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**2014 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC OBSERVER REPORT OF  
KOREAN TUNA LONGLINE FISHERY IN THE IATTC  
CONVENTION AREA**

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**Summary**

In accordance with IATTC Resolution C-11-08 and the Korean National Scientific Observer Program, 4 observers (1 Korean and 3 regional observers from coastal states) had been deployed to monitor Korean tuna longline vessel on fishing activities and collect the data on catch, effort, discards and other relevant scientific information in the IATTC convention area in 2014. They observed 196 days and achieved about 2% observer coverage.

\* Note: This paper represents the result conducted by one Korean observer trip.

**Observer tasks**

The observer tasks are basically 1) recording and reporting fishing activities, verifying positions of the vessel, 2) observing and estimating catches as far as possible with a view to identifying catch composition and monitoring discards, bycatch and size frequency, 3) recording the gear type, mesh size and attachments employed by the master, 4) collecting information to enable the cross-checking entries made to the logbooks (species composition and quantities, live and processed weight and location, where available), 5) carrying out other scientific works.

**Vessel details**

The information on fishing vessel observed by a Korean observer in 2014 is shown in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Vessel specific details of Korean tuna longline fishery for observer trip in the IATTC convention area, 2014

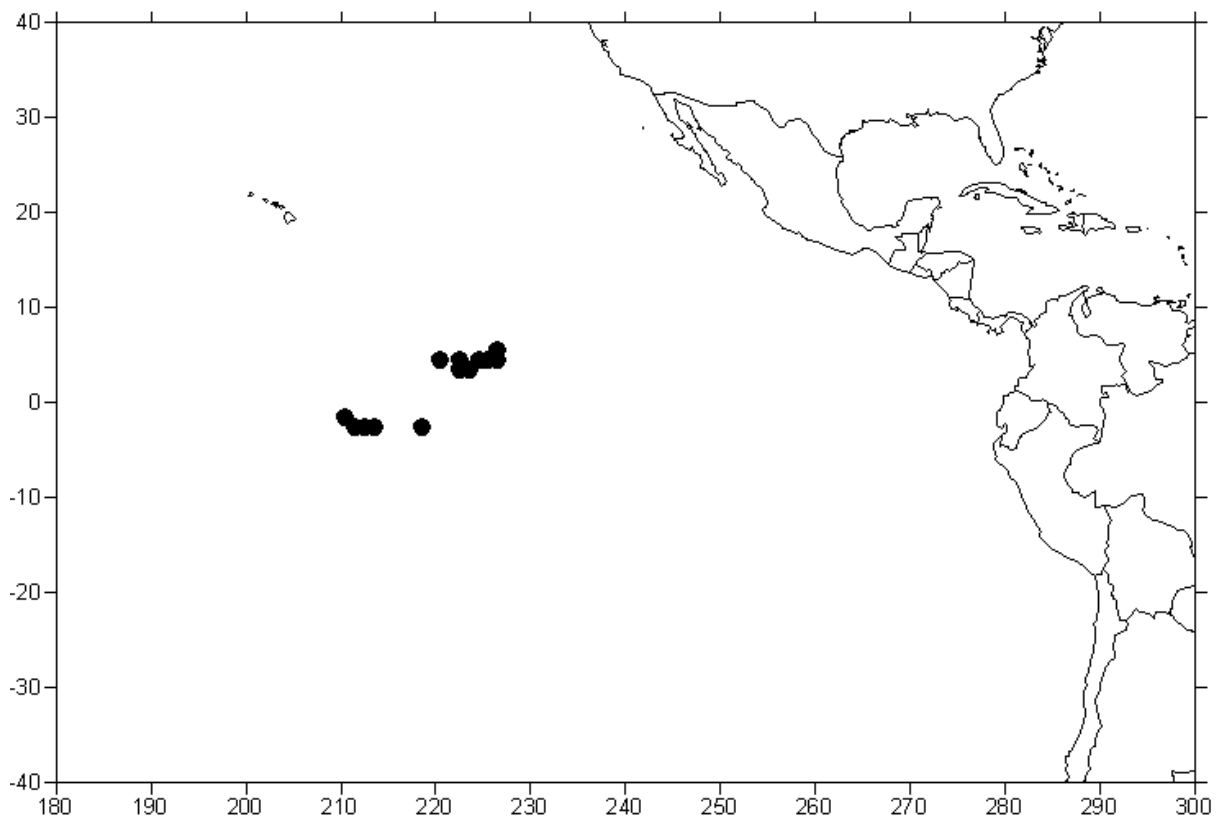
Flag state	Vessel name	Radio callsign	Gross tonnage	Length overall (m)
Rep. of Korea	Daehwa No.306	DTFE	416	49.91

## Fishing operations

In 2014, one Korean observer had been deployed on longline vessel operating in the IATTC convention area. He observed the effort of  $76 \times 10^3$  hooks in 36 sets during 43 days (Table 2). The observed area during this trip was between 133-149°W of 5°N-2°S, which is shown in Fig. 1.

**Table 2.** Information on Korean observer trip of Korean tuna longline fishery in the IATTC convention area, 2014

Trips observed	Observation period	Sets observed	Effort observed
1	Jul. 3- Aug.14	36	75,633



**Fig. 1.** Fishing positions of Korean tuna longline vessel during observer trip in the IATTC convention area, 2014.

## Catch observed and species composition

Tables 3 and 4 show total retained catch and discards/releases during this observer trip in the IATTC convention area, respectively. During this trip, 4 individuals of marine turtle which belongs to one species were bycaught, and no seabird was bycaught.

## Biological data collected

All the species, if possible, were measured and weighted on board. Some species were observed on stomach content and gonads.

## Tagging

During this observer trip, no species tagged was recaptured.

**Table 3.** Total retained catch by species recorded during observer trip in the IATTC convention area, 2014

Group	Species	Number	Weight (kg)
Tunas	Albacore tuna	10	205
	Bigeye tuna	226	12,920
	Yellowfin tuna	45	1,652
	Skipjack tuna	7	75
Billfishes	Blue marlin	38	3,036
	Striped Marlin	2	133
	Swordfish	25	1,358
	Pacific Sailfish	1	24
Other fishes	Fishes	43	363
Sharks	Blue shark	15	522
	Common thresher shark	10	461
Total		422	20,749

**Table 4.** Total discards/releases by species recorded during observer trip in the IATTC convention area, 2014

Group	Species	Number
Tunas	Bigeye tuna	5
	Yellowfin tuna	3
Billfishes	Swordfish	2
Other fishes	Fishes	50
Sharks	Silky shark	5
	Longfin mako shark	2
	Oceanic whitetip shark	1
	Smooth hammerhead shark	1
	Velvet dogfish	18
Rays	Stingray	4
Sea turtles	Olive ridley sea turtle	4
Total		95