

13th MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

8 to 13 September 2025, Wellington, New Zealand

SC13 - Doc 10

A Summary of Current SPRFMO Bycatch Records (including species of concern)

Secretariat

1. Background

- This paper updates [SC12-Doc10](#) to summarise bycatch information held by the Secretariat including originating from fishing activity data and observer reports to 2024 in order to assist the SC to fulfil its obligations. Members are invited to check the data contained in this paper and liaise with the Secretariat in cases where updates are needed.
- SC13 is invited to consider the observed bycatch levels, observer coverage rates, observed bycatch rate and total effort in SPRFMO fisheries and provide any advice it deems appropriate.

2. Marine mammal, Seabird, Reptile and Species of Concern capture records

The Secretariat holds fishing activity information from 2007 and Observer information from 2008. Vessels and observers are required to record incidental captures of marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles or other species of concern using the applicable templates.

“Other species of concern” refers to the list contained in Annex 14 of CMM 02-2025 (Data standards)

Scientific name	English name	FAO Species Code
<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Oceanic whitetip shark	(OCS)
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	Great white shark	(WSH)
<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	Basking shark	(BSK)
<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle shark	(POR)
<i>Manta spp.</i>	Manta rays	(MNT)
<i>Mobula spp.</i>	Mobula nei	(RMV)
<i>Rhincodon typus</i>	Whale shark	(RHN)

Fishing activity and observer records were reviewed for captures of marine mammals, seabirds, reptiles, and other species of concern across the following five gear types: bottom longline, trawl, purse seine, squid jigging, and potting. No instances of bycatch involving these taxa have been reported from potting operations. Accordingly, no table has been included for this gear type.

Bycatch information for the other four gear types is summarised in Annex 1. These tables also report observer coverage, observed bycatch rates, and total effort. The observed bycatch rate was calculated as the number of individuals recorded divided by the proportion of the total fishing effort that was observed.

It should be noted that in some cases—particularly where captures occur within Areas under National Jurisdiction—the Secretariat cannot calculate observer coverage, bycatch rates, or total effort. This is because fishing activity data are not submitted for operations occurring outside the Convention Area. In such cases, these figures are generally available through the Scientific Committee annual reports.



Annex 1

Table 1: Summary of captures of seabird, mammal, reptile and species of concern in bottom longline fishing from SPRFMO submissions (Observer coverage by 1000 hooks)¹

Fishery	Member	Code	Species	Common name	Year	Unk ²	Dead	Alive	Datasets	Observer coverage(%)	Observed bycatchrate	Total effort
Bottom Longlining	AUS	PFC	<i>Puffinus carneipes</i>	Flesh-footed shear water	2008		2		Obs	7	0.039823	761700
Bottom Longlining	NZL	PWA	<i>Pterodroma leucoptera</i>	Gould's Petrel	2014		1		Obs	4	0.131080	212916
Bottom Longlining	AUS	PRX	<i>Procellariidae</i>	Petrels and shear waters nei	2015	1			FA	0	0.000000	744900
Bottom Longlining	NZL	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2015	1			FA	0	0.000000	179026
bottom Longlining	AUS	PFC	<i>Puffinus carneipes</i>	Flesh-footed shear water	2016	1			FA/Obs	13	0.000011	710179
Bottom Longlining	AUS	TUG	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green turtle	2016	1			FA/Obs	13	0.000011	710179
Bottom Longlining	AUS	WSH	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	Great white shark	2016	3			FA/Obs	13	0.000033	710179
Bottom Longlining	AUS	WSH	<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	Great white shark	2017	1			FA/Obs	15	0.000008	826500
Bottom Longlining	NZL	DIM	<i>Thalassarche melanophrys</i>	Black-browed albatross	2018			1	Obs	8	0.119814	110428
Bottom Longlining	NZL	PRK	<i>Procellaria parkinsoni</i>	Parkinson's petrel	2018			1	Obs	8	0.119814	110428
Bottom Longlining	NZL	PRO	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	White-chinned petrel	2018			1	Obs	8	0.119814	110428
Bottom Longlining	NZL	HBE	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>	Blue petrel	2019			1	Obs	85	0.003839	307363
Bottom Longlining	NZL	PRX	<i>Procellariidae</i>	Petrels and shear waters nei	2020	1			FA/Obs	100	0.000005	200875
Bottom Longlining	AUS	OCS	<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Oceanic whitetip shark	2021	1			FA/Obs	14	0.000011	650000
Bottom Longlining	AUS	OCS	<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Oceanic whitetip shark	2021	2			FA/Obs	14	0.000022	650000
Bottom Longlining	AUS	PDM	<i>Pterodroma macroptera</i>	Great-winged petrel	2021			1	Obs	14	0.011006	650000
Bottom Longlining	AUS	PFC	<i>Puffinus carneipes</i>	Flesh-footed shear water	2021		1		Obs	14	0.011006	650000
Bottom Longlining	NZL	PRK	<i>Procellaria parkinsoni</i>	Parkinson's petrel	2022	1		1	FA/Obs	73	0.009417	144828
Bottom Longlining	NZL	PRX	<i>Procellariidae</i>	Petrels and shear water snei	2024	3			FA	0	0.000000	191422

¹ Observer coverage in bottom fishing is expressed as the percentage of the total number of observed hooks (Annex 8, CMM 03-2025)

² Unk = unknown status



Table 2: Summary of captures of seabird, mammal, reptile and species of concern in trawl fishing from SPRFMO submissions (Observer coverage by days)³

Fishery	Member	Code	Species	Common name	Year	Unk	Dead	Alive	Datasets	Observer cover (%)	Observed bycatch rate	Total effort
Trawling	EUC	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2009				Obs	18	0.000000	730
Trawling	KOR	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2015	7			FA/Obs	83	0.000000	104
Trawling	NZL	PDM	<i>Pterodroma macroptera</i>	Great-winged petrel	2015			2	Obs	100	0.006623	302
Trawling	KOR	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2016	8			FA/Obs	80	0.051282	195
Trawling	NZL	WFS	<i>Pelagodroma marina</i>	White-faced storm petrel	2016			1	Obs	96	0.003185	327
Trawling	KOR	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2017	2			FA/Obs	100	0.000000	34
Trawling	NZL	PDM	<i>Pterodroma macroptera</i>	Great-winged petrel	2017			1	Obs	83	0.002950	406
Trawling	NZL	PRX	<i>Procellariidae</i>	Petrels and shear waters nei	2017			1	Obs	83	0.002950	406
Trawling	EUC	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2018				Obs	45	0.000000	131
Trawling	KOR	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2018	1			FA/Obs	73	0.009901	138
Trawling	NZL	PDM	<i>Pterodroma macroptera</i>	Great-winged petrel	2018			1	Obs	100	0.003356	299
Trawling	AUS	BSK	<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	Basking shark	2019	1		1	FA/Obs	96	0.022727	46
Trawling	EUC	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2019		2		Obs	54	0.043478	85
Trawling	KOR	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2019		20		Obs	100	0.180180	111
Trawling	EUC	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2021		9		Obs	16	0.230769	237
Trawling	NZL	PWV	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>	Fairy prion	2021	1	1		FA/Obs	100	0.333333	3
Trawling	RUS	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2021	7		7	FA/Obs	88	0.060345	132
Trawling	EUC	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2022		7		Obs	33	0.022989	266
Trawling	RUS	DBO	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Bottlenose dolphin	2022		1		Obs	88	0.005291	216
Trawling	RUS	PIW	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	Long-finned pilot whale	2022	1	1		FA/Obs	88	0.005291	216
Trawling	RUS	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2022	2			FA/Obs	88	0.000000	216
Trawling	RUS	SEF	<i>Arctocephalus australis</i>	South American fur seal	2022	2			FA/Obs	88	0.000000	216
Trawling	RUS	SJF	<i>Arctocephalus philippii</i>	Juan Fernandez fur seal	2022		1		Obs	88	0.005291	216
Trawling	KOR	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2024	10			FA	0	0.000000	73
Trawling	RUS	POR	<i>Lamna nasus</i>	Porbeagle	2024	1			FA/Obs	39	0.000000	158

³ Observer coverage in jack mackerel fisheries shall be calculated by reference to days for trawlers (para 23, CMM01-2023). Observer coverage for Bottom Trawling is also presented in days for ease of comparison



Table 3: Summary of captures of seabird, mammal, reptile and species of concern in purse seining from SPRFMO submissions (Observer coverage by set)⁴

Fishery	Member	Code	Species	Common name	Year	Unk	Dead	Alive	Datasets	Observer cover(%)	Observed bycatch rate	Total effort
Purse Seining	CHL	DIC	<i>Thalassar chechrysostoma</i>	Grey-headed albatross	2017			5	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	LDO	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	Kelp gull	2017			8	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	OCO	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	Wilson's storm petrel	2017		1	5	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	PFG	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	Sooty shearwater	2017			32	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	PUC	<i>Puffinus creatopus</i>	Pink-footed shearwater	2017		1		Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	SEL	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>	South American sea lion	2017		4	204	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	TWH	<i>Pelecanus thagus</i>	Peruvian pelican	2017			7	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	DBO	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Bottlenose dolphin	2018		4		Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	DDU	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>	Dusky dolphin	2018		2	1	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	DIM	<i>Thalassarche melanophrys</i>	Black-browed albatross	2018		1		Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	DKK	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback turtle	2018			2	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	PFG	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	Sooty shearwater	2018		2		Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	PVF	<i>Spheniscidae</i>	Penguins nei	2018		1		Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	SEL	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>	South American sea lion	2018		2	296	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	SJF	<i>Arctocephalus philippii</i>	Juan Fernandez fur seal	2018			1	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	LDO	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	Kelp gull	2019			8	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	PFG	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	Sooty shearwater	2019		3		Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	PUC	<i>Puffinus creatopus</i>	Pink-footed shearwater	2019		1		Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	PVF	<i>Spheniscidae</i>	Penguins nei	2019			1	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	SEL	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>	South American sea lion	2019		1	550	Obs			
Purse Seining	CHL	TWH	<i>Pelecanus thagus</i>	Peruvian pelican	2019			4	Obs			

⁴ Observer coverage in Jack mackerel fisheries shall be calculated by reference to sets for Purse Seine vessels (para 25, CMM01-2025)



Table 4: Summary of captures of seabird, mammal, reptile and species of concern in squid jigging from SPRFMO submissions (Observer coverage by day).

Fishery	Member	Code	Species	Common name	Year	Unk	Dead	Alive	Datasets	Observer coverage(%)	Observed bycatch rate	Total effort
Squid Jigging	CHN	TTL	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead turtle	2021			1	Obs			69694