

**PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION OBSERVER PROGRAM
AMERICAN SAMOA LONGLINE – SEMIANNUAL STATUS REPORT
January 1, 2019 – June 30, 2019**

Pacific Islands Regional Office
National Marine Fisheries Service
November 04, 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 1st half of 2019.

Vessel Departures - 1st & 2nd Quarters (January 1, 2019 - June 30, 2019)

Departures -----	24
Departures with observers -----	4
Observer coverage 1st & 2nd quarter -----	16.7%

Vessels Arriving with Observers - 1st & 2nd Quarter

Departures with observers in 1st & 2nd quarter -----	4
Observers departing in 4th quarter arriving 1st quarter 2019-----	3
Observers departing in 2nd quarter arriving 3rd quarter -----	1
Total vessels arriving with observers - 1st & 2nd quarter -----	6

Observed Protected Species Interactions - 1st & 2nd Quarter

Vessels arriving with observers - 1st & 2nd quarter -----	6
Trips with turtle interactions -----	2
Trips without turtle interactions -----	4
Trips with marine mammal interactions -----	1
Trips without marine mammal interactions -----	5
Trips with seabird interactions -----	1
Trips without seabird interactions -----	5

Total Sea Turtle Interactions ----- 3

Released dead	
Green -----	2
Leatherback -----	1

Total Marine Mammal Interactions ----- 1

Released injured	
Striped Dolphin -----	1

Total Seabird Interactions ----- 1

Released dead	
Unidentified Shearwater -----	1

Total Sets 238

Total Hooks Retrieved 667,787

Turtles per 1,000 Hooks 0.004

Seabirds per 1,000 Hooks 0.001

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.