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**United States Summary of 2016 Observer Data per  
Resolution C-11-08, *Resolution on Scientific Observers for Longline Vessels***

This summary is submitted pursuant to Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC) Resolution C-11-08, *Resolution on Scientific Observers for Longline Vessels*. Through an amendment to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, scientific observers are required on 100 percent of all shallow-set longline trips targeting swordfish and at least 20 percent of all deep-set longline trips targeting bigeye tuna. The observer data in this report contain only data from longline vessels based in Hawaii, which comprise over 99 percent of the U.S. pelagic longline fleet. The tables below are summaries of observer data for sets that occurred in the IATTC Convention Area in 2016, based on begin-set position and haul date.

**Sets (i.e., fishing days)**

A total of 347 shallow sets occurred in the IATTC Convention Area. Each set is effectively one fishing day with a single set typically completed within 24 hours of starting. One-hundred percent of shallow sets (fishing days) in the IATTC Convention Area were observed. The total number of deep sets and the percent of deep sets observed are not available at this time but will be updated upon receipt.

**Sea Turtle Release**

United States regulations require fishermen to release all sea turtles, alive or dead. There is no record of fishermen not complying with these regulations in 2016.

**Hook Type and Quantity**

Both the shallow-set and deep-set longline fisheries used the following hook types:

1. Offset round circle: a hook with either the point or point and barb that curves towards the shank, but is also bent so that the point and shank do not lay in the same plane. The hook has no flat edges along its shank.
2. Offset flat circle: a hook with either the point or point and barb that curves towards the shank, but is also bent so that the point and shank do not lay in the same plane. The hook will have, at least, some portion of its shank flattened.

In 2016, the number of hooks per set in the shallow-set longline fishery ranged in quantity from 158 to 1,432. The number of hooks per set in the deep-set longline fishery ranged from 250 to 3,616; however, the lower range may be an outlier, with a more representative minimum being 1,190 hooks per set.

**Catch Species Composition**

Below are tables summarizing the species composition of animals caught in shallow-set and deep-set longline fisheries (Tables 1 to 6). A total of 13,870 and 30,887 individual fish, marine mammals, sea turtles, and seabirds were observed caught in 2016 in the shallow-set and deep-set longline fisheries, respectively.

Table 1. Number of individual fish, except sharks, billfish, and rays, observed caught by the U.S. shallow-set longline fleet in the IATTC Convention Area in 2016.

<b>Species Common Name</b>	<b>No. of Individ.</b>
Bony Fish, Unidentified	22
Dolphinfish	409
Escolar	257
Lancetfish, Longnose	784
Mola, Common	28
Oilfish	107
Opah	280
Pomfret, Brama spp.	72
Pomfret, Dagger	1
Pomfret, Sickle	5
Ribbonfish, Tapertail	1
Snake Mackerel	25
Tuna, Albacore	45
Tuna, Bigeye	689
Tuna, Bluefin	1
Tuna, Skipjack	14
Tuna, Unidentified	3
Tuna, Yellowfin	88
Wahoo	6
Yellowtail	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,838</b>

Table 2. Number of individual fish, except sharks, billfish, and rays, observed caught by the U.S. deep-set longline fleet in the IATTC Convention Area in 2016.

<b>Species Common Name</b>	<b>No. of Indiv.</b>
Bony Fish, Other Identified	1
Bony Fish, Unidentified	5
Cigarfishes	1
Crestfish	8
Dolphinfish	1,904
Dolphinfish, Pompano	24
Escolar	1,208
Escolar, Longfin	71
Escolar, Roudi's	2
Fanfishes	4
Gemfish, Black	3
Hammerjaw	5
Lancetfish, Longnose	8,119
Lancetfish, Shortnose	1
Mola, Common	3
Mola, Sharptail	3
Mola, Slender	60
Oilfish	11
Opah	1,610
Pomfret, Brama spp.	102
Pomfret, Dagger	215
Pomfret, Lustrous	2
Pomfret, Rough	14
Pomfret, Sickle	2,133
Pomfret, Unidentified	3
Puffer, Pelagic	8
Ribbonfish, Tapertail	3
Scabbardfish, Razorback	1
Snake Mackerel	6,716
Snake Mackerel, Unidentified	6
Swallowers	5
Tuna, Albacore	14
Tuna, Bigeye	7,659
Tuna, Skipjack	902
Tuna, Unidentified	141
Tuna, Yellowfin	1,032
Wahoo	548
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29,311</b>

Table 3. Number of individual sharks, rays, and billfish observed caught by the U.S. shallow-set longline fleet in the IATTC Convention Area in 2016.

<b>Species Common Name</b>	<b>No. of Individ.</b>
<i>Sharks</i>	
Shark, Bigeye Thresher	10
Shark, Blue	5,214
Shark, Common Thresher	3
Shark, Longfin Mako	3
Shark, Salmon	6
Shark, Shortfin Mako	571
Shark, Unidentified	34
Shark, Unid. Mako	3
Shark, Unid. Thresher	1
TOTAL	5,845
<i>Rays</i>	
Stingray, Pelagic	240
TOTAL	240
<i>Billfish</i>	
Billfish, Unidentified	4
Marlin, Blue	9
Marlin, Striped	45
Spearfish, Shortbill	47
Swordfish	4,777
TOTAL	4,882

Table 4. Number of individual sharks, rays, and billfish observed caught by the U.S. deep-set longline fleet in the IATTC Convention Area in 2016.

<b>Species Common Name</b>	<b>No. of Indiv.</b>
<i>Sharks</i>	
Dogfish, Velvet	14
Shark, Cookie Cutter	3
Shark, Crocodile	4
Shark, Longfin Mako	10
Shark, Oceanic White-Tip	2
Shark, Other Identified	1
Shark, Shortfin Mako	199
Shark, Silky	10
Shark, Smooth Hammerhead	1
Shark, Unid. Mako	1
Shark, Unid. Thresher	7
TOTAL	252
<i>Rays</i>	
Stingray, Pelagic	121
TOTAL	121
<i>Billfish</i>	
Billfish, Unidentified	5
Marlin, Black	1
Marlin, Blue	63
Marlin, Striped	267
Sailfish	14
Spearfish, Shortbill	577
Swordfish	270
TOTAL	1,197

Table 5. Number of individual marine mammals, seabirds, and sea turtles observed caught by the U.S. shallow-set longline fleet in the IATTC Convention Area in 2016.

<b>Species Common Name</b>	<b>No. of Individ.</b>
<i>Marine Mammals</i>	
Dolphin, Bottlenose	1
Dolphin, Risso's	2
Dolphin, Striped	1
TOTAL	4
<i>Seabirds</i>	
Albatross, Laysan	16
Albatross, Black-footed	30
TOTAL	46
<i>Sea Turtles</i>	
Turtle, Loggerhead	13
Turtle, Leatherback	2
TOTAL	15

Table 6. Number of individual marine mammals and seabirds, and sea turtles observed caught by the U.S. deep-set longline fleet in the IATTC Convention Area in 2016.

<b>Species Common Name</b>	<b>No. of Individ.</b>
<i>Marine Mammals</i>	
Unidentified Whale, Dolphin, or Porpoise	1
TOTAL	1
<i>Seabirds</i>	
Albatross, Black-footed	1
Shearwater, Unidentified	3
TOTAL	4
<i>Sea Turtles</i>	
Turtle, Olive Ridley	1
TOTAL	1