

**The Hawaii - California Pelagic Longline Vessels
Quarterly Report
1 October–31 December 2023¹**

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The Hawaii - California pelagic longline logbook report for the fourth quarter of 2023 (1 October–31 December; PIFSC, 2024) contains summary data of fishing effort and catch statistics as reported from electronic or paper longline log sheets submitted by Hawaii- and California-based pelagic longline fishers. Catch and effort statistics are based on date of longline haul. Vessel and trip statistics that cross over two summary periods (i.e., years, semi-annual, or quarters) are counted in both summary periods. For example, a trip total encompasses “partial and complete” trips within a time period. These statistics are not additive since partial trips are counted in the time period when the trip began and again in the period when the trip ended (i.e., sum of four quarters or two semi-annual reports is not the total for the year).

Catch and effort summaries in this report were based on Regional Fishery Management Organization (RFMO) reporting standards and business rules. Longline catch and effort statistics in this report consist of U.S. longline fisheries in the North Pacific Ocean, attributions from CNMI, Guam, and American Samoa in the North Pacific Ocean. Longline vessels operating from California were also included in this report to satisfy RFMO data reporting and NOAA confidentiality standards.

Tables 1-5 show fishery statistics for the stated time period, area, and shallow sets (<15 hooks between floats) or deep sets (≥15 hooks between floats). The longline effort includes number of vessels, trips, sets, and hooks set. Fish species were organized into pelagic management unit species (PMUS) groups of billfish, shark, tuna, and other PMUS. Each table includes the number of fish caught, kept, and released. The catch per unit effort (CPUE) is measured as the number of fish caught per 1000 hooks.

References:

Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center. (2024). *Hawaii Longline Logbook* <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/2721>

Southwest Fisheries Science Center. (2024). *California Pelagic Longline Fishery* <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/12906>

¹Data reported by fishers in electronic and paper logs were queried for the fourth quarter of 2023 (1 October–31 December) from the Pacific Islands Fishery Science Center Information Management System oracle database from table LLDS_REPORT_STATS_PRELIM_HC.

Table 1. Hawaii- and California-based pelagic longline vessels quarterly statistics for all fishing areas and all fishing categories (set types), including effort (number of vessels, trips, sets, and hooks set). For each listed species organized by pelagic management unit species (PMUS) groups of billfish, shark, tuna, and other, the table includes the number of fish caught, kept, and released, and the catch per unit effort (CPUE, number per 1000 hooks, calculated as the sum of fish caught divided by the sum of hooks set).

Report Coverage		Number of vessels active		
Time Period	1 October–31 December 2023	141		
Set Types	All sets	Number of trips (partial or completed) 458		
Fishing Area	All Areas	Number of sets 5,616		
		Number of hooks set 16,903,702		

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
PMUS				
Billfish PMUS				
Blue marlin	1,491	1,476	15	0.09
Striped marlin	2,480	2,473	7	0.15
Shortbill spearfish	4,880	4,805	75	0.29
Swordfish	1,587	1,377	210	0.09
Other billfishes	206	202	4	0.01
Total	10,644	10,333	311	0.63
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	19,224	0	19,224	1.14
Mako sharks	425	6	419	0.03
Thresher sharks	1,451	5	1,446	0.09
Oceanic whitetip shark	114	0	114	0.01
Silky shark	48	0	48	0.00
Total	21,262	11	21,251	1.26
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	5,569	5,485	84	0.33
Bigeye tuna	38,724	38,079	645	2.29
Yellowfin tuna	37,015	36,378	637	2.19
Bluefin tuna	4	4	0	0.00
Skipjack tuna	1,489	1,463	26	0.09
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00
Total	82,801	81,409	1,392	4.90
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	12,463	12,341	122	0.74
Moonfish	855	853	2	0.05
Wahoo	4,397	4,385	12	0.26
Oilfish	1,865	1,531	334	0.11
Pomfret	10,053	9,981	72	0.59
Total	29,633	29,091	542	1.75
Total PMUS	144,340	120,844	23,496	8.54
Non-PMUS Sharks	60	0	60	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	1,546	35	1,511	0.09
Total All Species	145,886	120,879	25,007	8.63

Table 2. Hawaii- and California-based pelagic longline vessels quarterly statistics for fishing within the U.S. EEZ (main Hawaiian Islands, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, or the Pacific Remote Islands) and with all fishing categories (set types), including effort (number of vessels, trips, sets, and hooks set). For each listed species organized by pelagic management unit species (PMUS) groups of billfish, shark, tuna, and other, the table includes the number of fish caught, kept, and released, and the catch per unit effort (CPUE, number per 1000 hooks, calculated as the sum of fish caught divided by the sum of hooks set).

Report Coverage

Time Period 1 October–31 December 2023
 Set Types All sets
 Fishing Area Inside U.S. EEZ

Number of vessels active	118
Number of trips (partial or completed)	227
Number of sets	1,200
Number of hooks set	3,601,723

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
PMUS				
Billfish PMUS				
Blue marlin	296	287	9	0.08
Striped marlin	1,221	1,219	2	0.34
Shortbill spearfish	1,633	1,625	8	0.45
Swordfish	177	118	59	0.05
Other billfishes	23	23	0	0.01
Total	3,350	3,272	78	0.93
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	5,101	0	5,101	1.42
Mako sharks	91	1	90	0.03
Thresher sharks	314	0	314	0.09
Oceanic whitetip shark	31	0	31	0.01
Silky shark	14	0	14	0.00
Total	5,551	1	5,550	1.54
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	809	801	8	0.22
Bigeye tuna	6,919	6,837	82	1.92
Yellowfin tuna	5,800	5,645	155	1.61
Bluefin tuna	0	0	0	0.00
Skipjack tuna	413	410	3	0.11
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00
Total	13,941	13,693	248	3.87
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	2,763	2,740	23	0.77
Moonfish	65	65	0	0.02
Wahoo	460	460	0	0.13
Oilfish	531	428	103	0.15
Pomfret	1,790	1,777	13	0.50
Total	5,609	5,470	139	1.56
Total PMUS	28,451	22,436	6,015	7.90
Non-PMUS Sharks	9	0	9	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	538	10	528	0.15
Total All Species	28,989	22,446	6,543	8.05

Table 3. Hawaii- and California-based pelagic longline vessels quarterly statistics for fishing outside the U.S. EEZ and with all fishing categories (set types), including effort (number of vessels, trips, sets, and hooks set). For each listed species organized by pelagic management unit species (PMUS) groups of billfish, shark, tuna, and other, the table includes the number of fish caught, kept, and released, and the catch per unit effort (CPUE, number per 1000 hooks, calculated as the sum of fish caught divided by the sum of hooks set).

Report Coverage		Number of vessels active		
Time Period	1 October–31 December 2023	140		
Set Types	All sets	Number of trips (partial or completed) 411		
Fishing Area	Outside U.S. EEZ	Number of sets 4,416		
		Number of hooks set 13,301,979		

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
PMUS				
Billfish PMUS				
Blue marlin	1,195	1,189	6	0.09
Striped marlin	1,259	1,254	5	0.09
Shortbill spearfish	3,247	3,180	67	0.24
Swordfish	1,410	1,259	151	0.11
Other billfishes	183	179	4	0.01
Total	7,294	7,061	233	0.55
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	14,123	0	14,123	1.06
Mako sharks	334	5	329	0.03
Thresher sharks	1,137	5	1,132	0.09
Oceanic whitetip shark	83	0	83	0.01
Silky shark	34	0	34	0.00
Total	15,711	10	15,701	1.18
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	4,760	4,684	76	0.36
Bigeye tuna	31,805	31,242	563	2.39
Yellowfin tuna	31,215	30,733	482	2.35
Bluefin tuna	4	4	0	0.00
Skipjack tuna	1,076	1,053	23	0.08
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00
Total	68,860	67,716	1,144	5.18
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	9,700	9,601	99	0.73
Moonfish	790	788	2	0.06
Wahoo	3,937	3,925	12	0.30
Oilfish	1,334	1,103	231	0.10
Pomfret	8,263	8,204	59	0.62
Total	24,024	23,621	403	1.81
Total PMUS	115,889	98,408	17,481	8.71
Non-PMUS Sharks	51	0	51	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	1,008	25	983	0.08
Total All Species	116,897	98,433	18,464	8.79

Table 4. Hawaii- and California-based pelagic longline vessels quarterly statistics for all fishing areas and with shallow set type, including effort (number of vessels, trips, sets, and hooks set). For each listed species organized by pelagic management unit species (PMUS) groups of billfish, shark, tuna, and other, the table includes the number of fish caught, kept, and released, and the catch per unit effort (CPUE, number per 1000 hooks, calculated as the sum of fish caught divided by the sum of hooks set).

Report Coverage		Number of vessels active		
Time Period	1 October–31 December 2023	8		
Set Types	Shallow sets	Number of trips (partial or completed) 12		
Fishing Area	All Areas	Number of sets 85		
		Number of hooks set 127,136		

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
PMUS				
Billfish PMUS				
Blue marlin	3	2	1	0.02
Striped marlin	3	2	1	0.02
Shortbill spearfish	0	0	0	0.00
Swordfish	666	600	66	5.24
Other billfishes	0	0	0	0.00
Total	672	604	68	5.29
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	1,112	0	1,112	8.75
Mako sharks	83	0	83	0.65
Thresher sharks	0	0	0	0.00
Oceanic whitetip shark	0	0	0	0.00
Silky shark	0	0	0	0.00
Total	1,195	0	1,195	9.40
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	200	169	31	1.57
Bigeye tuna	17	16	1	0.13
Yellowfin tuna	51	42	9	0.40
Bluefin tuna	1	1	0	0.01
Skipjack tuna	0	0	0	0.00
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00
Total	269	228	41	2.12
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	3	3	0	0.02
Moonfish	3	3	0	0.02
Wahoo	0	0	0	0.00
Oilfish	10	6	4	0.08
Pomfret	0	0	0	0.00
Total	16	12	4	0.13
Total PMUS	2,152	844	1,308	16.93
Non-PMUS Sharks	0	0	0	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	0	0	0	0.00
Total All Species	2,152	844	1,308	16.93

Table 5. Hawaii- and California-based pelagic longline vessels quarterly statistics for all fishing areas and with deep set type, including effort (number of vessels, trips, sets, and hooks set). For each listed species organized by pelagic management unit species (PMUS) groups of billfish, shark, tuna, and other, the table includes the number of fish caught, kept, and released, and the catch per unit effort (CPUE, number per 1000 hooks, calculated as the sum of fish caught divided by the sum of hooks set).

Report Coverage		Number of vessels active		
Time Period	1 October–31 December 2023	140		
Set Types	Deep sets	Number of trips (partial or completed) 447		
Fishing Area	All Areas	Number of sets 5,531		
		Number of hooks set 16,776,566		

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
PMUS				
Billfish PMUS				
Blue marlin	1,488	1,474	14	0.09
Striped marlin	2,477	2,471	6	0.15
Shortbill spearfish	4,880	4,805	75	0.29
Swordfish	921	777	144	0.05
Other billfishes	206	202	4	0.01
Total	9,972	9,729	243	0.59
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	18,112	0	18,112	1.08
Mako sharks	342	6	336	0.02
Thresher sharks	1,451	5	1,446	0.09
Oceanic whitetip shark	114	0	114	0.01
Silky shark	48	0	48	0.00
Total	20,067	11	20,056	1.20
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	5,369	5,316	53	0.32
Bigeye tuna	38,707	38,063	644	2.31
Yellowfin tuna	36,964	36,336	628	2.20
Bluefin tuna	3	3	0	0.00
Skipjack tuna	1,489	1,463	26	0.09
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00
Total	82,532	81,181	1,351	4.92
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	12,460	12,338	122	0.74
Moonfish	852	850	2	0.05
Wahoo	4,397	4,385	12	0.26
Oilfish	1,855	1,525	330	0.11
Pomfret	10,053	9,981	72	0.60
Total	29,617	29,079	538	1.77
Total PMUS	142,188	120,000	22,188	8.48
Non-PMUS Sharks	60	0	60	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	1,546	35	1,511	0.09
Total All Species	143,734	120,035	23,699	8.57