

**PACIFIC ISLANDS REGIONAL OBSERVER PROGRAM  
AMERICAN SAMOA LONGLINE FISHERY - SEMIANNUAL STATUS REPORT**

July 1 - December 31, 2018  
Pacific Islands Regional Office  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
March 12, 2019

---

The National Marine Fisheries Service monitors the American Samoa pelagic longline fishery (targeting tunas) through a mandatory observer program. This report summarizes data for American Samoa fishing trips. It ensures prompt dissemination of American Samoa longline observer data, and may be revised after final data editing. 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 during the 2nd half of 2018.

**Vessel Departures - 3rd & 4th Quarters (July 1 - December 31, 2018)**

Departures -----	34
Departures with observers -----	7
Observer coverage 3rd & 4th quarters -----	<b>20.6%</b>

**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 2019 -----	3
Total vessels arriving with observers - 3rd & 4th quarters -----	5

**Observed Protected Species Interactions - 3rd & 4th Quarters**

Vessels arriving with observers - 3rd & 4th quarters -----	5
Trips with turtle interactions -----	3
Trips without turtle interactions -----	2
Trips with marine mammal interactions -----	0
Trips without marine mammal interactions -----	5
Trips with seabird interactions -----	0
Trips without seabird interactions -----	5

<b>Total Sea Turtle Interactions -----</b>	<b>6</b>
Released dead	
Olive Ridley -----	2
Green -----	3
Released injured	
Leatherback -----	1

<b>Total Marine Mammal Interactions -----</b>	<b>0</b>
---	----------

<b>Total Seabird Interactions -----</b>	<b>0</b>
---	----------

<b>Total Sets</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>Total Hooks Retrieved</b>	<b>375,417</b>
<b>Turtles per 1,000 Hooks</b>	<b>0.016</b>
<b>Seabirds per 1,000 Hooks</b>	<b>0.000</b>
<b>Marine Mammals per 1,000 Hooks</b>	<b>0.000</b>

Notes: 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 is hooked or entangled is considered an interaction.