

**HAWAII LONGLINE OBSERVER PROGRAM
QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT
OCTOBER 1, 1997 - DECEMBER 31, 1997**

Observer Management
Southwest Region
National Marine Fisheries Service

The Hawaii longline fishery targeting swordfish and tunas has been monitored under a mandatory observer program since February 1994. Beginning March 1994, branch personnel have conducted daily shoreside dock rounds in Honolulu 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. Approximately 301 vessels departed port between October 1, 1997, and December 31, 1997, 12 of which carried observers, representing about 4.0% observer coverage. The following table summarizes protected species interactions for all observed trips which returned during fourth quarter 1997, including one which departed in the third quarter of the year. Three trips departing, but not returning, this quarter will be included in the next quarterly report.

PROTECTED SPECIES ENCOUNTERS - OBSERVED RESULTS

Completed Trips _____>	10
Trips with Turtles _____>	2
Trips without Turtles _____>	8
Sea Turtle Encounters _____>	4
Released Alive	
Leatherback _____>	4
Seabird Encounters _____>	2
Released Dead	
Albatross	
Black-footed _____>	1
Laysan _____>	1
Total Sets _____>	117
Total Hooks Retrieved _____>	158,196
Turtles per 1,000 Hooks _____>	0.025