



COMMISSION
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Recommended changes to the Regional Observer Programme (ROP) Minimum Data Standards and Fields (Attachment E of the TCC11 Summary Report)

WCPFC12-2015-19f
3 December 2015

Paper by Secretariat
in support of TCC11's Recommendation at para. 285:

TCC11 recommends that WCPFC12 adopt the changes as set out in Attachment E (WCPFC-TCC11-2015-26_rev1) to the Regional Observer Programme (ROP) Minimum Data Standards and Fields. TCC11 advised WCPFC12 that some fields are new, some represent splits of prior fields and some are existing fields with new text, otherwise all other fields remain the same.

Attachment E. Recommended changes to the Regional Observer Programme (ROP) Minimum Data Standards and Fields

The following changes to the Regional Observer Programme (ROP) Minimum Data Standards and Fields are recommended to WCPFC12 for adoption (note that some fields are new, some represent splits of prior fields and some are existing fields with new text). All other fields remain the same.

	Field Name*	Text
1	Hook Type	Record at the set level what type of hook or hooks is used. Examples are J hooks-Circle hooks-offset circle etc, the vessel usually uses one type, but may use a couple of types. Note that the SPC/FFA observer programme uses an excellent SPC-produced "Terminal Gear Identification Guide"; which clearly identifies the most common hook types and sizes.
2	Hook Size	Record at the set level the size of the hooks used, if not sure ask the Bosun or refer to a hook catalogue. Note that the SPC/FFA observer programme uses an excellent SPC-produced "Terminal Gear Identification Guide"; which clearly identifies the most common hook types and sizes.
3	Bait Species	At the set level, record the bait species used Pilchard, Sardine, Squid, artificial bait etc.
4	Wire Trace	At the trip level indicate Yes or No -if the vessel uses wire traces on some or all their lines (Yes) or if no wire traces are used then record No. If wire traces used on all lines during the trip then record "ALL LINES" If the vessel used wire traces on certain branch lines during the trip record, where possible, information on the location of the branch line where used (for example "used on first and tenth branch lines from the float"). If the proportion of leaders that are wire varies within a trip, record the average based on a sample of ten baskets in different sets.
5	Weighted branch lines	At the trip level record whether or not the vessel uses weighted branch lines (Yes or No). If yes, record the mass of the weight attached to the branch line. If more than one type of weighting is used during a trip, describe each type and indicate the proportion based on a sample of ten baskets in different sets.
6	Shark lines	At the set level, record the number of shark lines (branch lines running directly off the longline floats or drop lines) observed. Where possible, record the length of this line for each set.
7	Number of light-sticks	At the set level indicate whether the vessel uses light sticks on its line, record the number it used, and record, where possible, information on the location (for example "used on first and tenth branch lines from the float").
8	Tori Line	Record Yes or No at the set level whether the vessel uses a single or double Tori lines when setting (0=none, 1=single tri line and 2=double tri line). A Tori line can have a number of different designs but is basically a line with ribbons and other attachments to scare birds away from the branch line baits.
9	Blue dyed bait	Record Yes or No at the set level-whether the vessel used bait that has been dyed especially to look blue.
10	Deep setting line shooter	Record Yes or No at the set level- whether the vessel used a deep setting line shooter.

* Used in the current WCPFC ROP Minimum Data Standards and Fields

	Field Name*	Text
11	Side setting with bird curtain and weighted branch lines	Record Yes or No at the set level– whether the vessel used side-setting with bird curtain and weighted branch lines.
12	Management of offal discharge	Record Yes or No at the set level- whether the vessel used the management of offal discharge.
13	Strategic offal disposal	Record Yes or No at the trip level whether the vessel used strategic offal disposal (dumping offal to attract seabirds away from hooks, or not dumping offal).
14	Condition when caught	Use condition codes to indicate status when caught. For each observed silky and oceanic whitetip shark, sea turtle, seabird or marine mammal , add three new codes: ‘hooked in mouth’, hooked deeply (throat/stomach)’, and ‘hooked externally’.
15	Condition when released	Use condition codes to indicate status when released to the sea. For each observed silky and oceanic whitetip shark, sea turtle, seabird or marine mammal, add a new code: ‘hook and/or line removed’.