

**The Hawaii - California Pelagic Longline Vessels  
Quarterly Report  
1 January–31 March 2023<sup>1</sup>**

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The Hawaii - California pelagic longline logbook report for the first quarter of 2023 (1 January–31 March; 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 ( $\geq$ 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>

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<sup>1</sup>Data reported by fishers in electronic and paper logs were queried for the first quarter of 2023 (1 January–31 March) 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 January–31 March 2023	145		
Set Types	All sets	Number of trips (partial or completed) 481		
Fishing Area	All Areas	Number of sets 5,797		
		Number of hooks set 16,329,977		

  

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
<b>PMUS</b>				
<b>Billfish PMUS</b>				
Blue marlin	1,500	1,495	5	0.09
Striped marlin	2,212	2,196	16	0.14
Shortbill spearfish	4,439	4,425	14	0.27
Swordfish	6,648	6,449	199	0.41
Other billfishes	94	93	1	0.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,893</b>	<b>14,658</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>0.91</b>
<b>Shark PMUS</b>				
Blue shark	20,050	0	20,050	1.23
Mako sharks	915	2	913	0.06
Thresher sharks	2,336	6	2,330	0.14
Oceanic whitetip shark	77	0	77	0.00
Silky shark	45	0	45	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>23,423</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>23,415</b>	<b>1.43</b>
<b>Tuna PMUS</b>				
Albacore	5,432	5,310	122	0.33
Bigeye tuna	43,623	43,287	336	2.67
Yellowfin tuna	20,587	20,255	332	1.26
Bluefin tuna	8	6	2	0.00
Skipjack tuna	1,890	1,876	14	0.12
Other tunas	2	0	2	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>71,542</b>	<b>70,734</b>	<b>808</b>	<b>4.38</b>
<b>Other PMUS</b>				
Mahimahi	5,996	5,977	19	0.37
Moonfish	937	924	13	0.06
Wahoo	3,734	3,708	26	0.23
Oilfish	2,558	1,958	600	0.16
Pomfret	6,139	6,093	46	0.38
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,364</b>	<b>18,660</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>1.19</b>
<b>Total PMUS</b>	<b>129,222</b>	<b>104,060</b>	<b>25,162</b>	<b>7.91</b>
Non-PMUS Sharks	119	0	119	0.01
<b>Total Non-PMUS</b>	<b>1,603</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>Total All Species</b>	<b>130,825</b>	<b>104,069</b>	<b>26,756</b>	<b>8.01</b>

**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 January–31 March 2023  
 Set Types All sets  
 Fishing Area Inside U.S. EEZ

Number of vessels active	116
Number of trips (partial or completed)	240
Number of sets	1,544
Number of hooks set	4,501,869

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
<b>PMUS</b>				
<b>Billfish PMUS</b>				
Blue marlin	435	435	0	0.10
Striped marlin	1,074	1,071	3	0.24
Shortbill spearfish	1,639	1,636	3	0.36
Swordfish	135	131	4	0.03
Other billfishes	35	35	0	0.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,318</b>	<b>3,308</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0.74</b>
<b>Shark PMUS</b>				
Blue shark	4,880	0	4,880	1.08
Mako sharks	97	0	97	0.02
Thresher sharks	368	0	368	0.08
Oceanic whitetip shark	33	0	33	0.01
Silky shark	13	0	13	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,391</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,391</b>	<b>1.20</b>
<b>Tuna PMUS</b>				
Albacore	339	339	0	0.08
Bigeye tuna	9,576	9,504	72	2.13
Yellowfin tuna	5,022	4,950	72	1.12
Bluefin tuna	0	0	0	0.00
Skipjack tuna	541	531	10	0.12
Other tunas	2	0	2	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,480</b>	<b>15,324</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>3.44</b>
<b>Other PMUS</b>				
Mahimahi	833	832	1	0.19
Moonfish	89	89	0	0.02
Wahoo	537	537	0	0.12
Oilfish	812	623	189	0.18
Pomfret	1,002	991	11	0.22
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,273</b>	<b>3,072</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>0.73</b>
<b>Total PMUS</b>	<b>27,462</b>	<b>21,704</b>	<b>5,758</b>	<b>6.10</b>
Non-PMUS Sharks	43	0	43	0.01
<b>Total Non-PMUS</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>0.11</b>
<b>Total All Species</b>	<b>27,958</b>	<b>21,710</b>	<b>6,248</b>	<b>6.21</b>

**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 January–31 March 2023	143		
Set Types	All sets	421		
Fishing Area	Outside U.S. EEZ	4,253		
		11,828,108		

  

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
<b>PMUS</b>				
<b>Billfish PMUS</b>				
Blue marlin	1,065	1,060	5	0.09
Striped marlin	1,138	1,125	13	0.10
Shortbill spearfish	2,800	2,789	11	0.24
Swordfish	6,513	6,318	195	0.55
Other billfishes	59	58	1	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,575</b>	<b>11,350</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>0.98</b>
<b>Shark PMUS</b>				
Blue shark	15,170	0	15,170	1.28
Mako sharks	818	2	816	0.07
Thresher sharks	1,968	6	1,962	0.17
Oceanic whitetip shark	44	0	44	0.00
Silky shark	32	0	32	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,032</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>18,024</b>	<b>1.52</b>
<b>Tuna PMUS</b>				
Albacore	5,093	4,971	122	0.43
Bigeye tuna	34,047	33,783	264	2.88
Yellowfin tuna	15,565	15,305	260	1.32
Bluefin tuna	8	6	2	0.00
Skipjack tuna	1,349	1,345	4	0.11
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>56,062</b>	<b>55,410</b>	<b>652</b>	<b>4.74</b>
<b>Other PMUS</b>				
Mahimahi	5,163	5,145	18	0.44
Moonfish	848	835	13	0.07
Wahoo	3,197	3,171	26	0.27
Oilfish	1,746	1,335	411	0.15
Pomfret	5,137	5,102	35	0.43
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,091</b>	<b>15,588</b>	<b>503</b>	<b>1.36</b>
<b>Total PMUS</b>	<b>101,760</b>	<b>82,356</b>	<b>19,404</b>	<b>8.60</b>
Non-PMUS Sharks	76	0	76	0.01
<b>Total Non-PMUS</b>	<b>1,107</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1,104</b>	<b>0.09</b>
<b>Total All Species</b>	<b>102,867</b>	<b>82,359</b>	<b>20,508</b>	<b>8.70</b>

**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			20
Time Period	1 January–31 March 2023	Number of trips (partial or completed)			46
Set Types	Shallow sets	Number of sets			509
Fishing Area	All Areas	Number of hooks set			624,351

  

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
<b>PMUS</b>				
<b>Billfish PMUS</b>				
Blue marlin	4	4	0	0.01
Striped marlin	28	28	0	0.04
Shortbill spearfish	4	4	0	0.01
Swordfish	6,071	5,881	190	9.72
Other billfishes	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,107</b>	<b>5,917</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>9.78</b>
<b>Shark PMUS</b>				
Blue shark	3,765	0	3,765	6.03
Mako sharks	534	0	534	0.86
Thresher sharks	11	0	11	0.02
Oceanic whitetip shark	0	0	0	0.00
Silky shark	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,310</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,310</b>	<b>6.90</b>
<b>Tuna PMUS</b>				
Albacore	640	629	11	1.03
Bigeye tuna	542	494	48	0.87
Yellowfin tuna	553	543	10	0.89
Bluefin tuna	4	4	0	0.01
Skipjack tuna	5	5	0	0.01
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,744</b>	<b>1,675</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>2.79</b>
<b>Other PMUS</b>				
Mahimahi	76	76	0	0.12
Moonfish	4	4	0	0.01
Wahoo	1	1	0	0.00
Oilfish	41	6	35	0.07
Pomfret	4	4	0	0.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0.20</b>
<b>Total PMUS</b>	<b>12,287</b>	<b>7,683</b>	<b>4,604</b>	<b>19.68</b>
Non-PMUS Sharks	1	0	1	0.00
<b>Total Non-PMUS</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total All Species</b>	<b>12,290</b>	<b>7,683</b>	<b>4,607</b>	<b>19.68</b>

**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 January–31 March 2023	135		
Set Types	Deep sets	Number of trips (partial or completed) 435		
Fishing Area	All Areas	Number of sets 5,288		
		Number of hooks set 15,705,626		

  

Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks
<b>PMUS</b>				
<b>Billfish PMUS</b>				
Blue marlin	1,496	1,491	5	0.10
Striped marlin	2,184	2,168	16	0.14
Shortbill spearfish	4,435	4,421	14	0.28
Swordfish	577	568	9	0.04
Other billfishes	94	93	1	0.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,786</b>	<b>8,741</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>0.56</b>
<b>Shark PMUS</b>				
Blue shark	16,285	0	16,285	1.04
Mako sharks	381	2	379	0.02
Thresher sharks	2,325	6	2,319	0.15
Oceanic whitetip shark	77	0	77	0.00
Silky shark	45	0	45	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,113</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>19,105</b>	<b>1.22</b>
<b>Tuna PMUS</b>				
Albacore	4,792	4,681	111	0.31
Bigeye tuna	43,081	42,793	288	2.74
Yellowfin tuna	20,034	19,712	322	1.28
Bluefin tuna	4	2	2	0.00
Skipjack tuna	1,885	1,871	14	0.12
Other tunas	2	0	2	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,798</b>	<b>69,059</b>	<b>739</b>	<b>4.44</b>
<b>Other PMUS</b>				
Mahimahi	5,920	5,901	19	0.38
Moonfish	933	920	13	0.06
Wahoo	3,733	3,707	26	0.24
Oilfish	2,517	1,952	565	0.16
Pomfret	6,135	6,089	46	0.39
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,238</b>	<b>18,569</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>1.22</b>
<b>Total PMUS</b>	<b>116,935</b>	<b>96,377</b>	<b>20,558</b>	<b>7.45</b>
Non-PMUS Sharks	118	0	118	0.01
<b>Total Non-PMUS</b>	<b>1,600</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1,591</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>Total All Species</b>	<b>118,535</b>	<b>96,386</b>	<b>22,149</b>	<b>7.55</b>