

PACIFIC ISLANDS REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAM
SHALLOW SET - ANNUAL STATUS REPORT
January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2015
Pacific Islands Regional Office
National Marine Fisheries Service
January 27, 2016

The Hawaii-based pelagic longline fishery targeting swordfish and tunas has been monitored under a mandatory observer program since February 1994. In 2004, the Hawaii swordfish fishery was reopened with restrictions on allowable gear used in the fishery. This report is used to ensure prompt dissemination of Hawaii Swordfish 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 during 2015.

Vessel Departures - 2015 (January 1, 2015 - December 31, 2015)	
Departures	66
Departures with observers	66
Observer coverage 2015	100.0%
Vessels Arriving with Observers - 2015	
Departures with observers in 2015	66
Observers departing in 2014 arriving in 2015	7
Observers departing in 2015 arriving in 2016	6
Total vessels arriving with observers - 2015	67
Protected Species Interactions - 2015	
Vessels arriving with observers - 2015	67
Trips with turtle interactions	20
Trips without turtle interactions	47
Trips with marine mammal interactions	9
Trips without marine mammal interactions	58
Trips with seabird interactions	22
Trips without seabird interactions	45
Total Sea Turtle Interactions	22
Released injured	
Leatherback	6
Loggerhead	15
Olive ridley	1
Total Marine Mammal Interactions	13
Released dead	
Risso's Dolphin	2
Released injured	
Risso's Dolphin	1
Bottlenose Dolphin	2
Ginkgo-toothed Beaked Whale	1
Humpback Whale	1
Fin Whale	1
Unidentified Pinniped	3 *
Unidentified Sea Lion	2 *
Total Seabird Interactions	86
Released dead	
Laysan Albatross	6
Black-footed Albatross	10
Released injured	
Laysan Albatross	39
Black-footed Albatross	31
Total Sets	1,178
Total Hooks Retrieved	1,286,628
Turtles per 1,000 Hooks	0.017
Seabirds per 1,000 Hooks	0.067
Marine Mammals per 1,000 Hooks	0.010

Note: The percent 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.
* The interactions with pinnipeds, and sea lions occurred off the California coast, outside the EEZ, while fishing under the Hawaii Longline Permit.