



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

WCPFC-SC8-AR/CCM-32 Rev 1

AL SALVADOR



**REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
FISHERIES DIVISION**

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE WESTERN AND CENTRAL
PACIFIC FISHERIES COMMISSION**

**PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES,
RESEARCH AND STATISTICS**

1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2011

June, 2012

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 2012	YES
If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions:	

1. SUMMARY

El Salvador is located in Central America, and is not a coastal country of the WCPFC area. Currently, El Salvador has a Co-operating Non Member status within the WCPFC and is complying with all the measures issues by the Commission to aim sustainable fisheries, under the technical principles issues by the WCPFC.

El Salvador tuna fisheries in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Convention Area, started in 2001, by the flag of two purse seine boats, (Montelucia and Monterocío, formerly known as Alexandros) using purse seine. This activity ceased in 2003; and in 2007 started again has been taken up again from mid-2007 when a coastal fishing country license was approved, and at present there are two vessels fishing in the WCPFC area: Monterocio y Montelucia both using purse seine.

The tuna industry in the WCPFC area has three main objective species captured: “Yellowfin tuna” (*Thunnus albacores*), “Bigeye tuna” (*Thunnus obesus*) and “skipjack tuna” (*Katsuwonus pelamis*).

The information resumed in this document came from logbooks, records obtained in collaboration with the Inter Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), under the on-board observer program and Vessels Monitoring System, where the vessels Monterocio y Montelucia are permanently monitored.

Although, El Salvador has a Co-operating Non Member status is working to maintain the level of compliance and cooperation of all management measures and looking the use of sustainable use of the resources.

2. TABULAR ANNUAL FISHERIES INFORMATION

The catch in the WCPFC area increased for 2011, with a total catch of 11,873 Tn, compared to 2010 (Fig. 1).

During the last years the production have been increasing as we can observe in Fig. 1.

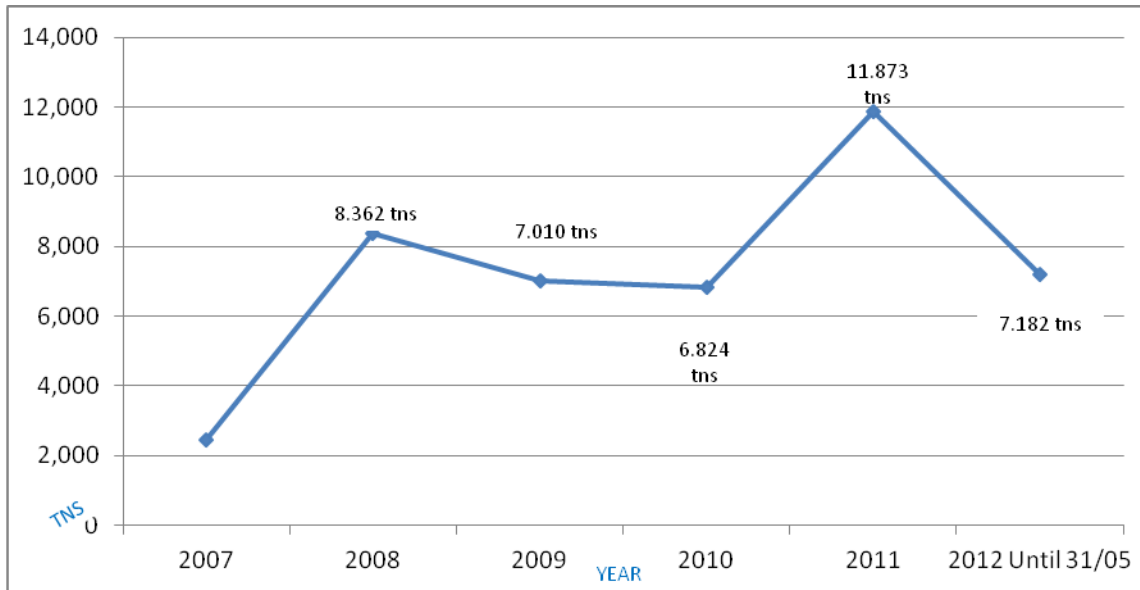


Fig. 1. Historical Catch in the WCPFC area by El Salvador fleet.

3. BACKGROUND

El Salvador is located in Central America, with approximately 300 Km of coastline bordering the North Pacific Ocean, between Guatemala and Honduras, among 13° 10' and 13° 40' N Latitude.

Directorate General for Fisheries and Aquaculture (CENDEPESCA), is a centralized dependency of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock. This Institution designs and enforces the policies and plan to manage and promote fisheries activities and aquaculture in El Salvador.

The fisheries sector in El Salvador is divided in four sub sectors:

Marine industrial fishery, Marine artisanal fishery, Inland water fishery and Aquaculture.

The marine industrial fishery is divided by tuna purse seine fishery, shrimp trawl net

fishery, and pelagic longline fishery.

El Salvador tuna fisheries in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Convention Area, started in 2001, by the flag of two purse seine boats, (Montelucia and Monterocío, formerly known as Alexandros) using purse seine. This activity ceased in 2003; and in 2007 started again has been taken up again from mid-2007 when a coastal fishing country license was approved, and at present there are two vessels fishing in the WCPFC area: Monterocio y Montelucia both using purse seine.

The tuna industry in the WCPFC area has three main objective species captured: “Yellowfin tuna” (*Thunnus albacores*), “Bigeye tuna” (*Thunnus obesus*) and “skipjack tuna” (*Katsuwonus pelamis*).

Currently, El Salvador has a Co-operating Non Member status within the WCPFC and is complying with all the measures issues by the Comission to aim sustainable fisheries, under the technical principles issues by the WCPFC as:

comply with all Resolutions and requirements including effort, capacity and catch controls and limits; carry, on all purse seine vessels, an observer accredited with either the IATTC or WCPFC observer programs and operate a vessel monitoring system (VMS).

4. FLAG STATUS REPORTING

The present information is resulting from the logbooks reported to the CENDEPESCA by the tuna industry.

The number of El Salvador’s fleet tuna vessels fishing in the WCPFC area are two, since 2007 and they are exclusively fishing by purse seine (Table 1).

Table 1. Number of fishing vessels fishing in WCPFC Area El Salvador Fleet

YEAR	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
NUMBER OF ACTIVE VESSELS	2	2	2	2	2	2

This two vessels are fishing exclusively by purse seiner and the capacity for each vessel is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Vessels and capacity for El Salvador fleet.

VESSEL NAME	GEAR TYPE	FLAG	GRT	REG.NO.
Montelucía	Purse seiner	El Salvador	2.550	PU30
Monterocío	Purse seiner	El Salvador	1.919	PU31

El Salvador started fishing in 2007 and the catches had fluctuated during the years with no clear trend (Fig. 1, Table 3).

Table 3. El Salvador annual catch in tons. by gear in WCPFC Convention Area

Gear Type/Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 Until 31/05
Purse Seine	2,442	8,362	7,010	6,824	11,873	7,182
Long Liner	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pole and Line	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trawler	0	0	0	0	0	0
Others	0	0	0	0	0	0

The target species catches in the WCPFC area since the year 2007 are: "Skipjack" *Katsuwonus pelamis*, "Yellowfin" *Thunnus albacares* and "Bigeye" *Thunnus obesus*. (Table 3). Furthermore, the trend of catch per year and target species are show (Fig. 2). We can observe that the main catches are Bigeye.

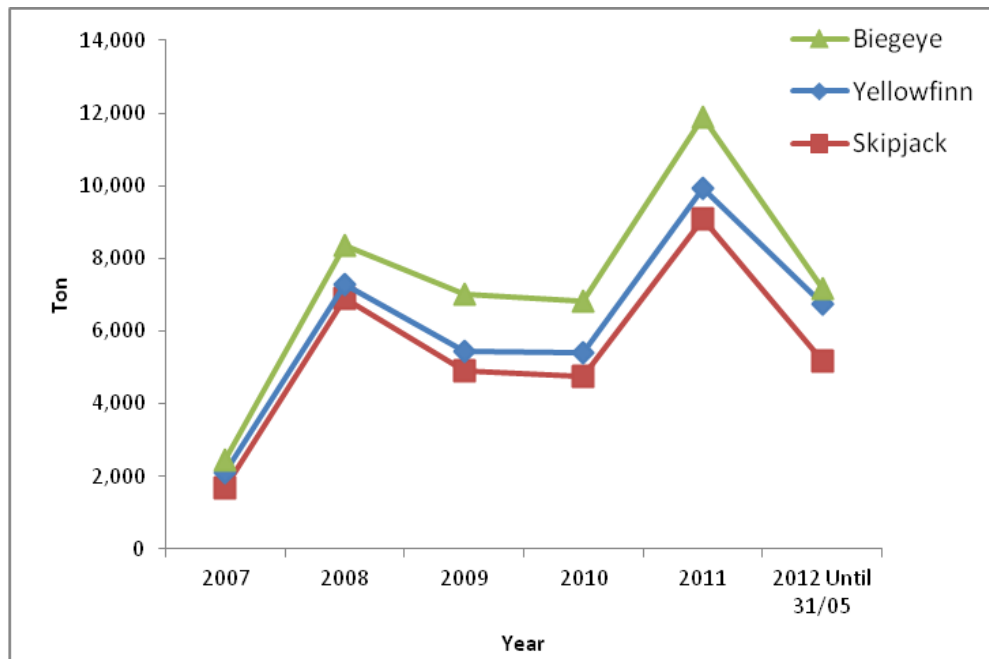


Fig. 2: Historical trend of the annual catches by target species, for the WCPFC area. 2007 to 2010.

In the fig. 5 it shows the usual areas where sets had been placed, this areas are close to Kiribati.

Table 4. Number of fishing days made in international waters and in ZEE of countries in the WCPFC, by El Salvador flagged purse seiner

Zones/Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012 Until 31/05
High seas except overlap area	0	28	23	17	4
ZEE Kiribati	61	87	82	160	132
ZEE Tuvalu	0	0	5	29	17
ZEE Tokelau	0	0	0	13	36
ZEE Nauru	0	0	0	0	0

El Salvador is not a coastal country of the WCPFC area, therefore does not have any survey program in order to control the fleets operating in the Western, nevertheless is controlled by the IATTC Observer Program and Kiribati Observer program. During disembarkation in El Salvador CENDEPESCA make inspection and all controls accord with the national law.

Legislation provides of controls regarding:

1. Discharged fish
2. RFMO management measures resolutions.

5. DISPOSAL OF CATCH AND ONSHORE DEVELOPMENT

The catches are processed and canning in a Plant in La Union department in the Fonseca Gulf, El Salvador. From this production tuna loins are mostly exports to European Union; and tuna can are distributed in Central America countries and European Union.

6. FUTURE PROSPECT OF THE FISHERY

El Salvador tuna fleet is currently conformed by two vessels, and there is no intention of increased the number in the near future.