The American Samoa pelagic longline fishery targeting tunas has been monitored under a mandatory observer program since March 2006. Beginning April 2006, branch personnel have conducted daily shoreside dock rounds in American Samoa to determine which fishing vessels are in port. These dock rounds are used to obtain an estimate of fishing effort on a real-time basis by assuming that a vessel is fishing when it is absent from the harbor. This report is used to ensure prompt dissemination of American Samoa Longline Observer Data and may be revised after final data editing has been completed. The following table summarizes the percent observer coverage for vessel departures, vessels arriving with observers, and protected species interactions for vessels arriving with observers from July 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012.

Vessel Departures - 3rd & 4th Quarters (July 1, 2012 - December 31, 2012)
Departures ----------------------------------------------- 72
Departures with observers -------------------------------------- 15
Observer coverage 3rd & 4th quarters ----------------------------- 20.8%

Vessels Arriving with Observers - 3rd & 4th Quarters
Departures with observers in 3rd & 4th quarters ---------------------- 15
Observers departing in 2nd quarter arriving 3rd quarter ------------ 1
Observers departing in 4th quarter arriving 1st quarter 2013 ------- 4
Total vessels arriving with observers - 3rd & 4th quarters---------- 12

Protected Species Interactions - 3rd & 4th Quarters
Vessels arriving with observers - 3rd & 4th quarters ---------------- 12
Trips with turtle interactions ------------------------------------ 1
Trips without turtle interactions --------------------------------- 11

Trips with marine mammal interactions ---------------------------- 0
Trips without marine mammal interactions -------------------------- 12

Trips with seabird interactions ----------------------------------- 0
Trips without seabird interactions ------------------------------- 12

Total Sea Turtle Interactions ------------------------------------- 2
Released dead
Olive Ridley ----------------------------------------------- 1
Released injured
Leatherback ----------------------------------------------- 1

Total Marine Mammal Interactions ------------------------------- 0

Total Seabird Interactions -------------------------------------- 0

Total Sets 378
Total Hooks Retrieved 1,051,167
Turtles per 1,000 Hooks 0.002
Seabirds per 1,000 Hooks 0.000
Marine Mammals per 1,000 Hooks 0.000

Note: The percent of observer coverage is based on vessel departures. Protected species interactions are based on vessel arrivals. For the purpose of this report, an animal that becomes hooked or entangled is an interaction.