



## ***International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize***

*Marina Towers, 204, Newtown Barracks, Belize City, Belize C.A*

**“IMMARBE HEAD OFFICE”**

### **BELIZE’S ANNUAL REPORT TO THE INTERIM SECRETARIAT OF SPRFMO**

**Dated: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2009**

**By**

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Belize has progressed in attaining its objective of becoming a Contracting Party or Cooperating non-Contracting Party of all RFMOs in whose Convention areas its fishing vessels are operating. Currently, Belize is a Contracting Party of ICCAT, IOTC and IATTC. We are a Cooperating non-Contracting Party of NEAFC and a Cooperating non Member of WCPFC.

The fleet which fishes on the high seas is registered by the International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE) and is licensed by the Fisheries Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Matters of Policy are determined jointly by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Director General of IMMARBE. IMMARBE is dedicated to providing **“an efficient, cost effective quality ship registration service and to enforce national laws and international conventions which have been ratified by Belize in the interests of safety at sea and the protection of the environment”**.

For your guidance, Belize has ratified the FAO “Compliance Agreement”, the “Fish Stocks” Agreement and the “IPOA-IUU”, the provisions of which have been incorporated into our High Seas Fishing Act, 2003. This serves to formalize our commitment to the elimination of activities which diminish the effectiveness of conservation measures.

### **PART I (Information on Fisheries, Research and Statistics)**

#### **Section I: Annual Fisheries Information**

We have only one mid-water trawler presently operating in the SPRFMO Convention Area which is targeting Horse Mackerel and Chub Mackerel. Its detailed catches for 2008 is attached:

**The below table shows a summary of catches in this area for the period 2004 to 2008**

<b>Species</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>
Alfonsino	229.11	102.40	101.30	61.12	
Grenadier	524.52				
Orange Roughy	914.37	505.56	200.32	331.90	
Horse Mackerel		866.96	481.22	12584.79	15245.41
Chub Mackerel					1103.96
Squids	680.64	824.97			
Mackerel				965.56	

<sup>1</sup> Fishing Vessels Manager, International Merchant Marine Registry of Belize (IMMARBE)

We also have 8 other mid-water trawlers which are licensed to operate within the Convention Area (see the attached list). The data on our historical fisheries for 2001-2006 was provided to the Commission 6<sup>th</sup> June 2008. We also indicated that we had other vessels that operated in the area prior to 2001 but the data/information for these vessels was not readily accessible. We had no detailed reporting system and vessel monitoring prior to 2001.

For your guidance, none of our vessels have fished in waters within any EEZ or under national jurisdiction adjacent to the Convention Area.

- **Fishing Vessel Licensing**

In addition to compliance with the requirements of the Registration of Merchant Ships Act as amended in 1996, the Registration of Merchant Ships (Fishing Vessels of 24 meters in length and above) Safety Regulations, all new registrations as well as fishing vessels which are already registered are required to apply for a High Seas Fishing License by completing the relevant Application Form detailing, inter alia, a description of the vessel, its fishing gear, area of fishing, the species to be targeted, method of processing etc. Vessels which wish to fish in breach of conservation measures or for species for which Belize has no catch quotas in areas where quotas apply, are not registered or licensed. Furthermore, the High Seas Fishing License itself specifies as a condition that "Vessel has not and shall not engage in any activities which may undermine the effectiveness of International Conservation and Management Measures applicable to the authorized area of fishing".

- **Vessel Monitoring**

We have successfully implemented VMS Reporting on all our High Seas fishing vessels which operate outside the territorial waters of Belize, irrespective of size, i.e. both below and above 24 meters. It is based on Inmarsat, utilizing Inmarsat C, Inmarsat Mini C and Inmarsat D+ equipment. Our provider is Pole Star Space Applications Limited who utilizes an automatic, real time internet based service called Purplefinder Vessel Management Solutions. This reporting system complies with 03-14 Recommendation by ICCAT Concerning Minimum Standards for the Establishment of a Vessel Monitoring System in the ICCAT Convention Area. For example, the margin of error is +/- 20 meters with a confidence level of 99% and it is tamper proof. This reporting system complies with the 03-14/04 Recommendation by ICCAT concerning Minimum Standards for the Establishment of a Vessel Monitoring System in the ICCAT Convention Area-- as well as SPRFMO's Vessel Monitoring, Minimum Standards for the Collection, Reporting and Verification of Data, dated September 2007.

The VMS position reports for the vessel "VIKTORIYA", which is currently operating in the Convention Area, were submitted to the Commission on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2008. The monitoring is carried out by the Fishing Administration Department at IMMARBE's Head Office in Belize. It enables us, inter alia, to track a fishing vessel's compliance with the geographical limits contained in its Fishing License and to check the position data contained in the Fishing Logs and Fishing Vessel Voyage reports.

## **Section II: Research and Statistics**

- **Inspection Schemes and Compliance**

For the purpose of ensuring compliance, surveillance is conducted on a regular basis or as a result of an investigation by boarding at sea or in port, plant checks, observer teams, and requesting assistance from other Government/Organizations as necessary. We do not currently have any at sea observer program in the SPRFMO Area.

- **Research Activities**

We do not currently conduct any research activities within the Convention Area.

- **Statistical Data Collection System in Use**

Fishing vessel Owners/Operators are required to submit data of their fishing operations based on our format for such reporting which includes a detailed Fishing Log and Fishing Vessel Voyage Report showing information regarding positions, times/dates, sets, catches by species including weights and sizes, start times, number of hooks etc., details of discards, by-catches etc., species unloaded, names of ports or details of transshipments.

Our commitment and effective policies in combating IUU fishing are well known to all in the industry. As a small developing nation, all we in Belize are requesting is to secure a meaningful/viable fishing presence/participation in the SPRFMO in accordance with the provisions of the Interim Measures dated 30<sup>th</sup> April 2007.

LIST OF VESSELS AUTHORIZED TO OPERATE IN THE SPRFMO CONVENTION - 2009																				
No.	Vessel Name	Current Flag	Registration No.	Call Letter	IMO No.	Previous Name	Previous Flag	Type of Vessel	Fishing Method	Year Built	Place of Built	LOA	LBP	Depth	Beam	GRT	Engine Power	Capacity	Name and Address of Owners	Name and Address of Operators
1	Geysir	Belize	230530027	V3DX2	8907125	Achilles	Vanuatu	Fishing	Trawl	1994	Naval Gijon, Spain	105	91.104	9.2	20	7805	8005 bhp	2850 m/t	Katla Seafood ehf Baejarhraun 12, 220 Hafnarfjordur, Iceland	SAME AS OWNERS
2	Beta 1	Belize	230530031	V3DH3	8607220	Beta	Cyprus	Fishing	Trawl	1988	Stralsund, Germany	120.47	108.12	12.22	19	7765	2385 kw	2000 m/t	Katla Seafood ehf Kringland 7, 103 Reykjavik, Iceland	SAME AS OWNERS
3	Kristina	Belize	230730035	V3DW2	8907137	Engey	Iceland	Fishing	Trawl	1993	Factorias Vulcanos S.A.	105	91.104	9.2	20	7805	8050 hp	2000 m/t	Snaefell EHF Glerargata 30, 600 Akureyri, Iceland	Katla Seafood Husi Verslunarinnar, 8th Fl, Kringlumni 7, 103 Reykjavik, Iceland
4	Sirius	Belize	230530026	V3DM	8907149	Sirius	Vanuatu	Fishing	Trawl	1994	Naval Gijon, Spain	105	91.104	9.2	20	7805	8005 bhp	2850 m/t	Katla Seafood ehf Baejarhraun 12, 220 Hafnarfjordur, Iceland	SAME AS OWNERS
5	Alpha	Belize	350930064	V3MB6	8607141	Anders Bdy-39	Poland	Fishing	Trawl	1987	Stralsund, Germany	120.47	108.12	12.22	19	7765	2385 kw	2000 m/t	Katla Seafood ehf Baejarhraun 12, 220 Hafnarfjordur, Iceland	SAME AS OWNERS
6	Viktoriya	Belize	010631699	V3HM2	8507573	Miyadzima Maru	Russia	Fishing	Trawl	1985	Hitachi Hiroshima 1, Japan	131.29	130	12.1	20	9814	4963 kw	2200 m/t	SOUTH PACIFIC FISHERIES LTD. Roger Eric Johnson 80 Broad Street, Monrovia, Liberia	RONGMARR FISHERY CO., LTD Yin Huiyu, Floor 12, 106A, North HaiBin Road, WeiHai, ShanDong, China 264200
7	Nordic	Belize	290630149	V3ZY5	8908105	Sea Ace	Cyprus	Fishing	Trawl	1993	Volkswerft GMBH	120.47	108.12	12.22	19	7765	5296 kw	2300 m/t	Beveri Shipping Company Limited 284 Arch. Makarios III, Ave, Fortuna Court, Block B, 2nd Floor, Limassol Cyprus	SAME AS OWNERS
8	Polar One	Belize	079820068	V3VM9	8615849	Novator	Russia	Fishing	Trawl	1988	Kleven Loland A/S Norway	91.3	81	10.2	15	4042	5296 kw	1800 m/t	Algerak Shipping Company Limited 284 Arch. Makarios III, Ave, Fortuna Court. Block B, 2nd Floor, Limassol Cyprus	SAME AS OWNERS
9	Heinaste	Belize	230530030	V3DC3	8607347	Heinaste	Cyprus	Fishing	Trawl	1989	Volkswerft GMBH	120.47	108.12	12.22	19	7765	2386 kw	2000 m/t	Seadove Shipping Company Ltd. Baejarhraun 12, 220 Hafnarfjordur, Iceland	SAME AS OWNERS

## CATCH AND EFFORT DATA FOR VESSELS WHICH OPERATED IN THE SPRFMO AREA

2008

## VIKTORIYA

Month	Area		Days Fished	Species	Unit:M/T
				Chilean Jack Mackerel ( <i>Trachurus murphyi</i> )	Chub Mackerel ( <i>Scomber japonicus</i> )
March	35-40S	80-85W	16	295.518	7.28
March	35-40S	85-90W	5	102.56	0
April	35-40S	80-85W	11	1162.89	79.12
April	35-40S	85-90W	10	998.23	23.6
May	40-45S	80-85W	15	2036.2	169.06
May	40-45S	85-90W	9	1542.6	159.12
June	35-40S	80-85W	12	1598	159.3
June	35-40S	85-90W	7	936.54	
July	35-40S	85-90W	24	3211.1	201.32
August	35-40S	90-95W	5	245	54.26
August	35-40S	90-95W	14	845.2	94.16
August	35-40s	95-100W	7	654.06	
September	30-35S	85-90W	12	606.8	154.62
September	30-35S	90-95W	8	956.98	
October	25-30S	95-100W	5	53.74	2.12
				<b>15245.418</b>	<b>1103.96</b>