

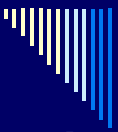


Pelagic Longline

Catch Composition



Image: www.fpir.noaa.gov/OBS/obs_american_samoa.html



Introduction

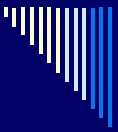
Data Collection Duties

1. Estimate effort for each gear deployment;
2. **Identify every individual caught and assess catch condition and fate;**
3. **Collect biological information on target and other identified species as requested;**
4. Record all sightings and interactions with marine mammals and sea turtles;
5. Record vessel and fishing gear characteristics.



Objectives

- Describe the catch composition sampling process for pelagic longlining
- Describe 2 situations when you can modify the standard catch composition sample
- List 3 pieces of information that must be collected from every animal caught
- List 3 types of gear needed on deck for catch composition sampling
- Demonstrate ability to complete the Catch Composition form



Catch Composition form

- 1 per set
- For each fish, record
 - Species code (lowest taxonomic level)
 - Condition
 - Kept/return

Catch composition – sampling exceptions

Issue	Alternative
Too many fish to keep up	Reduce number of sexed lengths
Rough seas / seasick	Cease measurements but still try to watch
Hunger / toilet	Select a random subsample

Catch Composition Form

- Questions on catch composition sampling?
- Practice exercise
- Groups of 2
- Same vessel, observer, tripID, set # used in Set & Haul Information Exercise

Summary

- Describe the catch composition sampling process for pelagic longlining
- List 3 pieces of information that must be collected from every animal caught
- when you can modify the standard catch composition sampling protocol and describe the modification for each

Summary

- What sort of equipment do you think you will need for catch composition sampling on pelagic longline vessels?
 - Foul weather gear
 - Clip board & deck sheets
 - Pencils
 - Measuring tape
 - Tally (thumb) counters



References

- Brogan, D., S. Fukofuka, and P. Sharples. 2006. Longline Observer Guide. Secretariat of the Pacific Community Oceanic Fisheries Programme, Noumea, New Caledonia.
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- NMFS. 2008a. American Samoa Observer Program Manual. Pacific Islands Regional Office, Sustainable Fisheries Division
- PIRO. 2009. Hawaii Longline Observer Program Observer Field Manual. Pacific Islands Regional Office, NMFS, Honolulu, HI.
- Southeast Fisheries Science Center. 2007. Pelagic Observer Program - Observer Manual. Pelagic Observer Program, Miami, FL.
- SPC. 2007. SPC/FFA Scientific Observer forms. Secretariat of the Pacific Community and Forum Fisheries Agency.

Catch Composition - Pelagic Longline

Observer code	Vessel code	Trip ID	Set No.
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Hook No.	Species name	Species code	Caught condition	Kept / return code	Damage code	Sex (M, F, I, U)	Length 1		Length 2		Length 3		Weight		Tag / specimen / carcass no.	Photos	Comment
							Type	Measurement	Type	Measurement	Type	Measurement	Type	Measurement			

Common Species
SKJ Skipjack tuna
YFT Yellowfin tuna
BET Bigeye tuna
ALB Albacore tuna
SWO Swordfish

BSH Blue shark
SMA Shortfin mako shark

Caught condition
A1 Active , not bleeding
A2 Active , bleeding/obvious injury
X Inactive
U Unknown

 *More codes for MM & turtles

Kept/return codes
K Kept
A1 Active, not bleeding
A2 Active , bleeding/obvious injury
X Dead, inactive
F Finned
U Unknown

Damage codes
Blank No damage
NI Did not inspect
C Cookie cutter shark
M Marine mammal
S Shark
U Unknown source

Length types (combine # & letter)
01 Fork **C** Curved
02 Total **S** Straight
13 Stretched Total **E** Estimated
04 Eye to fork
05 Lower jaw to fork
11 Disc width

Weight types (combine # & letter)
 Blank - no weight **A** Actual
01 Whole **E** Estimated
02 Gilled & gutted
03 Gilled & headed
04 Headed & gutted
99 Other, describe in comment

Sex codes **M** Male **F** Female **I** Indeterminate **U** Unknown (not inspected)

Hook No.	Species name	Species code	Caught condition	Kept / return code	Damage code	Sex (M, F, I, U)	Type	Measurement	Type	Measurement	Type	Measurement	Type	Measurement	Tag / specimen / carcass no.	Photos	Comment	
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Comments (reference by number in comments box):