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

WCPFC-SC18-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 2021

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
2022	

1 ABSTRACT

Solomon Islands fisheries in 2021 has contributed enormously to the country's economy in terms of generating revenues and other benefits. Tuna fisheries is regarded as the valuable resources that has significant to the livelihood of people and continuously enhance the commercial industries to produce value added products, that contributes diversely to the Solomon Islands economy. Over the years, tuna fishery becomes an important commodity where revenue and access fees continue to enhance our economy and its development aspiration. The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources has the mandatory power to secure access arrangements especially for bilateral, multilateral, sub-pooling and FSMA arrangements. Access arrangements or agreements are made between the distant water fishing nations (DWFN) specifically to operate and fished in the Solomon Islands EEZ.

In 2021, there are about an estimated total of 179 vessels of gear types Purse Seine, Longline and Pole & line has granted the access license to operate in the national waters of Solomon Islands. The distribution of fleets comprises of local fleets (domestic) and foreign fleets which has different arrangements to the operational activities. For the domestic fleets, there are about 25% comprises of 8 Purse Seine, 33 Longline and 4 Pole & line vessels. With comparison to 75% of the total fleets comprises of foreign gear types such as 104 foreign Purse Seine vessels under bilateral arrangement and 8 vessels are operated under sub-pooling. The foreign longlines comprises of 22 vessels which has a locally based agent. The scope of the fishing operation is aligning with the license conditions and fisheries regulations as requirements by the Solomon Islands government or sovereign state.

For the 2021 annual catch estimates reaches a total of 101,496.14mt, that are caught in the Solomon Islands EEZ, which comprises an estimated 44% of catches from the national fleets (flag vessels) and 56% catches by the foreign fleets. The national fleets are accounted for an estimated catch total of 48,576.72mt where Purse Seine fleet has most catches of 41,176.2mt, Longline with 6,187.52mt and Pole & Line has 1,213mt. In regards to the foreign fleets catch estimates are accounted for almost a total of 62,233.91mt that comprises of 60,319.94mt caught by foreign Purse seine fleet and 1,913.97mt caught by foreign longline fleet. The annual total efforts distribution for national fleets comprises of Purse seine with 1,328 sea days and 1,100 fishing days, Longline with total of 6,281 fishing days and registered a total amount of 122,621 hooks for its operation and Pole & line with an amount of 532 sea days and 1,962 fishing days for its foreign Purse seine fleets and the Longline has accounted for 2,263 fishing days with 73,874 hooks in total.

With regards to species distribution for National fleets based on the portions of catches are Skipjacks with highest quantity of 27,018.78mt, yellowfin has 18,426.16mt, the bigeye catches of 1,806.7mt, albacore has 1,936.12mt, pacific bluefin with 0.52, billfish accounts for 258.37mt and other fish species has 31.42mt. In addition to the Foreign fleets catches distribution has accounted for the large shared portion where a skipjack reaches a total of 49,746.67mt, yellowfin has 9,850.44mt, 1,388.98mt of bigeye, albacore has 1,054.81 and other fish species has a total of 193.01mt. The vast species distribution reflects that the trend of fishing CPUE are proportionate to catch and efforts from the key species right across to the billfish and other fish species caught by the national and foreign fleets, operated in 2021 national waters. The major challenges that affects the fisheries in 2021 is the Covid 19 restriction and less observer

coverage, which contributes to some setbacks to the data coverage and decline to the fishing operations in the Solomon Islands national waters.

2 TABULAR ANNUAL FISHERIES INFORMATION (NATIONAL FLEET)

2.1 Annual Catch Estimates

Table 1.1 Annual catch and effort estimates for the Solomon Islands national fleet (flagged) Purse Seine vessel by primary species and discards for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2017 to 2021.

		National	Fleet-Purse	e Seine-Ke	y species c	atches in tl	he WCPFC	Conventi	onal Area		
		20	17	20	18	20	2019		20	20	21
Catagory	Species	Retained	Discards	Retained	Discards	Retained	Discards	Retained	Discards	Retained	Discards
Category	species	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates	estimates
		(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)
TUN	ALB	0	0	0	0	2.06	0	0	0	0	0
TUN	BET	169.36	0.75	99.48	3.55	203.77	7.05	154.25	0.04	253.36	1.08
TUN	PBF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TUN	SKJ	28249.06	0.15	35215.52	615.62	52480.76	494.82	20093.00	172.00	25936.16	458.39
TUN	YFT	17292.71	0.09	15310.74	178.65	18612.39	147.43	12662.99	116.31	14979.14	282.72
BIL	BLM	3.27	0	0.8	1.94	2.21	0.86	1.01	0.81	1.92	0.31
BIL	BUM	0.12	0	6.76	4.08	5.46	4.34	4.41	0.14	4.54	0.48
BIL	MLS	1.69	0.5	0.69	0.2	0.79	0.15	0.16	0	0.56	0
BIL	SWO	0.14	0	1.6	0	0.17	0	0.02	0	0.41	0
SHK	BSH	0	0	0	0	0	0.04	0	0	0	0
SHK	FAL	1.49	0.06	0	81.81	0.11	82.83	0	72.68	0.11	72.66
SHK	HAM	0	0.45	0	0.16	0	0.04	0	0.13	0	0.19
SHK	MAK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.17
SHK	OCS	0	0.09	0	0.36	0	0.24	0	0	0	0
SHK	POR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHK	RHN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SHK	THR	0	0.48	0	0.08	0	0.27	0	0.09	0	0.46

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 2017-2021.

	National Fleet-Longline Key species catches in the WCPFC Conventional Area													
		2017	20	18	20	19	20	20	20	21				
Catago	Species	Retained	Retained	Discards	Retained	Discards	Retained	Discards	Retained	Discards				
Category	species	estimates												
		(MT)												
TUN	ALB	0	1914.07	0.70	2899.51	0.98	2227.18	0	1936.12	0				
TUN	BET	0	1368.58	0.34	1487.09	0.75	663.40	0	649.99	0				
TUN	PBF	0	0	0	0.20	0	0.54	0	0.52	0				
TUN	SKJ	0	85.61	0.06	116.27	0.25	64.70	0	29.62	0				
TUN	YFT	0	4849.52	2.30	5587.50	5.78	2792.36	0	3289.02	0				
BIL	BLM	0	6.40	0	12.56	0	2.08	0	1.10	0				
BIL	BUM	0	287.59	0.67	310.81	3.06	147.33	0	220.88	0				
BIL	MLS	0	1.36	0.08	5.06	0.12	1.01	0	0.76	0				
BIL	SWO	0	57.94	0.85	54.02	0.79	51.98	0	28.20	0				
SHK	BSH	0	48.27	5.44	54.61	8	129.76	0.04	21.14	9.44				
SHK	FAL	0	0	1.84	0	1.49	0.45	9.52	0.02	21.31				
SHK	HAM	0	0	0	0	0	0.02	0	0.00	0				
SHK	MAK	0	20.98	3.85	25.43	1	25.49	0	9.97	0				
SHK	OCS	0	0	0.12	0	0.21	0	0	0.03	0				
SHK	POR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
SHK	RHN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
SHK	THR	0	0	0.56	0	0.28	1.95	0	0.15	0				

	National	Fleet -Pol	e and Line	-Targeted	Tuna Spec	ies in the	WCPFC C	onvention	al Area
Flag Code	Year	Vessels	Trips	Sea Days	Fish Days	BET catch (MT)	SKJ catch (MT)	YFT catch (MT)	Total Catch (MT)
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	34	511	482	0	980	220	1203
SB	2021	4	46	532	477	0	1053	158	1213

Table 1.3: Annual catch and effort estimates for Solomon Islands pole and line national fleets (flagged) in the WCPFC Convention area from 2017-2021.

2.2 Historical Information on National fleet

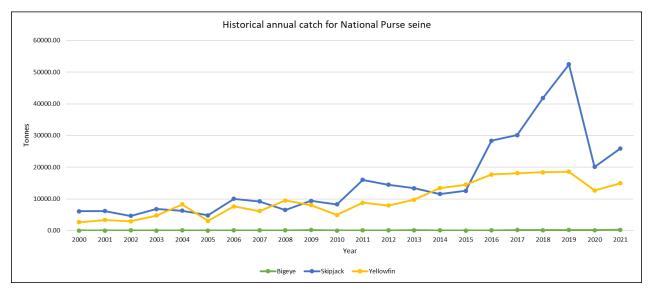


Figure 1.1: Historical annual catch for the National Purse Seine Fleet by primary species for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2000-2021.

2.3 Historical Annual vessel numbers

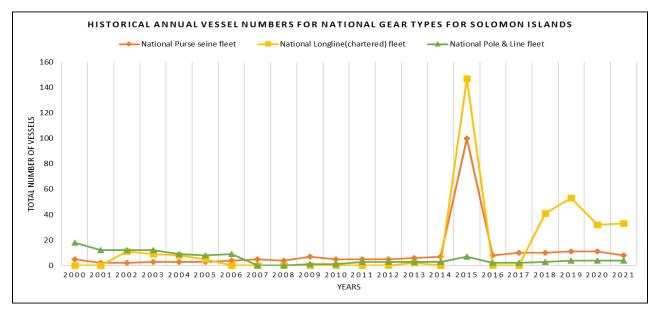


Figure 2: Historical annual vessel numbers for the national purse seine, longline and pole & line fleets for the WCPFC Convention Area from 2000-2021.

2.4 Size Category

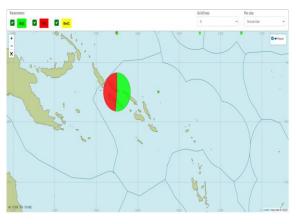
Table 2: Number of National fleet category by Purse seine, Longline and Pole & Line vessels actively operated in the WCPFC convention area for 2017 to 2021.

SOLOMON ISLA	SOLOMON ISLANDS NATIONAL FLEETS -SIZE CATEGORY (GRT)										
Gear			PI	JRSE SEI	NE						
Size Category(GRT)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021				
0 -500	1	0	0	0	0	0	0				
501 - 1000	20	5	5	5	5	8	5				
1001 -1500	67	3	4	4	5	3	3				
1500+	12	0	1	1	1	0	0				
Gear	LONGLINER										
Size Category(GRT)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021				
0 - 50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
51 -200	86	0	0	34	41	28	25				
201 - 500	61	0	0	7	12	4	7				
500+	0	0	0	0	0	0	1				
Gear			РО	LE AND L	INE						
Size Category(GRT)	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021				
0 - 50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				
51 -200	2	2	2	3	4	4	4				
201 - 500	4	0	0	0	0	0	0				
500+	1	0	0	0	0	0	0				

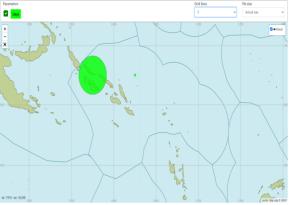
2.5 Catch and Effort Distributions

Figure 3: Annual distribution of target species catch and effort by the National fleets (Purse seine, Longline and Pole & Line) actively operated in WCPFC Convention Area for 2021 respectively.

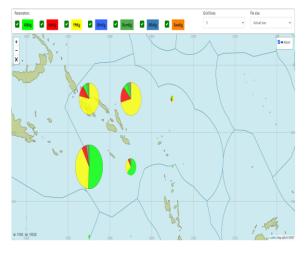
National Purse seine fleet Catch

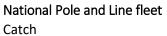


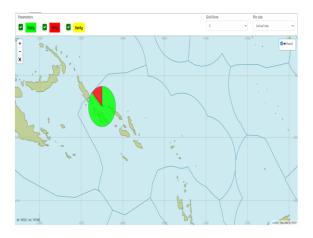
Effort Pranties



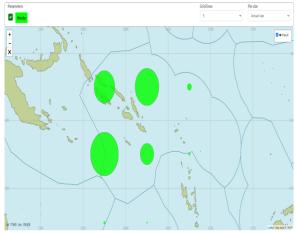
National (Chartered) Longline fleet Catch



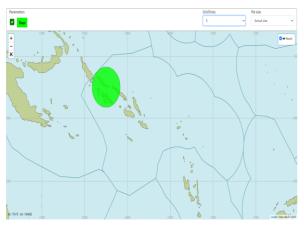




Effort







2.6 Species of Special Interest

Table 3: Observed annual estimated catches of species of special interest (seabird, turtle and marine mammals) by gear for the National fleet

	Convention area from 2017 to 2021															
	Creation		2017		2018		2019		2020			2021				
Gear	Species Category	Number	No.	No.	Number	No.	No.	Number	No.	No.	Number	No.	No.	Number	No.	No.
	category	Number	Alive	Dead	Number	Alive	live Dead	Number	Alive	Dead	Number	Alive	Dead	Number	Alive	Dead
National	Marine	73	49	2	58	27	31	59	58	1	38	31	0	19	17	0
Purse	Mammals	/5	49	2	20	27	21	- 59	20	T	50	51	0	19	17	0
Seine	Marine	10	9	1	14	7	6	6	6	0	1	1	0	4	4	0
Jenne	Reptiles	10	9	1	14	/	0	0	0	0	1	Ŧ	0	4	4	0
	Marine				3	3	0									
National	Mammals				5	5	0									
Longline	Marine				9	3	5	4	1	3						
	Reptiles				Э	3	5	4	1	3						

Observed Annual Estimated Catches for species of special interest by National Purse seine and Longline fleet in the WCPFC

2.7 Non-target, associated and dependent species

Table 4.1: Annual estimated catches for non-target, associated and dependent species, including sharks by National Purse seine fleet in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2017-2021.

National Purse Seine inc	e Annual Estimat cluding sharks in		-		dent species,							
Species Category	Species Category 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021											
Species Category Species MT Species MT Species MT Species MT Species MT												
BILLFISH 0.408 0.48 0.035 0.1 1.195												
INVERTERBRATE 0 0.002 0 0 0												
MAMMALS	13.41	96.829	65.98	0.3	0.03							
RAYS	13.283	6.258	10.614	2.6	3.99							
SHARKS	3.932	4	1.915	0.4	0.13							
TURTLES	TURTLES 0.076 0 0.03 0.126 0.05											
OTHER FISH	784.193	99.773	93.232	90.4	101.389							

Table 4.2: Annual estimated catches for non-target, associated and dependent species, including sharks for National Longline fleet in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2017-2021.

National Longline A includ	Annual estimated ding sharks in the		• •	•	ent species,							
Succion Cotogomy	Species Category 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021											
Species Category	Species Category Species MT Species MT Species MT Species MT Species MT											
TUNA 0 0 0.2003 53.381 9.712												
BILLFISH	LFISH 0 7.0379 3.9017 0 47.816											
INVERTERBRATE	0	0	0.004	0	0							
MAMMALS	0	0.3	0	0	0							
RAYS	0	9.3773	4.6796	0	0							
SHARKS	0	3.5902	2.2891	3.701	0.218							
TURTLES	TURTLES 0 0.51 0.04 0 0											
OTHER FISH	0	16.3761	31.572	219.749	195.852							

2.8 Estimated Annual Coverage

Table 5: Estimated annual coverage of operational catch/effort, port sampling and observer data for the National Purse Seine, Pole & Line and Longline fleet in the WCPFPC Convention Area for 2017-2021.

GEAR	YEAR	CATCH/EFFORT DATA COVERAGE	PORT SAMPLING COVERAGE	OBSERVER DATA COVERAGE
	2017	HIGH	NIL	HIGH
	2018	HIGH	NIL	81.30%
Purse Seine	2019	HIGH (100%)	NIL	HIGH (89.0%)
	2020	HIGH (100%)	NIL	24%
	2021	HIGH (100%)	NIL	26%
	2017	HIGH	NIL	MEDIUM
	2018	MEDIUM	NIL	28%
Pole and Line	2019	MEDIUM (82.15%)	NIL	LOW (20%)
	2020	100%	NIL	LOW
	2021	100%	NIL	LOW
	2017	NIL	NIL	NIL
	2018	MEDIUM	NIL	3.80%
Longline	2019	HIGH (95.98%)	NIL	LOW (6%)
	2020	99.68%	NIL	LOW
	2021	98.61%	NIL	LOW

3 BACKGROUND

The tuna fishery of Solomon Islands has a long history since the last two decades for its contribution to the country's economy. Fishery is regarded as the one of the productive sector which continues to support and contributes to the national developments. It's a growing industry where fisheries become the main source of income and continues to benefits through various license fees, charges, levies, fines and export duties. The employment in fisheries has greater impacts through the service delivery and contributions rendered in the process are effectively empowered in the fishing industries.

Commercial fisheries operated in Solomon Islands over the years has significant turn overs for its expansions and contributions towards the socio economic development of the country. Major commercial gear types that has access to fish are Purse seine vessel fleet, Longline vessel fleet and Pole and Line fleet. With the intended purpose of operational fishing activities, its catches are offloaded in designated ports of Honiara and Noro. The Honiara unloading occurs at the Leeroy wharf for longline fleets offloading catches for storage, processing and container exports to overseas destinations which operated by Solfish Company. For Noro port catches are offloaded directly to the Soltuna processing cannery plant and other catches are processed for cool storage and container exports for its buyers. The active locally based companies that operated those gear types are National Fisheries Development Ltd, Southern Seas Investment Ltd, Global Fishery Ltd, Will Fish Investment Ltd and Solong Seafood Investment Development Ltd. This industry has employed approximately 2000 local people to work in fishing operation and processing line but the decline in this employment rate is caused by the impacts of COVID 19 pandemic.

Soltuna processing cannery is the major flagship company that has huge number of employees and continues to venture in its production processing concurrently due to the impacts affecting the global market. But through its unique and value added to the tuna product branding has greater recognition to the wider market and highly demanded at the global scale. Currently, Soltuna produces the following brand products for exports and sale at local markets are, variety of canned tuna brand, fish meal, frozen loins and frozen flakes.

The artisanal tuna fishery or domestic fisheries operated at a small scale compared to the fishing activities of commercial operation. The cost of fishing operation is less and the effort implication towards the fish stock as more sustainable and manageable in it manner. This fishery mainly operated gear types are the outboard motors hand line and trolling fishing and locally made outrigger canoe. The small scale operation continues to occur in urban centres around the country and at rural coastal communities. For Honiara, these small scale operators have contributed significantly to the cash economy level and circulation services within the local market chain of demand. But the effects towards the tuna fishery stock density indicating a trend of decline due to the observation to the niche market for artisanal scale.

Solomon Islands has a majority of its entire population are located in rural communities and only a portion lived in urban centres. The estimated 20% live in Honiara and other urban centres and 80% living in communities. For this reason, food security and sustaining the scarcity of resources is the priority implemented agenda for consideration towards fisheries policies and regulations in enhancing the important sector. Fisheries sector is the only resources that will set light to the socio economic development and secure the future of the conserving and ensuring sustainable measures are enhanced effectively.

The government of Solomon Islands has mandatory body which is the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources which obligated to oversee the affairs of fisheries sector at the local, national, regional and international level. The mandatory frameworks are aligning with the policies and regulations of the government plans of action and implementation priorities. In accordance to the legal binding legislation is the Fisheries Management Act (FMA) 2015, which uphold the functions, regulations, measures and conditions applies in the implementation of the fisheries activities. With reference to the Tuna Management Development Plan (TMDP) has major implication towards enhancing the Ministry's Corporate Plans and National Development Strategy (NDS) 2016 -2035 are fully managed and properly implemented in accordance to its objectives as required. The developed NDS highlighted the support to fisheries management initiatives, improved food security, investment opportunity, economic growth, improve infrastructure, access to livelihood services and social basic needs. The core values of the ministry are to ensure the used of the tuna fisheries and marine species are sustainably harvested and maximized its benefits to sustain the economy and livelihood of its citizen in the present and future.

Through the key roles and responsibility of ensuring the fisheries sector becomes an important player in decision making, active participation or involvement and negotiations at local, national, regional and international levels. As active member to the UN bodies, RFMOs, and subregional bodies in the region has the duties to implement the requirements and meeting the standards of operation and measures. This refers to the Vessel Day Scheme (VDS) which Solomon Islands continue to be one of the beneficiary of the initiatives under the Parties to Nauru Agreement (PNA) and also the VMS which support the fishing operation of license vessels fleet in the EEZ. The involvements of Solomon Islands are holistically bind through the arrangements and agreements made accordance to treaties and legal frameworks for purpose of fishing access, operation, mutual supports and other development aspiration.

The impacts of COVID 19 pandemic in 2021, contributes to the decline of operational catches and efforts. The implication of fisheries obligatory measures is withheld due to no observer coverage for longline and pole and line fleet but purse seine national flag vessels continue to maintain its observer coverage. Fishing activities within the Main Group Archipelagic (MGA) from the purse seine and pole and line fleet operated by NFD continues, with regards to chartered longline fleets which fished at the 36 to 200 nautical miles EEZ for domestic flag vessel gear types.

4 FLAG STATE REPORTING

The reporting for flag state comprises of domestic fleet which license and carried the Solomon Islands flag registration. For this purpose, the local companies operated the following gear types prescribed are the Purse seine, Pole and Line and Longline vessels¹. Those operated fleet has the mandate to fish within the flag state national jurisdictions and all its catches must be offloaded to the designated ports of Honiara and Noro respectively. The registered domestic or locally based companies are National Fisheries Development (NFD), Global Fishery Ltd, Will Fish Investment Ltd, Southern Seas Investment Ltd and Solong Seafood Development Ltd. With regards to onshore agents or companies are Solfish Company Ltd and Soltuna Processing Cannery Ltd which normally conduct the offloading and processing of tuna catches.

4.1 Locally Flagged (Domestic) Vessels

Pole & Line

Total

2

12

The domestic registered vessels have the access to operate within the jurisdiction of Solomon Islands national water (EEZ) upon the conditions mandatory to its license and fishing agreements. Fishing activities occurs within the main group archipelagic (MGA) mainly for the NFD license Purse seine with (<GRT 501-1000) and Pole & Line vessels. The chartered Longline continue to fish from the 36 to 200 nautical miles (nm) and can access the high seas. In regards to the SSI license Purse seine vessels with (>GRT1001-1500) continue to fish from 36 to 200 nautical miles and join the sub-pooling arrangement to have fishing access in other PNA members' national waters (EEZ). Refer to Table 6, highlight the summary of the national gear types or fleets that are actively operated in the WCPFC Convention Area from 2017 to 2021.

	National	Gear Types b	y Year from 202	17-2021	
GEAR	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Purse Seine	10	10	11	11	8
Longline	0	41	53	27	33

3

54

Table 6: Summary of National Gear types/fleets operating in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2017-2021.

4

68

4

42

4

45

¹ The registered longline fleets are license under the chartered arrangement that requires to be reported for in the flat state requirement.

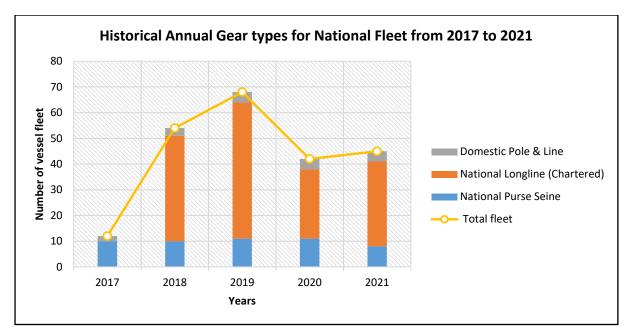


Figure 4: Historical summary of national (flagged) gear types/fleets operating in the WCPFC Convention Area for 2017-2021.

4.2 Catch Estimates and Effort Distribution

4.2.1 National Purse Seine Fleet 2021 Catch Distribution

2021 Effort Distribution

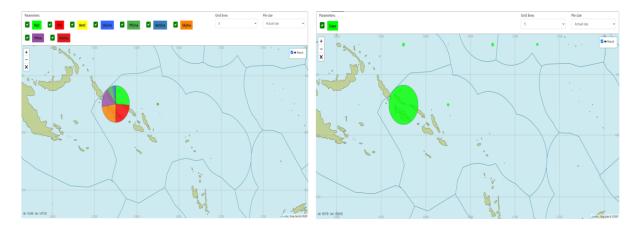


Figure 4a: Catch and Effort distribution for National Purse Seine Fleet for current year 2021

4.2.2 National Longline Fleet

2021 Catch Distribution

2021 Effort Distribution

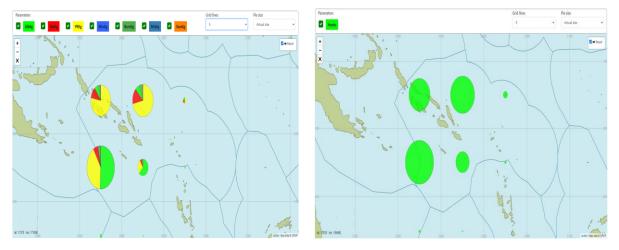


Figure 4b: Catch and Effort distribution for National Longline Fleet for current year 2021

4.2.3 National Pole & Line Fleet

2021 Catch Distribution

2021 Effort Distribution

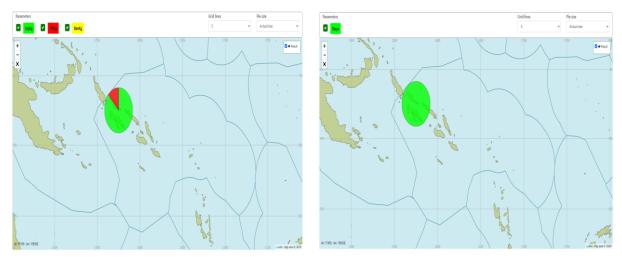


Figure 4c: Catch and Effort distribution for National Pole & Line Fleet for current year 2021

5 COASTAL STATE REPORTING

Coastal state report applies to the foreign fishing fleets that are license to access the Solomon Islands EEZ which described as the Distant Water Fishing Nations (DWFNs). Those fishing access comes under various arrangement and agreements such as the multilateral, bilateral, sub-pooling, FSMA, and the Tokelau arrangement. These access fishing operation requirements is done for foreign fleets like the Purse seine fleets, Longline fleets, Japanese Pole and line fleet, Carrier (Reefer) and Bunkers. In collaboration with the regional and sub-regional bodies like FFA and PNA has major role on behalf of members like Solomon Islands in supporting various activities related to monitoring, operational and management of fisheries activities in partnership with the DWFNs.

Therefore, below tables and figures reflected the operation of catches and efforts of foreign license fleets fishing in the Solomon Islands EEZ from 2017 to 2021.

5.1 Fleet structure for the Foreign Fishing Vessels

	Numbe	r of Foreig	n licensed v	essels by flag	and gear in	2021	
Гюд	Dunkona	Comiono	Longling	Dele 9 Line	Pur	se Seine	Total by
Flag	Bunkers	Carriers	Longline	Pole & Line	& Line Bilateral Sub-pool		Flag
China	0	0	22	0	2	5	29
Fiji	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	0	0	0	0	28	0	28
Kiribati	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Korea	0	0	0	0	23	0	23
Philippines	0	0	0	0	20	0	20
Taiwan	0	0	0	0	27	0	27
Vanuatu	0	0	0	0	4	0	4
Total by Gear	0	0	22	0	104	8	134

Table 7. Summary of the Foreign fishing vessels licensed to operate in the Solomon Islands EEZ in 2021.

Note: In 2021 there are no license for the bunkers and carriers issued due to the restriction of COVID 19.

5.2. Foreign Purse Seine 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 2021.

FOREIGN PURSE	OREIGN PURSE SEINE FLEET -Total catch and efforts estimates for primary tuna species in the Solomon Islands EZZ for 2021													
				Efforts		Catches								
Flag Code	Year	Vessels	Trips	Sea Days	Fish Days	SKJ Catch (MT)	BET Catch (MT)	YFT Catch (MT)	Other (MT)	TOTAL Catch (MT)				
FM	2021	23	47	225	156	4202	134	396	0	530				
JP	2021	10	11	36	33	856.09	0.5	306.5	0	1163.09				
KI	2021	5	11	92	79	2653.002	46	294	0	340				
KR	2021	23	100	1040	809	27429.3	309.91	3309.56	0	31048.77				
MH	2021	11	30	179	148	6284	97	166	0	6547				
NR	2021	17	40	217	167	4880	115	954	0	1069				
PG	2021	7	7	18	12	226.21	0	51.8	0	51.8				
TW	2021	27	97	502	359	13666.28	519	1964	0	16149.28				
TV	2021	4	9	113	91	1511	14	270	0	1795				
VU	2021	5	25	155	108	3201	17	1609	0	1626				
Totals		14	377	2577	1962	49746.67	1252.41	9320.86	0	60319.9				

5.2.1 Foreign Purse Seine Catch and Effort Distribution



Effort 2021

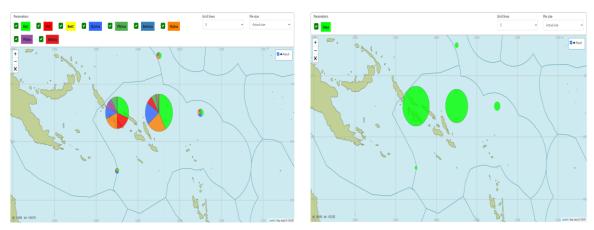


Figure 5a. Catch and effort distribution for Foreign Purse Seine fleet in 2021.

5.3 Foreign Longline Vessels

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 2021.

FOREIGN	LONGLIN	E FLEET-To	tal catch	and efforts es	stimates for _l	orimary tuna s	pecies in th	ne Solomor	Islands EE	Z for 202	1
				Efforts					Catches		
Flag Code	Year					No. of Hooks	ALB Catch	RET Catch	VET Catch	OTH	TOTAL
Flag Coue	real	Vessels	Trips	Sea Days	Fish Days					Catch	Catch
						(100)	(Mt)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)
CN	2021	39	63	2617	2098	68865	1026.332	108.58	450.94	174.16	1760.01
FJ	2021	1	1	1	1	33	0.4	0	0.08	0.04	0.52
TW	2021	2	5	213	164	4976	28.076	27.99	78.56	18.81	153.44
Totals		42	69	2831	2263	73874	1054.81	136.57	529.58	193.01	1913.97

5.3.1 Foreign Longline Catch and Effort Distribution

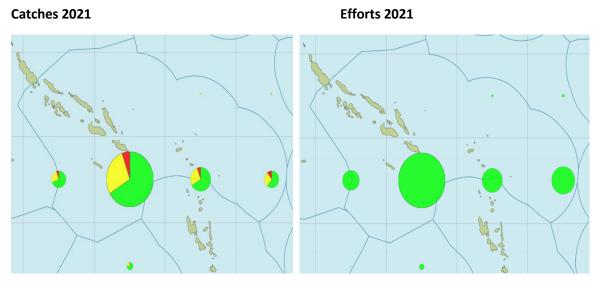


Figure 5b. Catch and effort distribution for Foreign Longline fleet in 2021.

6 SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS

Solomon Islands benefited for almost some decade from the tuna fisheries through socioeconomic development. The economy of the country continuous to deliver services and improved its status within the productive sector. The indicators of development in fisheries sectors has impacted both commercial and subsistence fishers through various ways of benefits in terms of income generating processes and other financial remunerations. For the government, fishing activities and its related operations continuous to contribute directly or indirectly in terms of license fees, taxes, access fees, levies and other charges. With the obligation mandated by the government for the fisheries investment and development to be prioritise due to the huge financial contributions that earn from the tuna resources that caught from the Solomon Islands national water or the EEZ.

In return of the investment benefits, the government continue to deliver its services to the people through developing infrastructures and other projects that enhance the livelihood of the society. The other classic example is the employment opportunities that investors in fisheries sector provided such as the Soltuna processing cannery at Noro which engage around 2000 workers from around the country². Also, other fishing companies provided employment like crew on board vessels, casual workers for unloading and other processing labours. In the context of social services, indirectly the financial aids provided tremendously to the educational, health and social welfare of the citizen of Solomon Islands in one way or the other. The impacts of development in large scale operation has real effects in the economic projections, where revenue collected from access to exports and market remittance of tuna offloaded in overseas ports is a value added component.

Looking at the constraint affecting the fisheries sector in 2021 is the push and pull factors of COVID 19 pandemic impacts that causes decline to the service outcomes and development aspirations. But through the government redirection policy and its prioritization of implementation activities, the fisheries sectors continuously in operation. The major implication caused decline to the fishing operation is the restrictions applied towards the fishing fleets fished in the EEZ.

² Soltuna Processing Cannery information for 2021

7 DISPOSAL OF CATCH

The offloaded catches which disperse in the designated ports of Honiara and Noro has been processed through the Soltuna processing cannery, container packaging and fresh whole fish exporters that conducted by locally based companies. Those companies are Soltuna, NFD, Solfish, Willfish, Global and Solong seafood which operated vessels fleet and offload to onshore processing agents for facilitation to interest buyers. Distribution of catches are unloaded or offloaded for a purpose of exporting and for local sales, while some of the catches are transhipped into carrier vessels for international market destination.

Below table is the distribution of catches fished from Solomon Islands national water (EEZ) to its final market destination, whether in oversea or local buyers respectively.

Table 10: Disposal of Catches from the National Longline, Pole & Line and Purse Seine fleet for 2021.

Disposal of C	Catches for	Longline F	leet offloa	ded at Hor	niara and N	oro Port in	2021
Market	ALB	BET	SKJ	YFT	BILL	OTH	Total
Market	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)	(MT)
American Samoa	377.88	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	377.88
China	881.14	61.03	5.25	318.87	50.83	54.37	1371.49
Japan	2.76	123.28	0.00	688.26	0.52	0.00	814.81
Taiwan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	34.10	14.89	48.99
Thailand	300.99	9.73	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	310.73
Vietnam	0.00	9.16	0.00	40.38	0.00	0.00	49.54
Local	0.01	10.46	29.28	257.84	6.3	54.26	358.15

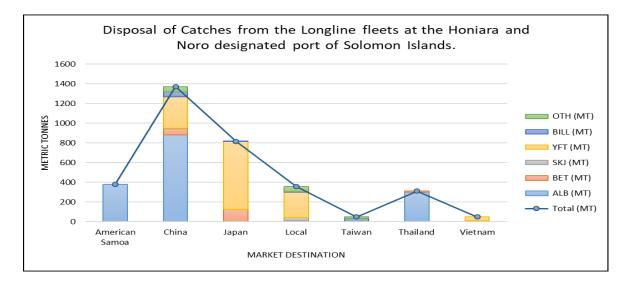


Figure 6a. Disposal of catches distributions of Longline fleets with the market destinations.

Table 11: Disposal of Catches for Purse Seine, Pole & Line and Longline fleets offloaded at Noro port in 2021.

Disposal of Cat	tches for Pur	se seine, Pole	e & Line and L	ongline oper.	ated at Noro	Port in 2021
Activities	SKJ (MT)	YFT (MT)	BET (MT)	ALB (MT)	OTH (MT)	Total (MT)
Sashimi Grade	0	858.292	176.931	648.786	0	1684.009
Soltuna Processing	12504.75	6180.07	58.265	0	79.153	18822.23
Container	1224.282	729.904	5.992	0	574.13	2534.308
Cold Storage	40.838	9.774	19.808	0	896.09	966.51

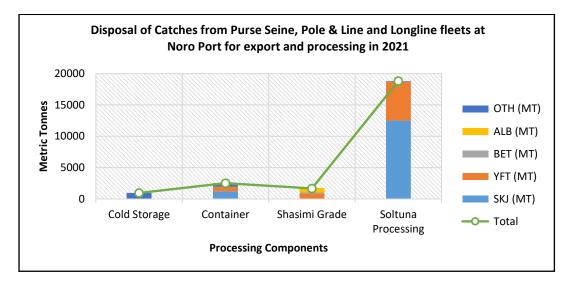


Figure 6b. Disposal of Catches by gear types with its distribution along the processing line in 2021.

8 ONSHORE DEVELOPMENT

Solomon Islands government has prioritized its onshore development as one of the key projects for implementation. In the fisheries sectors, its capacity of delivering major projects is an important proposed investment such as the case for Bina Processing Cannery Plant that currently on the feasibility stages of site planning, demarcation of land and water facilities and other processes. The proposed processing plant is an addition with the existing Soltuna Processing Cannery and its projected outcomes will enhance and diversified the fishing industries to a more down processing and recognized facilities for the investment.

Focus on the current onshore development, in regards to other areas within the fisheries sector aside from the tuna fisheries, aquaculture and provincial fisheries has major development projects that continue to make changes to the growth of the fisheries. The classic example is the development project of the centre for hatchery and researches in aquaculture and the provincial fisheries growth centres. In this regards, the overview of onshore facilities development by fishing industries such as Solfish Company Ltd has provided processing and container cold storage facilities that support other fishing fleets catches prior to exports. This processing access contributed to the employment of workforce and directly impacts the livelihood of local companies in terms of local sales.

9 FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE FISHERY

Fisheries in Solomon Islands is regarded as the productive sector where initiatives and aspiration of expanding and advancing in the future is a priority consideration. As an important sector, the key to sustaining the tuna resources and other marine species is the main implemented focus for the government.

The projected aspiration focus is on economic benefits, food security and livelihood service delivery, expansion and advancement of fisheries scope and fisheries governance in terms of policies and legal frameworks. This prospecting direction is a focal point where the current government has highlighted in its policy deliveries that fisheries is one of the active contributors in the income and revenue generating mechanism in the country. The prioritization is based on encouraging investments and enhancing the capacity of allowing resources for the common good of all.

The other focus is based on developing researches and technical institutes for enhancing the capacity of skilled people to invest their knowledge, skills and experiences in various field in the fisheries sectors. From this line of direction, the projected initiatives will boost the outcomes of high level skilled personals to carry on the legacies of improving and advancing the sectors. The scope of this sector is vary as different areas needs to be fully complimented and put more emphasis in driving the potential actions into reality.

Therefore, looking at the current stock of tuna species has major threats when it comes to climate change and ocean acidification impacts. So, in regards to this issues, the alternative plans and direction will be developed for it purpose. Restructuring and redirection policies and plans of action is the key focus that will support the future considerations in addressing those issues.

10 STATUS OF THE FISHERY DATA COLLECTION SYSTEMS

The fishery data collection systems are an important component for the fisheries operations, management and decision making aspiration. The status of the data collections has major improvements and contributes to the successful outcomes of meeting the obligated requirements such as the following;

10.1 Logsheet data collection and verification

The data collections come through hard copy logsheet and e-log copy which submitted by fishing vessels and company's agents. This data processing component of collected logsheet are entered into the Tufman 2 database system which SPC is the mandatory organisation that looks after the system. Also, similar process with the e-log which are entered in the iFIMs apps on board vessels using tablets and stored in the iFIMs database system that PNA is the authorised body overseen its functions.

In regards to the logsheet data collection processes contain the catch and effort information that are stored in the Tufman 2 and generates reports accordingly to the requires filters. Data entered in iFIMs are imported back to Tufman 2 and are verified for misreporting errors and other issues. There is significant improvement with the logsheet and e-log datasets, which are compatible to each other and the forms are similar in its features. Verification process are useful for the purpose of checks and notification for consistency of data entered are free from errors or issues encountered.

10.2 Observer programme

The observer programme is suspended since 2020 by the WCPFC due to the travel restrictions of spread of COVID 19 pandemic, but for the national fleets, few observers continue to be on board the vessels especially the Purse seine fleet that operated by the National Fisheries Development (NFD). With the slowdown of observer coverage, it affects the verification processes and the situation of COVID 19 pandemic has impacted the outcomes of information requires.

10.3 Port sampling programme

Port sampling programme is suspended since 2015 and currently no activities conducted as specified at the designated port for Honiara and Noro.

10.4 Unloading/Transhipment

The unloading for 2021 are conducted at the designated port of Honiara especially for Longline fleet only, whereas no transhipment for Purse seine fleet. At Noro port the offloaded catches from Longline, Purse seine and Pole and Line continues to do unloading. Through the restriction of longline vessels operators has experience many challenges encountered but with the pursuant of following guidelines requirements, unloading continue to be conducted especially at Honiara port. With the situation at Noro port, protocols are safe guided and restriction orders are followed as expected and offloading of catches conducted as normal.

In regards to transhipment for purse seine fleet conducted at Honiara and Noro port has been restricted and subject to COVID 19 protocol since 2020 suspension. From the outbreak of the pandemic no transhipment activities be occur especially for Honiara as expected.

10.5 Other

The important programme that currently in progress in terms of monitoring the Longline fleets that are license as national fleet must be mandated to install ER and EM system on board the vessel. The Electronic Reporting and Electronic Monitoring has effectively enhanced the footage of fishing activities and those data collected are analysed for implementing its obligated duties as expected by the Ministry. For 2021, the programme coverage is on trial basis and from the outcomes of analysis and

reporting, there should be recommendation for 100% coverage of ER and EM component as alternative to human observer on board Longline fleets.

The other significant development that will boost and enhance the work of the Ministry through offshore fisheries is the ePort system which currently on its phase 1 basis. Effectiveness of this project is implemented and roll out at Noro port, especially to capture the scale of operations from offloaded catch down to the processing line in cannery or storage container, further to the market destinations. This system acts like a traceability component that keep tracks of all activities occurrence from port along the chain of processing command, right to the consumer destination of choice.

11 RESEARCH

The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources is the mandatory body that has the power over all the fisheries (oceanic) and marine resources of Solomon Islands from its coastal water right through to the 200 nautical mile EEZ respectively. In this regards, the important activities of implementation are research, which comprises of technical skills and scientific programmes as priority needs. Specific to the tuna fisheries there are major development and activities which need research consideration to support the work of the Ministry effectively. For the current level of supporting research, other regional bodies like SPC, FFA and PNA always enhance its capacity well.

Looking at the national level capacity, enhancing the effort for research and analysis of data sets is a priority activities of implementation. Through this important focus area such as tuna stock assessment, harvest strategy, biological sampling studies, oceanography, biomass survey and ecological assessments. The most recent issues on tuna fishery is the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification where the trends of fishing activities become a push and pull effects in the future. Effectiveness of this research, is the pathway for delivering the most important management decisions making and for sustaining the scarce resource available. The rationale behind this undertaken research programme is the foundation for exploring the potential capability at national level to find solutions for issues affecting the fisheries. The overview of this research programme must be effectively enhance by linking all components within the fisheries sector to achieve its purpose.

Base on the research focus on target and non-target species for enhancing its scientific analysis and result outcomes is a priority area for technical capacity and implementation processes. Currently, SPC is the only mandatory body which undertake the studies and researches on specific species of interest especially for its stock assessments, modellings, projections and technical analysis.



ADDENDUM TO ANNUAL REPORT PART 1

15 February 2021³

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	CCM r	eport	s on L	ongl	line fi	she	d for s	wor	dfish	as p	er r	equir	ed k	pelow;				
[Swordfish], Para 8	Fla	g	Yea	ar	Ves	sel	s		atch mbe	r)		Cato (MT						
	SE	3	202	20	1	.5		3	392			23.2	54					
	SE	3	202	21	(0			0			0						
							are upda 3 2918[D				us r	ecords	and _	for 2021	has no	rec	ords as	
Observer coverage	Obser	ver co	overag	ge fo	r Long	glin	e (char	tere	ed) fle	eet a	is re	eporte	ed fo	or CCM	Ι.			_
(WCPFC 11 decision-				No. of	Hooks		, · · · ·	s Fish	ed		Day	s at Sea			of Trips			
para 484(b)	CCM	Fishery	Tot estim		Observer	%	Total estimated	Obser	ver %	Tot estim		Observer	%	Total estimated	Observer	%	See Note	
	Solomon Islands	Longline (Chartered fleet	19,386	5,725	0	0	6097	0	0	77:	14	0	0	130	0	0	Report against 5% coverage. No observer onboard due to COVID 19	
	Note: Pi reportin			-		nas i	no indica	ition	for ob	serve	r co	verage	due	to restri	ctions.	(Sou	rce: Tufr	nan 2
CMM 2009-06	Total (Quant	tity of	Spec	cies													
[Transhipment],Para 11 (ANNEX II)	Offloade and receiv		shipped Port	ir	ishipped nside ntion Are	Co	Caught insid		SKJ(MT)	YFT	r(MT)	Spe BET(N		ALB(MT)	Total (MT)	Product Form	Fishing Gear
		Maji	uro		Yes		Yes		2896	8	374	55	;	0	382	5		
	Oversea	Poh	npei		Yes		Yes		285	-	180	15		0	78	0	Frozen	Purse
	0101000	Raba			Yes	_	Yes	_	859	_	5	1		0	86		Whole	Seine
		Tara			Yes	+	Yes	_	252	_	98 720	0		0	35		F	During
	Domest	ic Hon			Yes Yes	-	Yes Yes		8634 0	_	0	0		0	104		Frozen Whole	Purse Seine
				1			.05		5		-	0		0			WHOIC	June
	Domesti		-		Yes		Yes		0	_	502	10	1	332	93	5	Frozen	Longline
		Hon	iara		Yes		Yes		34	7	72	11	3	1231	215	0	Whole	LOUPINC
	Numb	er of [°]	Transł	nipm	ent													

³ 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.

	Offload and rece		Transhipped Port	Transhipped inside Convention Ar	Caught i		Number of Vessels	Number o Transhipp ent	Fishing
	Overse	as	Majuro	Yes	Yes	5	2	5	
			Pohnpei	Yes	Yes	5	1	1	Purse
			Rabaul	Yes	Yes	5	1	1	Seine
			Tarawa	Yes	Yes	5	1	1	
	Domes	tic	Noro	Yes	Yes	5	8	91	Purse
			Honiara	Yes	Yes	5	0	0	Seine
	Domes	tic	Noro	Yes	Yes	6	35	89	Longline
			Honiara	Yes	Yes	5	14	19	Longine
				hipment occu. Honiara respe		i port ui	na oniy ojj	nouueu o	
CMM 2011-03	conduct	ted fo	or Noro and I	•	ctively.				
[Impact of PS fishing	CCM re	ted fo	or Noro and I	Honiara respe	ctively.		ded.	action	EEZ
[Impact of PS fishing on cetaceans], Para	CCM re	ted fo	or Noro and P on Purse Se	ine fishing on	ctively. cetaceans a atch No. of	as recor	ded.	action	
CMM 2011-03 [Impact of PS fishing on cetaceans], Para 5	CCM re	ports Gear	on Purse Se	ine fishing on ties	ctively. cetaceans a fatch No. of Individual	as recor Fate	ded. Intera	action	EEZ
[Impact of PS fishing on cetaceans], Para	CCM re	ports Gear	on Purse Se Spec	ine fishing on ties	ctively. cetaceans a atch No. of Individual	as recor Fate	ded. Intera	action ode	EEZ SB
[Impact of PS fishing on cetaceans], Para	CCM re	ted fo ports Gear Purse	on Purse Se Son Purse Se Spec False Killer Wh Bryde's Whate	ine fishing on cies C nale e ed Dolphin	ctively. cetaceans a atch No. of <u>Individual</u> 1 1	Fate	ded. Intera IE II PD IC	action ode EN BR	EEZ SB SB
[Impact of PS fishing on cetaceans], Para	CCM re Flag (SB F SB S	ted fo ports Gear Purse Seine	on Purse Se Son Purse Se Spec False Killer WH Bryde's Whale Rough-Toothe Spinner Dolph	ine fishing on cies C nale e ed Dolphin	cetaceans a atch No. of Individual 1 1 14 3	ES RECOR Fate DPA DPA/DF DPA/DF	rded. Intera IE PD IC	action ode EN BR CR CR	EEZ SB SB SB SB
[Impact of PS fishing on cetaceans], Para	CCM rep Flag C SB F SB SB	ted fo ports Gear Purse Seine	on Purse Se Spec False Killer Wh Bryde's Whale Rough-Toothe Spinner Dolph provided above	ine fishing on ies contractions of the fishing of t	ctively. cetaceans a catch No. of Individual 1 14 3 ss specified. (Sc	ES RECOR Fate DPA DPA/DF DPA/DF	rded. Intera IE PD IC	action ode EN BR CR CR	EEZ SB SB SB SB

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

Table x: Effort observed and estimated seabird captures by fishing year for [Solomon Islands]

[South of 30^{0} S; 25^{0} S- 30^{0} S; North of 23^{0} N; or 23^{0} N – 25^{0} S¹]. 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).

		Fishin		Observed seabird captures				
Year	Number of	Number of	Observed	% hooks	Number	Rate		
	vessels	hooks	hooks	observed				
2017	0	0	0	0	0	0		
2018	41	9017616	861474	10%	0	0		
2019	53	12497194	1769001	15%	0	0		
2020	27	5531700	0	0	0	0		
2021	33	19565759	0	0	0	0		

Table y: Proportion of mitigation types used by the fleet in [2021]

	Combination of Mitigation	Proportion of	observed effort	using mitigation	measures
	Measures	South of	25°S-30°S	25°S to 23°N	North of
		30°S			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 ⁰ N	SS/BC/WB/(MOD or BDB)	0	0	0	0
Provide any		0	0	0	0
other		0	0	0	0
combination		0	0	0	0
of mitigation		0	0	0	0
measures here					
	Totals (must equal 100%)	0	0	0	0

Table z: Number of observed seabirds captures in [Solomon Islands] longline fishers, 2021 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	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

Year 2020 2021 ation provic an 2 report sed through	led a ing 2	2917 [regul	4 D odated [Dorad lar pro	recora lo 21]). ovision		bers	and		ent re	0.44 0 eport	ting p		
2021 ation provid an 2 report sed through	ing 2 h the	20 are upo 2917 [regula) odated [Dorad lar pro	lo 21]). ovision	0 Is for 2	2020			ent re	0 eport	ting p		
ation provic an 2 report sed through	ing 2 h the	are upo 2 917 [e regul	odated [Dorad lar pro	lo 21]). ovision	ls for 2	2020				eport	0,		
an 2 report sed through	ing 2 h the	2917 [regul	[Dorad lar pro	lo 21]). ovision						·	0,		
0					of ope	eratic	onal	catch	. 1				
omatically	nciu	ide the	ese da	ta in th	he WC	CPFC (0		
t on Nort	h Pá	acific	c Alba	acore	for g	ear	type	es as	s sp	ecifi	ied b	elov	V
shery No. of \	/essel		No. of Ves	ssel Catch		Vessel			2020 Vessel days	Catch (MT)	No. of Vessels	2021 Vessel days	Catch (MT)
gline O	0	0	7 11	19 9.699	8	380	67.8	3	122	57.51	5	64	16.312
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