



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE  
FIFTEENTH REGULAR SESSION**

Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia  
12-20 August 2019

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

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**WCPFC-SC15-AR/CCM-18**

**PALAU**

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**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION**  
**PART I: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS**  
**REPUBLIC OF PALAU- 2018**

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**Republic of Palau**

**Division of Oceanic Fishery Management**  
**Bureau of Marine Resources**  
**Ministry of Natural Resources, Environment and Tourism**  
**Oiterong, Zilah D. || Sisior, Kathy**

**Rev.1**  
**August 1, 2019**

<p>Scientific data was provided to the Commission in accordance with the decision relating to the provision of scientific data to the Commission by <b><u>30 April 2019</u></b></p>	<p><b><u>YES</u></b></p>
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## **I. ABSTRACT**

Tuna fishing in the Palau Exclusive Economic Zone is dominated by the locally based foreign longline fleet of Chinese Taipei and the offshore based longline and purse seine fleet of Japan and Philippines. In 2018, Palau licensed a total of 121 fishing vessels comprising of 74 longliners and 47 purse seiners. The licensed longlines include 1 Palau Flagged Vessel, 38 Palau Chartered Taiwan Flagged Vessels, and 35 Japanese Flagged Vessels. The licensed purse seines include 3 Taiwan Flagged Vessels, 27 Japanese Flagged Vessels, and 17 Philippine Flagged Vessels.

Total catches caught and reported for 2018, from both longline and purse seine vessels, approximated about 4,346.83 metric tons (MT) of fish with 14MT of Albacore, 1500.77MT of Bigeye, 13MT of Skipjack, 2694.61MT of Yellowfin, and all other catches totaling to 124.45MT. Since Palau's Fishery Port is incapable of accommodating purse seine operations, catch landings are only done by longline vessels. Of the 1,920.84 MT of catches that are landed in port, a total of 1430.99 MT was exported and Japan was the primary export destination. The rest were sold or donated locally.

In developing countries, like Palau, sustainable developments would mean the commitment of resources toward continued improvement in living standard. In October 2015 Palau National Marine Sanctuary Act (PNMSA) was passed by the Republic's Congress to preserve eighty percent (80%) of Palau's Exclusive Economic Zone as Palau National Marine Sanctuary. The PNMS Transition Regulations were adopted and promulgated to govern fishing during a wind-down period until 2020 when Palau National Marine Sanctuary will be fully functioning. The progress toward sustainable developments is demanding and will not be achieved without political will and improved policies.

## **II. BACKGROUND**

The Division of Oceanic Fishery Management Office is mandated to carry out the purposes of Title 27 of Palau National Code to adopt fisheries regulations, negotiate and conclude foreign fishing agreements, issue foreign fishing permits, and perform other duties and functions for the management, exploitation and conservation of all living resources in the extended and exclusive fishery zone of the Republic of Palau. The Title 27 of the Palau National Code is the primary fisheries legislation regulating the harvest of highly migratory fish stocks and fishing vessels that fish in the waters of the Republic of Palau.

In addition to Fisheries Bilateral Agreement between Palau and Japan Fishing Association, Locally Based Foreign Chinese Taipei Fishing Companies, Offshore Based Philippine Companies, Palau also have agreements with FSM Arrangement and the US Multilateral Fisheries Treaty. Although vessels operating under US Multilateral Fisheries Treaty and FSMA rarely fish in Palau's EEZ for its distance from transshipment ports and processing plants, records show in Table 7 that in the last two years, FSMA vessels have attained some significant fishing in the area.

### III. FLAG STATE REPORT

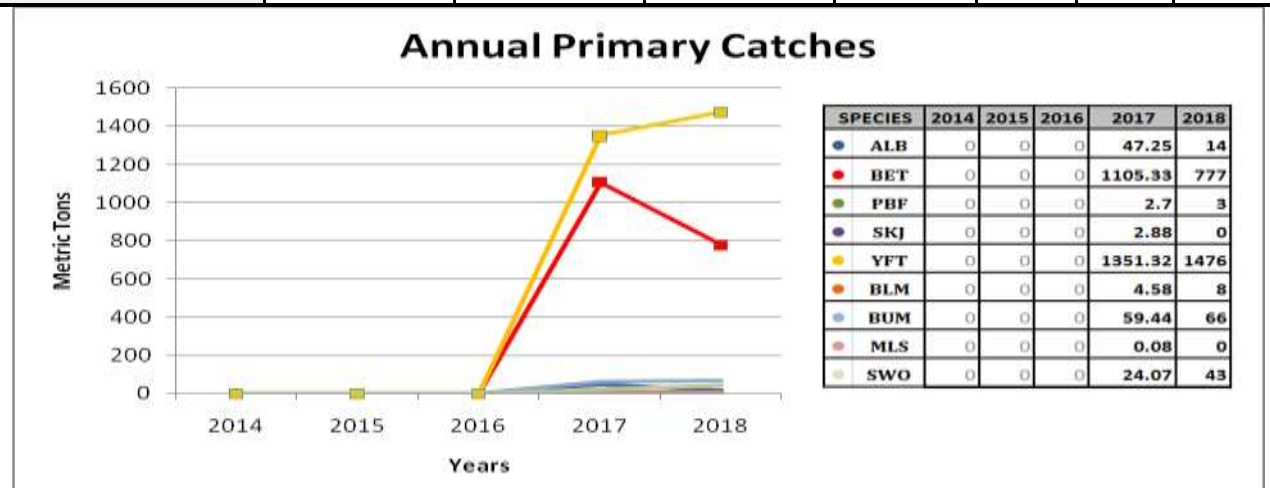
The recorded catch estimates for both national and chartered fleets in 2018 totaled 2387 metric tons. Yellowfin was the main species caught with 1476 metric tons accounting to 61% of the total catches as bigeye follows with 777 metric tons or 32% of the total catches. Table 1 presents the annual catch and effort for both the national and chartered fleets with figure 1 and figure 3 illustrating their catch distribution. There were no national and chartered fishing vessels for years 2014 to 2016 so there are no data provided for those years.

In 2018, Palau licensed one (1) longline vessel as its national flagged vessel. This longline vessel is restricted to fish domestically and does not fish in any other areas for which catch estimates are required by the WCPFC. There were no Purse Seine vessels licensed as national vessel or chartered in 2018. Palau chartered all thirty-eight (38) Palau licensed longline Chinese-Taipei flagged vessels in 2018. Table 2 and Figure 2 present the number of these licensed vessels by gear and size category.

There were no observer placements for 2018 but the electronic monitoring trial was carried out on some of the vessels. Because there was no observer placement, the data provided for observed species of special interests, including seabirds, turtles, and marine mammals are generated from electronic monitoring trips entered in Dorado TUBS Report and displayed as Table 3 in this report.

**Table 1. Annual catch (MT) and Effort (Hooks) in the WCPFC Convention Area by species for the Republic of Palau Longline fishery.**

Longline National Fleet Catch(MT) and Effort(Hooks)							
Year	2014	2015	2016	2017		2018	
Effort (Hooks)	0	0	0	72,152		69,066	
SPECIES	Ret./Disc.	Ret./Disc.	Ret./Disc.	Ret.	Disc.	Ret.	Disc.
ALB	0	0	0	47.25	0	14	0
BET	0	0	0	1105.33	0	777	0
PBF	0	0	0	2.7	0	3	0
SKJ	0	0	0	2.88	0	0	0
YFT	0	0	0	1351.32	0	1463	13
BLM	0	0	0	4.58	0	8	0
BUM	0	0	0	59.44	0	60	6
MLS	0	0	0	0.08	0	0	0
SWO	0	0	0	24.07	0	43	0
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	0	0	0	<b>2597.65</b>	0	<b>2368</b>	<b>19</b>

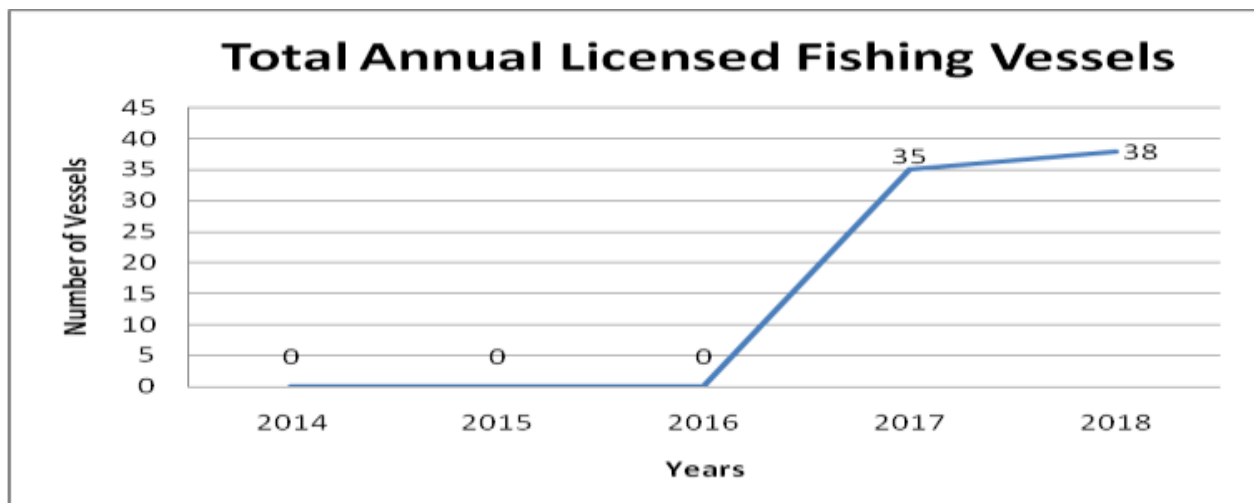


**Figure 1. Historical Annual Primary Catch for the National and Chartered fleet in the WCPFC Convention**

Area presented as a line graph.

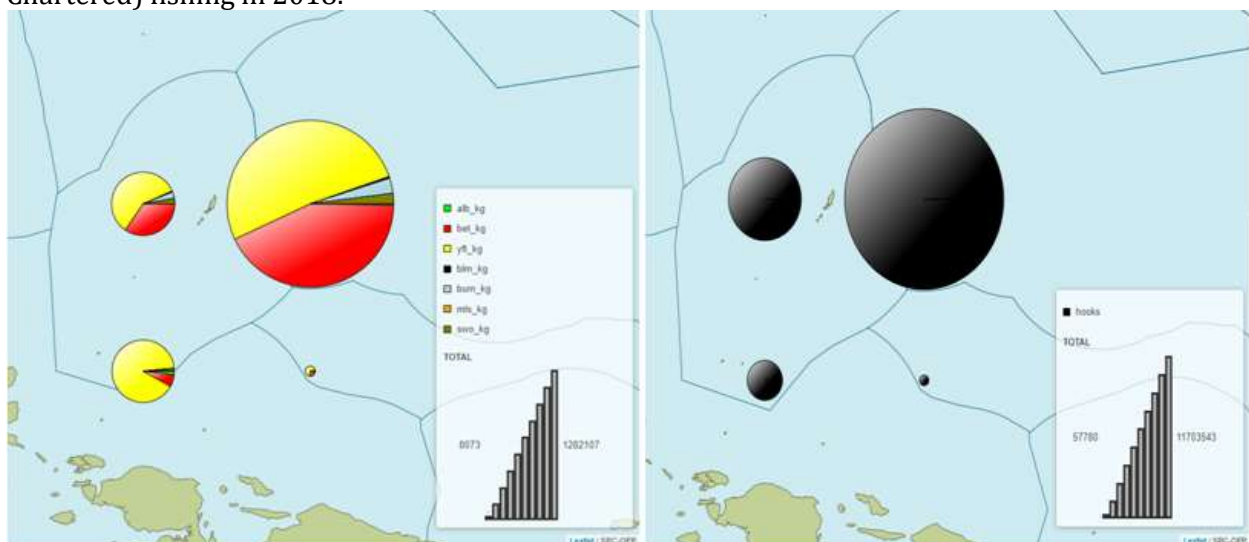
**Table 2. Number of Licensed Fishing Vessel (National and Chartered) by Gear and Size Category**

GEAR	LONGLINE (National)						LONGLINE (Chartered)						
	YEAR   GRT	0-25	26-50	51-75	76-100	100+	Total Vessels	0-25	26-50	51-75	76-100	100+	Total Vessels
	2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2017	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	25	8	2	0	35
	2018	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	26	10	2	0	38



**Figure 2. Chart of Palau Licensed National and Chartered Longline Fishing Vessels Operating in the WCPFC Convention Area**

The following figure illustrate catch and effort (hooks) distribution for Palau licensed (National and Chartered) fishing in 2018.



**Figure 3. Distribution of catches and effort (hooks) by national fleet active in the WCPFC Convention Area in 2018.**

There was no observer placement in 2018 but through Palau Electronic Monitoring Trial, a total of 6 trips were analyzed and entered into Dorado TUBS Report. The data provided in Table 3 displays the Species of Special Interests that were observed via electronic monitoring of the vessels. These data were extracted from the Dorado TUBS Reports in the Database.

**Table 3. Observed Annual Estimated catches of Species of Special Interests in the WCPFC Convention Area.**

GEAR	LONGLINE											
	SEABIRD				TURTLE				MARINE MAMMAL			
	Species	No. Alive	No. Dead	Total	Species	No. Alive	No. Dead	Total	Species	No. Alive	No. Dead	Total
2018	0	0	0	0	Olive Ridley	0	1	1	Dolphins / Porpoises (Unidentified)	1	0	1
	0	0	0	0	Marine Turtle (Unidentified)	13	14	27				
2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2015	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Other than the primary species catches presented in Table 1, there was some non-target, associated and dependent species that were caught. Table 4 below presents these catches by species each year caught by national fleet.

**Table 4. Annual Estimated Catches of Non-Target, Associated, and Dependent Species in the WCPFC Convention Area.**

Species Name	Total Annual Longline Catches (MT)					Total Catch
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	
BARRACUDA (S. JELLO)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	<b>0.01</b>
BARRACUDAS (UNIDENTIFIED)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.02	<b>0.05</b>
BLACKFIN BARRACUDA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	<b>0.03</b>
COMMON DOLPHINFISH	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.82	1.51	<b>4.33</b>
ESCOLAR	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.20	2.04	<b>2.24</b>
GREAT BARRACUDA	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03	<b>0.05</b>
OILFISH	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.48	4.88	<b>9.36</b>
OPAH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.53	0.50	<b>1.03</b>
OTHER FISH	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.29	<b>0.29</b>
SAILFISH (INDO-PACIFIC)	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.18	19.02	<b>32.20</b>
SICKLE POMFRET	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	<b>0.05</b>
WAHOO	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.03	1.76	<b>2.80</b>
<b>Annual Grand Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>22.30</b>	<b>30.14</b>	<b>52.43</b>

#### IV. COASTAL STATE REPORT

##### (a) Licensing

In 2018, Palau licensed thirty-five (35) longlines and forty-seven (47) purse seines, a total of eighty-two (82) foreign flagged fishing vessels. The vessels include 35 longlines 27 purse seines from Japan, 3 purse seines from Chinese Taipei, and 17 purse seine vessels from Philippines. Table 5 shows the break-down of licensed vessels from 2014 to 2018 that operated in Palau's EEZ by flag, by gear and by size category. Figure 4 shows the annual trend of these licensed vessels by gear. Available data and figures indicate an increase of longlines, especially purse seiners due to the entry of Philippine vessels into Palau Fisheries.

**Table 5. Number of foreign fishing vessels, by year, by flag, by gear and size category, active in the WCPFC Convention Area.**

YEAR	FLAG	GEAR	Size Category (GRT)				Total Vessels
			0-500	501-1000	1001-1500	1501+	
2018	JP	LL	35	0	0	0	35
	JP	PS	0	0	23	4	27
	PH	PS	0	4	12	1	17
	TW	PS	0	0	3	0	3
<b>2018 Total Vessels</b>			<b>35</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>82</b>
2017	JP	LL	21	0	0	0	21
	JP	PS	0	0	25	4	29
	TW	LL	2	0	0	0	2
	TW	PS	0	0	3	0	3
<b>2017 Total Vessels</b>			<b>23</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>55</b>
2016	CN	LL	3	0	0	0	3
	JP	LL	19	0	0	0	19
	JP	PS	0	0	26	4	30
	TW	LL	33	0	0	0	33
	VU	LL	3	0	0	0	3
<b>2016 Total Vessels</b>			<b>58</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>88</b>
2015	JP	LL	19	0	0	0	19
	JP	PS	0	0	24	6	30
	TW	LL	30	0	0	0	30
	VU	LL	2	0	0	0	2
<b>2015 Total Vessels</b>			<b>51</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>81</b>
2014	BZ	LL	1	0	0	0	1
	JP	LL	28	0	0	0	28
	JP	PS	0	0	17	4	21
	TW	LL	41	0	0	0	41
	VU	LL	1	0	0	0	1
<b>2014 Total Vessels</b>			<b>71</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>92</b>

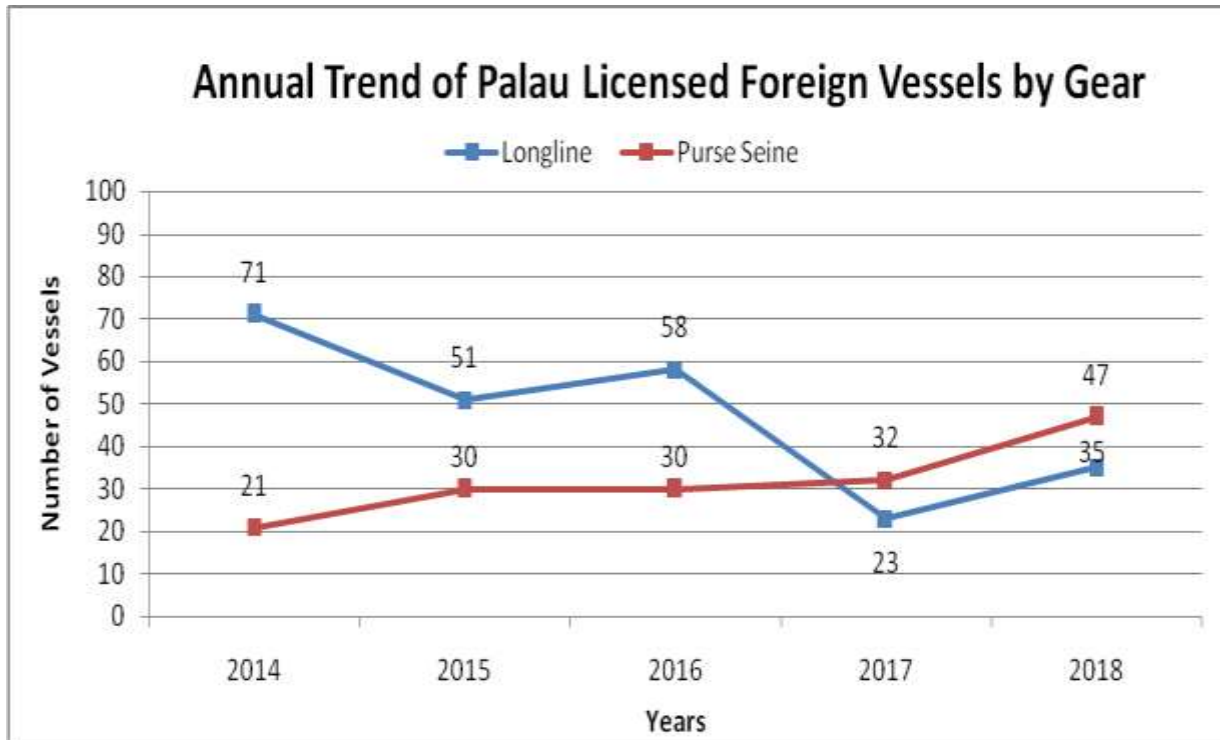


Figure 4: Annual trend of Palau Licensed Vessels by Gear

**(b) Longline Catch Report**

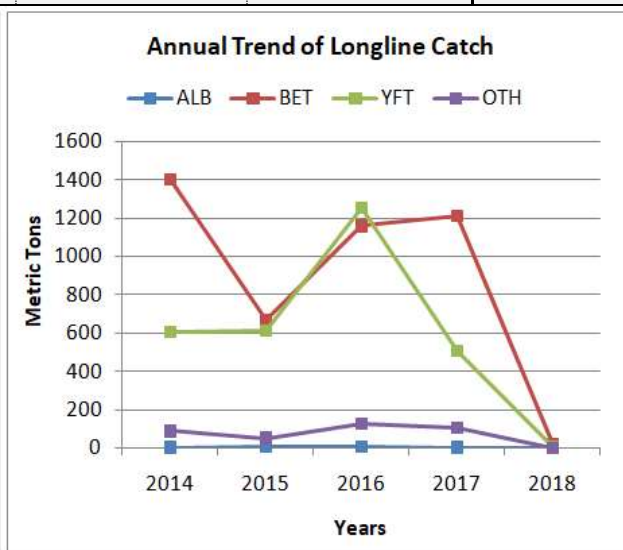
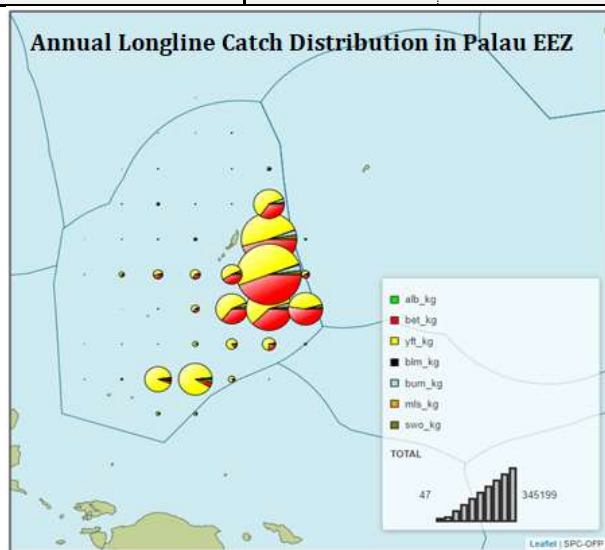
The Palau-licensed foreign longline vessels provisional catch for 2018 totaled 25.99 metric tons. Bigeye was the prominent species that accounted more than 70% of all the catch that were caught. The 2018 data shows significant decrease because there was not much fishing undertaken in Palau EEZ.

Table 6 displays a five-year (2014-2018) annual longline catches in Palau’s exclusive economic zone by flag and by species with Figure 6 displaying annual catch distribution and trend over the years. All foreign flagged vessel logsheets are required by SPC to be entered by their personnel only and are not entered in-country.



**Table 6. Longline Catches (MT) by year, by flag, and by species in Palau EEZ.**

YEAR	FLAG	ALB	BET	YFT	OTH	Total Catches
2018	JP	0	19.05	5.88	1.06	25.99
<b>2018 Total</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>19.05</b>	<b>5.88</b>	<b>1.06</b>	<b>25.99</b>
2017	JP	2.47	1189.33	472.99	104.47	1769.26
	TW	0	21.81	31.91	1.15	54.87
<b>2017 Total</b>		<b>2.47</b>	<b>1211.14</b>	<b>504.9</b>	<b>105.62</b>	<b>1824.13</b>
2016	CN	0	24.99	14.73	1.23	40.95
	JP	5.5	321.55	258.02	39.86	624.93
	TW	0.16	793.16	968.97	79.09	1841.38
	VU	0	19.39	8.61	3.13	31.13
<b>2016 Total</b>		<b>5.66</b>	<b>1159.09</b>	<b>1250.33</b>	<b>123.31</b>	<b>2538.39</b>
2015	JP	9.61	196.64	77.44	30.15	313.84
	TW	0.01	451.7	524.6	18.89	995.2
	VU	0.04	20.31	10.59	2.03	32.97
<b>2015 Total</b>		<b>9.66</b>	<b>668.65</b>	<b>612.63</b>	<b>51.07</b>	<b>1342.01</b>
2014	JP	1.06	495.51	152.65	72.01	721.23
	TW	1.00	894.24	447.4	12.97	1355.61
	VU	0	12.00	3.92	1.53	17.45
<b>2014 Total Vessels</b>		<b>2.06</b>	<b>1401.75</b>	<b>603.97</b>	<b>86.51</b>	<b>2094.29</b>



*Figure 5. Annual catch distribution and trend of Catch caught in Palau's EEZ.*

**(c) Purse Seine Catch Report**

Catches caught and reported by Purse Seine Vessels fishing in Palau waters for years 2014 to 2018 totaled 8366 metric tons. For 2018, the provisional total catch was 13 metric tons. This significant decrease in catch data is also because most of Purse Seine vessels did not fish in Palau EEZ. Table 7 displays purse seine annual catches for years 2014 to 2018 with Figure 6 showing catch distribution and trend through the years.

**Table 7. Purse Seine Catches (MT) by flag, by year, and by species in the Palau EEZ.**

<b>FLAG</b>	<b>YEAR</b>	<b>BIGEYE</b>	<b>SKIPJACK</b>	<b>YELLOWFIN</b>	<b>OTHER</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>FSM</b>	<b>2018</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2017</b>	0	41	25	0	<b>66</b>
	<b>2016</b>	0	5	0	0	<b>5</b>
	<b>2015</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2014</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Japan</b>	<b>2018</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2017</b>	6	1428	541	1	<b>1976</b>
	<b>2016</b>	2	147	6	0	<b>155</b>
	<b>2015</b>	0	168	1	0	<b>169</b>
	<b>2014</b>	0	453	0	0	<b>453</b>
<b>Kiribati</b>	<b>2018</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2017</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2016</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2015</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2014</b>	0	70	276	0	<b>346</b>
<b>PNG</b>	<b>2018</b>	0	13	0	0	<b>13</b>
	<b>2017</b>	0	1701	1082	3	<b>2786</b>
	<b>2016</b>	0	1596	698	3	<b>2297</b>
	<b>2015</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2014</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Chinese Taipei</b>	<b>2018</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2017</b>	0	100	0	0	<b>100</b>
	<b>2016</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2015</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2014</b>	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
	<b>2018</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>
	<b>2017</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3270</b>	<b>1648</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4928</b>
	<b>2016</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1748</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2457</b>
	<b>2015</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>169</b>
	<b>2014</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>799</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5722</b>	<b>2629</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8366</b>

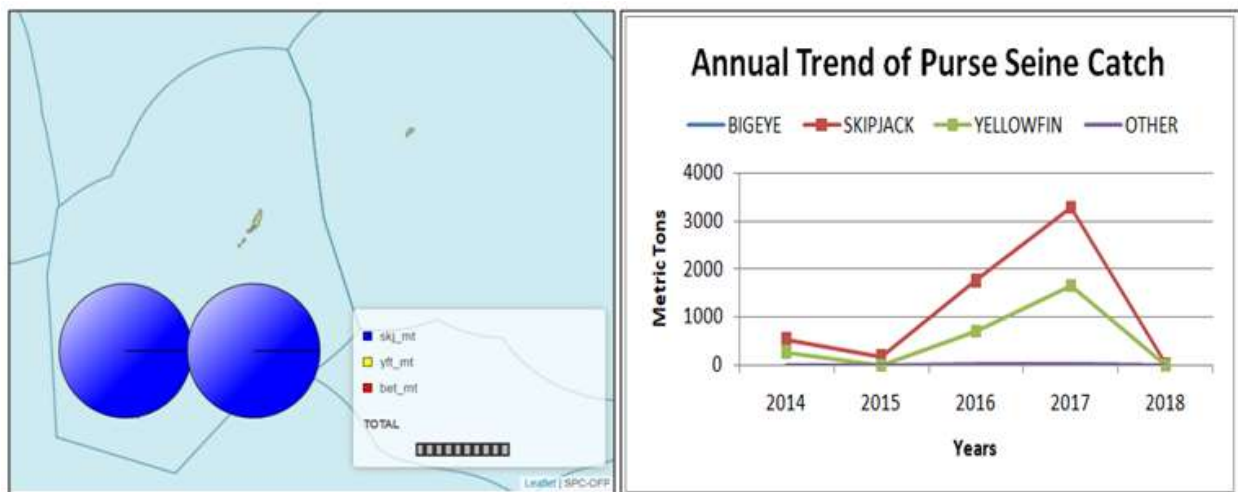


Figure 6. Purse Seine: Annual Catch Distribution and Trend of Catches in Palau EEZ.

## V. SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS

As fishing companies and managers look forward, bearing in mind a new reality of limited landings and fewer participants, they must address important social questions about how to achieve viable fisheries. Palau’s locally based fishing industries are very committed in ensuring their viability and vibrancy but the unpredictable price signals and shifting number of fishing vessels pose significant challenges. Other changes like establishment of Palau National Marine Sanctuary (PNMS) and the decline in export commodity prices have also indirectly affected Palau’s fishery. These challenges pose a great impact on Palau's economy which is highly dependent on tuna as its only export commodity. Realistic resource pricing and recognition of the value of fishery commodities along with conservation policies are some of the good practices that would help promote and stabilize Palau’s economy.

## VI. DISPOSAL OF CATCH

From the total recorded catch caught in Palau EEZ in 2018, a provisional total of 1920.84 metric tons of fish were landed in Malakal Port. The landings are done only by longline vessels because Palau’s Fishery Port is incapable of accommodating unloading operations of purse seine vessels. Of the landed catch, a total of 1430.99 metric tons were exported and Japan was the primary export destination. The rest were donated/sold locally, based on the average rate of weight per kilo at \$3.80<sup>1</sup>. Table 8 presents the breakdown of the catches by species and market.

Table 8. Landed Catches (MT) by Species and Market

Species	Export	Local	Grand Total
Albacore	0	0	0
Bigeye	691.37	13.35	704.72
Yellowfin	1160.54	52.19	1212.73
Skipjack	0	0	0
Other	0.12	3.27	3.39
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1430.99</b>	<b>70.04</b>	<b>1920.84</b>

<sup>1</sup> Total Average Rate Charge of \$3.80 for local sales is calculated and averaged from rate charges ranging from \$3.00 to \$6.00

## **VII. ONSHORE DEVELOPMENT**

Although local companies with aspirations of entering into tuna fishery ventures continues to have difficulties in investments of resources, like vessels, facilities, infrastructures, and the markets, a local fishing company was still able to manage one (1) vessel as its domestic vessel. The vessel is restricted to fish only within Palau waters and all data are reported under the flag state section of this report.

## **VIII. FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE FISHERY**

In October 2015 Palau National Marine Sanctuary Act (PNMSA) was passed by the Republic's Congress to preserve eighty percent (80%) of Palau's Exclusive Economic Zone as Palau National Marine Sanctuary. This area is a no-take area and is protected from all exploitation. A limited twenty percent (20%) Domestic Fishing Zone is created for domestic fishing while commercial exports of fish from Palau will be prohibited. These reforms will be implemented over a wind-down period from January 2016 through December 31 2019. The PNMS Transition Regulations were adopted and promulgated to govern fishing during a wind-down period and by 2020, Palau National Marine Sanctuary will be fully functioning.

In partnership with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), Palau government and Industry stakeholders in Palau and Okinawa, initiated a cooperative trial project on longline electronic monitoring (EM) in the summer of 2016 with a total of nine (9) vessels participating (on a contractual basis) on this project. In 2018, six (6) trips taken by a Palau chartered vessel were analyzed and entered into Dorado TUBS Report.

## **IX. STATUS OF TUNA FISHERY DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS**

As stated before, Palau is currently implementing all latest versions of SPC's regional data forms. SPC TUFMAN 2 Database System is fully utilized to streamline and collate all data. The Locally Based Foreign Companies are required by the Division to submit their fishing reports on monthly basis. The Foreign Based Japanese Longline and Purse Companies are submitting their Logsheets through Email, Facsimile, and Postal Service. The data are altogether reconciled and then entered into the TUFMAN 2 Database. The collected data are scanned with the Slops 3 software on Fujitsu Scanner and are sent to SPC via Hightail Dropbox.

### **(a.) Logsheet/Unloading/Port Sampling data collection and verification**

Dedicated fisheries port samplers and compliance officers are presented at all times during offloading of longline vessels at respected port to collect data and information. With ensuring reported data, the presented officers checks and make sure that the forms used are properly filled and completed correctly.

### **(b.) Observer program**

There were no observer placements in 2018 as the Division of Oceanic Fisheries is very short staffed to carry out observer works.

### **(c.) Transshipment**

Transshipment activities are only allowed to be carried out at Malakal port and are permitted strictly for reasons that may concern the limited port space and flight schedules. There were a total of 20 transshipments that happened in 2018, and all were done by the chartered vessels. National fleets did not carry out any transshipment in 2018. Refer to the Addendum page on CMM 2009-06 (ANNEX II) for more details of the transshipment activities that took place.

## **X. RESEARCH ACTIVITIES COVERING TARGET AND NON-TARGET SPECIES**

There was no research activities covering target and non-target performed in 2018. The Division of Oceanic Fishery Management Office continues to represent and protect Palau's interest in international and regional bodies in the development of conservation and management measures of the highly migratory fish stocks.



**ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORT PART 1**

**Specific information to be provided in Part 1 as required by CMMs<sup>2</sup>**

**22 February 2019**

<b>CMM 2005-03</b> <b>[North Pacific Albacore], Para 4</b>	<b>North Pacific Albacore</b>						
	<b>Flag</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Period</b>	<b>Vessel Number</b>	<b>Vessel Days</b>	<b>Catch (Number)</b>	<b>Catch (MT)</b>
	PW	2018	Jan-Jun	32	1933	484	10.504
	PW	2018	Jul-Dec	38	2421	124	2.254
<p><i>Source: Dorado Tufman Report: Regional #20:CMM 05-03: NP Albacore by National Fleet</i></p> <p><i>Note: The above catch data are from the PW Longline Flagged Vessel and Chartered Vessels. These catches were caught as bycatch. The data presented are from Longlines only as there were no Purse Seine Vessels operated as Palau National Fleet.</i></p>							
<b>CMM 2006-04</b> <b>[South West striped Marlin], Para 4</b>	<p>a. Not applicable for Palau flagged vessels as they are restricted to fish domestically and do not fish in any other areas for which CMM 2006-04(South-West Striped Marlin) specifies and are required by WCPFC;</p> <p>b. The vessels operating under Palau charter did not fish south of 15°S, therefore there are no records of catch from the designated area.</p>						
	<b>South West Striped Marlin</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>Flag</b>	<b>Catch (Numbers)</b>	<b>Catch (MT)</b>			
	2018	National (PW)	0	0			
<p><i>Source: Dorado Tufman Report: Regional #21:CMM 06-04: SW Striped Marlin by National Fleet</i></p>							
<b>CMM 2009-03</b> <b>[Swordfish], Para a 8</b>	<p>a. Not applicable for Palau flagged vessels as they are restricted to fish domestically and do not fish in any other areas for which CMM 2009-03 (Swordfish) specifies and are required by WCPFC;</p> <p>b. The vessels operating under Palau charter did not fish south of 20°S, therefore there are no records of catch from the designated area.</p>						
	<b>South Pacific Swordfish</b>						
	<b>Year</b>	<b>Flag</b>	<b>Catch (Numbers)</b>	<b>Catch (MT)</b>			
	2018	National (PW)	0	0			
<p><i>Source: Dorado Tufman Report: Regional #22:CMM 09-03: SP Swordfish by National Fleet</i></p>							

<sup>2</sup>Reporting requirements requested by CMMs and decisions by the Commission, as of WCPFC15 (Dec 2018)

**CMM 2009-06  
[Transshipment  
,Para 11  
(ANNEX II)**

In 2018, there were 20 transshipments undertaken and all were carried out in Malakal Port.

<b>2018 Transshipment Activities</b>				
<b>ANNEX II (1)</b>				
<b>Species</b>	<b>Chartered Fleet</b>		<b>National Fleet</b>	
	<b>Quantities</b>	<b>Weight (MT)</b>	<b>Quantities</b>	<b>Weight (MT)</b>
<b>ALBACORE</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>BIGEYE</b>	173	7.41	0	0
<b>YELLOWFIN</b>	512	13.89	0	0
<b>PACIFIC BLUEFIN</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>SKIPJACK</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>BLACK MARLIN</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>BLUE MARLIN</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>STRIPED MARLIN</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>SWORDFISH</b>	0	0	0	0
<b>Grand TOTAL</b>	<b>685</b>	<b>21.3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>ANNEX II (2)</b>				
<b>Port</b>	<b>Malakal, Koror</b>		<b>Malakal, Koror</b>	
<b>No. of Transshipments</b>	<b>20</b>		<b>0</b>	
<b>Transshipment at Sea</b>	<b>NO – All 20 transshipments were done in PW Port (Malakal Port)</b>		<b>N/A</b>	
<b>Transshipment in WCP-CA</b>	<b>YES –All transshipped inside WCP-CA in PW EEZ at Malakal Port</b>		<b>N/A</b>	
<b>Caught in WCP-CA</b>	<b>YES – All caught in WCP-CA</b>		<b>N/A</b>	
<b>Product Form</b>	<b>All FRESH</b>		<b>N/A</b>	
<b>Fishing Gear</b>	<b>All LONGLINE</b>		<b>All LONGLINE</b>	

<p><b>CMM 2010-07</b> <b>[Sharks],Para 4</b></p>	<p>All shark fishing is prohibited in Palau. Any shark caught accidentally by fishing vessels must be set free.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="440 363 1406 779"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4">SHARKS</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Species</th> <th>Fate</th> <th>Status Upon Release</th> <th>Number</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Blue Shark</td> <td>Discarded/Released</td> <td>Unknown</td> <td>4563</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hammerhead Sharks</td> <td>Discarded/Released</td> <td>Unknown</td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mako Sharks</td> <td>Discarded/Released</td> <td>Unknown</td> <td>104</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Oceanic Whitetip Shark</td> <td>Discarded/Released</td> <td>Unknown</td> <td>43</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Porbeagle Shark</td> <td>Discarded/Released</td> <td>Unknown</td> <td>58</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Silky Shark</td> <td>Discarded/Released</td> <td>Unknown</td> <td>6935</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thresher Shark</td> <td>Discarded/Released</td> <td>Unknown</td> <td>104</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Source: Dorado Tufman Report: Regional #26: CMM 10-07: Shark Catches by National Fleet Summary</i></p>	SHARKS				Species	Fate	Status Upon Release	Number	Blue Shark	Discarded/Released	Unknown	4563	Hammerhead Sharks	Discarded/Released	Unknown	32	Mako Sharks	Discarded/Released	Unknown	104	Oceanic Whitetip Shark	Discarded/Released	Unknown	43	Porbeagle Shark	Discarded/Released	Unknown	58	Silky Shark	Discarded/Released	Unknown	6935	Thresher Shark	Discarded/Released	Unknown	104
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<p><b>CMM 2011-03</b> <b>[Impact of PS fishing on cetaceans], Para 5</b></p>	<p>Not Applicable. No Purse Seine Vessels operates as Palau Fleet or chartered by Palau</p>																																				
<p><b>CMM 2011-04</b> <b>[Oceanic whitetip sharks], Para 3</b></p>	<p>All shark fishing is prohibited in Palau. Any shark caught accidentally by fishing vessels must be set free.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="440 1318 1382 1478"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Oceanic Whitetip Shark</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Gear</th> <th>Flag</th> <th>Est. No.</th> <th>Fate</th> <th>Status Upon Release</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LL</td> <td>PW</td> <td>43</td> <td>Discarded</td> <td>Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LL</td> <td>PW</td> <td>0</td> <td>Retained</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Source: Dorado Tufman Report: Regional #25: CMM 11-05: Oceanic Whitetip Shark Interactions in Purse Seine and Longline Fisheries.</i></p>	Oceanic Whitetip Shark					Gear	Flag	Est. No.	Fate	Status Upon Release	LL	PW	43	Discarded	Unknown	LL	PW	0	Retained	-																
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<p><b>CMM 2012-04</b> <b>[Whale sharks], Para 06</b></p>	<p>Not Applicable. No Purse Seine Vessels operates as Palau Fleet or chartered by Palau</p>																																				

<p><b>CMM 2013-08</b> [Silky sharks], Para 3</p>	<p>All shark fishing is prohibited in Palau. Any shark caught accidentally by fishing vessels must be set free.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="440 327 1395 491"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Silky Shark</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Gear</th> <th>Flag</th> <th>Est. No.</th> <th>Fate</th> <th>Status Upon Release</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LL</td> <td>PW</td> <td>6935</td> <td>Discarded</td> <td>Unknown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>LL</td> <td>PW</td> <td>0</td> <td>Retained</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>Source: Dorado Tufman Report: Regional #25: CMM 13-08: Silky Shark Species Catches by National Fleet</i></p>	Silky Shark					Gear	Flag	Est. No.	Fate	Status Upon Release	LL	PW	6935	Discarded	Unknown	LL	PW	0	Retained	-							
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<p><b>CMM 2015-02</b> [South Pacific Albacore] Para 4</p>	<p>a. Not applicable for Palau flagged vessels as they are restricted to fish domestically and do not fish in any other areas for which CMM 2015-02 (South Pacific Albacore) specifies and are required by WCPFC;</p> <p>b. The vessels operating under Palau charter did not fish south of 20°S, therefore there are no records of catch from the designated area.</p>																											



**CMM 2018-03  
[Seabirds]  
Annex II**

Not applicable. There were no seabird interactions data reported in 2018 for Palau flagged vessels as well as vessels operating under Palau charter.

- a. Palau flagged vessels are restricted to fish domestically and do not fish in any other areas for which CMM 2018-03(Seabirds) specifies and are required by WCPFC;
- b. The vessels operating under Palau charter did not fish in the areas South of 30°S; 25°S 30°S; North of 23°N; or 23°N 25°S as specified in the CMM 2018-03 (Seabirds), therefore there are no records of catch from the designated area.

**TABLE X:** Effort, observed, and estimated seabird captures by fishing year for Palau [South of 30°S; 25°S 30°S; North of 23°N; or 23°N 25°S<sup>1</sup>]. 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); and the capture rate (captures per thousand hooks)

Year	Fishing effort				Observed seabird captures	
	Number of vessels	Number of hooks	Observed hooks	% hooks observed	Number	Rate <sup>2</sup>
2014	0	0	0	0	0	0
2015	0	0	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0	0	0
2017	35	12,846,598	547,455	0	0	0
2018	38	7,432,810	80,474	0	0	0

<sup>1</sup> Insert 'North of 23°N', 'South of 30°S', '25°S - 30°S' or '23°N-25°S'. For CCMs fishing in all areas, provide separate tables for each area. Provide data as captures per one thousand hooks.

**TABLE Y:** Proportion of mitigation types<sup>1</sup> used by the fleet in 2018

Nbr_sets_mitigation	Total_sets_in_area	Pct	T L	N S	W B	S S	B C	BD B	DS LS	MO D	H S	AREA
44	56	78.57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25°S-23°N
12	56	21.43	-	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25°S-23°N

<sup>1</sup> TL = tori line, NS = night setting, WB = weighted branch lines, SS = side setting, BC = bird curtain, BDB = blue dyed bait, DSLS = deep setting line shooter, MOD = management of offal discharge, HS = hook-shielding device.

**TABLE Z:** Number of observed seabird captures in Palau longline fisheries, 2018, by species and area.

Species	South of 30°S	25°S-30°S	North of 23°N	23°N-25°S	Total
N/A	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	0	0	0	0	0