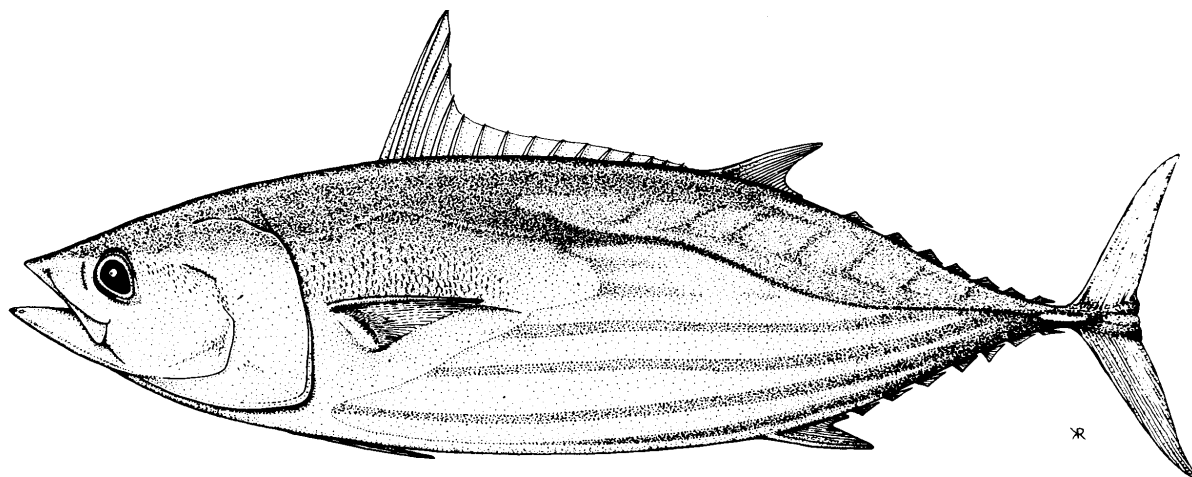


SWG-1



STATUS OF DATA COLLECTION, COMPILATION AND DISSEMINATION

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June 2000

INTRODUCTION

At its inaugural meeting in June 1998, the Statistics Working Group (SWG) of the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish (SCTB) considered procedures for fulfilling the objectives of the SWG, which are to coordinate the collection, compilation and dissemination of tuna fishery data (Anonymous 1998). The SWG agreed to (a) coordinate data collection by reviewing data collection forms currently in use in the region; (b) coordinate data compilation by reviewing the compilation of annual catch statistics, catch and effort data, and length data, on an annual basis; and (c) coordinate data dissemination by reviewing the instances of the dissemination of data on an annual basis. This paper was prepared by the Coordinator of the SWG in order to report on progress with reviewing data collection forms and to review the compilation and dissemination of data.

DATA COLLECTION

At the SWG Session on Data Collection Forms, held at SCTB12 from 14 to 15 June 1999, the Statistics Working Group established minimum standards for catch and effort logsheets and reviewed the logsheets developed by the New Zealand Ministry of Fisheries and the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (Anonymous 1999). A second session will be held prior to SCTB13, on 3 July 2000, to review the logsheets developed by the SPC/FFA Tuna Fishery Data Collection Forms Committee, which are widely used in the region. The reviews of the SPC/FFA longline, pole-and-line and purse-seine logsheets will be lead by Mr Régis Étaix-Bonnin, Dr Miki Ogura and Mr Al Coan respectively.

At the previous session, prior to SCTB12, it was agreed that a group consisting of Dr Shui-Kai (Eric) Chang, Mr Coan, Mr Tim Lawson and a participant from Japan would review the Japanese logsheets, and possibly others, and report the results of the review to the current session. However, the Japanese logsheets were not made available to the other members of the group until 28 June 2000; therefore, the inter-sessional review of the Japanese logsheets did not occur. Time permitting, the Japanese logsheets may be reviewed at the second session to be held on 3 July 2000.

DATA COMPILATION

Data compilation is reviewed below for each fishing nation. Data items include (a) annual catch estimates for 1998, most of which were requested of fishing nations in March 1999 or determined from data held by the SPC Oceanic Fisheries Programme (OFP); (b) historical annual catch estimates, given that in 1998 the SCTB database of annual catch estimates was extended from 1970 back to 1950 and that many historical estimates are still missing; (c) the use of processed weights or whole weights in reported estimates of annual longline catches, given that the compilation of this information constituted a directive to the SWG at SCTB11; (d) the number of vessels by size class, given that the compilation of this information also constituted a directive to the SWG at SCTB11; (e) the provision of catch and effort data; (f) the provision of length data; and (g) the preparation of coverage tables (i.e. a table for each fleet listing the coverage rate for logsheets, landings, port sampling and observer data, for each year that a fleet has fished in the region), which was suggested at SCTB11 as a useful means to assess the completeness and quality of the catch and effort data and the length data that are available at the fisheries agencies that participate in the SCTB.

It should be noted that the compilation of certain data items (i.e. historical annual catch estimates, the use of processed weights or whole weights for longline catch estimates, the number of vessels

by size class, and coverage tables) commenced in 1999. It is therefore reasonable to expect that progress in the compilation of these data items may not be as substantial as for other data items.

The information below on catch and effort data and length data that have been provided to the OFP on behalf of the SCTB is qualitative. Quantitative measures of data holdings, such as the number of records of fishing operations for catch and effort data and the number of fish sampled for length data, are available in the OFP Data Catalogue, which can be found on the SPC website (www.spc.int).

American Samoa

Longline: 1995–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: An update will be provided by the Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service at SCTB13.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: All estimates have been provided.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: National Marine Fisheries Service confirmed that annual catches estimated for longliners are in whole weight.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: National Marine Fisheries Service has advised that statistics for longliners may be unavailable.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data: No catch and effort data have been provided.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have not yet been developed.

Australia

Longline: 1985–1999. Pole-and-line: 19??–1999. Purse seine: 19??–1999. Troll: 1992–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Updates for longline and purse seine and troll were provided by the Bureau of Rural Sciences (BRS) on 8 June 2000. An update for pole-and-line was not provided for reasons of confidentiality, since the number of vessels was less than five, as per the policy of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA).
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: Missing estimates include:
 - the number of pole-and-line vessels prior to 1976;
 - the number of purse seiners prior to 1978;
 - Australian-Japan longline joint-venture catches of skipjack during 1989–1995;
 - pole-and-line catches of skipjack and yellowfin for 1979–1980 and 1985;
 - purse-seine catches of bigeye from 1975 onwards, skipjack for 1976–1977, and yellowfin for 1975–1977;
 - recreational catches of albacore from 1996 onwards; and
 - troll catches of albacore and skipjack for 1996–1997.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: Use of whole weights was confirmed by BRS on 23 April 1999. Processed weights are converted to whole weights using conversion factors of 1.131 for bigeye and 1.166 for yellowfin. Albacore are landed whole.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: No response from BRS to requests made on 9 March 1999 and 7 March 2000.

? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:

- Longline: Logsheet data have been provided by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) for 1986–1999.
- Pole-and-line: Logsheet data have been provided by AFMA for 1976–1999.
- Purse seine: Logsheet data have been provided by AFMA for 1975–1999.
- Troll: Logsheet data have been provided by AFMA for 1989–1999.
- The most recent longline, pole-and-line, purse-seine and troll data were received on 21 June 2000.

? Provision of Length Data:

- Domestic longliners, pole-and-line and purse seine: No length data have been provided, although a length sampling programme for domestic longline landings commenced in July 1997.
- Troll: Length data grouped by 5x5 and month, have been provided by AFMA for 1991–1993.

? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

China

Longline: 1988–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: An update will be determined from data held by the OFP in the third quarter of 2000, when sufficient data will be available.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: All estimates have been provided.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: Annual catches estimated by the OFP are in whole weight.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Statistics based on data held by the OFP are incomplete.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data: Logsheet data for longliners have been provided by SPC members for 1988–1999.
- ? Provision of Length Data: Length data collected by port samplers in SPC member countries and by observers from SPC and national programmes covering longliners have been provided for 1991–1999.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Cook Islands

Longline: 1994–199?.

- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: Cessation of fishing during 1997–1999 needs to be confirmed.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: Annual catches for 1994–1995 estimated by the OFP are in whole weight. The use of whole weights for 1996 estimates provided by the Ministry of Marine Resources is unknown.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Statistics based on data held by the OFP are incomplete.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data: Logsheet data for longliners have been provided by SPC members for 1994–1996.
- ? Provision of Length Data: Length data collected by SPC observers covering longliners have been provided for 1995–1996.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Federated States of Micronesia

Longline: 1991–1999. Purse seine: 1991–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Updates for will be provided by MMA at SCTB13.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: Annual catches estimated by the OFP are in whole weight.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Statistics based on data held by the OFP are incomplete.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
 - Longline: Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1991–1999.
 - Purse seine: Logsheet data have been provided by the SPC members for 1991–1999.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
 - Longline: Length data collected by port samplers and observers in SPC member countries have been provided for 1991–1999.
 - Purse seine: Length data collected by port samplers and observers in SPC member countries have been provided for 1993–1999.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Fiji

Longline: 1989–1999. Pole-and-line: 1974–1999. Troll: 19??–19??

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Updates will be provided by the Fisheries Division at SCTB13.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: All longline and pole-and-line estimates have been provided, except the number of pole-and-line vessels and pole-and-line catches of skipjack for 1974–1975. No estimates have been provided for troll.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: The use of whole weights for estimates for 1989–1993 is unknown. Annual catches estimated by the OFP for 1994–1998 are in whole weight.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Estimates for 1994–1998 have been provided by the Fisheries Division; however, coverage is incomplete. Statistics based on data held by the OFP are incomplete.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
 - Longline: Logsheet data have been provided by the Fisheries Division for 1989–1999.
 - Pole-and-line: Logsheet data have been provided by the Fisheries Division for 1976–1996.
 - Troll: No catch and effort data have been provided.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
 - Longline: Length data collected by port samplers and observers have been provided for 1991–1999.
 - Pole-and-line: Length data collected by port samplers have been provided for 1991 and 1994–1997.
 - Troll: Length data collected by port samplers have been provided for 1990–1991.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

French Polynesia

Longline: 1989–1999. Pole-and-line: 1975–1999. Troll: 1989–1998.

- ? Annual Tuna Catch Estimates for 1999: Updates were provided by the Service des Ressources Marines (SRM) on 12 April 2000.

- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: All estimates have been provided, except the number of pole-and-line vessels for 1975–1979; and pole-and-line catches of skipjack and yellowfin for 1975–1978.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: The Service des Ressources Marines (SRM) confirmed that all longline catch estimates are in whole weight on 12 April 2000.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Updates for longline and pole-and-line (*bonitiers*) were provided by SRM on 12 April 2000.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
 - Longline: Logsheet data have been provided by SRM for 1992–2000. The most recent data were received on 28 April 2000.
 - Pole-and-line: No logsheet data have been provided for the pole-and-line (*bonitier*) fleet.
 - Troll: No catch and effort data have been provided.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
 - Longline: Length data collected by port samplers and observers have been provided for 1993–1998. The most recent data were received on 5 August 1998.
 - Pole-and-line: No length data have been provided.
 - Troll: Length data collected by port samplers have been provided for 1990–1992.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Indonesia

Longline: 19??–1999. Pole-and-line: 19??–1999. Handline: 19??–1999. Domestic purse seine: 19??–1999. Distant-water purse seine: 1984–1990. Unclassified: 19??–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1998–1999: No response from the Directorate General of Fisheries to requests made on 15 March 2000 and 15 June 2000.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: Estimates for 1995–1997 were provided by the Directorate General of Fisheries on 4 August 1999.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: No response from Directorate General of Fisheries to requests for information since 1995.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Request will be made once recent annual catch estimates have been provided.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
 - Longline, pole-and-line, handline, domestic purse seine and unclassified: No catch and effort data have been provided.
 - Distant-water purse seine: Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1986–1990.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
 - Longline, pole-and-line, handline, domestic purse seine and unclassified: No length data have been provided. Length data collected in Indonesia by a pole-and-line vessel chartered by SPC for the Regional Tuna Tagging Project have been provided for 1991–1992.
 - Distant-water purse seine: No length data have been provided.
- ? Coverage Tables: Information on coverage has not been requested of the Directorate General of Fisheries.

Japan

Driftnet: 1983–1990. Longline: 1950–1999. Pole-and-line: 1950–1999. Purse seine: 1950–1999. Unclassified: 1950–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Estimates were provided by the National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries (NRIFSF) on 28 June 2000.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: The following estimates were provided by NRIFSF on 22 and 27 May 1999:
- the number of coastal, offshore/distant-water longliners and pole-and-line vessels for 1953–1969;
 - the number of coastal and offshore/distant-water purse seiners for 1969–1970;
 - catches by coastal longliners vessels of bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin for 1969;
 - catches by offshore and distant-water longliners vessels of bigeye and yellowfin for 1962–1969;
 - catches by coastal pole-and-line vessels of bigeye and yellowfin for 1969;
 - catches by offshore/distant-water pole-and-line vessels of skipjack for 1951–1971.
 - catches by coastal purse seiners of bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin for 1951–1969;
 - catches by offshore/distant-water purse seiners of bigeye for 1967–1971 and of skipjack and yellowfin for 1967–1969; and
 - catches by unclassified gear types of skipjack and yellowfin for 1951–1969.

The following are the remaining missing estimates:

- numbers of coastal, offshore and distant-water longliners for 1950–1952;
- numbers of coastal, offshore and distant-water pole-and-line vessels for 1950–1952;
- numbers of coastal, offshore and distant-water purse seiners for 1950–1968;
- catches by pole-and-line vessels of south Pacific albacore for 1950–1959;
- catches by coastal longliners vessels of bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin for 1950–1968;
- catches by offshore and distant-water longliners vessels of bigeye and yellowfin for 1950–1961 and skipjack for 1950–1969;
- catches by coastal pole-and-line vessels of bigeye and yellowfin for 1950–1968;
- catches by offshore and distant-water pole-and-line vessels of bigeye and yellowfin for 1950–1971 and skipjack for 1950;
- catches by coastal purse seiners of bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin for 1950;
- catches by offshore and distant-water purse seiners of bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin for 1950–1969; and
- catches by unclassified gear types of bigeye for 1950–1969 and skipjack and yellowfin for 1950.

Note: The current estimates of annual catches (numbers of fish) of albacore, bigeye and yellowfin that have been provided by NRIFSF for 1987–1993 do not agree with estimates determined from catch data grouped by 5x5 that have been provided by NRIFSF. The annual catch estimates determined from the 5x5 data are as low as 34 percent of the annual catch estimates provided by NRIFSF.

Note: The estimate of the longline catch of skipjack for 1983 is 1,134 mt, compared to catches in the range of 4 to 157 mt for other years. This estimate “could not be confirmed at this time as it was referred from MAFF Stat. Dept.” (Miyabe, personal communication, May 1999)

- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: No response from NRIFSF to request for information made on 3 March 2000 and 6 June 2000.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: No response from NRIFSF to requests for an update made on 3 March 2000 and 6 June 2000.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
- Driftnet: Catches of albacore in numbers of fish and effort data, grouped by 5x5 and month, for 1983–1990, have been provided by NRIFSF.
 - Longline: (a) Data grouped by 5x5 and month for 1962–1998 have been provided by NRIFSF. The most recent data, covering 1997–1998, were received on 26 May 2000. Note: The longline catch data are in numbers of fish only, rather than numbers of fish and weight. Data grouped by 1x1 and month, covering catches of bigeye and yellowfin only, for 1966–1996, were provided on 14 August 1998. (b) Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1978–1999.
 - Pole-and-line: (a) Data grouped by 1x1 and month for 1972–1997 have been provided by NRIFSF. Data covering 1995–1997, south of 25N, were received on 30 September 1999. Data covering the area to the north of 25N, for 1993–1997, were provided on 28 October 1999. (b) Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1978–1999.
 - Purse seine: (a) Data grouped by 1x1 and month for 1967–1999 have been provided by NRIFSF; the most recent data, covering 1998–1999, were received on 26 May 2000. Note: The purse-seine catch and effort data have not been stratified by school association. (b) Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1979–1999.

? Provision of Length Data:

- Driftnet: Albacore length data, grouped by 5x10 and month, for 1988–1990, have been provided by NRIFSF.
- Longline: (a) The following have been provided by NRIFSF: albacore length data, for the SPAR area and grouped by quarter, for 1965–1993; yellowfin length data, grouped by WPYR area and quarter, for 1970–1997; and bigeye length data, grouped by 10x20 and month, for 1965–1997. Yellowfin length data for 1992–1997 were received on 27 August 1999. Yellowfin length data for 1962–1969 were received on 1 October 1999. Bigeye length data for 1965–1997 were received on 12 November 1999. (b) Length data from port sampling in Pago Pago, American Samoa, for 1962–1972, have been provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service. (c) Length data covering Japanese longliners in the Australian Fishing Zone, for 1981–1997, have been provided by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority. (d) Length data collected by port samplers and observers in other SPC member countries have been provided for 1990–1999.
- Pole-and-line: (a) No length data have been provided by NRIFSF. (b) Length data collected by port samplers in Solomon Islands have been provided for 1996.
- Purse seine: (a) Skipjack length data, grouped by sub-areas and month, for 1978–1980, have been provided by NRIFSF. (b) Length data collected by port samplers and observers in SPC member countries have been provided for 1993–1999.

? Coverage Tables: (a) No response from NRIFSF to request for information on coverage. (b) Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Kiribati

Longline: 1995–1996. Pole-and-line: 1979–1996. Purse seine: 1994–1999.

? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: An update will be determined from data held by the OFP in the third quarter of 2000, when sufficient data will be available.

? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: All estimates have been provided, although the cessation of fishing by the longline and pole-and-line fleets after 1996 needs to be confirmed.

? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: Annual catches for 1995 estimated by the OFP are in whole weight.

? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Statistics based on data held by the OFP are incomplete.

? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:

- Longline: Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1995–1996
- Pole-and-line: Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1986–1990, 1993 and 1995–1996.
- Purse seine: Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1994–1999.

? Provision of Length Data:

- Longline: No length data have been provided.
- Pole-and-line: Length data collected by port samplers in SPC member countries have been provided for 1994–1995.
- Purse seine: Length data collected by port samplers in SPC member countries have been provided for 1996.

? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Korea

Driftnet: 1989. Longline: 1958–1999. Purse seine: 1980–1999.

? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Updates were provided by the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute (NFRDI) on 8 June 2000.

? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: The following estimates are missing:

- longline catches of skipjack for 1958–1974.

- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: No response from NFRDI to requests of 4 March 1999 and 15 March 2000.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: No response from NFRDI to request of 4 March 1999 and 15 March 2000.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
- Driftnet: No catch and effort data have been provided.
 - Longline: (a) Data grouped by 5x5 and month, for 1975–1988, and by 5x5 and year, for 1989–1997, have been provided by NFRDI. The most recent data, for 1994–1997, were provided on 15 February 2000. Note: The catch data for 1994–1997 are in units of kilograms only. Catch data in units of numbers of fish were requested on 25 February 2000. (b) Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1979–1999.
 - Purse seine: (a) Data grouped by 1x1 and month for 1980–1995 were provided by NFRDI on 9 June 1997. Note: The purse-seine effort data are in units of “days on which a set was made”, rather than “days fished or searched”. Effort data in units of “days fished or searched” were requested on 29 July 1997. (b) Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1980–1999. Note: Catches reported on logsheets for 1980–1992 have been under-reported.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
- Driftnet: No length data have been provided.
 - Longline: (a) No length data have been provided by NFRDI. (b) Length data from port sampling in Pago Pago, American Samoa, for 1962–1992, have been provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service. (c) Length data collected by port samplers and observers in other SPC member countries have been provided for 1991–1999.
 - Purse seine: (a) NFRDI has conducted monthly sampling at domestic landing sites since November 1993; however, no length data have been provided. (b) Length data collected by port samplers and observers in SPC member countries have been provided for 1993–1999.
- ? Coverage Tables: (a) No response from NFRDI to request of 4 March 1999. (b) Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Marshall Islands

Longline: 1992–1995.

- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: All estimates have been provided, although the cessation of fishing by the longline fleet after 1995 needs to be confirmed.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: Annual catches for 1992–1995 estimated by the OFP are in whole weight.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Statistics based on data held by the OFP are incomplete.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data: Logsheet data for longliners have been provided by the Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority for 1992–1993 and 1995.
- ? Provision of Length Data: Length data for longliners collected by port samplers have been provided for 1992–1995.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

New Caledonia

Longline: 1983–1999. Pole-and-line: 1981–1983.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: An update for longline was provided by the *Marine marchande* on 17 May 2000.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: No historical estimates are missing.

- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: Statistics provided by the *Marine marchande* for bigeye and yellowfin have been estimates of processed weights, while those for albacore have been whole weights. The source of the bigeye and yellowfin statistics are logsheets, landings and export data, each of which are considered to require a different conversion factor. Since these are not available, the *Marine marchande* recommended that estimates for bigeye and yellowfin both be raised by a factor of 12.0 percent. The estimates in the SCTB tables have been adjusted accordingly.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: An update for longliners was provided by the *Marine marchande* on 17 May 2000.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
- Longline: Logsheets data have been provided by the *Marine marchande* for 1983–1999. The most recent data were received on 26 January 2000.
 - Pole-and-line: Logsheets data for longliners have been provided by the *Marine marchande* for 1981–1983.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
- Longline: Length data collected by port samplers in New Caledonia have been provided for 1990–1999. The most recent data were received on 3 March 2000.
 - Pole-and-line: No length data have been provided.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

New Zealand

Longline: 1989–1999. Pole-and-line: 1991–1999. Purse seine: 1975–1999. Troll: 1967–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Updates were provided by the Ministry of Fisheries on 27 April 2000. Estimates for longline and pole-and-line will be revised and provided at SCTB13.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: The following estimates are missing:
- catches of albacore, skipjack and yellowfin by pole-and-line for 1990–1997;
 - catches of albacore by trollers in 1969 and 1971.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: No response to the requests of 11 March 1999 and 20 March 2000.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: An update of statistics for longline, pole-and-line and purse seine vessels was provided by the Ministry of Fisheries on 27 April 2000; however, the estimates for longline and pole-and-line will be revised.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
- Longline: Logsheets data have been provided by the Ministry of Fisheries for 1979–1998.
 - Pole-and-line: Logsheets data have been provided by the Ministry of Fisheries for 1979–1998.
 - Purse seine: Logsheets data have been provided by the Ministry of Fisheries for 1975–1998.
 - Troll: Logsheets data have been provided by the Ministry of Fisheries for 1979–1998.
 - The most recent catch and effort data were provided on 15 June 2000.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
- Longline: Length-frequency data, collected by observers, for 1990–1998, grouped by year, for ALB, BET, SKJ and YFT, were provided by NIWA on 20 May 1999.
 - Pole-and-line: No length data have been provided.
 - Purse-seine: Length data for skipjack have been provided by the Ministry of Fisheries for 1978–1981.
 - Troll: Length data for albacore have been provided by the Ministry of Fisheries for 1987–1992 and by NIWA for 1997–1998.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Palau

Pole-and-line: 1964–1982 and 1985–1996.

- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: Missing data include pole-and-line catches of skipjack and yellowfin for 1993–1996. Cessation of fishing by the single pole-and-line vessel in 1996 needs to be confirmed.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Statistics based on data held by the OFP are incomplete.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data: No catch and effort data have been provided.
- ? Provision of Length Data: No length data have been provided.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Papua New Guinea

Longline: 1993–1999. Pole-and-line: 1970–1985. Purse seine: 1994–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Updates will be determined from data held by the OFP in the third quarter of 2000, when sufficient data will be available.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: All estimates have been provided.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: Annual catches estimated by the OFP for 1993–1998 are in whole weight.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Statistics based on data held by the OFP are incomplete.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
 - Longline: Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1993–1999.
 - Pole-and-line: Logsheet data have been provided for 1970–1981 and 1984–1985.
 - Purse seine: Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1994–1999.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
 - Longline: Length data collected by observers have been provided for 1996–1997.
 - Pole-and-line: No length data have been provided.
 - Purse seine: Length data collected by port samplers and observers have been provided by SPC members for 1995–1998.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Philippines

Longline: 19??–1999. Gillnet: 19??–1999. Handline: 19??–1999. Domestic purse seine and ringnet: 19??–1999. Distant-water purse seine: 1982 and 1984–1999. Unclassified: 19??–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: No response from the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics (BAS) to requests made on 20 March 2000 and 19 June 2000.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: The following estimates are missing:
 - the number of longliners for 1950–1981 and 1997–1998;
 - the number of domestic purse seiners and ringnet vessels for 1950–1979 and 1994–1998;
 - longline catches of bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin for 1950–1969;
 - gillnet, handline and unclassified catches of bigeye for 1950–1969; and
 - domestic purse-seine and ringnet catches of bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin for 1950–1969.

Note: Gillnet, handline and unclassified catches of skipjack and yellowfin for 1950–1969 were estimated by assuming an annual increase equivalent to the average annual increase during 1970–1980 and back-calculating from 1970, and should be considered unreliable.

- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: No information has been requested of BAS.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: No information has been requested of BAS. Incomplete information was provided by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
 - Longline, gillnet, handline, domestic purse seine and ringnet and unclassified: No catch and effort data have been provided.
 - Distant-water purse seine: Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1982 and 1984–1999.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
 - Longline, gillnet, handline, domestic purse seine and ringnet and unclassified: Length data collected by the Philippines Landed Catch and Effort Monitoring Program (LCEM) have been provided for 1993–1994. Length data collected in the Philippines by a pole-and-line vessel chartered by SPC for the Regional Tuna Tagging Project have been provided for 1990–1992.
 - Distant-water purse seine: Length data collected by port samplers and observers in SPC member countries have been provided for 1994–1998.
- ? Coverage Tables: (a) Information on coverage has not been requested from BAS. (b) A coverage table for distant-water purse seine has been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Russia

Purse seine: 1985–1994.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1998: Cessation of purse-seine fishing in 1994 needs to be confirmed..
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: All estimates have been provided.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: Statistics based on data held by the OFP are incomplete.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data: Logsheet data for purse seine have been provided by SPC members for 1985–1986 and 1993–1994.
- ? Provision of Length Data: Length data for purse seine collected by port samplers in SPC member countries have been provided for 1994.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Samoa

Longline: 1993–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: An update for longline was provided by the Department of Agriculture, Forests, Fisheries and Meteorology (DAFFM) on 12 April 2000.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: Historical estimates are complete.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: Use of whole weights was confirmed by DAFFM on 21 April 1999. Most fish are landed whole and sampled prior to processing.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: No response from DAFFM to requests of 13 March 1999.

- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data: South Pacific Regional Logsheets have been distributed to longliners, but DAFFM has had difficulties obtaining completed forms.
- ? Provision of Length Data: (a) Longline length data collected by DAFFM port samplers have been provided for 1998–1999. The most recent data were received on 12 April 2000. (b) Longline length data collected by SPC observers have been received for 1998.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Solomon Islands

Longline: 1973, 1975–1985 and 1995–1999. Pole-and-line: 1971–1999. Purse seine: 1980–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Update were provided by the Fisheries Division on 23 March 2000.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: Estimates of the number of pole-and-line vessels for 1971–1972 are missing.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: No response from the Fisheries Division to request of 12 March 1999.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: No response from the Fisheries Division to request of 12 March 1999. Statistics based on data held by the OFP are incomplete.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
 - Longline: Logsheet data have been provided by the Fisheries Division for 1981–1985, 1992 and 1995–1998. The most recent data were received on 15 September 1998; data have been provided since then in Access files, but lacking estimates of catches in units of numbers of fish.
 - Pole-and-line: Logsheet data have been provided by the Fisheries Division for 1981–1998. The most recent data were received on 21 September 1999.
 - Purse seine: Logsheet data have been provided by the Fisheries Division for 1985–1998. The most recent data were received on 24 November 1999.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
 - Longline: Length data collected by port samplers and observers have been provided by the Fisheries Division for 1996–1999. The most recent data were received on 24 November 2000.
 - Pole-and-line: Length data collected by port samplers have been provided by the Fisheries Division for 1971–1980, 1984–1992 and 1994–1999. The most recent data were received on 12 May 2000.
 - Purse seine: Length data collected by port samplers and observers have been provided by the Fisheries Division for 1994–1996 and 1998–1999. The most recent data were received on 12 May 2000.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Taiwan

Driftnet: 1988–1991. Distant-Water Longline: 1954–1999. Offshore Longline Based in Taiwan: 19??–1999. Offshore Longline Based in Micronesia: 1987–1999. Purse seine: 1983–1999. Unclassified: 19??–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Updates were provided by the Overseas Fisheries Development Council (OFDC) on 19 June 2000. No update for unclassified gear types was received from OFDC. An update for offshore longline based in Micronesia will be determined from data held by the OFP in the third quarter of 2000, when sufficient data will be available.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: The following estimates are missing:
 - the numbers of distant-water longliners for 1954–1963 and 1967–1974;
 - the numbers of offshore longliners based in Taiwan for 1950–1969;
 - the numbers of offshore longliners based in Micronesia for 1987–1992;

- distant-water longline catches of albacore for 1954–1962, bigeye for 1954–1963, and skipjack for 1954–1966;
- catches by offshore longliners based in Taiwan of bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin for 1950–1969;
- catches by offshore longliners based in Micronesia of bigeye and yellowfin for 1987–1989 and skipjack for 1987–1998; and
- catches by unclassified gear types of bigeye, skipjack and yellowfin for 1950–1969.

Note: Estimates of annual purse-seine catches for 1983–1991 were determined by multiplying the number of vessels active by 4,000 t and applying an average species composition, and should be considered unreliable.

Note: Estimates of annual catches by offshore longliners based in Taiwan, for 1990–1992 and 1996–1997 differ from those published in the Fisheries Yearbook (Taiwan Area) published by the Taiwan Fisheries Bureau.

- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: No response from OFDC to requests of 3 March 1999 and 22 March 2000.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: No response from OFDC to requests of 3 March 1999 and 22 March 2000.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
 - Driftnet: Data grouped by 5x5 and month have been provided by National Taiwan University for 1988–1989.
 - Distant-water Longline: (a) Data grouped by 5x5 and month have been provided by OFDC for 1967–1996. The most recent data, for 1996, were provided on 1 March 1999. Note: Data for 1967–1993 were raised by NTU on the basis of the number of trips, rather than landings; these data have been raised by the OFP on the basis of landings. (b) Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1980–1999.
 - Offshore Longliners, west of 130°E: No data have been provided by OFDC.
 - Offshore Longliners, east of 130°E: (a) No data have been provided by OFDC. (b) Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1987–1999.
 - Purse seine: (a) No data have been provided by OFDC. (b) Logsheet data have been provided by SPC members for 1983–1999. Note: Catches on logsheets for 1983–1991 have been under-reported.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
 - Driftnet: No length data have been provided.
 - Distant-Water Longline: (a) No length data have been provided by OFDC. (b) Length data from port sampling in Pago Pago, American Samoa, for 1964–1997, have been provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service. (c) Length data collected by port samplers and observers in other SPC member countries have been provided for 1992–1999.
 - Offshore Longliners, west of 130°E: (a) No length data have been provided by OFDC.
 - Offshore Longliners, east of 130°E: (a) No length data have been provided by OFDC. (b) Length data collected by port samplers and observers in other SPC member countries have been provided for 1991–1999.
 - Purse seine: (a) No length data have been provided by OFDC. (b) Length data collected by port samplers and observers in SPC member countries have been provided for 1993–1999.
- ? Coverage Tables: (a) No response from OFDC to request of 3 March 1999. (b) Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Tonga

Longline: 1982–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Estimates were provided by the Ministry of Fisheries on 29 June 2000; however, the catches appear to be under-estimated.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: Longline catch estimates for 1997–1998 have been provided but the catches appear to be under-estimated.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: No response from the Ministry of Fisheries to a request made on 12 March 1999.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: No response from the Ministry of Fisheries to a request made on 12 March 1999.

- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data: Logsheet data for longliners have been provided by SPC members for 1982–1994 and 1996–1999.
- ? Provision of Length Data: Length data collected by port samplers and observers covering longliners have been provided for 1995–1999.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

United States of America

Longline: 1950–1999. Pole-and-line: 1995–1999. Purse seine: 1976–1999. Troll: 1986–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: Updates were provided by the National Marine Fisheries Service on 6 May 2000. The National Marine Fisheries Service longline estimates include Hawaii-based vessels, but not longliners based elsewhere in the WCPO. An update for longliners based elsewhere will be determined from data held by the OFP in the third quarter of 2000, when sufficient data will be available.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: Longline statistics, including the number of vessels during 1950–1970, catches of skipjack during 1950–1992 and catches of yellowfin during 1950–1969, were provided by National Marine Fisheries Service on 1 and 28 May 1999. The following are the remaining missing estimates:
 - number of U.S. pole-and-line vessels during 1950-1994;
 - pole-and-line catches of skipjack during 1950-1978; and
 - pole-and-line catches of yellowfin during 1950-1969; and
 - unclassified catches of yellowfin during 1950-1969.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: National Marine Fisheries Service confirmed that annual catches estimated for Hawaii-based longliners are in whole weight, although estimates for 1950–1986 may cover a small percentage of catches reported in dressed weights (Boggs, personal communication, May 1999). “Fishermen were to report whole weights but some may not have. It is impossible to correct the data.” Annual catches estimated by the OFP for longliners based elsewhere are in whole weight.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: No response from NMFS to request for an update made on 2 April 2000
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
 - Longline: (a) Data covering Hawaii-based vessels, grouped by 5x5 and month, have been provided by National Marine Fisheries Service for 1990–1998. (b) Logsheet data for other vessels have been provided by SPC members for 1991–1999.
 - Pole-and-line: No catch and effort data have been provided.
 - Purse seine: (a) Logsheet data have been provided by the Pacific Tuna Development Foundation for 1976–1977, 1979–1980 and 1982–1983. (b) Data grouped by 1x1 and month have been provided by the American Tunaboat Association for 1980–1988. (c) Logsheet data have been provided by National Marine Fisheries Service through the Forum Fisheries Agency for 1988–1999.
 - Troll: Data grouped by 5x5 and month have been provided by National Marine Fisheries Service; the most recent data, covering 1996–1998, were provided on 19 May 1999. Finer data can be provided by National Marine Fisheries Service for cooperative studies.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
 - No length data have been provided for longline or pole-and-line.
 - Purse-seine length data collected by port samplers are provided by National Marine Fisheries Service through the Forum Fisheries Agency on a regular basis.
 - Troll: Port sampling data grouped by 5x10 and month have been provided by National Marine Fisheries Service; the most recent data, covering 1996–1998, were provided on 19 May 1999. “Since fish are sampled at the end of the trips, finer resolutions for length-frequency are not feasible.”
- ? Coverage Tables: (a) National Marine Fisheries Service has provided information on coverage for purse seine and troll. (b) Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

Vanuatu

Longline: 1995–1999. Purse seine: 1994–1999.

- ? Annual Catch Estimates for 1999: An update will be determined from data held by the OFP in the third quarter of 2000, when sufficient data will be available.
- ? Historical Annual Catch Estimates: No historical estimates are missing.
- ? Processed Weight or Whole Weight for Longline Catch Estimates: Annual catches estimated by the OFP are in whole weight.
- ? Number of Vessels by Size Class: No information is available from the Fisheries Department.
- ? Provision of Catch and Effort Data:
 - Longline: Logsheets have been provided by SPC members for 1995–1998.
 - Purse seine: Logsheets have been provided by SPC members for 1994–1999.
- ? Provision of Length Data:
 - Longline: Length data collected by observers have been provided by SPC members for 1995.
 - Purse seine: Length data collected by port samplers and observers have been provided by SPC members for 1995–1998.
- ? Coverage Tables: Coverage tables have been developed based on data held by the OFP.

DATA DISSEMINATION

Data Disseminated by the OFP Since January 1999

Catch and effort data and length data are disseminated by the OFP on behalf of the SCTB. All instances of dissemination of data since January 1999 are listed below. During this period, there were 17 instances of dissemination of data.

1. On 8 January 1999, Dr Alain Fonteneau, *Institut de Recherche pour le Développement* (IRD, ex-ORSTOM), Montpellier, France, requested catch and effort data covering longliners in the whole Pacific Ocean and pole-and-line vessels and purse seiners in the area to the west of 150°W, during 1994–1997, grouped by 5° latitude and 5° longitude and month, for all fishing nations combined, with purse-seine data stratified by school association, in order to update a study on trends in global tuna fisheries; these data were released on 11 February 1999.
2. On 15 January 1999, Mr Geoff Tuck, CSIRO Department of Marine Research, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, requested Taiwanese longline effort data, for the area south of 30°S and for 1995, grouped by 5° latitude and 5° longitude and month, for an update of a study on population dynamics of seabirds and for analysing southern ocean trends in longline effort; these data were released on 15 January 1999.
3. On 21 January 1999, Dr Robert Campbell, CSIRO Department of Marine Research, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, requested catch and effort data for an area bounded by 10S–50S and 140E–180, for 1990–1997, by fishing nation, grouped by 5° latitude and 5° longitude and month, for stock assessment, primarily of yellowfin, bigeye and swordfish; these data were released on 25 January 1999, except for data for New Zealand, which were released on 28 January 1999 with authorisation from the New Zealand Ministry of Fisheries.
4. On 1 February 1999, Dr Shui-Kai (Eric) Chang, Director of the Information Division of the Overseas Fisheries Development Council (OFDC), Taipei, Taiwan, requested catch and CPUE data covering longliners in the whole Pacific Ocean and purse seiners in the area to the west of 150°W during 1996, grouped by 5° latitude and 5° longitude and month, for all fishing nations combined, for use in the OFDC statistical bulletin, “Annual catch statistics of Taiwanese distant water tuna fisheries, 1996”; these data were released on 10 February 1999.

5. On 1 February 1999, Dr Shui-Kai (Eric) Chang, Director of the Information Division of the Overseas Fisheries Development Council (OFDC), Taipei, Taiwan, requested Taiwanese offshore longline catch and effort data, grouped by 1° latitude and 1° longitude and month, for comparison with similar data held by OFDC; these data were released on 10 February 1999.
6. On 18 February 1999, Mr Fabio Carocci, Marine Resources Service, Fishery Resources and Environment Division, Fisheries Department, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Rome, requested catch data grouped by gear type, year/quarter and 5° longitude by 5° latitude, for use in producing maps for an atlas of commercial tuna catches; these data were released on 21 February 1999.
7. On 22 February 1999, Mr Lindsay Chapman, Fisheries Development Advisor, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, requested longline catch and effort data covering the Solomon Islands EEZ, grouped by 1° longitude by 1° latitude and quarter, for use in responding to a request from the Solomon Islands Fisheries Division for recommendations concerning appropriate fishing vessels for use in the Solomon Islands; these data were released on 22 February 1999.
8. On 25 February 1999, Monsieur Stephen Yen, Service des Ressources Marines, Papeete, French Polynesia, requested an update of longline catch and effort data, 1962–1997, for an area in the vicinity of French Polynesia, grouped by 5° latitude and 5° longitude and month, for an assessment of albacore, bigeye and yellowfin within the French Polynesian EEZ; these data were released on 25 February 1999.
9. On 4 March 1999, Dr Chilun Sun, National Taiwan University, requested Japanese and Taiwanese offshore longline data grouped by 5° longitude by 5° latitude by month, for a task in preparation for the Twelfth Meeting of the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish, 16–23 June 1999, Papeete, French Polynesia; the Taiwanese data were released on 4 March 1999. The Japanese data were released on 4 April 1999 with authorisation from the National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries.
10. On 18 March 1999, Dr Michael Hinton, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, La Jolla, California, United States, requested public domain Taiwanese longline data for 1996 and non-public domain French Polynesian longline data for 1992–1998, grouped by 5° latitude and 5° longitude and month, for use in an assessment of billfish stocks; these data were released on 18 March 1999.
11. On 19 March 1999, Dr John Sibert, Pelagic Fisheries Research Program at the University of Hawaii, requested an update of catch data for the Pacific Ocean, north of 20°S, by gear type, by year and month, and grouped by 5° latitude and 5° longitude, for a comparative study of catch trends of tunas in the waters adjacent to the EEZs under the jurisdiction of the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council of the United States, for inclusion in the Council's annual report; these data were released on 19 March 1999.
12. On 25 March 1999, Mr Geoff Tuck, CSIRO Department of Marine Research, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia, requested New Zealand longline effort data, grouped by 5° latitude and 5° longitude and month, for an update of a study on population dynamics of seabirds and for analysing southern ocean trends in longline effort; these data were released on 26 March 1999, with authorisation from the New Zealand Ministry of Fisheries.
13. On 22 July 1999, Dr George Watters, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, requested Japanese longline data, grouped by 5x5 and month, to conduct tree-based regression of bigeye CPUE; these data were provided on 16 August 1999 with authorisation from the National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries.
14. On 2 April 2000, Dr Chilun Sun, National Taiwan University, requested catch and effort data, grouped by 5x5 and month, for Korean longline and purse seine, Taiwanese offshore longline and United States purse seine for production model analyses of skipjack and yellowfin; these data were provided on 14 April 2000. The Korean data and the United States purse-seine data were released with authorisation from the National Fisheries Research and Development Institute of Korea and the Forum Fisheries Agency.
15. On 5 April 2000, Mr Julio Moron, OPAGAC, Spain, requested catch and effort logsheet data held by the OFP for OPAGAC vessels; these data were provided on 5 April 2000.
16. On 3 May 2000, Dr Chilun Sun, National Taiwan University, requested catch and effort data, grouped by 5x5 and month, for United States longline, for production model analyses of skipjack and yellowfin, in preparation for SCTB13; these data were provided on 3 May 2000.
17. On 18 June 2000, Dr George Watters, Senior Scientist, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, requested the MULTIFAN-CL bigeye catch/effort and size composition data files prepared by the OFP for a collaborative bigeye stock assessment study; these data were provided on 19 June 2000. Japanese data were released with authorisation from the National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries.

Catch and Effort Data on the SPC Website

Since May 1999, public domain catch and effort data, grouped by 5° latitude and 5° longitude and month, for all fishing nations combined, have been available on the SPC website (www.spc.int). The following data are available in zip files containing FoxPro Professional Edition Version 5.0 DBF files:

- ? Driftnet data, grouped by 5x5 and month, for all fishing nations combined, for 1983 to 1990, covering the Pacific Ocean south of the equator.
- ? Longline data, grouped by 5x5 and month, for all fishing nations combined, for 1958 to 1997, covering the whole Pacific Ocean.
- ? Pole-and-line data, grouped by 5x5 and month, for all fishing nations combined, for 1972 to 1997, covering the western and central Pacific Ocean (west of 150W).
- ? Purse-seine data, grouped by 5x5 and month, for all fishing nations combined, for 1967 to 1997, covering the western and central Pacific Ocean (west of 150W).

Since October 1999, the public domain data on the SPC website have been accessed as follows:

1. 7 October 1999 Assam Huang, student, National Taiwan Ocean University, Taiwan
2. 18 October 1999 Kenny Leana, National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea, and University of Wollongong, Australia
3. 22 October 1999 James Beard, CIE, Australia
4. 30 March 2000 Yoshio Ishizuka, National Research Institute for Far Seas Fisheries, Japan
5. 6 April 2000 David Kersetter, graduate student, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, United States of America
6. 24 June 2000 Jerry Wetherall, Chief, Stock Assessment Investigation, National Marine Fisheries Service, Honolulu, United States of America

Requests for Statistics and Other Information Processed by the OFP Since January 1999

The OFP receives numerous requests for tuna fishery statistics and other information which do not require the release of data. The requests received and processed by the OFP since January 1999 are listed below. During this period, there were 107 requests for statistics or other information.

1. On 4 January 1999, Mr Karl Staisch, US Treaty Observer Coordinator, Forum Fisheries Agency, requested a breakdown of length frequency samples by species collected by US Treaty observers during the 10th licensing period (Jun 1997–Jun 1998) for a paper he was preparing for the Annual Treaty Consultations; this information was provided on 8 January 1999.
2. On 14 January 1999, Mr Julio Moron, Assistant Director, OPAGAC, Madrid, Spain, requested coordinates of EEZs in the western and central Pacific Ocean, for use by Spanish purse seiners fishing in the Pacific Ocean; unofficial EEZ coordinates used by the OFP were provided on 14 January 1999.
3. On 15 January 1999, Ms Prulai Chantawong, Senior Marine Fishery Biologist, Andaman Sea Fisheries Development Center, Phuket, Thailand, requested information concerning purse-seine port sampling protocols used in the western and central Pacific Ocean; this information was provided on 15 January 1999.
4. On 19 January 1999, Mr Stephen Beverly, Masterfisherman, Coastal Fisheries Programme, Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea, New Caledonia, requested annual catch statistics for longliners in the western and central Pacific Ocean; this information was provided on 19 January 1999.

5. On 20 January 1999, Ms Barbara Hanchard, Executive Officer, Forum Fisheries Agency, Honiara, Solomon Islands, requested information concerning Canadian trollers in the south Pacific albacore fishery; this information was provided on 20 January 1999.
6. On 20 January 1999, Dr Robert Campbell, CSIRO, Hobart, Australia, requested annual catch statistics for an area in the south-west Pacific Ocean, for use in defining a request for catch and effort data from the Oceanic Fisheries Programme; this information was provided on 20 January 1999.
7. On 21 January 1999, Mr John Childers, National Marine Fisheries Service, La Jolla, California, requested annual landings statistics from US albacore trollers offloading in Fiji; this information was provided on 29 January 1999.
8. On 11 February 1999, Mr Dave Itano, Pelagic Fisheries Research Programme (PFRP), School of Ocean and Earth Science Technology, University of Hawaii, requested information collected through the US Multilateral Treaty Observer Programme for a study on purse seine gear development which will be presented at the Twelfth Meeting of the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish, Papeete, French Polynesia, 16–23 June 1999; various information was processed, compiled and provided during April and May 1999.
9. On 12 February 1999, Mr Dennis Renton, Executive Director, National Fisheries Authority, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, requested summaries of logsheet data covering Filipino purse seiners active in Papua New Guinea during 1997–1998; this information was provided on 16 February 1999.
10. On 18 February 1999, participants at the 37th meeting of the Forum Fisheries Committee, Honolulu, requested information on total catches and catches by domestic fleets in the EEZs of FFA member countries; this information was provided on 18 February 1999.
11. On 17 March 1999, Mr Len Rodwell, Forum Fisheries Agency, Honiara, Solomon Islands, requested information concerning annual catches by tuna fleets in the region during 1998; this information was provided on 17 March 1999.
12. On 20 March 1999, Mr Beeing Yeeting, Integrated Fisheries Management Associate, SPC, requested a map showing study areas for the Vanua Levu (Fiji) reef fish management project; this information was provided on 23 March 1999.
13. On 30 March 1999, Mr Tim Park, Micronesian Maritime Authority, requested a breakdown of shark catch by processing fate from data collected by observers in FSM waters; this information was compiled and provided on 15 April 1999.
14. On 1 April 1999, Mr Falasese Tupau, Fisheries Information Officer, Tuvalu Fisheries Department, requested maps showing the distribution of effort, and monthly catch and effort statistics for the Japanese purse seine fleet active in the Tuvalu EEZ during 1998; this information was provided on 1 April 1999.
15. On 19 April 1999, Mr Tim Park, Micronesian Maritime Authority, requested estimates of catches in the Federated States of Micronesia EEZ during 1998, by gear, fishing nation and species, on behalf of the Japanese embassy in FSM; this information was provided on 19 April 1999.
16. On 20 April 1999, Mr Illiapi Tuwai, Fiji Fisheries Division, requested maps of Fiji and adjacent waters showing wahoo CPUE overlaid with bathymetry and monthly sea-surface temperatures, for his work towards a completing his thesis for a Master of Science degree undertaken with the University of the South Pacific, Fiji ; this information was provided on 20 April 1999.
17. On 20 April 1999, Mr Ian Cartright, Deputy Director, Forum Fisheries Agency, requested catch estimates and numbers of vessels for the frozen sashimi and fresh sashimi longline fleets operating in the region during 1997; this information was provided on 20 April 1999.
18. On 21 April 1999, Dr Michael Huber, Global Coastal Strategies, Wynnum, Queensland, Australia, requested catch statistics for yellowfin, skipjack and bigeye in the Bismark Sea, the Solomon Sea and the Coral Sea, for use in a chapter in an Elvieser Series entitled “Seas at the Millennium”; this information was provided on 21 April 1999.
19. On 26 April 1999, Mr Shuya Nakatsuka, Special Advisor to the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan, requested estimates of annual catches by all fishing nations combined in the EEZs of Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands and Tuvalu., during 1988–1998, determined from logsheet data held at SPC; this information was provided on 26 April 1999, with authorisation from the sources of data.
20. On 26 April 1999, Mr Ian Cartwright, Deputy Director, Forum Fisheries Agency, requested statistics concerning catches within EEZs and on the high seas, by 5° latitude band, for all fishing nations combined; this information was provided on 3 May 1999.

21. On 5 May 1999, Dr Michael Hinton, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, requested estimates of annual blue marlin catches in the western and central Pacific Ocean, by fishing nation, for use in an analysis of CPUE; this information was provided on 5 May 1999.
22. On 7 May 1999, Mr Tom Graham, Palau Conservation Society, requested a map of Palau showing neighbouring countries and EEZs; this information was provided on 7 May 1999.
23. On 7 May 1999, Mr Aymeric Desurmont, Fisheries Information Officer, SPC, requested a breakdown of purse seine vessels by nationality for an SPC newsletter article on domestic and foreign fleets in the region; this information was provided on 11 May 1999.
24. On 11 May 1999, Mr Al Coan, National Marine Fisheries Service, La Jolla, California, requested annual catch estimates for United States longliners fishing in the SPC Statistical Area for use in a country report for the Twelfth Meeting of the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish, Papeete, French Polynesia, 16–23 June 1999; this information was provided on 11 May 1999.
25. On 11 May 1999, Mr Michel Blanc, Fisheries Training Adviser, SPC, requested annual longline CPUEs for tuna and billfish species taken by domestic fleets throughout the region for use in an economic model looking at the costs of fishing; this information was provided on 11 May 1999.
26. On 12 May 1999, Mr Ian Cartwright, Deputy Director, Forum Fisheries Agency, requested information concerning surface areas in the western and central Pacific Ocean; this information was provided on 28 May 1999.
27. On 14 May 1999, Mr Ian Cartwright, Deputy Director, Forum Fisheries Agency, requested information concerning the SOI index over the past ten years, in order to compare it with catches by species; this information was provided on 17 May 1999.
28. On 20 May 1999, Mr Dave Itano, Pelagic Fisheries Research Programme (PFRP), School of Ocean and Earth Science Technology, University of Hawaii, requested assistance with tagging database originally provided by SPC for the Hawaiian Tuna Tagging Project; this information was provided on 20 May 1999.
29. On 21 May 1999, Mr Rimeta Tinga, Fisheries Licensing and Enforcement Unit, Ministry of Natural Resources Development, Kiribati, requested catch statistics for Japanese and Korean longliners fishing in the Kiribati EEZ; this information was provided on 28 May 1999.
30. On 25 May 1999, Mr Leban Gisawa, National Fisheries Authority of Papua New Guinea, requested maps of catch and effort for longline and purse seine operations in PNG waters for an Environmental Impact Assessment which will look at the possible effects that the dumping tailings from a mine off the coast of PNG will likely have on tuna stocks; this information was provided on 26 May 1999.
31. On 23 June 1999, Mr Ray Clarke, Resource Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, United States of America, requested a map showing the WCPO and EPO areas and total catches; this information was provided on 29 June 1999.
32. On 9 July 1999, Mr Paul Dalzell, Fisheries Scientist, Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, United States of America, requested estimates of annual catches for domestic fisheries of Indonesia; this information was provided on 5 August 1999.
33. On 9 July 1999, Mr Paul Dalzell, Fisheries Scientist, Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, United States of America, requested information on catches of recreationally-caught billfish throughout the Pacific Ocean for estimation of total catches; this information was provided on 20 July 1999.
34. On 11 July 1999, Mr David Mason, Pelagic Fisheries Research Program, University of Hawaii, United States of America, requested information on certain bycatch species encountered in western and central Pacific Ocean tuna fisheries, in order to determine an estimated Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY) for each species for a study conducted by the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council; this information was provided on 19 July 1999.
35. On 22 July 1999, Mr Kelvin Passfield, consultant, Fisheries Division, Samoa, requested historical estimates of longline catch and effort in the vicinity of Samoa; this information was provided on 22 July 1999.
36. On 27 July 1999, Mr Alain Perpère, consultant, SOCALAIT, New Caledonia, requested information on longline fisheries in New Caledonia for use in a feasibility study for a tuna processing plant in New Caledonia; this information was provided on 27 July 1999.

37. On 30 July 1999, Mr Tim Park, Micronesian Maritime Authority, Federated States of Micronesia, requested a breakdown of the number of transshipments sampled in Pohnpei during 1998 and length frequency histograms from port sampling in FSM ports, by species and gear types, for 1998; this information was provided on 12 August 1999.
38. On 2 August 1999, Ms Isabel Dubois, student, Géo-mer programme, *Université française du Pacifique*, New Caledonia, requested general information on tuna fisheries in the western Pacific Ocean and maps of catch and effort; this information was provided on 2 August 1999.
39. On 5 August 1999, Dr Chien-Hsiung Wang, National Taiwan University, Taiwan, requested estimates of catches of albacore, bigeye, bluefin, skipjack and yellowfin in the WCPO and the EPO, by month, during 1999; this information was provided on 5 August 1999.
40. On 6 August 1999, Mr Danny Wase, Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority, requested monthly catch statistics and maps showing the distribution of effort for fleets operating in Marshall Islands EEZ for the past three years; this information was provided on 9 September 1999.
41. On 11 August 1999, Mr Satalaka Petaia, student, Fisheries Department, Tuvalu, requested all tuna fishery catch and effort data held by the OFP for the Tuvalu EEZ for his graduate research; with authorisation from the Tuvalu government; this information was provided on 13 September 1999.
42. On 15 August 1999, Mr Joel Opnai, National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea, requested information on bycatches taken by purse seine and longline vessels operating in PNG waters, for a study of differences in reported bycatches; this information was provided on 18 August 1999.
43. On 16 August 1999, Mr Len Rodwell, Forum Fisheries Agency, requested estimates of the survival rate of marlin caught by longline, determined from observer data; this information was provided on 16 August 1999.
44. On 22 August 1999, Mr Kelvin Passfield, consultant, Fisheries Division, Samoa, requested a list of bycatch species and the percentage of each in the catch of Samoan longliners; this information was provided on 27 August 1999.
45. On 24 August 1999, Mr Leban Gisawa, National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea, requested estimates of the 1998 catch, by species, and effort for each purse seiner in the Frabelle fleet that operated in the waters of PNG; this information was provided on 28 September 1999.
46. On 25 August 1999, Mr Joel Opnai, National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea, requested information on the effect of ENSO on the movement of tuna in and out of the PNG zone, in preparation for MHLC5; this information was provided on 30 August 1999.
47. On 25 August 1999, Dr Tony Hand, consultant, Australia, requested estimates of CPUE by fleet and EEZ for an ADB-funded study on fisheries taxation and licensing in the Solomon Islands; this information was provided on 26 August 1999.
48. On 27 August 1999, Mr Paul Dalzell, Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, United States of America, requested estimates of the size of the Japanese longline fleet in the Pacific, for use in summary documents being prepared for MHLC5; this information was provided on 27 August 1999.
49. On 30 August 1999, Mr Peter Ward, Bureau of Resource Sciences, Australia, requested estimates of annual catches by fishing nation in the SPC Statistical Area and the WCPO, for use in an analysis on allocation in preparation for MHLC5; this information was provided on 30 August 1999.
50. On 2 September 1999, Mr Lindsay Chapman, Fisheries Development Advisor, SPC, requested historical catch and effort data for waters in the vicinity of Tokelau's EEZ for a study looking at the potential of establishing a small-scale longline fishery in Tokelau; this information was provided on 2 September 1999.
51. On 2 September 1999, Dr Jim Joseph, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, requested estimates of annual catches in the WCPO for a review of global stocks; this information was provided on 17 September 1999.
52. On 14 September 1999, Mr Kelvin Passfield, consultant, Fisheries Division, Samoa, requested information on bycatches in the Samoa longline fishery, for a comparison with longline fisheries elsewhere; this information was provided on 15 September 1999.
53. On 16 September 1999, Mr Kelvin Passfield, consultant, Fisheries Division, Samoa, requested estimates of longline CPUE determined from port sampling data collected in Samoa; this information was provided on 21 September 1999.

54. On 16 September 1999, Ms Josie Tamate, Project Economist, Forum Fisheries Agency, requested information on global tuna catches for a summary paper on international trends in skipjack fisheries; this information was provided on 20 September 1999.
55. On 16 September 1999, Dr John Sibert, Pelagic Fisheries Research Program, University of Hawaii, United States of America, requested tables of annual catch estimates, and maps, for longline, purse seine and pole-and-line fleets, for the international module of the annual report of the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council Pelagic Planning Team; this information was provided on 20 September 1999.
56. On 20 September 1999, Mr Laurent Guerlou, Business Development Manager, Collecte Localisation Satellite, France, requested estimates of the number of fishing vessel numbers, by gear type and fishing area, in order to develop business for the Argos satellite system in the region; this information was provided on 22 September 1999.
57. On 21 September 1999, Mr Kelvin Passfield, consultant, Fisheries Division, Samoa, requested estimates of catch and CPUE for yellowfin, bigeye and albacore taken by the Samoan alia fleet, based on port sampling data provided to the OFP; this information was provided on 21 September 1999.
58. On 21 September 1999, Dr Alain Fonteneau, *Institut de recherche pour le développement*, France, requested length-frequencies for skipjack, yellowfin and bigeyecaught by purse seiners setting on FADS in the western and central Pacific Ocean, in preparation for the FAD Symposium to be held in Martinique during October 1999; this information was provided on 27 September 1999.
59. On 27 September 1999, Mr Kelvin Passfield, consultant, Fisheries Division, Samoa, requested length-weight relationships for yellowfin and bigeye, as well as bycatch species (marlins, wahoo, dolphinfish, skipjack, barracuda, moonfish, short bill spearfish, swordfish), for the calculation of catch by weight and CPUE for the longline fishery in Samoa; this information was provided on 27 September 1999.
60. On 27 September 1999, Mr Ian Cartwright, Deputy Director, Forum Fisheries Agency, requested estimates of annual catches of tuna species in the waters of the Philippines; this information was provided on 27 September 1999.
61. On 5 October 1999, John Sibert, Program Manager, University of Hawaii, United States of America, requested bigeye catch rates together with the 15 degree isotherm and 2 ml/litre isopleth, for an article in the Pelagic Fisheries Research Program quarterly report; this information was provided on 5 October 1999.
62. On 6 October 1999, Dr René Grandperrin, *Institut de recherche pour le développement*, New Caledonia, requested information on longline catch trends in the New Caledonia EEZ; this information was provided on 6 October 1999.
63. On 8 October 1999, Dr Michael Sanders, consultant, Gillette, Preston & Associates, Australia, requested annual and seasonal longline catch statistics for a broad area of the western and central Pacific Ocean, for a study looking at the bio-economics of the tuna fishery in Papua New Guinea; this information was provided on 8 October 1999.
64. On 11 October 1999, Peter Ward, Fisheries Scientist, Bureau of Resource Sciences, Australia, requested annual catch estimates, by fleet, for broadbill swordfish for the southwest Pacific; this information was provided on 11 October 1999.
65. On 12 October 1999, Ms Valonna Baker, National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea, requested annual purse-seine catch estimates for the PNG DFZ since 1980, as input into the bio-economical study conducted by Gillett, Preston and Associates; this information was provided on 13 October 1999.
66. On 22 October 1999, Kenny Leana, student, National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea, requested information on catches in archipelagic waters of the WCPO for his graduate research; this information was provided on 3 November 1999.
67. On 2 November 1999, Mr Craig Cooper, student, Western Washington University, United States of America, requested annual catch estimates of tuna in the Pacific from 1980 onwards, for his graduate research; this information was provided on 3 November 1999.
68. On 3 November 1999, Mr David Itano, Pelagic Fisheries Research Programme, University of Hawaii, United States of America, requested the distribution by 5°x5° grids of yellowfin catch by gear type for years 1994-1996, to compare with information collected for his yellowfin reproduction study covering the WCPO tuna fisheries; this information was provided on 3 November 1999.

69. On 11 November 1999, Mr Shuya Nakatsuka, International Affairs Division, Fisheries Agency, Japan, requested estimates of the total catch in the French Polynesia and New Caledonia EEZ; this information was provided on 15 November 1999.
70. On 13 November 1999, Mr Kelvin Passfield, consultant, Fisheries Division, Samoa, requested the number of alia vessels, by month, for which size composition data has been collected from port sampling activities in Samoa during 1998; this information was provided on 15 November 1999.
71. On 16 November 1999, Dr Alain Fonteneau, *Institut de recherche pour le développement*, Montpellier, France, requested annual catch estimates, by gear, fishing nation and species, for the WCPO, for use in a database of global tuna catches; this information was provided on 17 November 1999.
72. On 26 November 1999, Ms Valonna Baker, National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea, requested annual catch estimates for all longline and purse seine fleets operating in the PNG EEZ; this information was provided on 26 November 1999.
73. On 2 December 1999, Mr Raymond Clarke, National Marine Fisheries Service, United States of America, requested annual catch statistics in preparation for a presentation on highly migratory species of the western and central Pacific Ocean; this information was provided on 2 December 1999.
74. On 2 December 1999, Mr Tom Nishida, Fisheries Scientist, National Research Institute of Far Seas Fisheries, Japan, requested the average annual yellowfin, bigeye and skipjack catch rates for purse seiners operating in the WCPO during 1994–1999; this information was provided on 2 December 1999.
75. On 9 December 1999, Mr Donald David, Micronesian Maritime Authority, Federated States of Micronesia, requested the percentage of the total longline catch of yellowfin and bigeye landed in FSM ports represented by the 25–28 kg size group, in response to a request from the National Fisheries Corporation; this information was provided on 9 December 1999.
76. On 28 January 2000, Mr Peter Philipson, Papua New Guinea, requested grade composition numbers around PNG, for a loining plant proposal; this information was provided on 3 February 2000.
77. On 9 February 2000, Mr Tim Park, Tuna Biologist, Micronesian Maritime Authority, Federated States of Micronesia, requested information concerning the activities of Japanese longliners in the WCPO for a comparison with longline effort in the FSM EEZ; this information was provided on 28 February 2000.
78. On 21 February 2000, Dr Shyh-Bin Wang, Overseas Fisheries Development Council, Taiwan, requested summaries of Taiwanese offshore longline trips during 1998, for verification of OFDC landing estimates; this information was provided on 28 February 2000.
79. On 23 February 2000, Ms Sofia Bettencourt, World Bank, requested (i) 1998 catch estimates for the SPC Statistical Area, by species and gear, and (ii) catch estimates from the public domain database stratified by quarter, gear and broad areas (roughly approximating EEZs), for an economic study looking at the relationship of El Nino and La Nina on the catches of tuna in the WCPO; this information was provided on 7 March 2000.
80. On 23 February 2000, Mr Garry Preston, Gillette, Preston & Associates, New Caledonia, requested annual catches for the SPC Statistical Area; this information was provided on 8 March 2000.
81. On 1 March 2000, Mr Moses Amos, Director, Fisheries Department, Vanuatu, requested a summary of the tuna fishing activity in Vanuatu's EEZ by fleet, species and year; this information was provided on 1 March 2000.
82. On 2 March 2000, Mr Tim Park, Fisheries Biologist, Micronesian Maritime Authority, Federated States of Micronesia, requested information on the activity of Japanese longliners in FSM during 1998; this information was provided on 2 March 2000.
83. On 2 March 2000, Ms Josie Tamate, Project Economist, Forum Fisheries Agency, requested catch estimates for European Union fleets operating in the Indian Ocean in 1998; this information was provided on 2 March 2000.
84. On 27 March 2000, Mr Tim Park, Micronesian Maritime Authority, Federated States of Micronesia, requested sea surface temperature information for the FSM EEZ during 1999; this information was provided on 28 March 2000.
85. On 3 April 2000, Mr Peter Ward, Bureau of Resource Sciences, Australia, requested circle plots showing the distribution of skipjack, yellowfin, bigeye and albacore catches throughout the Pacific Ocean for the period 1981–1997, for maps showing alternative boundary proposals to be presented to MHLC6; this information was provided on 3 April 2000.

86. On 5 April 2000, Mr Hassan Layman, Intaco Foods, Singapore, requested information on longliners in Vanuatu and New Caledonia in preparation for establishing longliners in Santo, Vanuatu; this information was provided on 6 April 2000.
87. On 6 April 2000, Mr Hassan Layman, Intraco Foods, *Singapore*, requested catch per unit effort statistics for longliners operating in Vanuatu, in preparation for establishing longliners in Santo, Vanuatu; this information was provided on 10 April 2000.
88. On 10 April 2000, Mr Tim Park, Micronesian Maritime Authority, Federated States of Micronesia, requested spatial sea-surface temperature graphs for FSM EEZ; this information was provided on 11 April 2000.
89. On 14 April 2000, Mr Hassan Layman, Intraco foods, Singapore, requested catch per unit effort statistics for the longline fleet operating in Solomon Islands, in preparation for establishing longliners in Santo, Vanuatu; this information was provided on 14 April 2000.
90. On 17 April 2000, Mr Tim Park, Tuna Biologist, Micronesian Maritime Authority, Federated States of Micronesia, requested a summary of length frequency and transshipment data collected at FSM ports in recent years, for input in the FSM tuna management plan; this information was provided on 18 April 2000.
91. On 19 April 2000, Ms Josie Tamate, Project Economist, Forum Fisheries Agency, requested total catch of all the EEZs of FFA member countries by gear type and species, and the total regional catch by gear and species; this information was provided on 19 April 2000.
92. On 11 May 2000, Dr Jim Joseph, Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission, requested estimates of total catches in the WCPO during 1999, for a presentation made at the Tuna Trade Conference, May 2000, Bangkok; this information was provided on 11 May 2000.
93. On 15 May 2000, Ms Valonna Baker, National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea, requested catch summaries of the Taiwanese WIN FAR fleet, fishing in PNG waters during 1998 and 1999, for upcoming access negotiations; this information was provided on 15 May 2000.
94. On 17 May 2000, Mr Glen Joseph, Chief Licensing Officer, Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority, requested catch statistics and unloading summaries for foreign fleets operating in Marshall Islands waters during 1998 and 1999, to prepare for upcoming meetings and to plan the logistics for future port sampling in Majuro; this information was provided on 23 May 2000.
95. On 18 May 2000, Mr Paul Dalzell, Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, United States of America, requested information concerning the coverage of mahi mahi, opah, pomfrets, rainbow runner and wahoo by observer data held by the OFP, for use by the Council in reviewing a recommendation to support an analysis of trends in those bycatch species; this information was provided on 19 May 2000.
96. On 25 May 2000, Mr Ludwig Kumoro, National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea, requested 1999 catch statistics for all fleets fishing in PNG waters for preparation of their national fisheries report for SCTB13; this information was provided on 29 May 2000.
97. On 25 May 2000, Mr Kelvin Passfield, consultant, Fisheries Division, Samoa, requested length-weight formulae for several pelagic species taken by the longline gear in order to convert the lengths of catch sampled at port sampling, to catch in weight; this information was provided on 29 May 2000.
98. On 30 May 2000, Mr Peter Cusack, consultant, Gillette, Preston and Associates, Australia, requested annual catch estimates for tuna in the WCPO Area for use in a report of a tuna management plan for the Federated States of Micronesia; this information was provided on 30 May 2000.
99. On 30 May 2000, Mr Leban Gisawa, National Fisheries Authority, Papua New Guinea, requested purse-seine and longline catch statistics for the Bismark Sea during 1998 and 1999 for a review undertaken by the National Fisheries Authority; this information was provided on 30 May 2000.
100. On 2 June 2000, Mr Teoku Olsson, Senior Fisheries Officer, Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority, Nauru, requested catch statistics or foreign fleets fishing in Nauru waters during 1998 and 1999; this information was provided on 6 June 2000.
101. On 9 June 2000, Mr Ray Clarke, National Marine Fisheries Service, United States of America, requested catch summaries and maps showing the foreign longline effort in the vicinity of the Hawaiian EEZ, in preparation for a court hearing on the impact of the Hawaiian longline fishery on leatherback turtles; this information was provided on 12 June 2000.

102. On 13 June 2000, Mr George Brandt, lawyer, Lyons, Brandt, Cook & Hiramatsu, United States of America, requested, on behalf of the Hawaiian Longline Association, various catch summaries and maps showing the foreign longline effort in the vicinity of the Hawaiian EEZ, in preparation for a court hearing on the impact of the Hawaiian longline fishery on leatherback turtles; this information was provided on 14 June 2000.
103. On 14 June 2000, Dr Miki Ogura, National Research Institute for Far Seas Fisheries, Japan, requested information on the skipjack fishery in tropical waters during 2000; this information was provided on 14 June 2000.
104. On 15 June 2000, Mr Kelvin Passfield, consultant, Fisheries Division, Samoa, requested annual catch estimates for the longline fleets of American Samoa, Fiji and New Caledonia, for a comparison with the Samoan longline fleet; this information was provided on 15 June 2000.
105. On 20 June 2000, Mr Tim Webb, consultant, Canada, requested information on the catch and CPUE of Taiwanese longliners in the Vanuatu and other EEZs, for a CSPOD/FFA project to develop an in-zone management plan for Vanuatu; this information was provided on 20 June 2000.
106. On 26 June 2000, Dr Talbot Murray, Project Director, Pelagic Fisheries, National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd., New Zealand, requested catch and effort statistics for United States purse seiners in the waters of New Zealand, summarised by year; this information was provided on 26 June 2000.
107. On 27 June 2000, Dr Gary Sakagawa, Southwest Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, La Jolla, California, United States of America, requested annual catch statistics and numbers of vessels for fleets that catch yellowfin, in preparation for the meeting of the Yellowfin Research Group at the Thirteenth Meeting of the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish, 5–12 July 2000, Noumea, New Caledonia; this information was provided on 27 June 2000.

REFERENCES

- Anonymous. 1998. Report of the Eleventh Meeting of the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish, 28 May – 6 June 1998, Honolulu, Hawaii, United States of America. Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea, New Caledonia. 108 pp.
- Anonymous. 1999. Report of the Twelfth Meeting of the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish, 16 – 23 June 1999, Tahiti, French Polynesia. Secretariat of the Pacific Community, Noumea, New Caledonia. 126 pp.