported to have occurred in Fiji's fisheries water by US Treaty vessels.

### **2.6.6 CMM 2008-03 SEA TURTLES**

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2008-03 on Sea Turtles, the Fiji National Fleet utilises circle hooks in the pre-dominantly long line fishery. It is also the continued endeavour of Fiji that crews on its licensed vessels are trained and equipped with turtle mitigation techniques, devices and identification booklets.

Table 4 A. Annual Tables of Interactions for Species of Special Interest for 2014 is based on the available observer data. Of the 73 that were interacted, a total of 10 marine turtles were retained while 63 were discarded.

Of the 63 Turtle discards, 33 were released alive and 30 released dead.

### 2.6.7 CMM 2009-03 SWORDFISH

In 2014 and in accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2009-03, 30 Fiji flagged long line vessels caught a total of 13.0 mt of Swordfish.

Eight of the ten chartered foreign flagged vessels caught 4.2 mt of Swordfish in the area South of 20 degrees South within Fiji's EEZ.

**Table 7. Annual Swordfish catch for Fiji National Fleet, 2010 – 2014**

TOTAL ANNUAL 2014 SWORDFISH CATCH ESTIMATES SOUTH OF 20° SOUTH BY THE FIJI NATIONAL LONG LINING FLEET AND CHARTERED VESSELS IN FIJI 2010 - 2014 [MT]						
YEAR	FIJI FLAGGED VESSELS		CHARTERED VESSELS		TOTAL [MT]	TOTAL VESSELS
	TONNES	VESSEL NUMBERS	TONNES	VESSEL NUMBER		
2010	22.6	39	4.1	9	26.7	48
2011	29.9	56	5.3	11	35.2	67
2012	44.4	66	6.4	9	50.8	75
2013	21.4	49	4.5	9	25.9	58
2014	13.0	30	4.2	8	17.2	38

Table 7 above shows the vessel numbers and weights in metric tonnes of Swordfish catch estimate for south of 20 degrees south by the Fiji National Fleet for 2010 to 2014.

It should be noted that these catches were caught as non - targeted species.

### 2.6.8 CMM 2009-06 TRANSHIPMENT

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2009-06 on transshipment, 8 transshipment events totalling 301.57mt occurred within Kiribati waters by 5 Fiji flagged vessels as in Tables 8A and 8B below.

A total of 127.49mt of tuna and non-target species were transhipped in Tarawa Port whilst 174.08mt was transhipped within Kiribati's EEZ.

**Table 8A. Annual Table for Fiji National Fleet vessels transhipping in other Ports [Tarawa, 2014].**

TOTAL 2014 ANNUAL CATCH FOR THE FIJI FLAGGED LONGLINE TRANSHIPPING IN OTHER PORTS - TARAWA							
GEAR TYPE	PORT	# OF VESSELS	# OF TRANSHIPPMENT	FISHED AREA	SPECIES	PRODUCT TYPE	TOTAL[MT]
LL	TARAWA	3	3	ALL TRANSHIPPED FISH WAS CAUGHT INSIDE THE CONVENTION AREA	ALBACORE	FROZEN	0.3
					BIGEYE	FROZEN	76.74
					YELLOWFIN	FROZEN	34.11
					SWORDFISH	FROZEN	6.62
					BLUE MARLIN	FROZEN	7.86
					STRIPPED MARLIN	FROZEN	0.3
					WHITE MARLIN	FROZEN	0.11
OTHERS	FROZEN	1.46					
TOTAL							127.49

**Table 8B. Annual Table for Fiji National Fleet vessels transhipping in other EEZ. [Kiribati, 2014].**

TOTAL 2014 ANNUAL CATCH FOR THE FIJI FLAGGED LONGLINE TRANSHIPPING IN OTHER EEZ - KIRIBATI							
GEAR TYPE	EEZ	# OF VESSELS	# OF TRANSHIPPMENT	FISHED AREA	SPECIES	PRODUCT TYPE	TOTAL[MT]
LL	KIRIBATI	2	5	ALL TRANSHIPPED FISH WAS CAUGHT INSIDE THE CONVENTION AREA	BIGEYE	FROZEN	97.58
					YELLOWFIN	FROZEN	66.2
					SWORDFISH	FROZEN	5.07
					BLUE MARLIN	FROZEN	5.00
					STRIPPED MARLIN	FROZEN	0.23
TOTAL							174.08

### 2.6.9 CMM 2010-01 –NORTH PACIFIC STRIPED MARLIN

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2010-01 5 Fiji National Fleet vessels were logged to have caught 1.09 mt of Striped Marlin north of the equator in 2014.

It should be noted that these catches were caught as non - targeted species.

### 2.6.10 CMM 2010-05 –SOUTH PACIFIC ALBACORE

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2010-05, 36 Fiji flagged vessels logged a catch of 824.97mt of South Pacific albacore. Nine of the ten chartered foreign vessels logged to have caught 372.16mt of South Pacific Albacore within Fiji's EEZ.

A total of 45 Fiji National fleet vessels were logged to have caught a total of 1,197.13mt of South Pacific Albacore caught south of 20 degrees south.

**2.6 11 CMM 2010-07–SHARKS** In accordance with CMM 2010-07 on key Sharks and based on the available observer data, the following table is provided.

**Table 9.Fiji National Fleet: Table of Key Shark Species and their fate, 2014**

<b>FIJI NATIONAL LONGLINE FLEET VESSELS KEY SHARK SPECIES INTERACTION AND FATE 2014</b>				
<b>GEAR TYPE</b>	<b>SPECIES</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>RETAINED</b>	<b>DISCARDED</b>
LL	SILKY SHARK	35	3	32
LL	OCEANIC WHITE-TIP SHARK	10	1	9
LL	GREAT HAMMERHEAD	1	1	0
LL	LONG FINNED MAKO SHARK	16	6	10
LL	BLUE SHARK	288	30	258
LL	BRONZE WHALER SHARK	11	2	9
LL	PELAGIC THRESHER SHARK	6	1	5
LL	SHORT FINNED MAKO SHARK	28	16	12
LL	BIGEYE THRESHER SHARK	2	0	2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>397</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>337</b>

Table 9 includes key shark species in accordance with the WCPFC Convention and agreed reporting procedures on the retained and discarded catches of the key shark species for 2014 using Observer data.

#### **2.6.12 CMM 2011-03 – CETACEANS**

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2011-03 on Cetaceans, it should be noted that Fiji does not have a purse seine fleet but is a party to the United States Treaty and therefore allows for the said treaty vessels to fish in its waters.

#### **2.6.13 CMM 2011-04 OCEANIC WHITE-TIP SHARKS**

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2011-04, the Fiji National Observer Programme data showed that:

- 1) 5 were landed on board, dehooked and released alive and in healthy condition.
- 2) 1 was landed on board, dehooked and released alive and in injured condition.
- 3) 3 were discarded dead.
- 4) 1 was retained.

#### **2.6.14 CMM 2012-04 WHALE SHARKS**

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2012-04 on Whale Sharks, it should be noted that Fiji does not have a purse seine fleet.

#### **2.6.15 CMM 2013 - 08 SILKY SHARKS**

In accordance with the WCPFC Conservation and Management Measure 2013-08, the Fiji National Observer Programme data showed that:

- 1) 14 were discarded dead.
- 2) 8 were landed on board, dehooked and released alive and in healthy condition.
- 3) 3 were landed on board, dehooked and released alive and in injured condition.
- 4) 3 were retained.

#### **2.6.16 Observer coverage (WCPFC 11decision – para484 (b))**

The 2014 Observer coverage for Fiji was 16.7% based on observed trips.

### **3. MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT**

Fiji's major markets include Japan and United States of America where most of sashimi grade fish are exported. Fish products for cannery are exported to Thailand, American Samoa, Taiwan and Vietnam. In addition, products for cannery are also sold to our canneries based out of Suva and Levuka.

In 2014, a total of 18,652 mt of tuna was processed and exported with Albacore products making a total of 54% [10,062 mt] of Fiji's total export. Bigeye tuna products at 5% [1,011 mt] and Yellowfin tuna products at 24% [4,464mt] with other species making up the final 17% [3,115mt].

Tuna like non-target species continue to be sold at local processor outlets with a portion sold as exports where the market is available.

There is a proposal for the development of a fishing port at Natovi which is located on the south eastern part of Viti Levu, which is the main island of Fiji.. The project is to be funded by the Korean Government.

Fiji's two canneries (PAFCO and Viti Foods) are currently undergoing re- development works to their premises to meet the high end export market demand.

As the same time Fiji continues to come up with new innovative products ready for the supermarket shelves through eco-labelling.

## 4. STATISTICAL DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS IN USE

### 4.1 STATUS OF TUNA FISHERY DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS

Table 10. Estimated Annual Coverage, [2010 – 2014]

	PERCENTAGE COVERAGE (%)				
YEAR	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
CATCH / EFFORT	99	99	99	99	99
OBSERVER	2.9	3	8.5	10.1	18.7
PORT SAMPLING	7.7	3.6	15	10	12
TRANSHIPMENT	0	100	100	100	100

#### A] LOGSHEETS AND LANDINGS DATA.

The collection of log- sheets continue to be maintained at 99%. The Data Registrar ensures the reconciliation of log -sheets and the relevant landing data and VMS information sets.

Post entry primary and secondary data checks are done on a regular basis with all entered information sets and TUFMAN backup are sent to SPC.

#### B] OBSERVER PROGRAMME

##### B1: Placement

The Fiji National Observer coverage for 2014 has risen to a high of 18.7% .Fiji observers are placed on board Fiji National Fleet covering waters from Fiji's archipelagic waters to areas beyond Fiji's national jurisdiction. Fiji also contributes its observers to sub-regional observer programme such as the US Treaty. In 2014 a total of 30 trips on board purse seine vessels under the US Treaty were achieved.

##### B2: De- briefing

Fiji Observers are de- briefed at the end of every trip to ensure data reporting quality is maintained In 2014 a total of 165 de-briefings were carried out.

##### B3: Port Sampling

Fiji's port sampling programme is carried out on Fiji's National Fleet at Suva Port and in 2014 a total of 144 port samplings were achieved. This activity is carried out by observers whilst not on placement

##### B4: Biological Sampling

A total of 23 biological samplings were conducted by Fiji observers in 2014.Eight samplings were carried out at sea whilst 15 were carried out in port. All samples are referred to SPC for further analysis.

##### B5: Trainings

In 2014, two from Fiji attended the PIRFO basic training which was held in Vanuatu and in addition, two senior observers attended the regional de-briefer training in Fiji.

