

**The Hawaii - California Pelagic Longline Vessels
Semi-annual Report
1 July–31 December 2023¹**

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The Hawaii - California pelagic longline logbook report for the second half of 2023 (1 July–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 second half of 2023 (1 July–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 semi-annual 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			147
Time Period	1 July–31 December 2023	Number of trips (partial or completed)			850
Set Types	All sets	Number of sets			11,144
Fishing Area	All Areas	Number of hooks set			33,569,210

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
PMUS				
Billfish PMUS				
Blue marlin	2,395	2,372	23	0.07
Striped marlin	3,046	3,035	11	0.09
Shortbill spearfish	7,573	7,456	117	0.23
Swordfish	2,468	2,238	230	0.07
Other billfishes	332	328	4	0.01
Total	15,814	15,429	385	0.47
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	41,481	0	41,481	1.24
Mako sharks	815	15	800	0.02
Thresher sharks	2,154	5	2,149	0.06
Oceanic whitetip shark	201	0	201	0.01
Silky shark	81	0	81	0.00
Total	44,732	20	44,712	1.33
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	20,272	17,785	2,487	0.60
Bigeye tuna	77,581	76,554	1,027	2.31
Yellowfin tuna	50,351	49,515	836	1.50
Bluefin tuna	7	7	0	0.00
Skipjack tuna	2,279	2,249	30	0.07
Other tunas	2	0	2	0.00
Total	150,492	146,110	4,382	4.48
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	31,027	30,640	387	0.92
Moonfish	2,622	2,612	10	0.08
Wahoo	11,590	11,543	47	0.35
Oilfish	3,012	2,412	600	0.09
Pomfret	17,467	17,371	96	0.52
Total	65,718	64,578	1,140	1.96
Total PMUS	276,756	226,137	50,619	8.24
Non-PMUS Sharks	96	0	96	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	3,493	110	3,383	0.10
Total All Species	280,249	226,247	54,002	8.35

Table 2. Hawaii- and California-based pelagic longline vessels semi-annual 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 July–31 December 2023
 Set Types All sets
 Fishing Area Inside U.S. EEZ

Number of vessels active	133
Number of trips (partial or completed)	382
Number of sets	1,896
Number of hooks set	5,645,289

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
PMUS				
Billfish PMUS				
Blue marlin	400	391	9	0.07
Striped marlin	1,275	1,273	2	0.23
Shortbill spearfish	1,914	1,904	10	0.34
Swordfish	241	179	62	0.04
Other billfishes	29	29	0	0.01
Total	3,859	3,776	83	0.68
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	7,908	0	7,908	1.40
Mako sharks	128	1	127	0.02
Thresher sharks	399	0	399	0.07
Oceanic whitetip shark	52	0	52	0.01
Silky shark	20	0	20	0.00
Total	8,507	1	8,506	1.51
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	1,044	1,036	8	0.18
Bigeye tuna	9,051	8,936	115	1.60
Yellowfin tuna	8,024	7,843	181	1.42
Bluefin tuna	0	0	0	0.00
Skipjack tuna	581	576	5	0.10
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00
Total	18,700	18,391	309	3.31
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	3,349	3,317	32	0.59
Moonfish	130	130	0	0.02
Wahoo	1,605	1,599	6	0.28
Oilfish	675	555	120	0.12
Pomfret	2,656	2,642	14	0.47
Total	8,415	8,243	172	1.49
Total PMUS	39,481	30,411	9,070	6.99
Non-PMUS Sharks	12	0	12	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	934	33	901	0.17
Total All Species	40,415	30,444	9,971	7.16

Table 3. Hawaii- and California-based pelagic longline vessels semi-annual 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 July–31 December 2023	145		
Set Types	All sets	782		
Fishing Area	Outside U.S. EEZ	9,248		
		27,923,921		

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
PMUS				
Billfish PMUS				
Blue marlin	1,995	1,981	14	0.07
Striped marlin	1,771	1,762	9	0.06
Shortbill spearfish	5,659	5,552	107	0.20
Swordfish	2,227	2,059	168	0.08
Other billfishes	303	299	4	0.01
Total	11,955	11,653	302	0.43
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	33,573	0	33,573	1.20
Mako sharks	687	14	673	0.02
Thresher sharks	1,755	5	1,750	0.06
Oceanic whitetip shark	149	0	149	0.01
Silky shark	61	0	61	0.00
Total	36,225	19	36,206	1.30
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	19,228	16,749	2,479	0.69
Bigeye tuna	68,530	67,618	912	2.45
Yellowfin tuna	42,327	41,672	655	1.52
Bluefin tuna	7	7	0	0.00
Skipjack tuna	1,698	1,673	25	0.06
Other tunas	2	0	2	0.00
Total	131,792	127,719	4,073	4.72
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	27,678	27,323	355	0.99
Moonfish	2,492	2,482	10	0.09
Wahoo	9,985	9,944	41	0.36
Oilfish	2,337	1,857	480	0.08
Pomfret	14,811	14,729	82	0.53
Total	57,303	56,335	968	2.05
Total PMUS	237,275	195,726	41,549	8.50
Non-PMUS Sharks	84	0	84	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	2,559	77	2,482	0.09
Total All Species	239,834	195,803	44,031	8.59

Table 4. Hawaii- and California-based pelagic longline vessels semi-annual 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 July–31 December 2023	9		
Set Types	Shallow sets	13		
Fishing Area	All Areas	99		
		143,206		

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	12	11	1	0.08
Shortbill spearfish	2	2	0	0.01
Swordfish	745	675	70	5.20
Other billfishes	0	0	0	0.00
Total	762	690	72	5.32
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	1,231	0	1,231	8.60
Mako sharks	93	0	93	0.65
Thresher sharks	1	0	1	0.01
Oceanic whitetip shark	1	0	1	0.01
Silky shark	0	0	0	0.00
Total	1,326	0	1,326	9.26
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	200	169	31	1.40
Bigeye tuna	21	20	1	0.15
Yellowfin tuna	58	49	9	0.41
Bluefin tuna	1	1	0	0.01
Skipjack tuna	0	0	0	0.00
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00
Total	280	239	41	1.96
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	7	7	0	0.05
Moonfish	3	3	0	0.02
Wahoo	0	0	0	0.00
Oilfish	19	8	11	0.13
Pomfret	1	0	1	0.01
Total	30	18	12	0.21
Total PMUS	2,398	947	1,451	16.75
Non-PMUS Sharks	0	0	0	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	2	0	2	0.01
Total All Species	2,400	947	1,453	16.76

Table 5. Hawaii- and California-based pelagic longline vessels semi-annual 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 July–31 December 2023	147		
Set Types	Deep sets	Number of trips (partial or completed) 838		
Fishing Area	All Areas	Number of sets 11,045		
		Number of hooks set 33,426,004		

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
PMUS				
Billfish PMUS				
Blue marlin	2,392	2,370	22	0.07
Striped marlin	3,034	3,024	10	0.09
Shortbill spearfish	7,571	7,454	117	0.23
Swordfish	1,723	1,563	160	0.05
Other billfishes	332	328	4	0.01
Total	15,052	14,739	313	0.45
Shark PMUS				
Blue shark	40,250	0	40,250	1.20
Mako sharks	722	15	707	0.02
Thresher sharks	2,153	5	2,148	0.06
Oceanic whitetip shark	200	0	200	0.01
Silky shark	81	0	81	0.00
Total	43,406	20	43,386	1.30
Tuna PMUS				
Albacore	20,072	17,616	2,456	0.60
Bigeye tuna	77,560	76,534	1,026	2.32
Yellowfin tuna	50,293	49,466	827	1.50
Bluefin tuna	6	6	0	0.00
Skipjack tuna	2,279	2,249	30	0.07
Other tunas	2	0	2	0.00
Total	150,212	145,871	4,341	4.49
Other PMUS				
Mahimahi	31,020	30,633	387	0.93
Moonfish	2,619	2,609	10	0.08
Wahoo	11,590	11,543	47	0.35
Oilfish	2,993	2,404	589	0.09
Pomfret	17,466	17,371	95	0.52
Total	65,688	64,560	1,128	1.97
Total PMUS	274,358	225,190	49,168	8.21
Non-PMUS Sharks	96	0	96	0.00
Total Non-PMUS	3,491	110	3,381	0.10
Total All Species	277,849	225,300	52,549	8.31