

June 27, 2024

Ref: IA-24-06

Dr. Arnulfo Franco
Director
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
8901 La Jolla Shores Drive, La Jolla, CA 92037-1508
USA

Dear Dr. Franco,

As per Resolution C-19-04 "Resolution to Mitigate Impacts on Sea Turtles," I am writing to submit the annual report on sea turtles from Chinese Taipei for 2023.

With regard to paragraph 4.a.i and 4.a.iii of the said Resolution, we would like to report that there have been no changes to Taiwan's laws, regulations, and other instruments in place in that regard. Domestic regulations have been promulgated to require that any tuna longline fishing vessel operating in the Pacific Ocean and fishing with the majority of hooks at a depth shallower than 100 meters must use the following mitigation measures:

1. Large circle hooks shall be used; or
2. Fish, except for cephalopod species, shall be used as bait.

As for paragraph 4.a.ii of the said Resolution, the required minimum data on observed sea turtle interactions have been included in the observer data we submitted to the Secretariat on June 26 this year.

Best regards,



Ding-Rong Lin

Chinese Taipei Commissioner to the IATTC



行政院農業委員會漁業署

FISHERIES AGENCY

Council of Agriculture, Executive Yuan

6F., No.100, Sec. 2, Heping W. Rd., Taipei City, Taiwan

TEL: 886-2-2383-5678 FAX: 886-2-2332-7397 <http://www.fa.gov.tw>

May 16, 2023

Ref.: IA-23-04

Dr. Arnulfo Franco
Director
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
8901 La Jolla Shores Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037-1508
USA

Dear Dr. Franco,

As per Resolution C-19-04 "Resolution to Mitigate Impacts on Sea Turtles", I am writing to submit the annual report of sea turtles of Chinese Taipei in 2022.

With regard to paragraph 4.a. i and iii of the said Resolution, we would like to report that there is no change to Taiwan's laws, regulations, and other instruments in place in that regard. The domestic regulation has been promulgated to require that any tuna longline fishing vessel operating in the Pacific Ocean and fishing with the majority of hooks at a depth shallower than 100 meters, should use the following mitigations measures:

1. Large circle hooks shall be used; or
2. Fishes except for Cephalopods species shall be used as baits.

As for the paragraph 4.a. ii of the said Resolution, the required minimum data of the observed sea turtle interactions will be covered in the observer data that we're going to submit to the Secretariat this year.

Kind regards,

Chi-Chao Liu
Chinese Taipei Commissioner to the IATTC



行政院農業委員會漁業署

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June 30, 2022

Ref.: IA-22-10

Ambassador Jean-Francois Pulvenis
Acting Director
Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
8901 La Jolla Shores Drive
La Jolla, CA 92037-1508
USA

Dear Mr. Pulvenis,

As per Resolution C-19-04 "Resolution to Mitigate Impacts on Sea Turtles", I am writing to submit the annual report of sea turtles of Chinese Taipei in 2021.

With regard to paragraph 4.a. i and iii of the said Resolution, we would like to report that there hasn't been many changes to laws, regulations, and other instruments in place in that regard. The only changes that had been made comparing to what we have reported before is that, domestic regulation has been promulgated to require that any tuna longline fishing vessel operating in the Pacific Ocean and fishing with the majority of hooks at a depth shallower than 100 meters, should use the following mitigations measures:

1. Large circle hooks shall be used; or
2. Fishes except for Cephalopods species shall be used as baits.

As for the paragraph 4.a. ii of the said Resolution, the required minimum data of the observed sea turtle interactions have all been covered in the observer data that we submitted to the Secretariat every year.

Kind regards,

Ming-Fen Wu

for Chi-Chao Liu
Chinese Taipei Commissioner to the IATTC

Report on the Implementation of the FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations

Chinese Taipei

June 2021

Introduction

IATTC adopted the Resolution C-19-04 “Resolution to Mitigate Impacts on Sea Turtles” on the occasion of its 94th Meeting, which replaced the Resolution C-07-03 “Resolution to Mitigate the Impact of Tuna Fishing Vessels on Sea Turtles” on the date of January 1st, 2021 when it entered into force.

It is stipulated in paragraph 4 of C-19-04 that CPCs shall report to the Director annually, by June 30 (beginning in 2022), the information in that paragraph in a standardized format, which we understand as the provision of relevant information in a new format will begin in 2022. In this regard, the Chinese Taipei is submitting the information relevant to the progress of implementation of the FAO Guidelines, and interactions with sea turtles in accordance with C-07-03.

Implementation of the IPOA-Sea turtles

1. Fishermen of fishing vessels are required to bring aboard, if practicable, any captured sea turtle that is comatose or inactive as soon as possible and foster recovery, including resuscitation, before returning it to the sea.
2. Fishing vessels are required to have sea turtle release devices on board, such as dip net, de-hooker and line cutters, during the fishing trips, for appropriate release of incidentally caught sea turtles.
3. Any sea turtle incidentally caught by any catching vessel shall be released or discarded and duly recorded on logbooks. Furthermore, we also collect by-catch information of sea turtle through the observer programme.
4. Since 2010, tuna longline fishing vessels that target for swordfish in a shallowest manner (the proportion of swordfish to total catches is over 40% per month) have been required to use circle hooks for reducing bycatch rate of sea turtle.
5. To prevent harming sea turtles, any fishing vessel shall not dispose any type of plastic trash at sea.

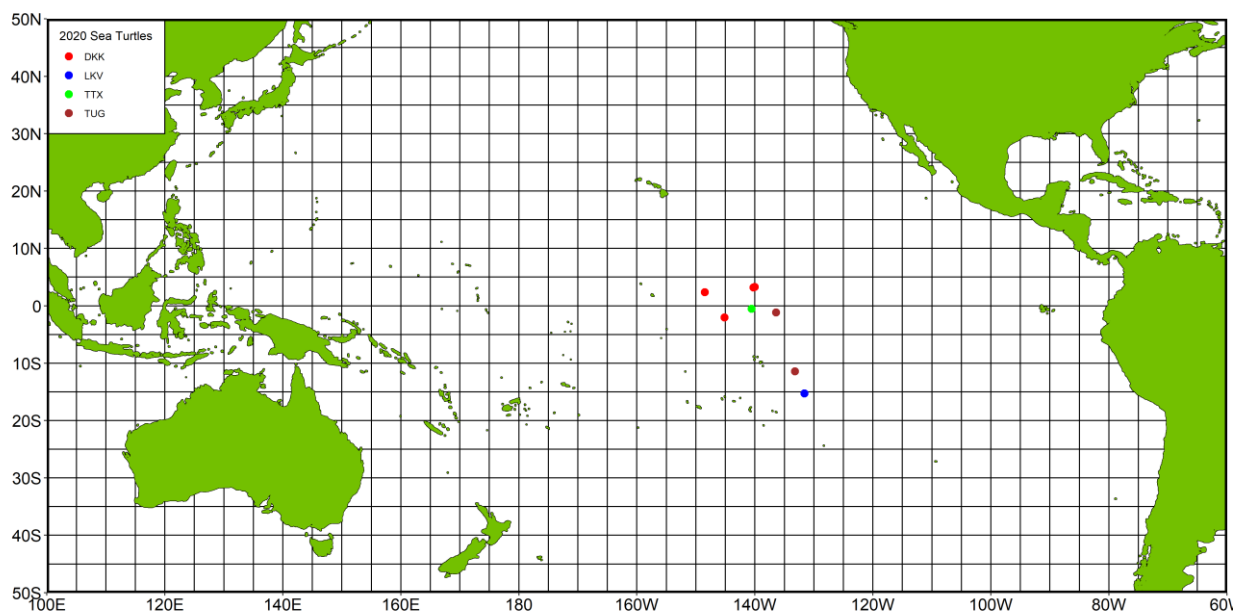
Interactions with sea turtles

It is estimated that observer coverage rate in 2020 for our longline fleets operating in IATTC Convention area is 8.30% of effective days fishing. However, due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic this year, the retrieval of the complete observer data for 2020 has been delayed. The current observer coverage rate in terms of data retrieved is 3.61% with 543 fishing days being observed. According to those observer records, the bycatch number and the status of those turtles are as follows:

Species	Bycatch number	Status
Green turtle	1	alive
Green turtle	1	dead
Leatherback turtle	3	alive
Leatherback turtle	1	unknown
Marine turtles nei	1	alive
Olive ridley turtle	1	dead

*Please be advised these data are still preliminary.

Attachment: Sea turtles bycatch distribution in EPO in 2020



Report on the Implementation of the FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations

Chinese Taipei

June 2021

Introduction

IATTC adopted the Resolution C-19-04 “Resolution to Mitigate Impacts on Sea Turtles” on the occasion of its 94th Meeting, which replaced the Resolution C-07-03 “Resolution to Mitigate the Impact of Tuna Fishing Vessels on Sea Turtles” on the date of January 1st, 2021 when it entered into force.

It is stipulated in paragraph 4 of C-19-04 that CPCs shall report to the Director annually, by June 30 (beginning in 2022), the information in that paragraph in a standardized format, which we understand as the provision of relevant information in a new format will begin in 2022. In this regard, the Chinese Taipei is submitting the information relevant to the progress of implementation of the FAO Guidelines, and interactions with sea turtles in accordance with C-07-03.

Implementation of the IPOA-Sea turtles

1. Fishermen of fishing vessels are required to bring aboard, if practicable, any captured sea turtle that is comatose or inactive as soon as possible and foster recovery, including resuscitation, before returning it to the sea.
2. Fishing vessels are required to have sea turtle release devices on board, such as dip net, de-hooker and line cutters, during the fishing trips, for appropriate release of incidentally caught sea turtles.
3. Any sea turtle incidentally caught by any catching vessel shall be released or discarded and duly recorded on logbooks. Furthermore, we also collect by-catch information of sea turtle through the observer programme.
4. Since 2010, tuna longline fishing vessels that target for swordfish in a shallowest manner (the proportion of swordfish to total catches is over 40% per month) have been required to use circle hooks for reducing bycatch rate of sea turtle.
5. To prevent harming sea turtles, any fishing vessel shall not dispose any type of plastic trash at sea.

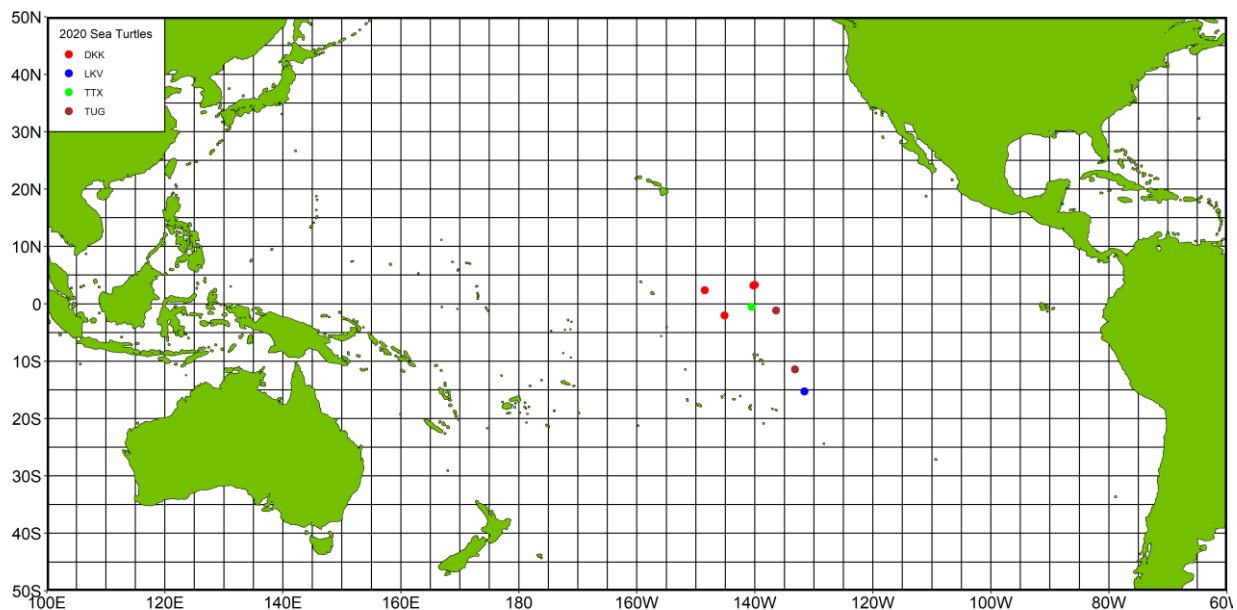
Interactions with sea turtles

It is estimated that observer coverage rate in 2020 for our longline fleets operating in IATTC Convention area is 8.30% of effective days fishing. However, due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic this year, the retrieval of the complete observer data for 2020 has been delayed. The current observer coverage rate in terms of data retrieved is 3.61% with 543 fishing days being observed. According to those observer records, the bycatch number and the status of those turtles are as follows:

Species	Bycatch number	Status
Green turtle	1	alive
Green turtle	1	dead
Leatherback turtle	3	alive
Leatherback turtle	1	unknown
Marine turtles nei	1	alive
Olive ridley turtle	1	dead

*Please be advised these data are still preliminary.

Attachment: Sea turtles bycatch distribution in EPO in 2020



Report on the Implementation of the FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations

Chinese Taipei

June 2020

Introduction

This report is written in accordance with paragraph 2 of the Resolution C-07-03 “The Resolution to Mitigate the Impact of Tuna Fishing Vessels on Sea Turtles”, which stipulates that “Beginning in 2008, report to the IATTC annually by 30 June on the progress of implementation of the FAO Guidelines, including information collected on interactions with sea turtles in fisheries managed under the Convention.”

Implementation of the IPOA-Sea turtles

1. Fishermen of fishing vessels are required to bring aboard, if practicable, any captured sea turtle that is comatose or inactive as soon as possible and foster recovery, including resuscitation, before returning it to the sea.
2. Fishing vessels are required to have sea turtle release devices on board, including dip net, de-hooker and line cutters, during the fishing trips, for appropriate release of incidentally caught sea turtles.
3. Any sea turtle incidentally caught by any fishing vessel shall be released or discarded, and the number(s) shall be duly recorded on the E-logbook system. Furthermore, we also collect by-catch information of sea turtle through the observer program.
4. Tuna longline fishing vessels fishing in a shallowest manner (those in which the majority of hooks fish at depth shallower than 100 meters) have been required to use circle hooks or whole fin-fish baits to reduce bycatch rate of sea turtle.
5. To prevent harming sea turtles, any fishing vessel shall not dispose any type of plastic trash at sea.

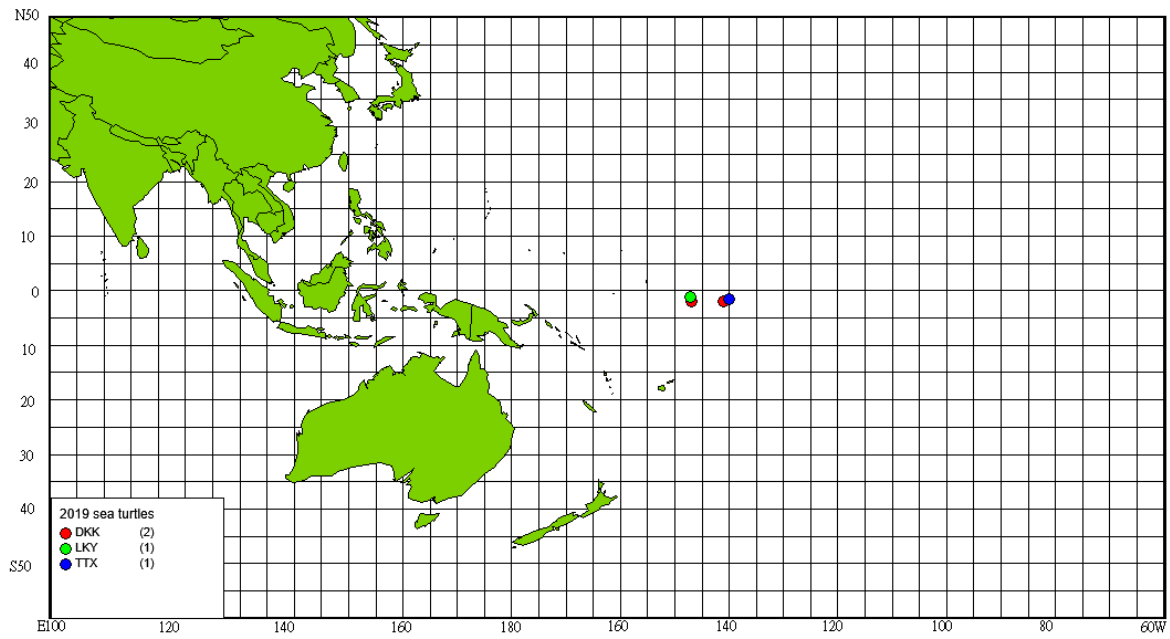
Interactions with sea turtles

It is estimated that observer coverage rate in 2019 for our longline fleets operating in IATTC Convention area is 13.24% of effective days fishing. However, due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic this year, the retrieval of the complete observer data for 2019 has been delayed. The current observer coverage rate in terms of data retrieved is 4.26% with 509 fishing days being observed. According to those observer records, the bycatch number and the status of those turtles are as follows:

Species	Bycatch number	Status
Leatherback turtles	2	alive
Kemp's ridley turtle	1	dead
Marine turtle nei	1	alive

*Please be advised these data are still preliminary.

Attachment: Sea turtles bycatch distribution in EPO in 2019



Report on the Implementation of the FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations

Chinese Taipei

June 2019

Implementation of the IPOA-Sea turtles

1. Fishermen of fishing vessels are required to bring aboard, if practicable, any captured sea turtle that is comatose or inactive as soon as possible and foster recovery, including resuscitation, before returning it to the sea.
2. Fishing vessels are required to have sea turtle release devices on board, including dip net, de-hooker and line cutters, during the fishing trips, for appropriate release of incidentally caught sea turtles.
3. Any sea turtle incidentally caught by any fishing vessel shall be released or discarded, and the number(s) shall be duly recorded on the logbooks and E-logbook system. Furthermore, we also collect by-catch information of sea turtle through the observer program.
4. Tuna longline fishing vessels that target for swordfish in a shallowest manner (the proportion of swordfish to total catches is over 40% per month) have been required to use circle hooks or whole fin-fish baits for reducing bycatch rate of sea turtle.
5. To prevent harming sea turtles, any fishing vessel shall not dispose any type of plastic trash at sea.

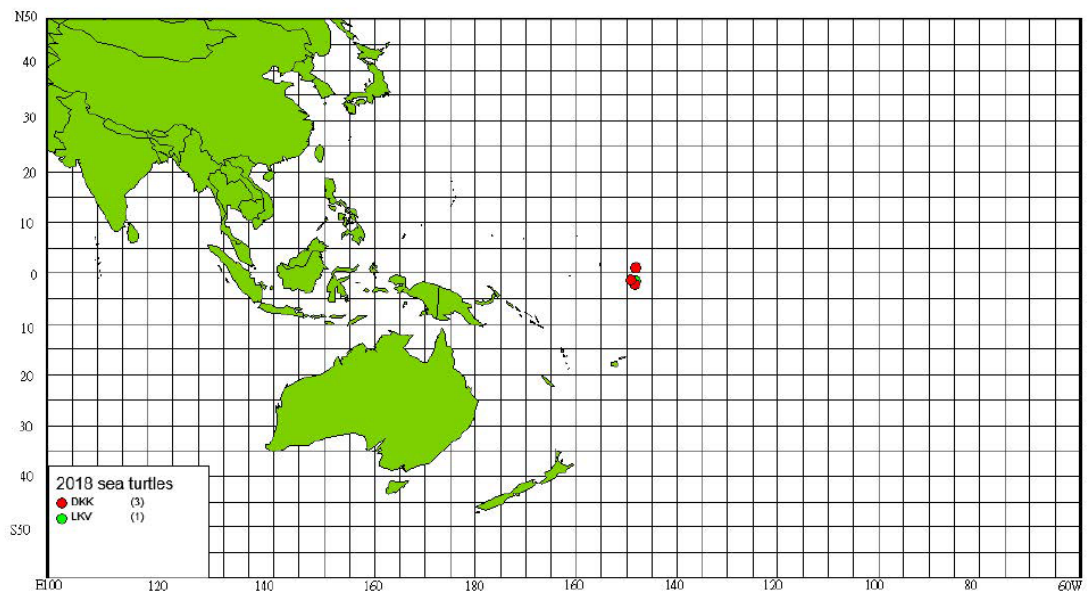
Interactions with sea turtles

During 2018, our observers had observed for 1,251 days in the EPO and the observer coverage rate is approximately 11.2%. According to the observer records, the bycatch number and the status of those turtles are as follows:

Species	Bycatch number	Status
Leatherback turtles	3	3 alive
Olive ridley turtles	1	1 dead

*Please be advised these data are still preliminary.

Attachment: Sea turtles bycatch distribution in EPO in 2018



Report on the Implementation of the FAO Guidelines to Reduce Sea Turtle Mortality in Fishing Operations

Chinese Taipei

May 2018

Implementation of the IPOA-Sea turtles

1. Fishermen of fishing vessels are required to bring aboard, if practicable, any captured sea turtle that is comatose or inactive as soon as possible and foster recovery, including resuscitation, before returning it to the sea.
2. Fishing vessels are required to have sea turtle release devices on board, including dip net, de-hooker and line cutters, during the fishing trips, for appropriate release of incidentally caught sea turtles.
3. Any sea turtle incidentally caught by any fishing vessel shall be released or discarded, and the number(s) shall be duly recorded on the logbooks and E-logbook system. Furthermore, we also collect by-catch information of sea turtle through the observer program.
4. Tuna longline fishing vessels that target for swordfish in a shallowest manner (the proportion of swordfish to total catches is over 40% per month) have been required to use circle hooks or whole fin-fish baits for reducing bycatch rate of sea turtle.
5. To prevent harming sea turtles, any fishing vessel shall not dispose any type of plastic trash at sea.

Interactions with sea turtles

During 2017, our observers had observed for 1,484 days in the EPO and the observer coverage rate is approximately 10.41%. According to the observer records, 2 Leatherback turtles, 3 Olive Ridley turtles, 1 Loggerhead turtle and 1 Marine turtles nei were caught incidentally (as attachment), and all of them were released or discarded, and the status of those turtles are as follows:

Species	Bycatch number	Status
Leatherback turtles	2	1 alive and 1 dead
Olive ridley turtles	3	1 alive and 2 dead
Loggerhead turtle	1	1 alive
Marine turtles nei	1	1 dead

Attachment: Sea turtles bycatch distribution in EPO in 2017

