**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**
**FOURTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

**Busan, Republic of Korea**
**8-16 August 2018**

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

**WCPFC-SC14-AR/CCM-06**

**FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA**

# SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
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# PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH, AND STATISTICS


## FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA

**National Oceanic Resource Management Authority**
**Pohnpei, FSM**

| | |
|---|---|
| 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 2018 | [YES] |
| If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions: | |

## SUMMARY

In 2017, the provisional annual catch and effort estimates for the national purse seine and longline fleet based on provisional data from logsheets totaled 84,628 metric tonnes (mt) of target tuna. The purse seine fleet logsheets estimated catch was 81,068 mt (Table 1) and available longline logsheets estimated catch 3,559 mt (Table 2) in the FSM Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The number of FSM fishing vessels by gear in 2017 comprised of 19 purse seiners and 30 longline vessels as indicated in Table 3 and Table 4.

A total of 286 foreign vessels were licensed to fish in FSM EEZ in 2017 excluding FSM (Table 6). By gear, 53 longline, 25 pole-and-lines, and 208 purse seine. In Table 8, the longline gear estimated catch is 1,835 mt targeting yellowfin and bigeye tuna as well as albacore. In 2017, FSM and Japan are the only countries have recorded their catch. Japan and FSM have an annual catch of 1,284 mt and 551 mt, respectively. Among the three (3) target tuna species in longline gears, bigeye tuna have been dominant with an annual catch of 1,296 mt followed by yellowfin tuna (511 mt) and albacore (28 mt). The purse seine estimated catch 136,617 mt fishing mainly for skipjack tuna with an annual catch totaling 114,690 mt followed by yellowfin tuna (19,959 mt) and bigeye tuna (1,968 mt) (see Table 7). Japan was the only country employing the pole- and-line gear for 2017 and its annual catch of skipjack tuna totaling 166 mt, 1 mt of bigeye tuna and 5 mt of yellowfin tuna (see Table 9). The annual distributions of fishing effort by the longline fleets including pole-and-line were mostly east and the purse seine fleet south-east of the FSM EEZ (Figure 1A and Figure 1B). A total of 9 species of special interests (SSI) interactions were reported mostly by the purse seine gear (Table 5).

The national government continues to develop plans to monitor bycatch disposal and to regulate disposal of catch from purse seine during transshipment operations in FSM ports. Currently, Kosrae is now in operations for both purse seine and longline unloading to freezer containers while Yap port is gearing towards the same plans of on-shore developments. Pohnpei port continues to be the main port of operations with addition on-shore development for a katsubushi plant and fish meal processing for animal feed.

The FSM National Fisheries Observe Program (FSM-NFOP) have a current pool of over 50 plus observers that achieved 160 successful placements in 2017 accounted for 3 pole-and-line by Japan, 157 trips for purse seiners and no carrier. The FSM observer cost recovery scheme is now in its trial phase.

## FLAG STATE REPORTING

Annual catch and effort for the national purse seine fleet, fishing throughout the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Area (WCPFC-CA) during the last five years are presented in Table 1 and Table 2. In 2017, total catches reported from logsheets 81,074 mt retained and 2,440 mt discarded for purse seine fleet. Of this total catch, 84% was comprised of skipjack tuna, 15% yellowfin tuna and 1% bigeye tuna. In addition to the total catch derived from the logsheeet, black marlin, blue marlin, striped marlin, silky shark were other species that were retained and discarded. The national longline vessel fleet catches for the past five years are presented in Table 2. In 2017, total catches reported from logsheets retained and discarded totaled 4,492 mt and 359 mt, respectively. Of this total catch, 47% was comprised of bigeye tuna, 31% yellowfin tuna, 12% albacore and 10% other species which including skipjack tuna, black marlin, blue marlin, striped marlin, swordfish, blue shark, silky shark, mako shark, oceanic whitetip and thresher shark.

The number of FSM fishing vessels by fishing gear in 2017 comprised of 19 purse seiners and 30 longline vessels (12 FSM flag and 18 chartered vessels) as indicated in Table 3 and Table 4. These vessels fished actively throughout the WCPF-CA. However, a few of the FSM longline fish for fresh yellowfin and bigeye tuna while some frozen longline vessels seasonally fish for albacore tuna in the waters of Cook Islands. Please see figure 1 and 2 for the annual distributions of the different type of fishing gears.

**Table 1. Annual catch (mt) in the WCPF Convention Area by species for the FSM purse seine fleet, 2013-2017.**

| | Gear | PURSE SEINE | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Fleet | FM | | | | | |
| | Source | Annual Catch Estimates | | | | | |
| | | | | | | 2017 | |
| | SPECIES | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | RETAINED | DISCARDS |
| 1 | ALBACORE | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 2 | BIGEYE | 984.1 | 1,296.0 | 1,711.4 | 4,364.0 | **1,916.0** | **148.4** |
| 3 | PACIFIC BLUEFIN | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 4 | SKIPJACK | 26,881.9 | 31,961.9 | 44,506.7 | 56,446.0 | **67,024.3** | **1,957.8** |
| 5 | YELLOWFIN | 3,321.9 | 4,065.5 | 6,945.3 | 10,856.0 | **12,128.2** | **263.3** |
| 6 | BLACK MARLIN | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **4.9** |
| 7 | BLUE MARLIN | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.4 | 0.0 | **3.5** | **17.5** |
| 8 | STRIPED MARLIN | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.5** | **1.1** |
| 9 | SWORDFISH | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 10 | BLUE SHARK | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 11 | SILKY SHARK | 1.4 | 4.4 | 10.3 | 0.0 | **1.5** | **47.6** |
| 12 | HAMMERHEAD SHARK | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 13 | MAKO SHARK | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 14 | OCEANIC WHITETIP | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.2** |
| 15 | PORBEAGLE SHARK | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 16 | WHALE SHARK | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 17 | THRESHER SHARK | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| | **TOTAL** | **31,189.3** | **37,328.3** | **53,176.1** | **71,665.7** | **81,074.0** | **2,440.8** |

Source: TUFMAN

**Table 2. Annual catch and effort (mt) in the WCPFC Convention Area by species for the FSM Longline fleet, 2013-2017.**

| | Gear | LONGLINE | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Fleet | FM | | | | | |
| | Source | ANNUAL CATCH ESTIMATE | | | | | |
| | | | | | | 2017 | |
| | SPECIES | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | RETAINED | DISCARDS |
| 1 | ALBACORE | 751.4 | 340.5 | 210.5 | 2,036.2 | **516.8** | **0.0** |
| 2 | BIGEYE | 1,210.9 | 1,559.2 | 1,518.2 | 1,803.0 | **2130.9** | **0.0** |
| 3 | PACIFIC BLUEFIN | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.8 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 4 | SKIPJACK | 3.9 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 26.8 | **16.3** | **0.0** |
| 5 | YELLOWFIN | 896.1 | 1,084.0 | 989.9 | 1,589.0 | **1411.9** | **0.0** |
| 6 | BLACK MARLIN | 23.0 | 2.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **3.9** | **0.0** |
| 7 | BLUE MARLIN | 278.4 | 191.4 | 132.8 | 504.2 | **375.4** | **0.5** |
| 8 | STRIPED MARLIN | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | **1.3** | **0.0** |
| 9 | SWORDFISH | 24.7 | 14.9 | 14.5 | 57.9 | **34.3** | **1.1** |
| 10 | BLUE SHARK | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.0 | **0.7** | **154.4** |
| 11 | SILKY SHARK | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.0 | **0.2** | **99.8** |
| 12 | HAMMERHEAD SHARK | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 13 | MAKO SHARK | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.2** | **3.8** |
| 14 | OCEANIC WHITETIP | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.1** | **98.7** |
| 15 | PORBEAGLE SHARK | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 16 | WHALE SHARK | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **0.0** |
| 17 | THRESHER SHARK | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | **0.0** | **1.3** |
| | **TOTAL** | **3,188.6** | **3,194.8** | **2,868.6** | **6,018.1** | **4492.0** | **359.5** |

Source: TUFMAN

**Table 3. Number of purse seine vessels by size category, active in the WCPFC convention area, 2013-2017.**

| Gear | PURSE SEINE | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fleet | FM | | | | | |
| Source | Number of Active Vessels (WCPFC Yearbook) | | | | | |
| Year | 00-500 GRT | 501-1000 GRT | 1001-1500 GRT | 1500+ GRT | Unknown GRT | Total Vessels |
| 2013 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 0 | **10** |
| 2014 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 0 | **10** |
| 2015 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 0 | **12** |
| 2016 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 2 | **16** |
| **2017** | **0** | **3** | **3** | **13** | **0** | **19** |

Source: TUFMAN

**Table 4: Number of longline vessels by size category, active in the WCPFC convention area, 2013-2017.**

| Gear | LONGLINE | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fleet | FM | | | | | |
| Source | Number of Active Vessels (WCPFC Yearbook) | | | | | |
| Year | 00-50 GRT | 51-200 GRT | 201-500 GRT | 500+ GRT | Unknown GRT | Total Vessels |
| 2013 | 0 | 20 | 0 | 1 | 0 | **21** |
| 2014 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **18** |
| 2015 | 1 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | **19** |
| 2016 | 0 | 23 | 2 | 0 | 0 | **25** |
| **2017** | **0** | **23** | **7** | **0** | **0** | **30** |

Source: TUFMAN

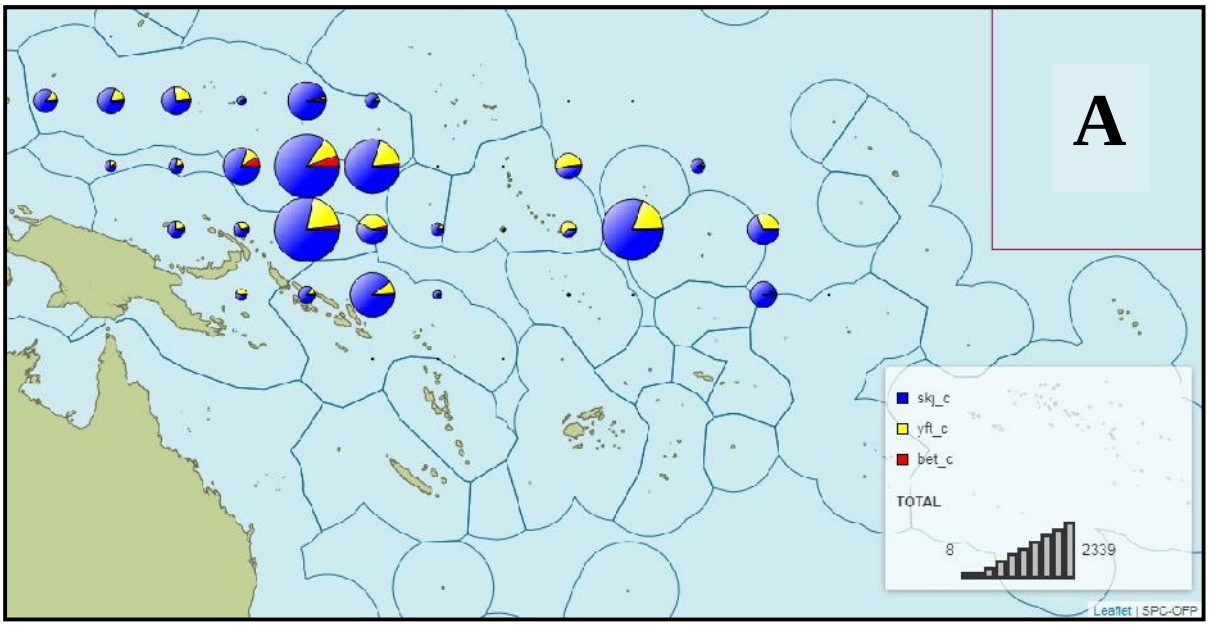



Figure 1A. Purse Seine Fishing Distribution in WCPFC-CA, 2017

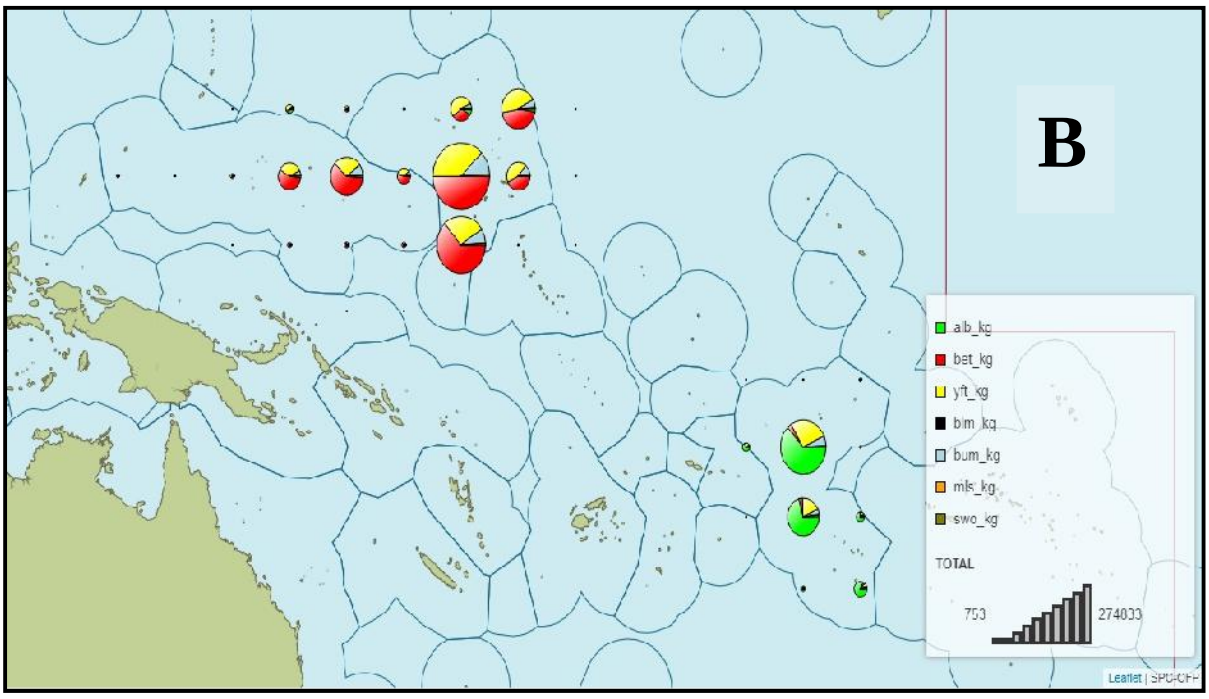



Figure 1B. Longline Fishing Distribution in WCPFC-CA, 2017

**Figure 1A and 1B: Annual distribution of FSM purse seine and longline catch in the WCPF Convention Area, 2017.**

The preliminary data shown in Table 5 are for species of special interest (SSI) from the FSM purse seine and longline vessels. A total of 53 SSI interactions reported with 9 species from 41 marine mammals, 1 species from 3 marine reptiles, 1 species from 7 whale sharks and 1 species from 1 bird. The gear with most SSI interactions was mainly purse seine vessels with a total of 45 SSI. The most dominant SSI for category is marine mammals follow by reptiles and whale shark and birds. The most dominant SSI for species is False Killer Whale shark follow by long-beaked common dolphin and Whale Shark and so forth the others SSIs including flesh-footed shearwater, bride's whale, Olive Ridley Turtle and Minke Whale.

**Table 5. Observed species of special interest (seabirds, turtles and marine mammals on FSM purse seine vessels and longlines vessels in the WCPFC Convention Area, 2017.**

| No | Gear | Category | Species | Number | No. Alive | No. Dead |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Purse Seine | Whale Shark | Whale Shark | 7 | 7 | 0 |
| 2 | Purse Seine | Marine Mammals | False Killer Whale | 16 | 16 | 0 |
| 3 | Purse Seine | Marine Reptiles | Olive Ridley Turtle (New FAO) | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| 4 | Purse Seine | Marine Mammals | Bride's Whale | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| 5 | Purse Seine | Marine Mammals | Long-beaked Common Dolphin | 15 | 15 | 0 |
| 6 | Purse Seine | Marine Mammals | Minke Whale | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 7 | Longline | Marine Mammals | Bottlenose Dolphin | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| 8 | Longline | Birds | Flesh-footed Shearwater | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 9 | Longline | Marine Reptiles | Marine Turtle (unidentified) | 3 | 1 | 2 |

## COASTAL STATE REPORTING

In 2017, a total of 286 vessels were licensed to fish in FSM EEZ (Table 6). By gear, 53 longline, 25 pole-and-lines, and 208 purse seine. Japan was the only country employing the pole-and-line gear for the past years. Majority of the longline vessels were flagged to China with 27 longline vessels. The 34 purse seine fleets carrying PNA national flags and foreign flags were mostly FSM sponsorship vessels.

In Table 7, available logsheets based on provisional data with estimated total 136,617 mt of tuna by the foreign purse seine in the FSM EEZ decrease by 62362 mt in 2017 (Figure 2). FSMA fleet caught 32,449 mt of skipjack tuna followed by the USA fleet 24,102 mt and Japan 23,155 mt, skipjack tuna being the dominant catch by tuna species. The distant water purse seine fleets fishing effort was mostly south and east of the FSM EEZ.

The total longline catch in 2017 by available logsheets was 1,835 mt a decrease by 2,053 mt in 2016 (Figure 2). By flag, Japan totaled 1,284 mt followed by FSM with 551 mt shown in Table 8. The bigeye tuna was the dominant catch for the longline fleets with a total of 1,296 mt followed by yellowfin tuna and albacore with 511 mt and 28 mt, respectively. The annual distributions off fishing effort by the distant water longline fleets; Japan predominantly fished west and distant water fleets fished on the eastern part of the FSM EEZ. These catch total is for our FSM flag licensed vessels and our charter arrangement vessels that fish exclusively in the FSM EEZ.

Pole and line catch for 2017 is approximately 296mt of tuna (Figure 2). Current catch record in Table 9 is showing the break-down of the three target tuna species showing skipjack as the dominant catch; 285 mt skipjack, 1 mt bigeye and 9 mt yellowfin. The pole and line fishing effort was mainly focused north east within FSM' EEZ.

In table 6, Chinese purse seine and longline vessel have licenses issued from FSM, however, in Table 8 there are no catch records for 2017. This is the same for Chinese Taipei longline vessels but not for its purse seine catch. We have noticed various discrepancies on the catch records and have taken action to review this further prior to TCC14.

**Table 6. Annual number of flag vessels and gear type licensed to fish in the FSM EEZ, 2012-2017.**

| No | Flag | Gears | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | China | Purse Seine | 14 | 14 | 14 | 9 | 11 |
| | | Longline | 0 | 22 | 24 | 18 | 27 |
| 2 | Japan | Purse Seine | 29 | 29 | 31 | 30 | 21 |
| | | Longline | 33 | 42 | 34 | 10 | 17 |
| | | Pole-and-line | 23 | 20 | 21 | 12 | 25 |
| 3 | South Korea | Purse Seine | 27 | 29 | 26 | 26 | 26 |
| 4 | Chinese Taipei | Purse Seine | 32 | 32 | 33 | 26 | 27 |
| | | Longline | 10 | 10 | 8 | 0 | 9 |
| 5 | USA | Purse Seine | 40 | 37 | 37 | 34 | 34 |
| 6 | FSMA sponsorship (Excluding FM) | Purse Seine | 53 | 63 | 64 | 68 | 86 |
| 7 | New Zealand | Purse Seine | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | Kiribati | Purse Seine | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 1 |
| 9 | Philippine | Purse Seine | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 |

Source: NORMA

**Table 7: Annual catch records for purse seine within FSM EEZ, by flag and species 2012-2017.**

| | | Catch in Metric Tones | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **FLAG** | **YEAR** | **SKJ** | **YFT** | **BET** |
| China | 2013 | 10353 | 1415 | 79 |
| | 2014 | 3583 | 427 | 48 |
| | 2015 | 1823 | 663 | 53 |
| | 2016 | 2346 | 336 | 59 |
| | 2017 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | **YEAR** | **SKJ** | **YFT** | **BET** |
| Chinese Taipei | 2013 | 40806 | 3571 | 232 |
| | 2014 | 24180 | 3453 | 150 |
| | 2015 | 16617 | 9991 | 249 |
| | 2016 | 21001 | 4154 | 351 |
| | 2017 | 22635 | 2803 | 237 |
| | **YEAR** | **SKJ** | **YFT** | **BET** |
| Japan | 2013 | 49586 | 2571 | 511 |
| | 2014 | 50313 | 9013 | 890 |
| | 2015 | 44567 | 13302 | 1587 |
| | 2016 | 93904 | 15095 | 1746 |
| | 2017 | 23155 | 6788 | 539 |
| | **YEAR** | **SKJ** | **YFT** | **BET** |
| Korea | 2013 | 21390 | 1190 | 74 |
| | 2014 | 7135 | 813 | 75 |
| | 2015 | 10332 | 8208 | 400 |
| | 2016 | 21130 | 1475 | 424 |
| | 2017 | 12349 | 3520 | 174 |
| | **YEAR** | **SKJ** | **YFT** | **BET** |
| USA | 2013 | 27366 | 1620 | 292 |
| | 2014 | 5679 | 137 | 27 |
| | 2015 | 7081 | 4414 | 137 |
| | 2016 | 3420 | 158 | 43 |
| | 2017 | 24102 | 1755 | 281 |
| | **YEAR** | **SKJ** | **YFT** | **BET** |
| FSMA | 2013 | 38762 | 15014 | 972 |
| | 2014 | 10987 | 4990 | 2075 |
| | 2015 | 3299 | 9696 | 378 |
| | 2016 | 28801 | 3382 | 1154 |
| | 2017 | 32449 | 5093 | 737 |

Source: TUFMAN

**Table 8. Annual catch records by foreign longline within FSM EEZ, by flag and species 2012-2017.**

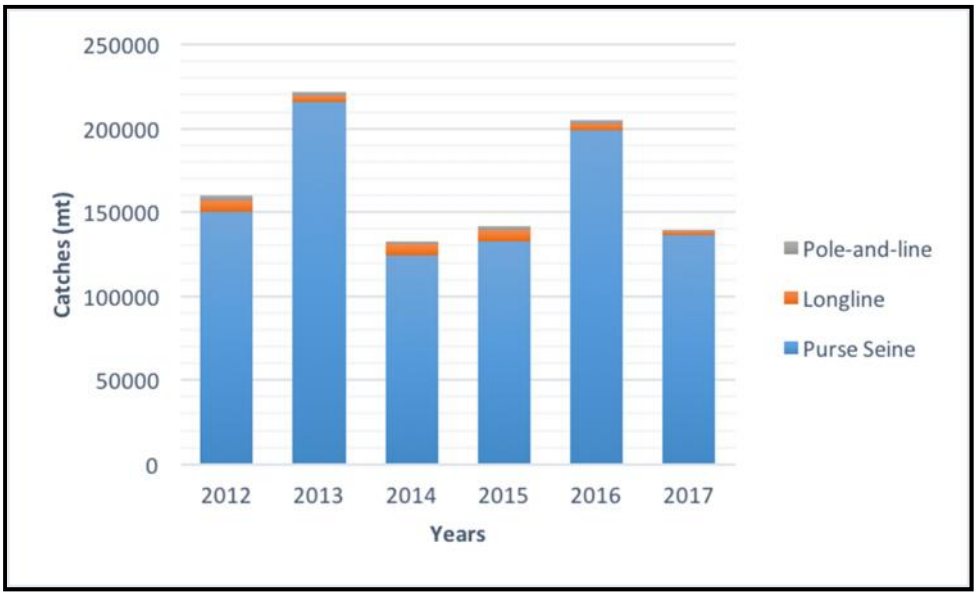
| | | Catch in Metric Tones | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **FLAG** | **YEAR** | **ALB** | **YFT** | **BET** |
| China | 2013 | 1 | 13 | 17 |
| | 2014 | 37 | 310 | 207 |
| | 2015 | 16 | 280 | 179 |
| | 2016 | 32 | 277 | 267 |
| | 2017 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | **Year** | **ALB** | **YFT** | **BET** |
| Chinese Taipei | 2013 | 6 | 859 | 337 |
| | 2014 | 10 | 346 | 129 |
| | 2015 | 4 | 165 | 117 |
| | 2016 | 19 | 160 | 134 |
| | 2017 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | **Year** | **ALB** | **BET** | **YFT** |
| Japan | 2013 | 118 | 1522 | 937 |
| | 2014 | 118 | 3451 | 1212 |
| | 2015 | 124 | 2102 | 1168 |
| | 2016 | 492 | 977 | 267 |
| | 2017 | 7 | 957 | 320 |
| | **Year** | **ALB** | **BET** | **YFT** |
| FSM | 2013 | 3 | 95 | 46 |
| | 2014 | 88 | 879 | 529 |
| | 2015 | 75 | 1547 | 917 |
| | 2016 | 79 | 619 | 565 |
| | 2017 | 21 | 339 | 191 |

Source: TUFMAN

**Table 9. Annual catch records by Japan pole-and-line within FSM EEZ, 2012-2017.**

| | | Catch (Metric tonnes) | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | **SKJ** | **BET** | **YFT** |
| JAPAN | 2013 | 2334 | 2 | 1 |
| | 2014 | 1270 | 1 | 4 |
| | 2015 | 2597 | 2 | 2 |
| | 2016 | 2236 | 17 | 30 |
| | 2017 | 285 | 1 | 9 |

Source: Dorado_T2_Regional Reporting_11c




Source: Dorado

**Figure 2: Total annual catch from 2012-2017 by different gear types operating in FSM EEZ.**

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS AND ON-SHORE DEVELOPMENT

Pohnpei port has been the main port of operations for FSM since 2010. The Kosrae port was in a trial phase of on shore development late 2016 for longline. In 2017, the number of purse seine and longlines unloaded frozen tuna to freezer containers for Kosrae and Yap port went into full operations. The Yap port received its first purse seine transshipment since the 1990s. FSM purse seiner Nippon FSM a joint venture vessel with the National Fisheries Coorporation (NFC) visited Yap port in September 2017 for a trial transshipment as a means to help beef up on shore development in the ports of FSM. NFC has plans to for developing a shore-side processing plant in Pohnpei as part of its investment plans for the FSM tuna fisheries sector.

## DISPOSAL OF CATCH

The FSM's National Fisheries Observer Program (NFOP) and port samplers have been monitoring bycatch landings in Pohnpei port especially on the frozen longline vessels. However, our port sampling and monitoring of vessel activities is mainly on target tuna; skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye. The national government continues to develop plans to monitor bycatch disposal and to regulate disposal of catch from purse seine during transshipment operations in FSM ports.

NORMA is exploring technical support from SPC and partner agencies on bycatch monitoring standards for food safety and other options for full utilization of bycatch. There are also plans to start a catch documentation scheme (CDS) monitoring program in line with bycatch data collection.

## FUTURE PROSPECT OF FISHERY

The FSM Tuna Management Plan (TMP), FSM longline Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), FSM Electronic Monitoring and Reporting project, FSM Byctach study, expansion of FSM observer program to FSM ports, Re-opeing of FSM ports, FSM Catch Documentation Scheme are some of the new fisheries projects of NORMA in how we manage, sustain and develop the tuna resources in the FSM EEZ for the future.

## RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

The FSM's National Fisheries Observer Program (NFOP) has been operating since 1979. Since then, the program expanded to meet the needs of the fleets. The NFOP had a total of 12 personnel by 1995. Since the PNA Third Implementing Arrangement (PNA 3IA) was introduced for 100% purse seine observer coverage the total number of FSM observers increased to over 90 personnel by 2013. A fisheries observer cost recovery scheme is currently in process for implementation in early 2017. Over 50 plus observers remained on contracts in 2016 due to change of careers and also not abiding to the observer code of conduct which resulted in termination of their contracts. Observer coverage did not meet the ROP minimum 5% longline coverage requirement and achieved 0% by number of trips in 2017.

The current pool of over 50 plus observers achieved 160 successful placements in 2017 accounted for 3 pole-and-line by Japan, 157 trips for purse seiners and no carrier (Table 10). Previous year Japan and China has higher placements, 44 and 40, respectively however in 2017, Japan completed 24 observer trips and China has a total of 19, less than half of 2016. The highest numbers of observer placements derived from the FSMA vessels through the Parties of Nauru Agreement Observer Program (PNAOP) with a total of 75 observer placements. . In 2017, 10 additional observers were recruited. Moreover, all observers from Yap Port have been trained and certified for PNA Marine Stewardship Council (MSC). National trainings were focused on current active observers that consist of the following;

- Biological sampling certification
- Electronic reporting and monitoring trials with PNA, FFA and SPC
- Observer refreshers training
- Observers sea safety training
- Observer full cost recovery trial

**Table 10. Observer Trip Coverage per Flag and Gear-type, 2017.**

| Gear type | Flag | Trips | % Coverage |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Longline** | FSM | 0 | 0% |
| **Purse Seine** | China | 8 | 5% |
| | FSM | 5 | 3% |
| | FSMA+ | 75 | 47% |
| | Japan | 24 | 15% |
| | Korea | 1 | 1% |
| | Chinese Taipei | 11 | 7% |
| | USA | 33 | 21% |
| **Pole and Line** | Japan | 3 | 2% |
| **Carrier/Reefer** | | 0 | 0% |
| **Total** | | 160 | |

Source: NORMA

## Appendix 1- CMM Reporting

Summary Table

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **CMM 2005-03 [North Pacific Albacore], Para 4** | 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. *<br>[* 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.]<br><br>** Note: WCPFC10 clarified that this reporting responsibility lies with the flag State* | - Measure does not apply to FSM as its national fleet of longline vessels do not target **North Pacific Albacore**: A total of **21** vessels caught a total of **41.295 mt** in 2017 as b*y-catch.*<br>- **2.395 mt January-June**<br>- **38.9 mt July-December**<br>- Source: *Dorado TUFMAN report: Regional Reporting 20: CMM 05-03 - North Pacific Albacore catches by National Fleet* |
| **CMM 2006-04 [South West striped Marlin], Para 4** | 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. | - Measure does not apply to FSM as its national fleet does not target **South West striped Marlin**. However, a total of **7** vessels were fishing in the area south of 15°S with catch of **1 mt** catch.<br>- Source: *Dorado TUFMAN report: Regional Reporting 21: CMM 06-04 – South-west Striped Marlin catches by National Fleet* |
| **CMM 2009-03 [Swordfish], Para 8** | CCMs shall report to the Commission the total number of vessels that fished for swordfish and the total catch of swordfish for the following:<br>**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;<br>**b.** vessels operating under charter, lease or other similar mechanism as part of their domestic fishery south of 20°S; and | - A total of **4 vessels** were fishing in the Convention area south of 20°S catching a total of **1.4 mt**, as *by-catch* in 2017.<br>- Source: *Dorado TUFMAN report: Regional Reporting 22: CMM 09-03 – South Pacific Swordfish catch by National Fleet* |

| | | |
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| | c. any other vessels fishing within their waters south of 20°S.<br>This information shall be provided in Part 1of 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.<br><br>**Note: WCPFC11 confirmed a common understanding that "total catch" in this reporting requirement refers to both targeted and bycatch catches of swordfish.* | J *FSM will need to define if this was the national fleet or chartered vessels. |
| **CMM 2009-06 [Transshipment], Para 11 (ANNEX II)** | CCMs shall report on all transhipment activities covered by this Measure (including transhipment 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 transhipment using all available information such as catch and effort data, position data, observer reports and port monitoring data.<br><br>ANNEX II<br>TRANSHIPMENT INFORMATION TO BE REPORTED ANNUALLY BY CCMs<br><br>Each CCM shall include in Part 1 of its Annual Report to the Commission:<br><br>(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:<br>a. offloaded and received;<br>b. transhipped in port, transhipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction;<br>c. transhipped inside the Convention Area and transshipped outside the Convention Area;<br>d. caught inside the Convention Area and caught outside the Convention Area;<br>e. species;<br>f. product form; and<br>g. fishing gear used<br><br>(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:<br>a. offloaded and received;<br>b. transhipped in port, transhipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction;<br>c. transhipped inside the Convention Area and transhipped outside the Convention Area;<br>d. caught inside the Convention Area and caught outside the Convention Area; and<br>e. fishing gear. | J FSM PS and LL **TRANSHIPMENTS/UNLOADINGS** *Refer to* **ANNEX II: CMM 2009-06 [Transshipment], Para 11 (ANNEX 2)** *Source: NORMA & TUFMAN 2* |

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| **CMM 2010-07 [Sharks], Para 4** | 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. CCMs shall also report annual retained and discarded catches in Part 2 of their annual report. CCMs shall as appropriate, support research and development of strategies for the avoidance of unwanted shark captures (e.g. chemical, magnetic and rare earth metal shark deterrents).<br>*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).<br>**Note*; Whale Sharks (*Rhincodon typus*) was included as a key shark species by WCPFC9 (2012) | ) Please refer to Table 1 and Table 2 above for FSM National fleet.<br>) *Refer to Annual Catch Estimates, Longliners and Purseseiners for each key shark species retained and discarded*<br>) Please refer to Annex 3 for the Whale shark. |
| **CMM 2011-03 [Impact of PS fishing on cetaceans], Para 5** | 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)**. | ) *Source: Dorado TUBS report: REGIONAL REPORTING 9: CMM 11-03 – CETACEAN interactions in PURSE seine fishery for NATIONAL FLEET;*<br>) Please see **ANNEX III** |
| **CMM 2011-04 [Oceanic whitetip sharks], Para 3** | 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. | ) In 2017, a total of **5 Oceanic Whitetips sharks were caught on purse seine**. They were discarded (**3 DPA-alive and 2-DPD-dead**). **There were 2 Oceanic Whitetips sharks caught on longline (1-DPD-Dead and 1-DCF-Cut Free)** |
| **CMM 2012-04 [Whale sharks], Para 06** | 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). | ) Please see Annex 3 |
| **CMM 2013-08 [Silky sharks], Para 3** | CCMs shall estimate, through data collected from observer programs and other means, the number of releases of silky shark caught in the Convention Area, including the status upon release (dead or alive), and report this information to the WCPFC in Part 1 of their Annual Reports. | ) In 2017, a total of **203 Silky sharks** were observed on the FSM National longline and purse seine fleet. Specifically, a total of **63** sharks were recorded on the longline fleet: **15 DCF**, **34 DPA,** and **14 DPD**. On the pureseiners, a total of **140** sharks were recorded caught and released: **41 DPA, 93 DPD, 2 DPU, 3 DUS** and **1 RWW**. Please Table 1 and Table 2 above.<br>) Source: *Dorado TUBS report: REGIONAL REPORTING 13: CMM 13-08 – Silky Shark* |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | | *species catches by NATIONAL FLEET* |
| **Observer coverage (WCPFC 11 decision – para 484(b)** | CCMs are to compile and include in Annual Report Part 1 to be submitted from 2015 onwards, observer coverage for their longline fleet activity in the previous calendar year, noting that revisions can be provided at the annual TCC meeting.<br><br>A sample report format is provided as guidance to assist CCMs with reporting<br>(WCPFC11 Summary Report Attachment L Table 4)<br>  | ) In 2017, FSM's National longline fleet had **0%** of the 5 PERCENT ROP-observer coverage requirement.<br>) Source: DORADO |
| **CMM 2015-02 [South Pacific Albacore] Para 4** | CCMs shall report annually to the Commission the annual catch levels taken by each of their fishing vessels that has taken South Pacific albacore, as well as the number of vessels actively fishing for South Pacific albacore, in the Convention area south of 20°S. Catch by vessel shall be reported according to the following species groups: albacore tuna, bigeye tuna, yellowfin tuna, swordfish, other billfish, and sharks. Initially this information will be provided for the period 2006-2014 and then updated annually. CCMs are encouraged to provide data from periods prior to these dates. | ) FSM provides operation level catch and effort data to SPC on a regular basis, that is authorized to release this data to WCPFC. As such, this meets the data provision requirements. |
| **CMM 2017-06 [Seabirds] Para 9** | CCMs shall annually provide to the Commission, in Part 1 of their annual reports, all<br>available information on interactions with seabirds reported or collected by observers to enable the estimation of seabird mortality in all fisheries to which the Convention applies. (see Annex 2 for Part 1 reporting template guideline). These reports shall include information on:<br>1. the proportion of observed effort with specific mitigation measures used; and<br>2. observed and reported species specific seabird bycatch rates and numbers or statistically rigorous estimates of species- specific seabird interaction rates (for longline, interactions per 1,000 hooks) and total numbers. | ) Observer data<br>) Check back for updates on data<br>) Refer to **ANNEX 3: CMM 2017-06 [Seabirds] Para 9** |

| CCM Fleet | Fishery | No. of Hooks | | | Days Fished | | | Days at Sea | | | No. of Trips | | | See NOTEs |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Total estimated | Observer | % | Total estimated | Observer | % | Total estimated | Observer | % | Total estimated | Observer | % | |
| REPUBLIC OF KOREA | Distant-water | | | | | | | 23,632 | 1,575 | 6.6 % | | | | |

## Annex 2 : Transshipment

| Annex 2(1) | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Species** | **Quantity off loaded (mt)** | **Transshipped in port** | **Transshipped in WCP-CA** | **Caught in WCP-CA** | **Product form** | **Gear** |
| **ALB<br>YFT<br>BET<br>SKJ** | **113.11<br>894.353<br>1641.521<br>7.926** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **LL** |
| **ALB<br>YFT<br>BET<br>SKJ** | **2.003<br>33.14<br>36.421<br>0** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Fresh** | **LL** |
| **YFT<br>BET<br>SKJ** | **13,208<br>1,932<br>55,542** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |

| Annex 2 (2) | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Port** | **No. of transshipment** | **Transshipped in Port** | **Transshipped in WCP-CA** | **Caught in WCP-CA** | **Product Form** | **Gear** |
| **Pohnpei** | **59** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **LL** |
| **Majuro** | **30** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Fresh** | **LL** |
| **Kosrae** | **46** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **LL** |
| **Yap** | **20** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **LL** |
| **Pohnpei** | **59** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **Yap** | **1** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **Majuro** | **13** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **Kosrae** | **0** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **Honiara** | **5** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **Funafuti** | **0** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **Pago Pago** | **0** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **Christmas Is** | **0** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **General Santos** | **5** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **Makurazaki** | **4** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **Yamagawa** | **3** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |
| **Yaizu** | **2** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Yes** | **Frozen** | **PS** |

Source: NORMA & TUFMAN 2
*some data still forthcoming

## Annex 3 : Whale Shark CMM 2013-08 par. 3 and Cetaceans CMM 2011-03 par. 05

The FSM-flagged vessels reported the following interactions of Whale shark in 2016. Please note that a new, specific DCC logsheet for vessels to report according to CMM 2012-04 requirements was only made available earlier this year and we have been in the process of distributing these to our companies/vessels and ensuring there is an obligation to report using these forms in the future.

We are therefore seeking consideration of this transition in vessel reporting and that reporting will improve in the future.

| Gear | Date | Latitude | Longitude | EEZ | Species | Number | Status of release | Reason for encircleme nt | Step taken to ensure safe release |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PS | 23/02/2017 | 0028.496N | 14658.582E | PG | Whale (unidentified) | 1 | Released | Accidental | Unknown |
| PS | 23/01/2017 | 0716.126S | 15331.815E | PG | Minke Whale | 1 | Released | Accidental | Unknown |
| PS | 18/01/2017 | 0233S | 1564E | PG | Dolphin-Rough-Toothed | 1 | Released | Accidental | Unknown |
| PS | 21/11/2017 | 0048.460N | 14822.175E | PG | Spinner Dolphin | 1 | Released | Accidental | Unknown |

Source : TUFMAN

## ANNEX 4: CMM 2012-07 / CMM 2015-03: Seabirds

Annex 4. 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 CMM 2012-07 / CMM 2015-03 [South of 30ºS; North of 23ºN; or 23ºN - 30ºS[1]]. 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 [2] |
| 2013 | 1 | 3000 | - | - | 1 | - |
| 2014 | 1 | 3000 | - | - | 2 | - |
| 2015 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2016 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2017 | 1 | 3000 | 2700 | 90 | 1 | 1 |

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

Table 11: Number of observed seabird captures in CMM 2012-07 / CMM 2015-03 longline fisheries, 2017, by species and area**.**

| **Species** | **South of 30ºS** | **North of 23ºN** | **23ºN - 30ºS** | **Total** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Flesh-Footed Shearwater | | | 1 | 1 |
| **Total** | | | **1** | **1** |