

PACIFIC ISLANDS REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAM
AMERICAN SAMOA LONGLINE
SEMIANNUAL STATUS REPORT
July 01, 2017- December 31, 2017
Pacific Islands Regional Office
National Marine Fisheries Service
February 7, 2018

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, protected species interactions, and set and hook unit effort for vessels arriving with observers from July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

Vessel Departures - 3rd & 4th Quarters (July 1, 2017 - December 31, 2017)	
Departures -----	35
Departures with observers -----	7
Observer coverage 3rd & 4th quarters -----	20.0%
 Vessels Arriving with Observers - 3rd & 4th Quarters	
Departures with observers in 3rd & 4th quarters -----	7
Observers departing in 2nd quarter arriving 3rd quarter -----	1
Observers departing in 4th quarter arriving 1st quarter 2018 -----	1
Total vessels arriving with observers - 3rd & 4th quarters -----	7
 Protected Species Interactions - 3rd & 4th Quarters	
Vessels arriving with observers - 3rd & 4th quarters -----	7
Trips with turtle interactions -----	4
Trips without turtle interactions -----	3
 Trips with marine mammal interactions -----	 1
Trips without marine mammal interactions -----	6
 Trips with seabird interactions -----	 0
Trips without seabird interactions -----	7
 Total Sea Turtle Interactions -----	 5
Released dead	
Olive Ridley -----	2
Green -----	2
Released injured	
Leatherback -----	1
 Total Marine Mammal Interactions -----	 1
Released injured	
False Killer Whale -----	1
 Total Seabird Interactions -----	 0
 Total Sets	 272
Total Hooks Retrieved	763,279
Turtles per 1,000 Hooks	0.007
Seabirds per 1,000 Hooks	0.000
Marine Mammals per 1,000 Hooks	0.001

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.