

**HAWAII LONGLINE OBSERVER PROGRAM
 QUARTERLY STATUS REPORT
 JANUARY 1, 1998 - MARCH 31, 1998**

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 324 vessels departed port between January 1, 1998, and March 31, 1998, 10 of which carried observers, representing about 3.1% observer coverage. The following table summarizes protected species interactions for all observed trips which returned during the first quarter of 1998, including three which departed during the fourth quarter of 1997. Two trips departing, but not returning, this quarter will be included in the next quarterly report.

PROTECTED SPECIES ENCOUNTERS - OBSERVED RESULTS

Completed Trips _____>	11
Trips with Turtles _____>	7
Trips without Turtles _____>	4
 Sea Turtle Encounters _____>	 28
Released Alive	
Green _____>	1
Leatherback _____>	2
Loggerhead _____>	23
Released Dead	
Loggerhead _____>	1
Released, Condition Unknown	
Unid. Hardshell _____>	1
 Marine Mammal Encounters _____>	 1
Released Alive	
Unidentified Whale —>	1
 Seabird Encounters _____>	 76
Released Alive	
Albatross	
Black-footed _____>	6
Laysan _____>	24
Unidentified Bird —>	1
Released Dead	
Albatross	
Black-footed _____>	17
Laysan _____>	26
Released, Condition Unknown	
Albatross	
Black-footed _____>	1
Laysan _____>	1
 Total Sets _____>	 135
Total Hooks Retrieved _____>	149,769
Turtles per 1,000 Hooks _____>	0.187