SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
SIXTEENTH REGULAR SESSION

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

WCPFC-SC16-AR/CCM-14 (Rev.01)

NAURU

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION
PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS
ON THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019

NAURU

Scientific data was provided to the Commission in accordance with the decision relating the provision of scientific data to the Commission by 12th July 2020	[YES]

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION
PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS
ON THE CALENDAR YEAR 2018

1. ANNUAL FISHERIES INFORMATION

1.1 Fishery Characteristics

a) Nauru's Fishery is mainly for Offshore Fishery as in previous years is dominated by the **Distant Water Fishing Nation**'s *(DWFNs)* Purse Seines.

b) The DWFN vessels prime targets are **Skipjacks** *(Katsuwonus Pelamis)*, **Yellowfin** *(Thunnus Albacares)* and **Bigeye** *(Thunnas Obesus)* which are mainly for the foreign market and canneries.

c) The bulk sizes of the vessels are between 1001 – 1500 gross tons and are licensed either on a bilateral agreement, multilateral arrangement, sub regional pooling, treaty or FMSA (Special Arrangement)

d) In 2019 there was one (1) Longline vessel licensed.

e) Nauru flagged 7 purse seiners and 2 support vessel in 2019 which are licensed to operate beyond Nauru's jurisdiction under the FSM Arrangement *(FSMA)* in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean area.

f) The Artisanal Fishery encompassed mainly of small motorized skiffs or canoes. Target species are commonly coastal pelagic or artisanal species which are generally free-school or FAD aggregated, catches are mainly for subsistence, barter and commercial on a minor scale.

2. Offshore Catch Estimates

The distant water fishing nation vessels catches skipjack *(Katsuwonus Pelamis)*, yellowfin *(Thunnus Albacares)* and bigeye *(Thunnus Obsesus)* in Nauru's EEZ.

The 3 major tuna species caught in Nauru's offshore tuna fishery are distributed throughout the foreign fish markets or canneries.

In 2019 there is a significant decrease of catches *(table 1)* in Nauru's EEZ. The drops are similar to the 2015 and 2017 periods. The 2018 high data could indicate a major improvement of data validation and verification from the whole region.

In comparison to the previous year, there is a significant decrease of SKJ catches of approximately 85,500mt, YFT catches of approximately 10,100mt and BET catch of approximately 800mt.

The total catch in 2019 increased by 6,094mt compared to the total in 2015. That is an average of 85,155mt catches per year with SKJ averaging more than 70,000mt and YFT more than 15,900mt for the past five years (2015 – 2019).

(Note: the figures are according to SPC estimates derived from logsheets which includes multilaterally-licensed vessels as well as bilateral vessels licensed to fish in Nauru according to the Palau Arrangement Vessel Day Management Scheme).

FOREIGN CATCH ESTIMATES (MT)					
YEAR	**SKJ**	**BET**	**YFT**	**OTH**	**TOTAL**
2015	43,287.66	930.86	12,702.86	112	57,248.62
2016	62,352	1,992	24,070	285	88,699
2017	48,416	1,467	19,040	112	56,534
2018	140,961	1,567	17,087	337	159,952
2019	**55,386**	**734**	**6,953**	**269**	**63,342**

Table 1*: Tuna catches in Nauru's EEZ by all DWFN fleets past 5 years.* **Source:** *Un-raised logsheet data collected by Nauru held in the Regional Tuna Fisheries Database (TUFMAN 2) at SPC. (2019 Catches are provisional)*

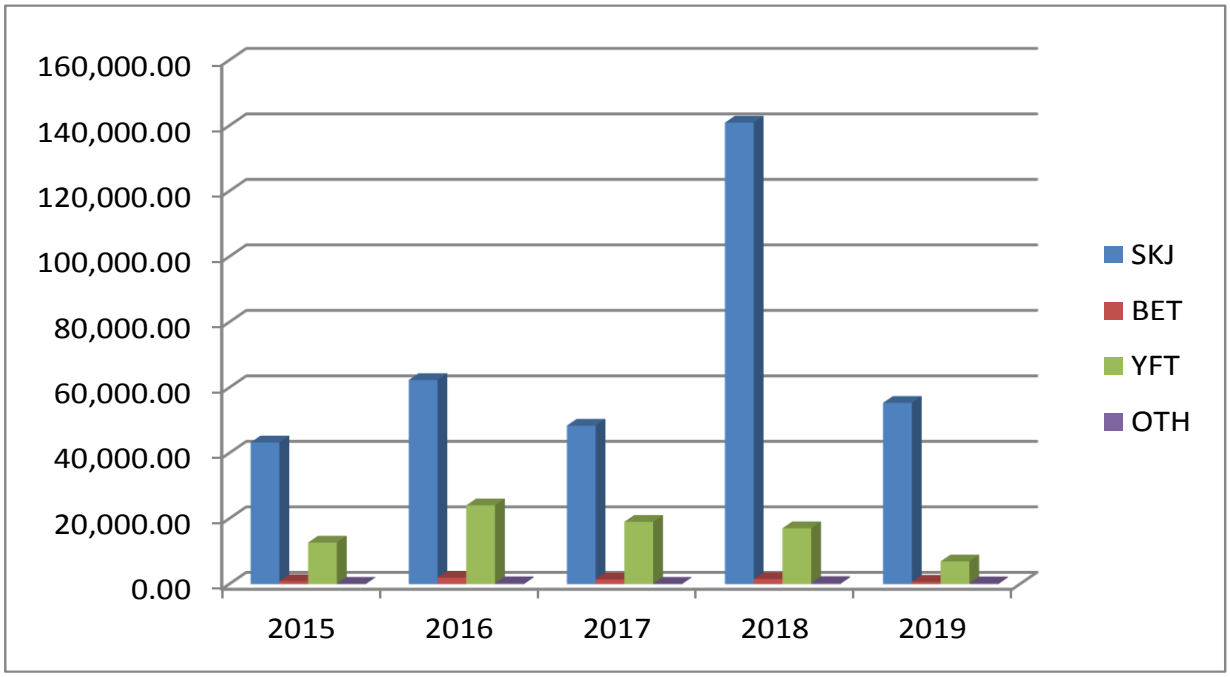

Figure 1: *Trend of total catches over a 5 year period by foreign fleets active in Nauru's EEZ from 2015 to 2019.*

3. Foreign Fleet Licensing Structure

As in previous years, the **Distant Water Fishing Nations** *(DWFNs)* dominates the commercial fleets that were licensed to operate in Nauru's EEZ in 2019.

There were a total of 257 vessels – 238 purse seines and supporting these activities were 17 tankers *(TK)* and 2 fish carriers *(FC)*.

Table 2 and 3 is a detailed analysis of the fleets by flag and size. The majority (153) of the vessel's gross tonnage is within the 1001 -1500GRT category; 14 vessels are between 501 to 1000GRT category, 89 including the support vessels are in the 1500+ category and only 1 vessel in the 0-500GRT category.

FOREIGN FLAG FISHING VESSELS						
FLAG	**GEAR**	**NO OF VESSELS**	**0-500 GRT**	**501-1000 GRT**	**1001-1500 GRT**	**1500+ GRT**
China *(CN)*	PS	**15**	-	-	8	7
Japan *(JP)*	PS	**25**	-	-	22	3
Japan *(JP)*	LL	**1**	1	-	-	-
FSM *(FM)*	PS	**6**	-	-	3	3
Philippines *(PH)*	PS	**11**	-	2	9	-
Papua New Guinea (PG)	PS	**12**	-	-	7	5
Korea *(KR)*	PS	**26**	-	5	11	10
Taiwan *(TW)*	PS	**30**	-	3	25	2
Vanuatu (VU)	PS	**3**	-	-	2	1
United States *(US)*	PS	**13**	-	-	7	6
Marshall Island (MH)	PS	**10**	-	-	6	4
Solomon Island (SB)	PS	**3**	-	-	3	-
FSM Arrangement *(FM)*	PS	**23**	-	3	7	13
FSM Arrangement (*MH)*	PS	**11**	-	-	7	4
FSM Arrangement *(SB)*	PS	**3**	-	-	3	-
FSM Arrangement *(NR)*	PS	**2**	-	-	-	2
FSM Arrangement *(TV)*	PS	**1**	-	-	-	1
US Treaty *(US)*	PS	**32**	-	-	13	19
Kiribati *(SR)*	PS	**8**	-	-	1	7
Tuvalu *(SR)*	PS	**1**	-	1	-	-
Vanuatu *(SR)*	PS	**2**	-	-	-	2
TOTAL		**238**	**1**	**14**	**134**	**89**

Table 2: *Bilateral, Multilateral and, Sub Regional (SR) Fishing Vessels (by Flag) Licensed by Nauru in 2019.*

FOREIGN FLAG SUPPORT VESSELS					
FLAG	**NO OF VESSELS**	**0-500 GRT**	**501-1000 GRT**	**1001-1500 GRT**	**1500+ GRT**
KOREA *(TK)*	**5**	-	-	-	5
MARSHALL *(TK)*	**2**	-	-	-	2
PANAMA *(TK)*	**5**	-	-	-	5
PANAMA *(FC)*	**2**	-	-	-	2
COOK*(TK)*	**5**	-	-	-	5
TOTAL	**19**	**-**	**-**		**19**

Table 3: *Support Vessels (TK – Tanker; FC – Fish Carrier) Licensed to Nauru in **2019***

4. Flag State Reporting

In its inaugural year as a flag state, Nauru flagged 2 purse seine vessels; in 2019, the number of purse seine vessels flagged expanded to 7 and 2 support vessels.

The fishing vessels caught a total of approximately 31,180mt of the 3 main tuna species; with SKJ at 28,250mt, BET at 200mt and YFT at 2,700mt, at an average of 5,898mt past two years.

5. National fleet Catch Estimates

YEAR	National Fleet Catch Estimates (MT)			
	SKJ	BET	YFT	TOTAL
2015	0	0	0	0
2016	0	0	0	0
2017	0	0	0	0
2018	7,060	39	1,711	8,810
2019	**28,265**	**203**	**2,715**	**31,183**

Table 4: Nauru flag vessel catches in the Convention Area in 2019. **Source:** *Raised catches from logsheet data held in the Regional Tuna Fisheries Management Database, (TUFMAN2)*

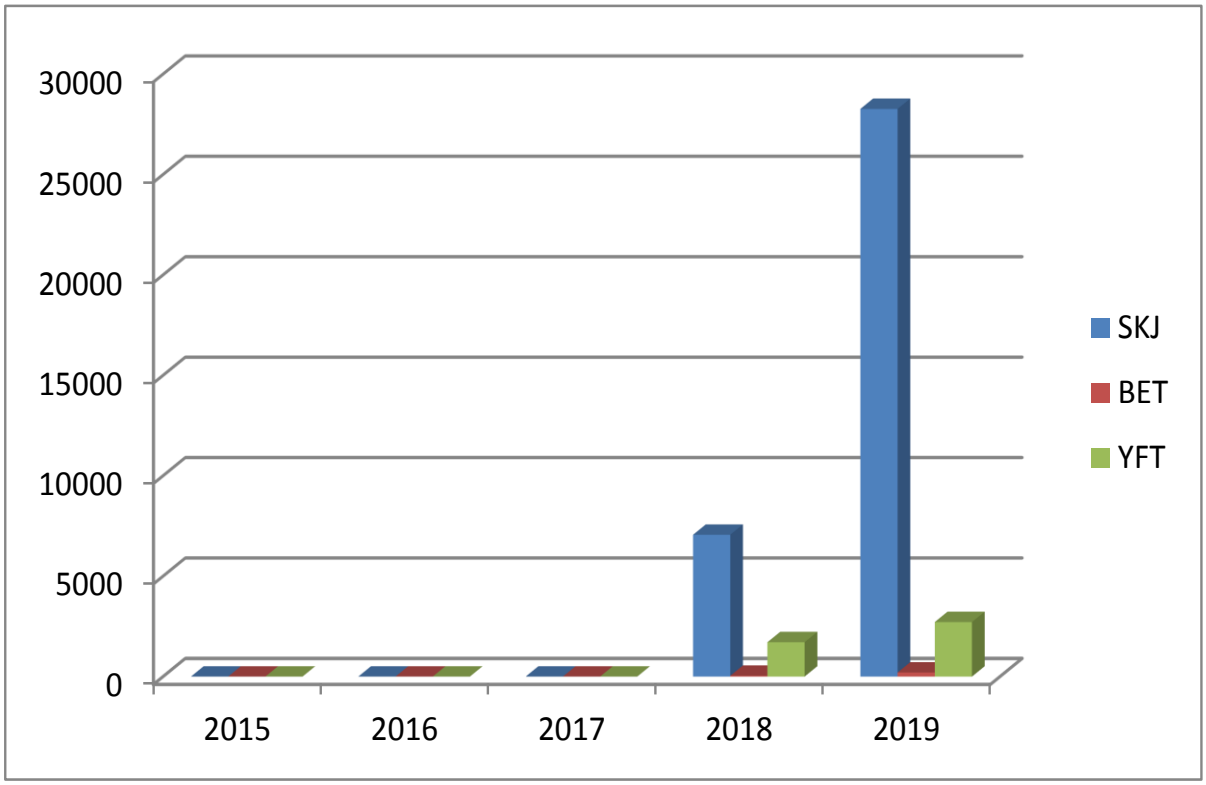

Figure 2: Nauru's flag vessels catch trend over a 5 year period caught in the WCPFC Convention Area from 2015 to 2019. *(2019 catches are provisional.).*

6. National Fleet Structure

TYPE	NO OF VESSELS	0 – 500 GRT	501 – 1000 GRT	1001 – 1500 GRT	1500+ GRT
PS	**7**	-	-	-	**7**
TK	**2**	-	-	-	**2**
TOTAL	**9**	-	-	-	**9**

Table 5: *Nauru flag vessels in 2019*

7. Artisanal fleet

Nauru's artisanal fleet encompasses of small motorized skiffs and canoes that are fully owned and operated by local fishermen for either subsistence, barter or commercial at a small scale.

There are 112 active motorized boats and canoes in Nauru since its last census. Motorized boats make up the bulk of the artisanal fleet.

Currently, a new survey to review the number of active and non-active boats is in progress.

The current process of collecting data is through random interviewing of fishermen by Coastal's data collectors assigned to the 3 main landing sites; Gabab Channel and Anibare Community Boat Harbor which are frequent by motorized skiffs and Aiwo boat harbor where majority of canoe fishers land.

The current process does not provide an accurate estimate of fishing activity, especially the number of boats or canoes that goes out fishing on a daily basis, which is important in getting a good estimate of production.

A better system to improve the collection of fishing activity is currently being discussed between SPC and Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority.

8. Artisanal Fleet Catch Estimates

YEAR	Artisanal Catch Estimates (MT)			
	Skipjack (SKJ)	Yellowfin (YFT)	Others	Total
2015	8.341	0.771	0.005	**9.117**
2016	11.482	1.504	0	**12.986**
2017	22.3	2.7	0.076	**8.639**
2018	5.5	11.25	0.2	**16.9**
2019	**1.3**	**5.9**	**0.3**	**7.5**

Table 6: *Source: TUFMAN2 - Artisanal Coastal Fisheries survey of un-raised estimates based on Coastal surveying reports.*

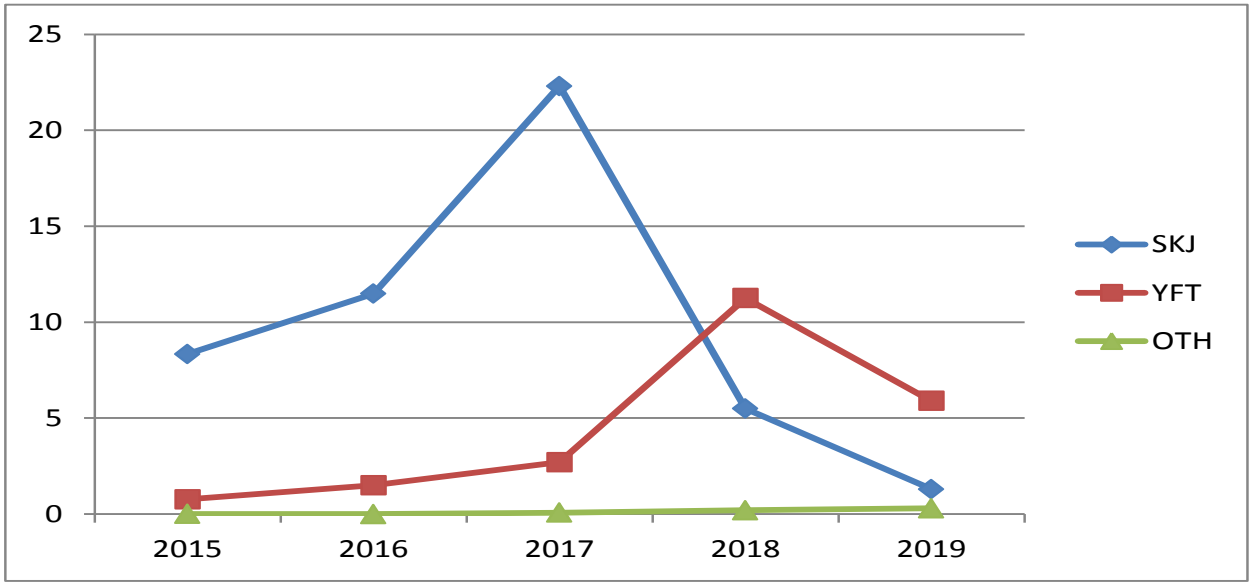

Figure 3: *5 year trend for total raised Artisanal catches (MT) in Nauru from 2015 - 2019. Source Tufman2*

9. Socioeconomic

The revenue derived from fishing licenses and vessel day scheme (VDS) for each fiscal year continues to provide the bulk of non-aid income for Nauru's financial state budget.

Nauru's Observer Program *(NROB)* is the notable development made from the fishing industry. The NROB has a total of forty (40) PIRFO Certified Observers, but twenty *(20)* are active; five *(5)* trainee de-briefers, two (2) certified de-briefers *(Part A/B)*, one *(1)* PIRFO Certified De-briefer, De-briefer Assessor and Observer Trainer.

The program also has fifteen *(15)* MSC certified Observers.

Nauru Observer Program total trips for 2019:

- **National** - 17
- **FFA** - 2
- **PNA** - 22

The Artisanal fishery still remains a reliable source of fish protein diet and minor income generator for Nauru's local community.

10. Research and Statistics

Nauru Fishery and Marine Resources Authority's priority is to continue the up-skilling of its human resources through varies regional capacity building workshops, attachments and trainings.

Nauru highly commends the relentless efforts of SPC/FAME and FFA in developing efficient tools for data collection, monitoring and management systems to ensure efficient and effective management of the fishery.

Nauru like other island countries has benefitted from these relentless efforts through the earlier and recent developments i.e., TUFMAN 2, TAILS, On-Board, RIMFs, and many more.

Nauru acknowledges the continued support and assistance from the Secretariat of the Pacific Community's *(SPC)* Fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Ecosystems *(FAME)*, the Forum Fisheries Agency *(FFA*), the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and Party to the Nauru Agreement and Tokelau (PNA+) to other Small Island Developing States and especially of Nauru.

ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORT PART 1

Specific information to be provided in Part 1 as required by CMMs[1]

13 March 2020

<table>
<tr><td>CMM 2019-03 [North Pacific Albacore], Para 3</td><td>NOT APPLICABLE:
Nauru flagged vessels did not target or catch North Pacific Albacore north of the equator.</td></tr>
<tr><td>CMM 2006-04 [South West striped Marlin], Para 4</td><td>NOT APPLICABLE:
Nauru Flagged vessel did not catch any Striped Marlin, nor did any vessels fish south of 15 degrees south.</td></tr>
<tr><td>CMM 2009-03 [Swordfish], Para 8</td><td>NOT APPLICABLE:
Nauru Flagged vessels did not catch any swordfish, nor any fish south of 20 degrees south.</td></tr>
<tr><td>CMM 2009-06 [Transshipment], Para 11 (ANNEX II)</td><td>(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:
<table>
<tr><th>a) offloaded and received;</th><th>b) transhipped in port, transhipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction</th><th>c) transhipped inside the Convention Area and transshipped outside the Convention Area;</th><th>d) caught inside the Convention Area and caught outside the Convention Area;</th><th>e) Species</th><th>f) Product Form</th><th>g) Fishing gear</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="8">Offloaded
31,183mt</td><td>FUNAFATI</td><td>TUVALU (TV)</td><td>Inside Convention Area</td><td>SKJ - 5,118mt
YFT - 321mt
BET - 116mt</td><td>FROZEN</td><td>PS</td></tr>
<tr><td>KIRITIMATI</td><td>KIRIBATI (KI)</td><td>Inside Convention Area</td><td>SKJ - 4,835mt
YFT - 252mt
BET - 23mt</td><td>FROZEN</td><td>PS</td></tr>
<tr><td>TARAWA</td><td>KIRIBATI (KI)</td><td>Inside Convention Area</td><td>SKJ - 10,423mt
YFT - 819mt
BET - 30mt</td><td>FROZEN</td><td>PS</td></tr>
<tr><td>MAJURO</td><td>MARSHALLS (MH)</td><td>Inside Convention Area</td><td>SKJ - 7,234mt
YFT - 912mt
BET - 30mt</td><td>FROZEN</td><td>PS</td></tr>
<tr><td>BUSAN</td><td>KOREA (KR)</td><td>Inside Convention Area</td><td>SKJ - 655mt
YFT - 411mt
BET - 4mt</td><td>FROZEN</td><td>PS</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="3">received</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table></td></tr>
</table>

[1] Reporting requirements requested by CMMs and decisions by the Commission, as of WCPFC16 (Dec 2019). First issued on 13 March 2020

(2) the **number of transshipments** involving highly migratory fish stocks covered by this measure by fishing vessels that is responsible for reporting against, broken down by:

a) offloaded and received	b) transhipped in port, transhipped at sea in areas of national jurisdiction, and transhipped beyond areas of national jurisdiction	c) transhipped inside the Convention Area and transhipped outside the Convention Area	d) caught inside the Convention Area and caught outside the Convention Area	e) fishing gear
Offloaded 32	FUNAFATI - **6**	Inside Convention Area (**TV**)	Inside Convention Area	PS
	KIRITIMATI - **5**	Inside Convention Area (**KI**)	Inside Convention Area	PS
	TARAWA - **11**	Inside Convention Area (**KI**)	Inside Convention Area	PS
	MAJURO - **9**	Inside Convention Area (**MH**)	Inside Convention Area	PS
	BUSAN - **1**	Inside Convention Area (**KR**)	Inside Convention Area	PS
received				

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).

*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).

**Note*; Whale Sharks (*Rhincodon typus*) was included as a key shark species by WCPFC9 (2012)

Gear	Species	Number	Discarded	Retained
PS	Oceanic Whitetip	**7**	**7**	0
PS	Silky Shark	**419**	**419**	0
PS	Whale Shark*	**2**	**2**	0
PS	Blue Sharks	0	0	0
PS	Mako Sharks	0	0	0
PS	Thresher Sharks	0	0	0
PS	Porbeagle Shark	0	0	0

**Fate of Whale Shark is covered on CMM 2012-04-para 6*

Based on 95.5% Observer Coverage the above table show the raised estimates of sharks caught by NR Fleet.

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).

Gear	PS
Flag	NR
Species	Bryde's Whale
Date	15 Nov 19
Latitude	0059.974S
Longitude	17142.674E
EEZ	GL
Fate	DPA
Caught Condition	A1
Interaction Code	OTH
Interaction Discard	OTH
Type	Interaction
Number of Individuals	1

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.

Fate	Observed Number	Estimated Number
DPA – Discarded Presumed Alive	3	3
DPD – Discarded Presumed Dead	4	4

Based on 95.5% Observer Coverage

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).

Gear	PS
Flag	NR
Species	Whale Shark
Date	22 Aug 19
Latitude	0026.756N
Longitude	17003.168E
EEZ	GL
Fate	UUU
Caught Condition	Alive
Interaction Code	**1**
Interaction Discard	A0
Type	Interaction
Number of Individuals	**1**

Gear	PS
Flag	NR
Species	Whale Shark
Date	02 Sep 19
Latitude	0440.241N
Longitude	16344.784E
EEZ	FM
Fate	UUU
Caught Condition	Alive
Interaction Code	**1**
Interaction Discard	A0
Type	Interaction
Number of Individuals	**1**

Based on 95.5% Observer Coverage

<table>
<tr><td>CMM 2013-08 [Silky sharks], Para 3</td><td>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.

<table>
<tr><th>Fate</th><th>Observed Number</th><th>Estimated Number</th></tr>
<tr><td>DPA – Discarded Presumed Species - Alive</td><td>10</td><td>12</td></tr>
<tr><td>DPD – Discarded Presumed Species - Dead</td><td>194</td><td>310</td></tr>
<tr><td>DPU – Discarded Protected Species - Unknown</td><td>8</td><td>8</td></tr>
<tr><td>DUS – Discarded Uneconomic Species</td><td>35</td><td>35</td></tr>
</table>

Based on 95.5% Observer Coverage</td></tr>
<tr><td>Observer coverage (WCPFC 11 decision – para 484(b)</td><td>
<table>
<tr><th rowspan="2">CCM Fleet</th><th rowspan="2">Fishery</th><th colspan="3">No. of Hooks</th><th colspan="3">Days Fished</th><th colspan="3">Days at Sea</th><th colspan="3">No. of Trips</th><th rowspan="2">See NOTEs</th></tr>
<tr><th>Total estimated</th><th>Observer</th><th>%</th><th>Total estimated</th><th>Observer</th><th>%</th><th>Total estimated</th><th>Observer</th><th>%</th><th>Total estimated</th><th>Observer</th><th>%</th></tr>
<tr><td>REPUBLIC OF KOREA</td><td>Distant-water</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>23,632</td><td>1,575</td><td>6.6 %</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
</table>

NOT APPLICABLE
Nauru did not flag or charter any longline vessels in 2019</td></tr>
<tr><td>CMM 2015-02 [South Pacific Albacore] Para 4</td><td>Addressed through the regular provision of operational catch/effort Logsheet data to SPC, who automatically include these data in the WCPFC databases, as per our authorization.</td></tr>
<tr><td>CMM 2018-03 [Seabirds] Para 13</td><td>NOT APPLICABLE
Nauru did not flag or charter any longline vessels in 2019</td></tr>
</table>

CMM 2018-03: [Seabirds] Annex 2. Guidelines for reporting templates for Part 1 report

The following tables should be included in the annual Part 1 country reports, summarizing the most recent five years.

Table x: Effort, observed and estimated seabird captures by fishing year for [*CCM*] [South of 30°S; 25°S-30°S; North of 23°N; or 23°N – 25°S[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); 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 [2]
[year]						
[year]						
[year]						
[previous year e.g. 2017]						
[current year e.g. 2018]						

[1] Insert 'North of 23°N', 'South of 30°S', '25°S-30°S' or '23°N – 250°S'. For CCMs fishing in all areas, provide separate tables for each area.
[2] Provide data as captures per one thousand hooks.

Table y: Proportion of mitigation types[1] used by the fleet in [year].

	Combination of Mitigation Measures	Proportion of observed effort using mitigation measures					
		South of 30°S	25°S-30°S	25°S to 23°N	North of 23°N		
	No mitigation measures						
Options required south of 25°S	TL + NS						
	TL + WB						
	NS + WB						
	TL + WB + NS						
	HS						
Other options 25°S-30°S	WB						
	TL						
Other options north of 23°N	SS/BC/WB/DSLS						
	SS/BC/WB/(MOD or BDB)						
Provide any other combination of mitigation measures here							
	Totals (must equal 100%)						

[1] 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 [*CCM*] longline fisheries, 2012, by species and area.

Species	**South of 30°S**	**25°S-30°S**	**North of 23°N**	**23°N –25°S**	**Total**
E.g. Antipodean albatross					
[species name]					
[species name]					
[species name]					
[species name]					
[species name]					
[species name]					
Total					