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

WCPFC-SC17-AR/CCM-22

**SOLOMON ISLANDS** 



### MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES

### SOLOMON ISLANDS

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

PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS 2020

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	YES
2021	

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### 1. ABSTRACT/SUMMARY

Tuna fishery in Solomon Islands is one of the major contributors in the productive sector towards economic development of the country. Through the tuna operation from fishing nations, that has bilateral arrangements and license with Solomon Islands, continues to maintain and share common interest. The Distant Water Fishing Nations (DWFN) like Japanese, Taiwan, Korea, China and Philippines, currently enhance its status and interest to fish in Solomon Islands EEZ.

The locally based companies also involves in tuna fishery operation, contributed in some of the major developments, continues to increase and expands in it employments and other opportunities. As such focus, domestic fleet have granted access to fish in the Solomon Islands Main Group Archipelagic (MGA) with condition on fleet size and length. The access arrangement for foreign fleets to operate in Solomon Islands EEZ, through the following agreements made; i) US Multilateral treaty arrangement (FFA member countries and United States of America.), ii) Bilateral arrangement with Distant Water Fishing Nations (DWFN) and Solomon Islands government and ii) Parties to the Nauru Agreement (PNA) on FSM arrangement and PNA members on sub-pooling arrangements.

The significance of the cooperation and arrangements continues to maintain and improves some of the new developments towards management and sustainability of tuna and the maximized benefits associated. Solomon Islands fishery operated the domestic's fleets and the foreign license vessels from the DWFNs, which in 2020 the total number reaches 194 fishing vessels. For national fleets was 39 flagged vessels (20%) and foreign fleet was 155 fishing vessels (80%) that have access to operate in Solomon Islands EEZ.

Annual catch estimates in 2020 reaches the total of 39,287.49mt for the national fleets, which indicates a slight decline of 53% compare to 2019. The national purse seine fleet was accounted for 32,600.51mt that distributed as, 19,991.30mt of skipjack, yellowfin with 12,448.70mt, bigeye with 154.25mt and 6.27mt comprises of other species. For the longline fleet its catches comprises of albacore 1,967.18mt, bigeye with 647.59mt, 2,693.83mt yellowfin and 126.71mt of other species that reaches a total of 5,485.51mt. Pole and line fishery have a total catch estimated of 1,201.47mt, comprises of skipjack 981.06mt, 220.36mt yellowfin and bigeye 0.05mt. The pole and line fishery have access to fish within and outside the Main Group Archipelago (MGA).

The total efforts for sea days was 10,905 days and overall fishing days for the whole fishery was 10,238 days. Purse seine fishery efforts was 2,101 sea days and its 1,609 fishing days while longline fishing accounted for 8,181 sea days and 8,051 fishing days. The operation of Pole and line in 2020 has 623 sea days and 578 fishing days.

In addition, foreign fleet license in 2020 has caught a total of 101,470.74mt, which comprises of foreign purse seine with 72,329.46mt that distributed as 61,195.95mt skipjack, yellowfin 10,134.61mt, 843.73mt of bigeye and other species 155.17mt. The foreign longline total catches was 5,688.39mt, with albacore 2,480.03mt, bigeye 433.39mt, yellowfin 2,232.25mt and others species 542.71mt. Foreign license fleet estimate catches increases by 65% for 2020, which indicates high portion of tuna, taken and processed in overseas destination.

The efforts registered for foreign fleet was 12,002 days at sea and 9,870 fishing days, where foreign purse seine accounted for 4,156 sea days with 3,194 less fishing days. Also, the foreign

license longline recorded for 7,846 sea days with the accounted 6,676 fishing days in the Solomon Islands EEZ.

The overall tuna catches caught from the Solomon Islands EEZ in 2020 was estimated a total of 117,305.34mt, which distributed as 82,168.31mt (70%) skipjack, 27,729.75mt (24%) yellowfin, 4,447.21mt (4%) albacore, 2,079.01mt (2%) bigeye and 830.86mt (1%) worth of other key species. For 2020 catch rate increased by 5% compared to 2019 records for the national and foreign fleets.

The impacts of Covid 19 pandemic caused the overall decline in fishery operation for 2020, which affected the fishing effort compared to previous year 2019 for the national fleet. The domestic and foreign fleets experience the effects of restrictions imposed on operation and the observer coverage on board vessels ceased for a period by the commission.

### 2. TABULAR ANNUAL FISHERIES INFORMATION (NATIONAL FLEET)

### **2.1 Annual Catch Estimates**

Table 1.1: Annual catch and effort estimates for Solomon Islands national fleet (flagged) purse seine vessels by primary species and discards for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2016-2020.

	National Fleet-Purse Seine-Key species catches in the WCPFC Conventional Area												
		20	16	20	17	20	18	20	19	20	20		
C-4	Species	Retained	Discards										
Category		estimates											
		(MT)											
TUN	ALB	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.06	0	0	0		
TUN	BET	1644.9	7.82	169.36	0.75	99.48	3.55	203.77	7.05	154.25	0.05		
TUN	PBF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00		
TUN	SKJ	26615.92	249.04	28249.06	0.15	35215.52	615.62	52480.76	494.82	19991.3	191.86		
TUN	YFT	15423.86	40.15	17292.71	0.09	15310.74	178.65	18612.39	147.43	12448.7	129.74		
BIL	BLM	3.3	9.12	3.27	0	0.8	1.94	2.21	0.86	1.12535	0.91		
BIL	BUM	4.84	1.32	0.12	0	6.76	4.08	5.46	4.34	4.91886	0.16		
BIL	MLS	0.99	0	1.69	0.5	0.69	0.2	0.79	0.15	0.18151	0.31		
BIL	SWO	1.65	9.9	0.14	0	1.6	0	0.17	0	0	0		
SHK	BSH	0	1.32	0	0	0	0	0	0.04	0	0		
SHK	FAL	0	128.33	1.49	0.06	0	81.81	0.11	82.83	0	83.07		
SHK	HAM	0	0	0	0.45	0	0.16	0	0.04	0	0.15		
SHK	MAK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
SHK	OCS	0	0.33	0	0.09	0	0.36	0	0.24	0	0.04		
SHK	POR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
SHK	RHN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.08	0.25		
SHK	THR	0	0	0	0.48	0	0.08	0	0.27	0	0.19		

Table 1.2: Annual catch and effort estimates for Solomon Islands national fleets (foreign locally based (chartered) longline vessels by primary species and discards in the WCPFC Convention area from 2016-2020.

I	National F	leet-Long	line Key s	pecies cat	tches in th	e WCPFC	Convent	ional Area	1
		2016	2017	20	18	20	19	20	20
Category	Species	Retained	Retained	Retained	Discards	Retained	Discards	Retained	Discards
Category	Species	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates
		(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)
TUN	ALB	0	0	1914.07	0.70	2899.51	0.98	1967.18	0
TUN	BET	O	0	1368.58	0.34	1487.09	0.75	647.59	0
TUN	PBF	0	0	0	0	0.20	0	0.43	0
TUN	SKJ	0	0	85.61	0.06	116.27	0.25	49.78	0
TUN	YFT	0	0	4849.52	2.30	5587.50	5.78	2693.83	0
BIL	BLM	0	0	6.40	0	12.56	0	0	0
BIL	BUM	0	0	287.59	0.67	310.81	3.06	0	0
BIL	MLS	0	0	1.36	0.08	5.06	0.12	0	0
BIL	SWO	0	0	57.94	0.85	54.02	0.79	0	0
SHK	BSH	0	0	48.27	5.44	54.61	8	100.10	0.03
SHK	FAL	0	0	0	1.84	0	1.49	0.05	12.93
SHK	HAM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.02214	0
SHK	MAK	0	0	20.98	3.85	25.43	1	24.56	0
SHK	OCS	0	0	0	0.12	0	0.21	0	0
SHK	POR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHK	RHN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHK	THR	0	0	0	0.56	0	0.28	1.97	0

Table 1.3: Annual catch and effort estimates for Solomon Islands pole and line national fleets (flagged) in the WCPFC Convention area from 2016-2020.

N	National Fleet -Pole and Line -Targeted Tuna Species in the WCPFC Conventional Area											
Flag Code	Year	Vessels	Trips	Sea Days	Fish Days	BET catch (MT)	SKJ catch (MT)	YFT catch (MT)	Total Catch (MT)			
SB	2016	2	19	270	254	0	462	91	553			
SB	2017	2	17	255	231	0	435	151	586			
SB	2018	3	39	417	389	0	946	134	1080			
SB	2019	4	44	558	523	0	943	178	1121			
SB	2020	4	32	511	482	0.05	981.06	220.36	1201.47			

### 2.2 Historical information on national fleet.

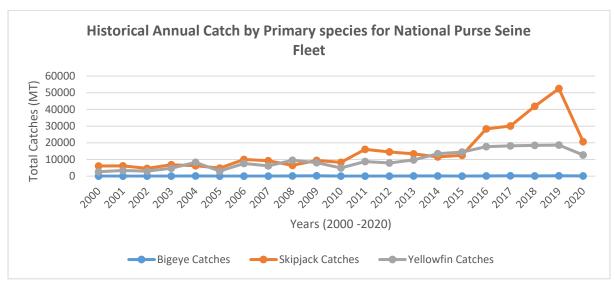


Figure 1.1: Historical annual catch for the National Purse Seine Fleet by primary species for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2000-2020.

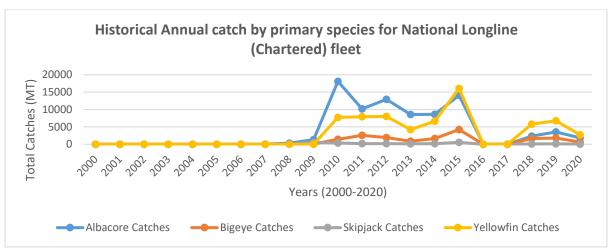


Figure 1.2: Historical annual catch for the National Longline fleet by primary species for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2000-2020.

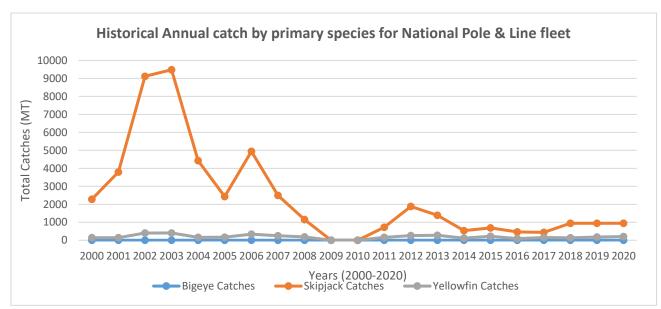


Figure 1.3: Historical annual catch for the National Pole & Line fleet by primary species for the WCPFC Convention from 2000-2020.

### 2.3 Historical annual vessel numbers

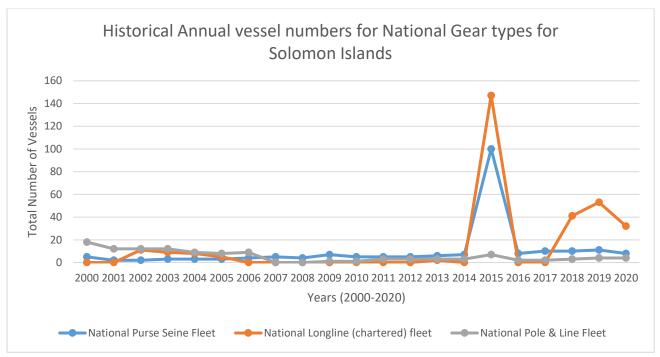


Figure 2: Historical annual vessel numbers for the national purse seine, longline and pole & line fleets for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2000-2020.

### 2.4 Size category

Table 2: Number of national longline (charter), purse seine and pole &line vessels by size category, active in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2016-2020.

Nation	al Fleets by Gear Typ	es with Siz	ze Categor	y (GRT) fro	m 2016 -20	20
Gear	Size Category(GRT)	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
	0 -500	0	0	0	0	0
	501 - 1000	5	5	5	5	5
Purse Seine	1001 -1500	3	4	4	5	3
	1500+	0	1	1	1	0
	Total	8	10	10	11	8
	0 - 50	0	0	0	0	0
	51 - 200	0	0	34	41	26
Longliner	201 - 500	0	0	7	12	1
	500+	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	41	53	27
	0 - 50	0	0	0	0	0
	51 - 200	2	2	3	4	4
Pole and Line	201 - 500	0	0	0	0	0
	500+	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	2	2	3	4	4

### 2.4 Catch and Effort distributions

Figure 3: Annual distribution of target species catch and effort by national purse seine, longline and pole & line fleets active in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2020.

### **Purse Seine fleet**

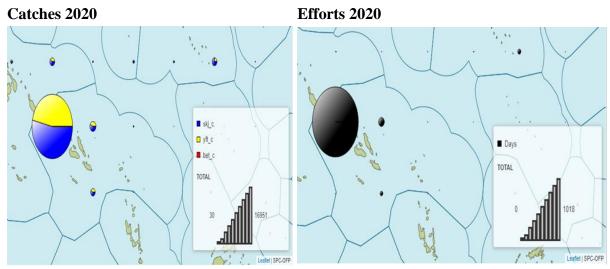


Figure 3.1 Purse Seine Catch and Effort pattern

### **Longline fleet**

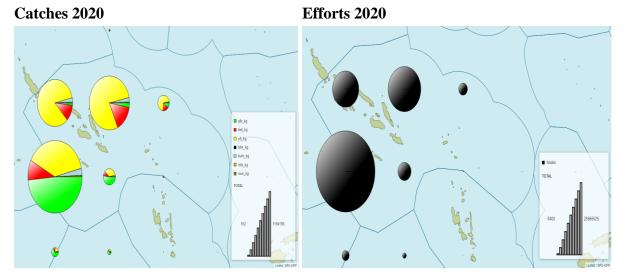


Figure 3.2 Longline Catch and Effort pattern

# Pole and Line fleet Catches 2020 Efforts 2020

Figure 3.3 Pole and Line Catch and Effort pattern

### 2.5 Species of special interest

Table 3: Observed annual estimated catches of species of special interest by national purse seine and longline fleet in the WCPFC Convention area for 2016-2020.

Observed a	Observed annual estimated catches of species of special interest by national purse seine and longline fleet in the WCPFC Convention area for 2016-2020.															
	Species		2016			2017			2018			2019			2020	
Gear	Category		No.	No.		No.	No.									
	Category	Number	Alive	Dead Number	Alive	Dead										
	Marine															
	Mammals	1944	1926	8	73	49	2	58	27	31	59	58	1	38	31	0
National	Marine															
Purse Seine	Reptiles	13	13	0	10	9	1	14	7	6	6	6	0	1	1	0
	Marine															
	Mammals							3	3	0						
National	Marine															
Longline	Reptiles	1	0	1				9	3	5	4	1	3			

### 2.6 Non-target, associated and dependent species

Table 4.1: Annual estimated catches of non-target, associated and dependent species including sharks by National Purse Seine Fleet in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2016-2020.

NATIONAL FLEET -Purse Seine- Annual Estimated Catches of non-target, associated and dependent species, including sharks in WCPFC Convention Area for 2016-2020										
Consider Cotonomi	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
Species Category	Species mt									
BILLFISH	0.388	0.408	0.48	0.035	0.1					
INVERTERBRATE			0.002							
MAMMALS	39.137	13.41	96.829	65.98	0.3					
RAYS	7.048	13.283	6.258	10.614	2.6					
SHARKS	0.48	3.932	4	1.915	0.4					
TURTLES	0.02	0.076		0.03	0.126					
OTHER FISH	262.999	784.193	99.773	93.232	90.4					

Table 4.2: Annual estimated catches of non-target, associated and dependent species including sharks by National Longline Fleet in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2016-2020.

	NATIONAL LONGLINE-Annual estimated catches of non-target, associated and dependent species, including sharks in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2016-2020										
Curaina Catamam.	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020						
Species Category	Species mt	Species mt	Species mt	Species mt	Species mt						
TUNA				0.2003							
BILLFISH	0.2868		7.0379	3.9017	53.381						
INVERTERBRATE				0.004							
MAMMALS			0.3								
RAYS	0.1663		9.3773	4.6796							
SHARKS	0.3801		3.5902	2.2891	3.701						
TURTLES	0.08		0.51	0.04							
OTHER FISH	0.2674		16.3761	31.572	219.749						

### 2.7 Estimated annual coverage

Table 5: Estimated Annual coverage of operational catch/effort, port sampling and observer data for National Purse Seine, Pole & Line and Longline Fleet in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2016-2020.

GEAR	YEAR	CATCH/EFFORT DATA COVERAGE	PORT SAMPLING COVERAGE	OBSERVER DATA COVERAGE
	2016	HIGH	LOW	HIGH
	2017	HIGH	NIL	HIGH
Purse Seine	2018	HIGH	NIL	81.30%
	2019	HIGH (100%)	NIL	HIGH (93.0%)
	2020	HIGH (100%)	NIL	HIGH (75.3%)
	2016	HIGH	NIL	LOW
	2017	HIGH	NIL	MEDIUM
Pole and Line	2018	MEDIUM	NIL	28%
	2019	MEDIUM (82.89%)	NIL	LOW (20%)
	2020	HIGH (100%)	NIL	LOW (0%)
	2016	LOW	NIL	LOW
	2017	NIL	NIL	NIL
Longliner	2018	MEDIUM	NIL	3.80%
	2019	HIGH (94.11%)	NIL	LOW (4.9%)
	2020	HIGH (93.06%)	NIL	LOW (0%)

### 3. BACKGROUND

Solomon Islands tuna fishery has a historical significance since 1970 for contributing to the national economy. The operational gear types that continuously maintain are the purse seine, pole and line and longline fleets. Through the benefits from license fees, levies, fines and export duties contributed towards the economic development and aspiration of the country. Fishery sector is a growing industry where Noro tuna processing cannery continue to venture and expand its market around the globe. Since 1980s the flagship cannery at Noro, Western province, produces some of the highly demanded tuna brand products, such as canned fish, tuna loins and fish meal. Soltuna brand products exported to various market destination overseas and some portion of it sold locally. There are approximately around 2500 locals are employed in the fishery sector both at the fishing and processing operation.

Solomon Islands fisheries consider the artisanal tuna fishery operation compared to the commercial tuna operation, which add value to the economic development. So far, this small-scale operation mainly by outboard motors hand line and trolling fishing, that normally sold at the local market. This operation is sustainable and continue to provide fresh catch to almost 80% of the population in urban and rural coastal communities. Most coastal and rural communities depends on subsistence fishing where fresh marine species, harvested for consumption and later processed as marine export products.

The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, continues to uphold the mandatory responsibilities in ensuring the Fisheries Management Act (FMA) 2015, well served by its purpose. Through the fisheries act, align to be the national fisheries regulations 2017 and other management's guidelines, terms and conditions. Policies and strategies for ensuring the management, conservation, development and sustainable resources, properly handled for the next generation. The reviewed TMDP will be consistent with the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources' Corporate Plan, which aims to properly develop and manage Solomon Islands' Fisheries and to ensure Solomon Islands, receives benefit from its sustainably managed marine resources. The TMDP provide for in the FMA 2015 and is consistent with Solomon Islands National Development Strategy (NDS) 2016-2035. The NDS supports fisheries management initiatives, investment opportunity, improved food security, access to social services and basic needs, improve infrastructure and economic growth.

The Solomon Islands plays an important role through negotiations and active involvements at international, regional and national levels. Some arrangements and agreements done through multilateral and bilateral decision-makings. As member of the Parties to Nauru Agreement (PNA), taking initiatives through implementation of Electronic Monitoring and Electronic Reporting and proposed strategy for licensing FAD Management. The country is one of the beneficiary from Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) that has continued and brings tangible outcomes for its requirements towards fishery investors.

The local companies that invest as fishing operator are; National Fisheries Development Ltd (NFD), Southern Seas Investment Ltd (SSI), Global Fishery Ltd, Willfish Investment Ltd and Solong Seafood Ltd. The described companies operated the gear type Purse Seine, Longline and Pole & Line that are active to fish in Solomon Islands EEZ. In addition, the processing tuna cannery is Soltuna Company Ltd and other fishing exporters such as NFD, SSI and Solfish Ltd.

In 2020, the longline fishery operated under the arrangement of charter notification with Solomon Islands flag through the conditions of landing their catches at Honiara and Noro port. The locally based operators for longline are Global fishery Ltd, NFD, Willfish Investment and Solong Seafood. Regardless of foreign longline, without charter arrangements are handle by their respective flag state and can unload the catches at any overseas ports. The purse seine fishery continues to maintain its status of operation for instance; NFD fleets mostly operated within and along the Main Group Archipelagic (MGA) while the SSI fleets operated 36 to 200 nautical miles and join with the FSM arrangement and Sub pooling arrangements. With the smaller scale operation of Pole and Line fishery under the NFD fleet, provides important catches that contributed to the processing and export quota of its product brand. For this reason, this Pole and line fishery has significance historical impacts in the context of Solomon Islands fishery since 1980s and in 2020, there are only four active vessels maintained.

### 4. FLAG STATE REPORTING

National Fleet with Solomon Islands flagged are purse seine, longline and pole and line vessels. The locally registered companies that have the license to fish in the Solomon Islands Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the WCPFC Conventional area operate these fleets.

### 4.1 Locally Flagged (Domestic) Vessels

The domestic vessels registered with Solomon Islands flag, operated by locally based companies such as NFD, with Purse seine, Pole & Line and chartered longline vessels fleet and SSI runs Purse seine fleet. The other locally based companies that operated longlines fleet are Global fishery, Willfish Investment and Solong Seafood. In Table 6; below described the summary records from 2016 to 2020, likewise for registration of vessels in 2020 for purse seine fleet is 8 vessels, 27 longliners vessels and 4 pole lines are actively operated in the Solomon Islands EEZ as required for domestic.

Table 6: Summary of National Gear types/fleets operating in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2016-2020.

National Gear Types by Year from 2016 -2020										
GEAR	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020					
Purse Seine	8	10	10	11	8					
Longliner	0	0	41	53	27					
Pole & Line	2	2	3	4	4					
Total	10	12	54	68	44					

The overview of the domestic fleets accounts from 2016 to 2020 has indicated that the trend from the past records reflect a declining rate for purse seine is 28% from previous year (2019) and longline vessel with 49 % decline from 2019 records, but pole and line fleet maintain its 100 % status. Below graphs, clearly shows the demonstration of the fleet status for the reporting period.

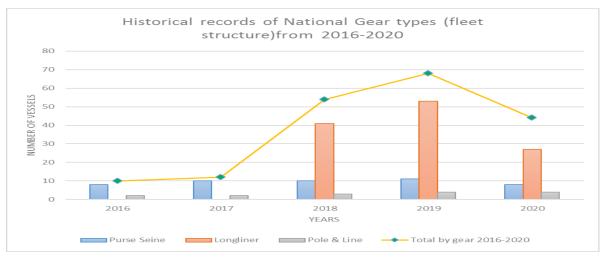


Figure 4: Historical summary of national (flagged) gear types/fleets operating in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2016-2020.

### 4.2 Catch Estimates and Effort Distribution

The catch estimates and effort distribution for the domestic fleets by gear types reflected below with specification of its distribution throughout the entire exclusive economic zones of Solomon Islands. The span of the catch and effort is for 2020 operational year, which gives clear determination of where in the conventional area does the heavy fishing operation takes place.

### **4.2.1 National Purse Seine Fleet**

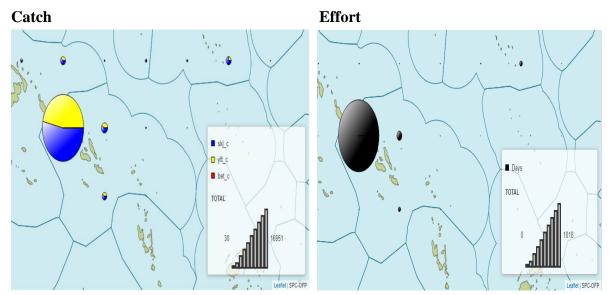


Figure 4a: Catch and Effort distribution for National Purse Seine Fleet for current year 2020.

The fishing activities continues to sustain the operation of the flagship tuna cannery at Noro. Through the efforts contributed from the purse seine fleet operated by National Fisheries Development (NFD) that maintain the supply of tuna into the Soltuna processing plants. Although, other substitute supply also shared by one of the locally based company Southern Seas Investment (SSI) from its Purse seine fleet. The reflection of the catch and efforts collectively distributed that 98% of catches supplied are from NFD fleets with 2% from SSI fleets for the domestic purse seine gear.

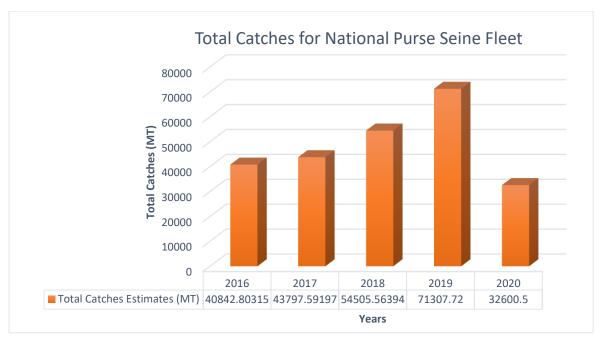


Figure 4b: Total Catches for the National Purse Seine Fleet from 2016-2020 in the WCPFC Convention Area.

### **4.2.2 National Longline Fleet**

Domestic Longline fleet has operated under the charter notification which those vessels have foreign registered flag but used Solomon Islands flag status as its operator. From the status of charter notification, the responsibilities of reporting catches must be obligated in the domestic affairs. Therefore, in 2020 the national longline vessels decline by catches and also determined by the reduction in number of chartered vessels from the locally based companies such as NFD, Global fishery, Willfish Investment and Solong Seafood.

### **Longline fleet 2020 Catch estimates**

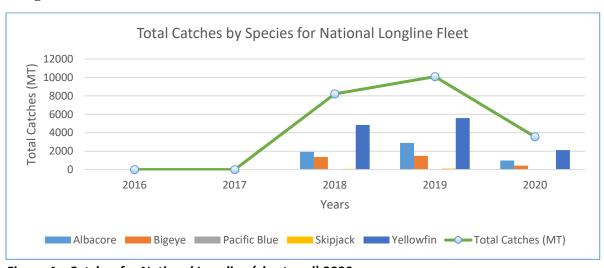


Figure 4c: Catches for National Longline (chartered) 2020.

### **Longline fleet 2020 Efforts distributions**

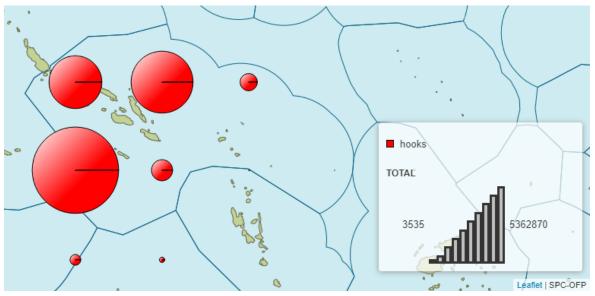


Figure 4d: Efforts distributions for Longline fleets operated in 2020 in the Solomon Islands EEZ.

### 4.2.3 National Pole & Line Fleet

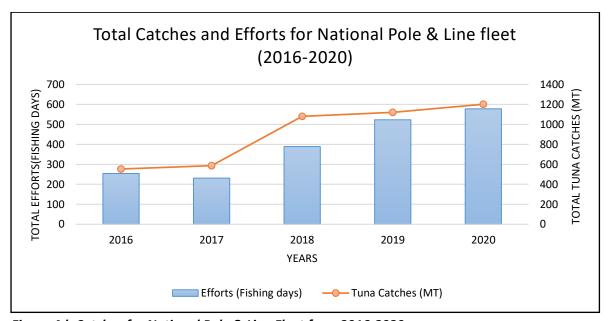


Figure 4d: Catches for National Pole & Line Fleet from 2016-2020.

National Pole and line fishery has long history for Solomon Islands fishery and throughout its operation as reflected from 2016 to 2020 the fleet continues to maintain its catch and efforts. For 2020, catch estimates slightly increase by 7 % from the previous year, but the fleet size are same. From the trends clearly shows that there was an increasing rate for the past five years until 2020.

### 5. COASTAL STATE REPORTING

### 5.1 Fleet structure for the Foreign Fishing Vessels

The coastal state reporting covers the fishing fleet that have license to fish or operated in the Solomon Islands EEZ in 2020. Information collected varies from the foreign license vessels such as the bunkers, carriers, longlines, pole & line and purse seine fleet. As refer to table 7: below, clearly shows the summary records of the foreign license vessels with its registered flag state.

Table 7. Summary of the Foreign fishing vessels licensed to operate in the Solomon Islands EEZ in 2020.

Numbe	er of Foreigi	n licensed	vessels by f	lag and gea	r in 2020	
				Pole &	Purse	Total by
Flag	Bunkers	Carriers	Longline	Line	Seine	Flag
China			33		7	40
Fiji						1
Japan				6	29	35
Kiribati					4	4
Korea		10			26	36
Panama	1	11				12
Papua New Guinea					4	4
Philippines					20	20
Taiwan		1	1		25	27
Cambodia		1				1
Total by Gear	1	23	34	6	115	180

There are total of 180 foreign vessels license in 2020, which categorised as, 1 bunkers, 23 carriers, 34 longline, 6 pole & line and 115 purse seine vessels. Through access of fishing in the Solomon Islands, there are arrangement made such as multilateral arrangement, bilateral arrangement, FSM arrangement, PNA sub-pooling arrangement and other flag state arrangement.

### 5.2. Foreign Purse Seine Vessels

In 2020, foreign purse seine fleet have a total estimated catch of 72,329.46 mt fished in the Solomon Islands EEZ. The trend of fishing carried out concluded that most catches fished by Korean flag purse seine with approximated catch of 33,258.77mt (46%) and followed by Taiwan flag purse seine with 14,428.83mt (20%). The rest of the flag state as indicated in table 8 with 34 % of catch total estimated about 24,641.86MT fished by Japanese flag, US flag, Philippine flag, PNG flag, Vanuatu flag, Kiribati Flag, FSM flag, Marshall Flag and Nauru flag vessels.

Table 8: Coastal reports on the Foreign Purse Seine Fleet with the total catch estimates and efforts for primary tuna species in the Solomon Islands EEZ for 2020.

FOR	EIGN PUR	SE SEINE FL	EET -Total	catch estin	nates and e	fforts for primar	y tuna species in	the Solomon Isl	ands EZZ for	2020			
Flag Code	Year		Eff	orts		Catches							
Flag Code	Tear	Vessels	Trips	Sea Days	Fish Days	SKJ Catch (MT)	BET Catch (MT)	YFT Catch (MT)	Other (MT)	TOTAL Catch (MT)			
FM	2020	21	41	198	113.175	2740.06	16	497	11.65	3264.71			
JP	2020	18	24	116	103.997	1412.42	24.5	1125.38	23.52	2585.82			
KI	2020	9	20	173	150.992	3818.31	22	695	4.9	4540.21			
KR	2020	26	92	1066	809.736	28172.75	28172.75 243.5		45.22	33258.77			
MH	2020	3	6	24	10	370	3	12	0.78	385.78			
NR	2020	12	19	74	54.498	1891.1 62		116	5.21	2074.31			
PG	2020	15	27	121	69.241	1405.11	1	632.55	4.82	2043.48			
PH	2020	2	3	16	14.999	621.29	0	120	1.63	742.92			
TW	2020	24	61	505	357.628	12916.22	341.73	1129.33	41.55	14428.83			
US	2020	12	18	106	95.999	2534.19	80	212.9	2.26	2829.35			
VU	2020	5	20	200	126.477	5314.5	50	797.15	13.63	6175.28			
Totals		147	331	2599	1906.742	61195.95	843.73	10134.61	155.17	72329.46			

### **5.2.1 Foreign Purse Seine Catch and Effort Distribution**

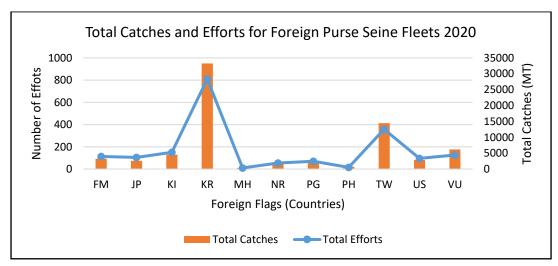


Figure 5a. Total Catch and Effort for Foreign Purse Seine Fleets in 2020.

### **5.3 Foreign Longliner Vessels**

Foreign longline fleet comes under the bilateral arrangement, which vessels operated in the Solomon Islands with the license without the charter notification. The arrangement done with Solong Seafood Development Company a locally based company and through the fleet operation under registered flag China and Taiwan. The total catches and efforts described in Table 9 below clearly shows its operations for 2020 respectively.

Table 9: Coastal report for the Foreign Longline Fleet with the total catch estimates and efforts for primary tuna species in the Solomon Islands EEZ for 2020.

	FOREIGN LONGLINE FLEET-Total catch estimate and effort for primary tuna species in Solomon Islands EEZ for 2020												
FLAG	Year	Vessels	Trips	Sea Days	Fishing Days	100s of Hooks	ALB Catch (MT)	BET Catch (MT)	YFT Catch (MT)	OTHER Catch (MT)	TOTAL Catch (MT)		
CN	2020	49	174	7742	6600	230390	2472.672	422.12	2190.28	535.3	5620.38		
TW	2020	1	1	104	76	2432	7.354	11.27	41.97	7.41	68.01		
Totals 50 175		7846	6676	232822	2480.026	433.39	2232.25	542.71	5688.39				

### **5.3.1 Foreign Longline Catch and Effort Distribution**

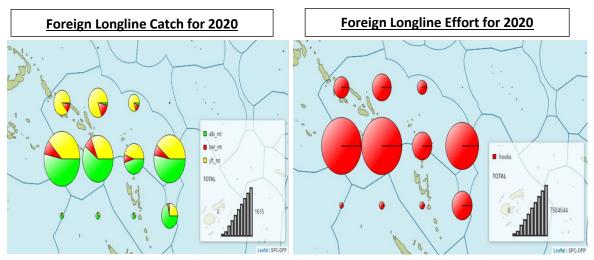


Figure 5b. Catch and effort distribution for Foreign Longline Fleets in 2020.

### 6. SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS

Tuna fisheries in Solomon Islands contributed in terms of financial status towards the economy as one of the productive sector and main income contributors. The tuna resources is one of the vital commodity for income and as food security. Solomon Islands regarded as one of the island nation, which plays a leading role in tuna industry and towards socio-economic developments in this recent time.

The government redirection policy has empowers the social services through fisheries sectors must be implemented. From the services of employment, infrastructure delivery, training development from education institutions and health services, continues to provide essential implementation.

The drive of economic projections contributed from fisheries sector includes the exports, revenue collection, access fees, levies, taxes and duties has great impacts to the government aspirations. Tuna value reflected a major income contributions injected into the country and are utilised for the benefit of our society.

The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources continues to uphold its mandatory responsibilities in ensuring the implementation of policy and legislation guided for tuna fisheries operation and development aspirations. Through the Fisheries Management Act (FMA) 2015, with the Fisheries Management Regulations 2017 has the power to protect and guide the sustainable management of tuna resources, its operation and exploitation. With the proposed Tuna Fisheries Management Development Plan (TMDP) gives way for future directives and initiatives that will pave sustainable objectives.

### 7. DISPOSAL OF CATCH

Solomon Islands locally based companies and industries have significance impacts towards the socioeconomic and environmental development of the country. Through the major development and contributions of tuna, catches enhance its products and service delivery to meet the high demand and expectation of international, regional and local markets.

The establishment of the Soltuna Processing Company with the other fishing operators such as NFD, SSI, Global fishery, Solong Seafood and Willfish, continuous to maintain the supply chain of tuna products in terms of raw fish to the market demand. The impacts of Covid 19 contributed to the ease of operation, which causes major setbacks on activities such as monitoring at port, observer coverage and other protocols or procedures of restriction.

Therefore, the information on disposal of catch shows an important trend of activities done at different designated ports mainly at Honiara and Noro. For oversea port records of unloading and transhipment capture as refer to (Attachment 1 for Transhipment). Below is the summary report of the disposal of catch in 2020 for Solomon Islands.

Table 10: Disposal of Catches from the National Longline, Pole & Line and Purse Seine fleet for 2019.

Goar Tymo	Designated Port	Market	Tun	а	Billfish	h	Other	r	Total
Gear Type	Designated Port	Iviarket	Domestic	Export	Domestic	Export	Domestic	Export	Total
		%		100%					
	Honiara	Condition		Frozen					
		Metric tonnes	n/a	2172	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2172
Purse Seine		%	94%	6%			100%		
	Noro	Condition	Frozen	Frozen			Frozen		1
		Metric tonnes	16598.134	1114.117	n/a	n/a	959.939	n/a	18672.19
ĺ								Total MT	20844.19
		%	9%	91%	4%	96%	24%	76%	
	Honiara	Condition	Fresh/Frozen	Frozen	Fresh/Frozen	Frozen	Fresh/Frozen	Frozen	
		Metric tonnes	329.2099	3154.5255	2.3515	62.2875	109.4938	346.298	4004.1662
Longline		%	9%	91%		100%		100%	
	Noro	Condition	Fresh/Frozen	Frozen		Frozen		Frozen	
		Metric tonnes	288.544	2835.567	n/a	88.88	n/a	167.968	3380.959
								Total MT	7385.125
		%	73%	27%			100%		
D-I- 8 1:	Noro	Condition	Fresh/Frozen	Frozen			Frozen		
Pole & Line		Metric tonnes	701.554	263.94	n/a	n/a	39.072	n/a	1004.566
l						•		Total MT	1004.566

### 8. ONSHORE DEVELOPMENT

Fisheries sectors in Solomon Islands continues to maintain its status through the existing onshore development. The flagship cannery facilities at Noro known as Soltuna Ltd, produces a maximum capacity of 150 mt of raw tuna per day at the processing plant. The tuna products extracted contain various brands that currently a high demand both at local and overseas markets. Through the market chain, the Soltuna product brand exported to European markets, Asian and other Pacific island countries. The brands products comprises of canned tuna, tuna loin and fishmeal products.

Solomon Islands government prioritized the second tuna processing plant that will be located at Bina Harbour in Malaita province. Through the MFMR and its donor partners fully committed and working collaboratively in ensuring, the project implementation are progressing and operated. The impacts of Covid 19 has causes major setback on the feasibility study currently implemented.

The scope of redirection and prioritization approaches from the government continues to improve and maintain the national economy, infrastructure, standard of living and food security.

### 9. FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE FISHERY

Solomon Islands enhance its vision as mandated through MFMR for a sustainable fisheries sector that can maintain its socioeconomic aspiration. MFMR mission focus on effective services to implement the management and development of our fisheries and aquatic resources for the benefit of its citizen.

Sustaining the limited resources and its management lies on the policy and legislative tools used for achieving the vision and mission. Through the current policy focus on TMDP and regulations such as the Fisheries Management Act (FMA 2015), Fisheries Management Regulations and the License terms and conditions continues to safe guide the pathway. The objective in the National Fisheries Strategic Policy embrace its aims to increase, improve and diversify the benefits generated from offshore fisheries resources.

Collective effort from the tuna fishery is one of the important and essential part of Solomon Islands through MFMR to enforce its mandated responsibility for fisheries resources. Also to promote and empowers coastal fishermen to invest in micro fisheries projects and venture into other innovative processing or commercial activities. Such classic example is the proposed micro project for processing tuna into mincemeat as one of the current investment that MFMR are focussing towards for its future aspiration.

### 10. STATUS OF THE FISHERY DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS

### 10.1 Data collection and verification

The Statistics and Information Section from the Offshore Fisheries Division in the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources handle the status of data collection and verification for the tuna fisheries information. Those data entered and analyse into the database systems, which provide important roles to verify and generate reports as required. The established database systems are SPC Tufman 2 and the PNA FIMS. The two systems provides multiple functions for users.

SPC Tufman 2 database system provides manual registration, entering and verification of catches from log sheets and elogs. Through the entered, catch data reports generated from the Dorado and Tubs component for reporting as required for national, regional and international obligations. PNA FIMS database system deliver its functions from elog system which provided by fishing masters or captains and integrated for quality checks and verification processes and imported into Tufman 2 database. From the data sets, there are components that covers license applications, VDS, elogs, observer listing, CDS, MCS and summary reports.

The fishery data collection is one of the priority focus in the management of the fisheries operation, which enhance the establishment of electronic monitoring (EM) and electronic reporting (ER). The introduced system installed on longline vessels that operate in the Solomon Islands EEZ mainly as a monitoring mechanism on fishing activities. The MFMR through its MCS activities and operation at the designated port of Noro and Honiara, a newly introduce ePort system. The ePort system will enhance mainly to capture the data collected from vessels monitoring, on-board inspection and verification, unloading or transhipment, and the traceability of tuna catch down the processing line and extended to broader market destination. This new development will boost the capacity of MFMR to meet international market requirements for the benefits of its investors and the wider community of Solomon Islands.

### 10.2 Port sampling programme

Port sampling programme no longer conducted since 2015, in any designated ports of Solomon Islands.

### 10.3 Transhipment/Unloading

### 10.3.1 Transhipment in designated Ports of Solomon Islands.

Transhipment in Solomon Islands for 2020, conducted by the compliance and enforcement officers collectively generated from the Fish accountancy and Carriers Transhipment file. The source of information generated from Tufman 2 database system, verified and compiled mainly for activities done at Honiara, Noro port and overseas ports where its flag vessels offload the catches. (Refer to the Attachment 1 (Addendum) CMM 09-06 para 11 for 2020 transhipment to be reported as requirement, for Solomon Islands designated ports of Honiara and Noro, with other overseas ports tranship by SB flag vessels.

### 10.3.2 Unloading trends by National fleets in the designated ports of Solomon Islands.

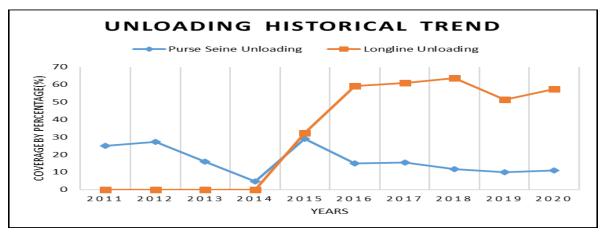


Figure 6. National Fleets unloading coverage from 2011 to 2020 at designated ports.

Refer to the above indicates that in 2020 there are about 10% of domestics purse seine and around 60% for longline fleets. The unloading of catches shows the trend over time from 2011 to 2020 increases and continues to be monitor as new developments of data system introduced such as ePort system and On-board apps.

### 11. RESEARCH

Solomon Islands through the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources have seen the importance of research as one of the priority area or field that needs consideration. Fishery sector enhance the support for technical skills and scientific analysis in focus development. The scope of tuna fisheries and its associated issues concerning the impacts and fishing behaviour on the stock, encourage more effort for research and data analysis. At the national level, capacity building and training development for tuna stock assessment, harvest control rules, biological sampling studies, oceanography, biomass surveys and ecological assessments are some scientific areas of consideration. In addition, other issue of concern is the impacts of climate changes and its related dilemma.

From the support on research at the regional level, SPC, FFA and other sub-regional organisation have contributed a lot in capacity building for MFMR through its services. The ministry through its development are looking into research sector as one of the aspiration goals. Building the direction into research and scientific studies will able the capacity to make important decisions towards sustainable management of the limited fisheries resources.



### ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORT PART 1

**15 February 2021**<sup>1</sup>

# SECTION A: SPECIFIC INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED IN ANNUAL REPORT PART 1 AS REQUIRED BY CMMS AND OTHER DECISIONS OF THE COMMISSION.

CMM 2009-03 [Swordfish], Para	CCM repo	CCM reports on the Longline fished for swordfish as per recorded below;													
8	Flag	Year		Vesse	els	Cat	Catch (Number)			Catch (MT)					
	SB 2020		)	12			309			1	.7.9	54			
			No. of Hooks			Days Fished			Da	Days at Sea		No. of Tri			
Observer	CCM	Fishery	Total estimated	Observer	%	Total estimated	Observer	%	Total estimated	Observer	%	Total estimated	Observer	%	See Note
coverage (WCPFC 11 decision –	Solomon Islands	Longline (Chartered) Fleet	16,035,950	0	0	6,443	0	0	8,798	0	0	205	0	0	Report against 5% coverage
para 484(b)	Note: Reason for low coverage for Longline fleet due to the restrictions and ban of observers programme for 2020.														
CMM 2009-06 [Transshipment], Para 11 (ANNEX II)	Note: Ref			•	this	report	as pe	r the	e Trans	sshipn	nen	t repor	ts.		

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Reporting requirements requested by CMMs and decisions of the Commission, as of WCPFC17 (Dec 2020). First issued on 15 February 2021. Changes made from Addendum for 2020, include separating the annual reporting requirements that specify needing to be included in Annual Report Part 1 (Section A) from those that may be included in Annual Report Part 1 if they are not otherwise provided to WCPFC (Section B). The entry into force of CMM 2019-04 *Conservation and Management Measure for Sharks* for most CCMs in late 2020 and the specified reporting in Section VII, has removed a few annual reporting requirements from this Addendum.

0001-11	T	T.,	o delicido			Species				
Offloaded and received	Transhipped Port	Transhipped inside Convention Area	Caught inside Convention Area	SKJ(MT)	YFT(MT)	BET(MT)	ALB(MT)	Total(MT)	Product Form	Fishing Gear
	Majuro	Yes	Yes	587	296	17		900		
	Tarawa	Yes	Yes	2289	244	12		2545		
0	Pohnpei	Yes	Yes	375	530	15		920	5 \W  -	Purse Seine
Overseas	Funafuti	Yes	Yes	740	50	0		790	Frozen whole	
	Rabaul	Yes	Yes	820	30	0		850		
	Kaoshiung	Yes	Yes	340	355	5		700		
<b>.</b>	Noro	Yes	Yes	12686	9746	32		22465	5 141 1	
Domestic	Honiara	Yes	Yes	1674	729	52		2455	Frozen Whole	Purse Seine
D	Noro	Yes	Yes	23.598	614.81	67.378	225.777	931.56	5 141 1	
Domestic	Honiara	Yes	Yes	30.021	545.544	133.71	25.278	734.55	Frozen Whole	Longline

### **Number of Transhipment**

Number of	r ansinpine						
Offloaded and received	Transhipped Port	Transhipped inside Convention Area	Caught inside Convention Area	Number of Vessels	Number of Tranship pment	Fishing Gear	
	Majuro	Yes	Yes	2	1		
	Tarawa	Yes	Yes	2	3		
0	Pohnpei	Yes	Yes	1	1	D C-!	
Overseas	Funafuti	Yes	Yes	1	1	Purse Seine	
	Rabaul	Yes	Yes	1	1		
	Kaoshiung	Yes	Yes	1	1		
D	Noro	Yes	Yes	7	67	D C-!	
Domestic	Honiara	Yes	Yes	2	4	Purse Seine	
			•				
Domestic	Noro	No	No	15	33	Longline	
Domestic	Honiara	Yes	Yes	16	48	Longline	

CMM 2011-03 [Impact of PS fishing on cetaceans], Para 5

Gear	Species	No. of Individual	EEZ	FATE	Interaction code	Interaction Description
		5	SB	DPA	IBR	Broke through net
	BRYDE'S WHALE	3	SB	DPA	ICR	Crew released from net
		9	SB	DPA/DPD	OTH	Other
	EALCE KILLED WILLALE	5	FM	DPA	IBR	Broke through net
Purse Seine	FALSE KILLER WHALE	4	GL	DPA	ОТН	Other
1	PYGMY KILLER WHALE	1	SB	DPA	IBR	Broke through net
	SEI WHALE	4	SB	DPA	ОТН	Other
	SPINNER DOLPHIN	2	GL	DPU	IEN	Entangled in gear

Note: Report on the National Purse seine fishing interaction on cetaceans for 2020.

CMM 2018-03 [Seabirds] Para 13 Note: Refer to Annex 2 report below for (Table x, y, z).

### 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, summarising the most recent five years.

Table x: Effort, observed and estimated seabird captures by fishing year for [CCM] [South of  $30^{\circ}$ S;  $25^{\circ}$ S- $30^{\circ}$ S; North of  $23^{\circ}$ N; or  $23^{\circ}$ N –  $25^{\circ}$ 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	Observed seabird captures				
	Number of vessels	Number of hooks	Observed hooks	% hooks observed	Number	Rate <sup>2</sup>	
2016	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2017	0	0	0	0	0	0	
2018	41	9017616	861,474	10%	0	0	
2019	53	12497194	1,769,001	15%	0	0	
2020	27	5531700	0	0	0	0	

<sup>1</sup> Insert 'North of 23oN', 'South of 30oS', '25oS-30oS' or '23oN – 250oS'. For CCMs fishing in all areas, provide separate tables for each area.

<sup>2</sup> Provide data as captures per one thousand hooks.

Table y: Proportion of mitigation types<sup>1</sup> used by the fleet in [2020].

	Combination of	Proportion of observed effort using mitigation measures									
	Combination of Mitigation Measures	South of 30°S	25°S-30°S	25°S to 23°N	North of 23°N						
	No mitigation measures	0	0	0	0						
Options	TL + NS	0	0	0	0						
required south	TL + WB	0	0	0	0						
of 25°S	NS + WB	0	0	0	0						
	TL + WB + NS	0	0	0	0						
	HS	0	0	0	0						
Other options	WB	0	0	0	0						
25°S-30°S	TL	0	0	0	0						
Other options	SS/BC/WB/DSLS	0	0	0	0						
north of 23 <sup>0</sup> N	SS/BC/WB/(MOD or BDB)	0	0	0	0						
Provide any other											
combination of											
mitigation measures here											
	Totals (must equal 100%)	0	0	0	0						

<sup>&</sup>lt;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 [CCM] longline fisheries, 2020, by species and area.

Species	South of 30°S	25°S-30°S	North of 23°N	$23^{o}N - 25^{o}S$	Total
E.g. Antipodean albatross	0	0	0	0	0
Gibson's albatross	0	0	0	0	0
Unidentified albatross	0	0	0	0	0
Great winged petrel	0	0	0	0	0
White chinned petrel	0	0	0	0	0
Gulls-terns and skuas	0	0	0	0	0
Unidentified	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0

# SECTION B: ADDITIONAL ANNUAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS THAT COULD BE INCLUDED IN ANNUAL REPORT PART 1, IF NOT OTHERWISE REPORTED ANNUALLY TO WCPFC

CMM 2006-04 [South West		Note: Report on South West striped Marlin recorded from the Dorado reporting for National Longline.																	
striped Marlin], Para 4	Fla	ag	Year	Ve	essel	s	Catcl	า (Nu	ımb	ers)	С	atch	(MT	)					
4	SI	В	2020		23			8				0.3	15						
CMM 2015-02 [South Pacific Albacore] Para 4	SPC, v	Address who auto risation	omatico	_		_										_	eet a	lata to	,
CMM 2019-03		Report d 2016-2		th Pa	cific	Alb	acore		ght	by N	atior	nal g	ear ty	pe fo	or th	e rep		ng 	
[North Pacific Albacore],	ссм	Area	Fishery	No. of vessels	Vessel days	Catch (MT)	No. of vessels	Vessel		No. of vessels	Vessel days	Catch (MT)	No. of vessels	Vessel days	Catch (MT)	No. of vessels		Catch	
Para 3	Solomon Islands	North Pacific Ocean	Longline Purse Seine	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	100 0	8.829	6	259 0	64.643	3	78 0	29.353 0	
	Ļ		ruise seine	3		"		0	0			0	0					U U	