

**INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION**  
**SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**EIGHTH MEETING**

La Jolla, California (USA)  
8-12 May 2017

**DOCUMENT SAC-08 INF A(j)**

**ANNUAL REPORT RELATING TO AT SEA OBSERVER COVERAGE IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH RESOLUTION C-11-08**

**Reporting Country: BELIZE**

**Fishing Year: 2016**

**Total Annual Catches of the Longline fleet:** 675.83 m/t (*provisional*)

**Percentage Coverage of fishing effort by observers**

**(Considered as fishing days):** 40%

*Basis: % of days fished to actual days in fishing area*

**Total Annual Catches by vessels with observers on board:** 53.79 m/t

**Species composition of catches in vessels with observers on board:**

Retained species were predominantly		Retained by-catch species were	
English Name	Scientific Name	English Name	Scientific Name
Silky Sharks	<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	Blue Marlin	<i>Makaira nigricans</i>
Thresher shark	<i>Alopias spp</i>		
Swordfish	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>		

**Number of vessels with observers on board:**

One (1)

**Number of sea turtles caught incidentally on trips with observers on board:**

Fourteen (14)

**Were sea turtles caught incidentally released?**

YES

**Number of sharks caught in trips with observers:**

Two hundred and seventy two (272)

**Number of rays captured on trips with observers:**

None

**Number of billfishes captured in trips with observers:**

Twelve (12)

**Number of hooks used on fishing trips with observers:**

Fourteen thousand six hundred and eighty eight (14,688)

**Type of hooks used:**

Circle Hooks