

4th Meeting of the Scientific Committee

The Hague, Kingdom of the Netherlands
10 - 15 October 2016

SC-04-23**A summary of current SPRFMO bycatch records
(including species of concern)****Secretariat**

Introduction

Paragraph 1c) of CMM 4.02 (Data standards; 2016) ensures that information concerning captures of marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern is collected and paragraph 1e) requires that information to be provided to the secretariat. Paragraph 2a) has similar objectives for observer programmes operating in the SPRFMO Area.

CMM 4.02 (data standards; 2016) Annex 14 defines “other species of concern” as being:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| a) <i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i> | (oceanic whitetip shark) | (OCS) |
| b) <i>Cetorhinus maximus</i> | (basking shark) | (BSK) |
| c) <i>Carcharodon carcharis</i> | (great white shark) | (WSH) |
| d) <i>Rhincodon typus</i> | (whale shark) | (RHN) |
| e) <i>Manta</i> spp. | (manta rays) | (MNT) |
| f) <i>Mobula</i> spp. | (mobula nei) | (RMU) |

Paragraph 9 of the SPRFMO CMM 4.09 (Seabirds; 2016) directs the SC to report on the number and location of seabird interactions annually and provide advice and recommendations to the Commission on possible improvements to further mitigate seabird interactions, including *inter alia*, the potential use of trigger limits to manage the incidental catch of seabirds in the SPRFMO Convention Area

In addition, the SC’s current research plan Section 6.1 outlines the approach the SC wishes to take when assessing the impact of fishing on non-target, associated or dependant species.

The objective of this paper is to summarise bycatch information, held by the secretariat and originating from fishing activity or observer reports, in order to assist the SC to fulfil its obligations.

Marine mammal, seabird, reptile and species of concern capture records

The Secretariat has fishing activity information from 2007 and observer information from 2008. Both sets of information were examined for marine mammal, seabird, reptile and other species of concern captures. The results are presented in Tables 1 & 2.

Fishery	Reporting Member	FAO code	Species	Common name	Number caught	Location (degrees)	Date of Capture	
Bottom Longline	Australia	CVX	Carcharhiniformes	Ground sharks	10 (kg)	37 S, 156 E	16 April 2008	
Bottom Longline	New Zealand	Submitted data does not specify					31 S, 173 E	14 October 2014

Table 3: Summary of captures of seabird, mammal, reptile and oceanic sharks from SPRFMO Fishing Activity submissions

Oceanic white tip sharks are in the order Carcharhiniformes, which is why the extract has identified the “Ground sharks” capture. The secretariat has no further information on the exact species that was caught on the 16 April 2008. The capture reported by New Zealand in its fishing activity data was also reported in the observer data submission.

Fishery	Reporting Member	FAO code	Species	Common name	Number caught	Location (degrees)	Date of Capture	Mitigation Measures
Bottom Longline	Australia	PFC	<i>Puffinus carneipes</i>	Flesh-footed shearwater	2	25 S, 159 E	15 March 2008	Line shooter Tori line
Bottom Longline	New Zealand	PRK	<i>Procellaria parkinsoni</i>	Parkinson's petrel	1	31 S, 173 E	14 October 2014	None specified

Table 4: Summary of captures of seabird, mammal, reptile and oceanic sharks from SPRFMO Observer submissions

None of the 3 other fisheries operating in the SPRFMO Area (being Bottom trawl, Jack mackerel and Squid) have reported capturing any marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles nor other species of concern.

The Secretariat welcomes suggestions on additional summaries that may help the SC assess the impact of fishing on non-target, associated or dependant species.