



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa's Annual Report to the Compliance Committee and the Extended Commission of the CCSBT

(Revised as agreed at CC12 following CCSBT 24)

If there are multiple SBT fisheries, with different rules and procedures applying to the different fisheries, it may be easier to complete this template separately for each fishery. Alternatively, please ensure that the information for each fishery is clearly differentiated within the single template.

This template sometimes seeks information on a quota year basis. Those Members/CNMs that have not specified a quota year to the CCSBT (i.e. the EU), should provide the information on a calendar year basis. Within this template, the quota year (or calendar year for those without a quota year) is referred to as the "fishing season". Unless otherwise specified, information should be provided for the most recently completed fishing season. Members and CNMs are encouraged to also provide preliminary information for the current fishing season where the fishing for that season is complete or close to complete.

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| I. Summary of MCS Improvements..... | 2 |
| (1) Improvements achieved in the current fishing season..... | 2 |
| (2) Future planned improvements | 3 |
| (3) Implementation of the common CCSBT definition for the "Attributable SBT Catch" | 3 |
| II. SBT Fishing and MCS Arrangements..... | 3 |
| (1) Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna..... | 3 |
| (2) SBT Towing and transfer to and between farms (farms only) | 11 |
| (3) SBT Transhipment (in port and at sea)..... | 11 |
| (4) Port Inspections of Foreign FVs/CVs with SBT/SBT Products on Board..... | 13 |
| (5) Landings of Domestic Product (from both fishing vessels and farms)..... | 13 |
| (6) SBT Exports..... | 15 |
| (7) SBT Imports | 18 |
| (8) SBT Markets | 19 |
| (9) Other | 19 |
| III. Additional Reporting Requirements..... | 20 |
| (1) Coverage and Type of CDS Audit undertaken..... | 20 |
| (2) Ecologically Related Species..... | 20 |
| (3) Historical SBT Catch (retained and non-retained) | 23 |

I. Summary of MCS Improvements

(1) Improvements achieved in the current fishing season

Provide details of MCS improvements achieved for the current fishing season.

As has been the case during the previous years, South Africa continues to maintain an enhanced Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) enforcement obligations. The South African National Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) hereby register its commitment to do more than is required to meet its compliance obligations. These obligations include, although not limited to, sampling, monitoring, following up, investigations of contraventions, transshipment by vessels in port etc.

All the Fisheries Research vessels and Fisheries Protection vessels (FPV's) of the Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries were operational during the period under review and were utilised in patrols, conducting scientific research Surveys and patrolling the South African ocean in order to ensure the sustainable utilisation of Marine Living Resources. Therefore, DAFF has been able to carry out the necessary vessels patrols to curb the Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing (IUU).

In December 2013 a cabinet decision was taken to the effect that various stake holders work in an integrated and collaborative approach for ocean governance and that included development of management plans for the Oceans and Coastal Areas. This was necessary since South Africa has various agencies responsible for different functions in Ocean Governance. Therefore, the December 2013 Cabinet directive ended a Silos approach which had been employed by the various stake holders. This new approach is referred to as Operation Phakisa Oceans Economy and it has provided the DAFF the much needed impetus in terms of increasing compliance and enforcement efforts.

South Africa has three ports in which foreign fishing vessels may enter for the purpose of landing SBT, transshipment, repairs, bunkering, etc, and inspections are conducted both at sea and on ports. A total of 571 foreign fishing and 83 carrier vessels entered South Africa's Ports in 2017. There were 8 at-sea inspections conducted and 214 in-port inspections. During inspections it was established that the following vessels (Table 1) contravened the South African Marine Living Resources Act, Act No. 18 of 1998.

Table 1 Results of Foreign fishing vessels charged and fined during 2017

| DATE | VESSEL NAME | Flag State | CONTRAVENTION & CONFISCATION | PROSECUTION | OUTCOMES | SETTLEMENT AMOUNT |
|------------|----------------------|-------------|---|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 17/05/2017 | Wakashio Maru 83 | Japan | Exceed declared weight | Docket opened | Plea bargain | R 50 000.00 |
| 19/05/2017 | Feng Fa No. 11 | Taiwan | In possession of sharkfins without permit | Fine | Paid | R 5000.00 |
| 29/06/2017 | Fukuseki Maru No. 15 | Japan | Exceed declared weight of blue shark | Fine | Paid | R 5000.00 |
| 25/10/2017 | Wakashio Maru 128 | Japan | In possession of sharkfins without permit | Docket opened t | Paid | R 5 000.00 |
| 21/12/2017 | Edinburgh | Cook Island | Offloading without a monitor | Fine | Paid | R 5 000.00 |

(2) Future planned improvements

Describe any MCS improvements that are being planned for future fishing seasons and the expected implementation date for such improvements.

There are no major planned improvements projects for the 2018/19 fishing season. It should however be noted that, South Africa is in the process of improving its Vessel Monitoring Systems, which will bring about a more stringent monitoring and surveillance regime by applying the most advanced VMS technologies. In addition, the Cape Town Port of Entry Control Centre will be extended to the Air Border Environment and a third phase will be on the land border post to prevent the illegal export of fish and fish products to South Africa's neighbouring countries. The Border Management Authority (BMA), the authority that will handle all matters involving South Africa's Ports of entry is being established and it will address illegal activities in the border environment. The Border Management Authority Bill was passed through the National Assembly and has been referred to the National Council of Provinces for concurrence.

South Africa has increased its Observer Coverage for the Large Pelagic Longline fishery to 20% for the 2018/19 fishing season.

(3) Implementation of the common CCSBT definition for the “Attributable SBT Catch”

CCSBT 21 agreed on a common definition of the Attributable SBT Catch. Further, it agreed to implement this common definition as soon as practicable, but not later than the 2018 quota year. Members should report on progress on the action points for implementing the Attributable SBT catch as specified in Table 1 at paragraph 53 of the CCSBT 21 report (provided here as Attachment A).

South Africa did not apportion any of its SBT country allocation to Attributable SBT catch during the 2017/18 fishing season.

South Africa's boat based recreational fishing fleet operates along the entire coast including areas of SBT presence. Data from the recreational fishery are scarce as there is no mandatory reporting of catches. There are a number of craft with the capacity to target SBT but thus far there is little indication of SBT catches. Data from tuna-directed fishing competitions from 2000 onwards do not include any SBT among the total of 6684 specimens of tuna and tuna-like species caught. It is likely that SBT become more regularly available in the range of the recreational fleet in the future, as the stock recovers.

To account for possible recreational mortality of SBT among other sources, South Africa has set aside 5 tons of its SBT allocation for the 2018/19 fishing season.

South Africa's domestic legislation prohibits any discarding of dead tuna and only live fish may be returned to the sea.

II. SBT Fishing and MCS Arrangements

(1) Fishing for Southern Bluefin Tuna

(a) Specify the number of vessels that caught SBT in each sector (e.g. authorised commercial longline, authorised commercial purse seine, authorised commercial charter fleet, authorised domestic fleet) during the previous 3 fishing seasons.

| Fishing Season <i>(e.g. 2011/12)</i> | Sector 1 (Domestic Longline Fleet) | Sector 2 (Charter Longline Fleet) | Sector 3 (Domestic Pole-line fleet) |
|--|---|--|--|
| | Number of vessels | Number of vessels | Number of vessels |
| 2015/16 | 10 | 4 | |
| 2016/17 | 10 | 3 | 7 |
| 2017/18 | 11 | 3 | 1 |

(b) Specify the historic national SBT allocation, together with any carry-forward of unfished allocation and the total SBT catch counted against the national allocation (Attributable Catch) during the 3 previous fishing seasons. All figures should be provided in tonnes. Some CCSBT Members use slightly different definitions for the catch that is counted against the allocation, so in the space below the table, clearly define the catch that has been counted against the national allocation:-

| Fishing Season (e.g. 2011/12) | National SBT allocation (t) (excluding carry-forward) | Unfished allocation carried forward to this fishing season (t) | SBT catch counted against the national allocation (t) | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| | | | Sector 1 (Domestic Longline fleet) | | Sector 2 (Charter Longline fleet) | | Sector 3 (Domestic Pole-line fleet) | |
| | | | Domestic allocation | Actual Catch Against Allocation | Domestic allocation | Actual Catch Against Allocation | Domestic allocation | Actual Catch Against Allocation |
| 2015/16 | 40 | | 36.52 | 49.3 | 3.48 | 5.4 | | |
| 2016/17 | 150 | | 106.6 | 47.2 | 23.4 | 14.1 | 20 | 3.2 |
| 2017/18 | 150 | 30 | 141.19 | 122.9 | 18.81 | 24.6 | 20 | 0.14 |

(c) Describe the system used for controlling the level of SBT catch. For ITQ and IQ systems, this should include details on how the catch was allocated to individual companies and/or vessels. For competitive catch systems this should include details of the process for authorising vessels to catch SBT and how the fishery was monitored for determining when to close the fishery. The description provided here should include any operational constraints on effort (both regulatory and voluntary):-

In 2017, the Department allocated the SBT quota to two tuna fisheries in South Africa, the Large Pelagic Longline and the Tuna Pole-line sectors. Given the small SBT quota allocated to South Africa, the two tuna sectors caught the SBT as by-catch. South Africa notified CCSBT of its intention to carry forward unfished SBT allocation from 2016, consequently, South Africa's SBT quota for the 2017 fishing season was 180t. Of this, the Large Pelagic Longline sector was allocated 160t and this was equally divided amongst 50 Rights Holders. The Tuna Pole-line sector was allocated 20 tons and was equally divided only to those Rights Holders that had shown interest in catching the SBT, a total of 42 Rights Holders expressed interest in catching the SBT.

A management provision is made for in the Permit Conditions that, if a right holder has not been actively fishing before or on 31 May 2017, its SBT allocation will be transferred to right holders that have been active in that season. This provision was applicable in the Large Pelagic Longline sector for 2017 fishing season. In addition, the Tuna Pole-line sector was only given up until the 15th of July 2017 to catch and land its entire allocation otherwise it shall be divided equally to the active Rights Holders in the Large Pelagic Longline sector.

The quota in the Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line sectors is managed by monitoring electronic landing summaries as well as landing declarations submitted by Right Holders within two weeks after the vessel has landed. Furthermore, it is managed by monitoring observer reports submitted every five days while observers are at sea as well as Catch Monitoring and Catch Tagging Forms. Lastly, Rights Holders are also required to submit logbooks before the 15th of the following month in which the trip was undertaken. Through this real time monitoring system, when the Department becomes aware that quota is close being fulfilled, it notifies the operators. Once the quota is reached or becomes aware that it has been exceeded, it immediately responds to close the SBT fishery. When this occurs the vessels are required to release all SBT caught after this date and SBT should not be landed. This management provision was evoked in July of 2012, 2013 and in October 2015 and the fishery was closed.

There is 100% inspection and monitoring of all SBT landings.

(d) Provide details of the methods used to monitor catching in the fishery by completing the table below. Details should also be provided of monitoring conducted of fishing vessels when steaming away from the fishing grounds (this does not include towing vessels that are reported in Section 2).

| Monitoring Methods | Description |
|--------------------|---|
| Daily log book | <p><i>Specify:</i></p> <p>i. Whether this was mandatory. If not, specify the % of SBT fishing that was covered:- Mandatory.</p> <p>ii. The level of detail recorded (shot by shot, daily aggregate etc):-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Longline: Date, latitude, longitude, time of start and end set, number of hooks set, reason for set, float line length, branch line length, bait type, observer present (y/n), drift, light stick info, catch by species, weight and number, non-retained species in numbers. ○ Tuna Pole: Date, latitude, longitude (1 x 1 degree), number of crew, gear (Pole, line), catch by species in weight. <p>iii. Whether the effort and catch information collected complied with that specified in the “Characterisation of the SBT Catch” section of the CCSBT Scientific Research Plan (Attachment D of the SC5 report), including both retained and discarded catch. If not, describe the non-compliance:- Although provision is made for this type of information, it is seldom recorded and there is no way to verify the information. The only means of obtaining accurate information on this is through an observer programme, which is in place to collect information from part of the Large Pelagic Longline fishery.</p> <p>iv. What information on ERS was recorded in logbooks:- Bird/turtle mortality and releases of birds, turtles and sharks.</p> <p>v. Who were the log books submitted to¹:- Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF).</p> <p>vi. What was the timeframe and method² for submission:- The pages in the logbook are perforated, which allows the original to be removed immediately after the fishing trip. The original log pages are generally submitted by hand to DAFF. In return DAFF countersigns the logbook to indicate that the catch statistics have been submitted for a particular trip. Right holders are required through permit conditions to submit log books before the 15th of the following month in which the trip was undertaken.</p> <p>vii. The type of checking and verification that was routinely conducted for this information:- Data capturing is checked by a second person to ensure that no typing errors occur when entering the data. The information from logbooks is only estimates and hence they are not used in quota control. Independent landing declarations verified by Fishery Control Officers and Fishery Monitors are used to compare against electronic landing summaries and Catch Monitoring Forms submitted by the fishing industry.</p> <p>viii. Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:- Marine Living Resources Act, (Act No 18 of 1998);</p> |

¹ If the reports are not to be submitted to the Member's or CNM's government fisheries authority, then also specify whether the information will later be sent to the fisheries authority, including how and when that occurs.

² In particular, whether the information is submitted electronically from the vessel.

| | |
|--|--|
| | <p>The Regulations promulgated under the MLRA; General Policy on the Allocation and Management of Fishing Rights: 2013; Policy on the allocation and management of Commercial Fishing Rights in the Large Pelagic Longline Fishery: 2015; The 2017/18 Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line Permit Conditions; Penalties could range from revocation of the right, licence or permit; suspension of the right, licence or permit for a period determined by the Minister; cancellation of the right, licence or permit from a date determined by the Minister; or alter the terms or conditions of the right, licence or permit in the case of serious offences. Section 28 of the MLRA makes provision for sanctions in the event that the holder of a right, licence or permit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) has furnished information in the application for that right, licence or permit, or has submitted any other information required in terms of this Act, which is not true or complete; (b) contravenes or fails to comply with a condition imposed in the right, licence or permit; (c) contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of the Act; (d) is convicted of an offence in terms of the Act or (e) fails to effectively utilise that right, licence or permit. <p><i>ix. Other relevant information³:-</i></p> |
|--|--|

³ Including information on ERS, and comments on the effectiveness of the controls or monitoring tools and any plans for further improvement.

| | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|----------------|-------------------|--|-------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|
| <p><i>Additional reporting methods (such as real time monitoring programs)</i></p> | <p><i>If multiple reporting methods exists (e.g. daily, weekly and/or month SBT catch reporting, reporting of tags and SBT measurements, reporting of ERS interactions etc), create a separate row of in this table for each method. Then, for each method, specify:</i></p> <p><i>i. Whether this was mandatory. If not, specify the % of SBT fishing that was covered:-</i> Mandatory.</p> <p><i>ii. The information that was recorded (including whether it relates to SBT or ERS):-</i> All caught and landed species including SBT.</p> <p><i>iii. Who the reports were submitted to and by whom (e.g. Vessel Master, the Fishing Company etc)¹:-</i> Rights Holders submits the Reports to DAFF.</p> <p><i>iv. What was the timeframe and method² for submission:-</i> Within two weeks after landing.</p> <p><i>v. The type of checking and verification that was routinely conducted for this information:-</i> Compared with landing declarations verified by Fishery Control Officers/ Fishery Monitors and occasionally checked with logbooks and Catch Monitoring Forms submitted by the fishing industry.</p> <p><i>vi. Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-</i> Marine Living Resources Act, (Act No 18 of 1998); The Regulations promulgated under the MLRA; General Policy on the Allocation and Management of Fishing Rights: 2013; Policy on the allocation and management of Commercial Fishing Rights in the Large Pelagic Longline Fishery: 2015; The 2017/18 Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line Permit Conditions; Penalties could range from revocation of the right, licence or permit; suspension of the right, licence or permit for a period determined by the Minister; cancellation of the right, licence or permit from a date determined by the Minister; or alter the terms or conditions of the right, licence or permit in the case of serious offences. Section 28 of the MLRA makes provision for sanctions in the event that the holder of a right, licence or permit:</p> <p>(a) has furnished information in the application for that right, licence or permit, or has submitted any other information required in terms of this Act, which is not true or complete;</p> <p>(b) contravenes or fails to comply with a condition imposed in the right, licence or permit;</p> <p>(c) contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of the Act;</p> <p>(d) is convicted of an offence in terms of the Act or</p> <p>(e) fails to effectively utilise that right, licence or permit.</p> <p><i>vii. Other relevant information³:-</i></p> | | | | | | | |
| <p><i>Scientific Observers</i></p> | <p><i>Specify:</i></p> <p><i>i. The percentage of the SBT catch and effort observed and the total number of days that observers were actually deployed for in the three previous seasons for each sector (e.g. longline, purse seine, commercial charter fleet, domestic fleet). The unit of effort should be hooks, sets and tows for longline, purse seine and towing respectively:-</i></p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 1955 1343 2049"> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1955 507 2049">Fishing Season</td> <td data-bbox="507 1955 671 2049">Domestic Longline</td> <td data-bbox="671 1955 783 2049"></td> <td data-bbox="783 1955 963 2049">Charter Longline</td> <td data-bbox="963 1955 1075 2049"></td> <td data-bbox="1075 1955 1225 2049">Domestic Tuna Pole-line</td> <td data-bbox="1225 1955 1343 2049"></td> </tr> </table> | Fishing Season | Domestic Longline | | Charter Longline | | Domestic Tuna Pole-line | |
| Fishing Season | Domestic Longline | | Charter Longline | | Domestic Tuna Pole-line | | | |

| (e.g. 2011/12) | % effort obs. | % catch obs. | Obs. days deployed | % effort obs. | % catch obs. | Obs. days deployed | % effort obs. | % catch obs. | Obs. days deployed |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------|
| 2015/16 | 0.3% | 1% | 129 | 70.4% | 100% | 466 | | | |
| 2016/17 | 0.6% | 0.5% | 42 | 62% | 100% | 299 | | | |
| 2017/18 | 4.6% | 5.7% | 158 | 100% | 100% | 336 | | | |

Only sets that caught SBT are included in terms of % observed effort

ii. *The system used for comparisons between observer data and other catch monitoring data in order to verify the catch data:-*
Observer data is routinely used to validate landing declarations, but the main purpose of the observer programme is to collect length frequency data and information on by-catch and incidental catch, and discards. The observer programme is also plays an important role to ensure compliance with bird mitigation measures and record any transgressions of permit conditions.

iii. *Excluding the coverage, specify whether the observer program complied with the CCSBT Scientific Observer Program Standards. If not, describe the non-compliance. Also indicate whether there was any exchange of observers between countries:-*
The observer programme complies with the CCSBT Scientific Observer Program Standards.
There has been no exchange of observers between countries.

iv. *What information on ERS was recorded by observers:-*
Observations of bird mitigation measures used.
Bird mortality by species.
Discards and releases by species.
Length frequencies.

v. *Who were the observer reports submitted to:-*
DAFF

vi. *Timeframe for submission of observer reports:-*
Within two weeks of the disembarking of the observer. Observers are also debriefed by the accredited observer company and DAFF.

vii. *Other relevant information (including plans for further improvement – in particular to reach coverage of 10% of the effort):-*
Permit Conditions makes it mandatory for Right Holders to carry one or more scientific observers on board its vessel for a minimum of a single trip per quarter during the fishing season.

VMS
The items of "ii" are required in association with the Resolution on establishing the CCSBT Vessel

Specify:
i. *Whether a mandatory VMS for SBT vessels that complies with CCSBT's VMS resolution was in operation. If not, provide details of non-compliance and plans for further improvement:-*
Mandatory and has been in operation since 1998. VMS complies with CCSBT's VMS Resolutions. In addition, charter vessels are required to report to the Department's national VMS centre.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <p>Monitoring System</p> | <p>ii. For the most recently completed fishing season, specify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of its flag vessels on the CCSBT Authorised Vessel List that were required to report to a National VMS system:- Twenty two (22) domestic longline, forty one (41) domestic pole-line and three (3) charter longline vessels in 2017 were required to report to the Department's national VMS centre. • The number of its flag vessels on the CCSBT Authorised Vessel List that actually reported to a National VMS system:- Twenty two (22) domestic longline and forty one (41) domestic pole-line and three (3) charter longline vessels in 2017 reported to the Department's national VMS centre. • Reasons for any non-compliance with VMS requirements and action taken by the Member:- Not applicable. • In the event of a technical failure of a vessel's VMS, the vessel's geographical position (latitude and longitude) at the time of failure and the length of time the VMS was inactive should be reported:- Procedures are in place in terms of permit conditions (Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line) that the vessel would have to follow in the event that the vessel experiences technical failure of the VMS while at sea. • The procedures used for manual reporting in the event of a VMS failure (e.g. "manual position reporting on a 4 hourly basis"):- A report needs to be submitted via fax or e-mail on a daily basis. The report is to provide detailed information on a three hourly basis on the vessel's position, course and speed. Manual reporting is subject to approval by the Department. Info approval granted the vessel would have to return to port. • A description of any investigations initiated in accordance with paragraph 3(b) of the CCSBT VMS resolution including progress to date and any actions taken:- Not applicable. <p>iii. Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:- Marine Living Resources Act, (Act No 18 of 1998); The Regulations promulgated under the MLRA; General Policy on the Allocation and Management of Fishing Rights: 2013; Policy on the allocation and management of Commercial Fishing Rights in the Large Pelagic Longline Fishery: 2015; The 2017/18 Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line Permit Conditions; Penalties could range from revocation of the right, licence or permit; suspension of the right, licence or permit for a period determined by the Minister; cancellation of the right, licence or permit from a date determined by the Minister; or alter the terms or conditions of the right, licence or permit in the case of serious offences. Section 28 of the MLRA makes provision for sanctions in the event that the holder of a right, licence or permit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) has furnished information in the application for that right, licence or permit, or has submitted any other information required in terms of this Act, which is not true or complete; (b) contravenes or fails to comply with a condition imposed in the right, licence or permit; (c) contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of the Act; (d) is convicted of an offence in terms of the Act or |
|--------------------------|--|

| | |
|---|---|
| | (e) fails to effectively utilise that right, licence or permit. |
| <i>At-Sea Inspections</i> | <p><i>Specify:</i></p> <p><i>i. The coverage level of at sea inspections (e.g. % of SBT trips inspected):-</i> South Africa has four offshore patrol vessels, they have been conducting inspections of tuna longline and pole-line vessels at sea. Fishery Compliance Officers conduct 100% inspections in all landing areas as well as random sea inspection on all domestic fishing vessels. There were eight (8) at-sea inspections that were conducted for SBT vessels in 2017.</p> <p><i>ii. Other relevant information³:-</i></p> |
| <i>Other (use of masthead cameras etc.)</i> | |

(e) Report on the review of internal actions and measures taken in relation to the authorised vessel requirements provided at Attachment B, including any punitive and sanction actions taken.

The South African vessels authorised to fish for SBT fulfilled the requirements and responsibilities under the CCSBT Convention and its conservation management measures.

South Africa has taken measures to ensure that its authorised vessels comply with all relevant CCSBT conservation and management measures. To this end, before the start of tuna fishing season, a meeting is held between the Departmental Officials and Rights Holders, as well as relevant NGO's with interest in conservation, specifically to discuss permit conditions and adherence to applicable Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) Conservation Measures. Consequently, one of the conditions for issuance of a catch permit to Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line Right Holders is adherence to the Conservation Measures and Resolutions adopted by the relevant RFMOs, CCSBT in this regard.

The regulations stipulate that a vessel shall not be permitted to fish, provided a valid catch permit has been applied for and issued. One of the requirements for issuance of such a permit is the submission of a valid vessel license and a valid vessel registration certificate issued by the South African Maritime Safety Authority and these must at all times be stored at the Permit Holder's registered place of business over the duration of the fishing season. The Permit Holder is further obliged at all times to have available a true certified copies on board the vessel utilised to harvest Large Pelagic species. Transhipment-at-sea is not allowed in any of the South African fisheries only in-port-transhipment is allowed with a strict set of conditions. Before a vessel can tranship in port, it is required to apply for and be issued with a valid transhipment permit

None of the South African vessels authorized to fish for SBT have been reported for IUU activities thus far. South Africa would like to affirm that any breach of the provisions of the MLRA, Regulations promulgated thereunder or permit conditions by the Permit Holder, or its employees (whether permanent, full-time or part-time), its contractors, agents or advisers and the skipper of the vessel, may result in the initiation of legal proceedings (which may include section 28 of the MLRA proceedings and or criminal proceedings).

In terms of South Africa's regulations, only vessels authorized by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and registered on CCSBT's authorized vessel list are permitted to catch/land SBT. Any other vessels are not permitted to catch/land SBT.

(2) SBT Towing and transfer to and between farms (farms only)

Not applicable to South Africa.

(3) SBT Transhipment (in port and at sea)

(a) In accordance with the Resolution on Establishing a Program for Transhipment by Large-Scale Fishing Vessels, report:

i. The quantities of SBT transhipped at sea and in port during the previous fishing season:-

| Fishing Season <i>(e.g. 2011/12)</i> | Percentage of the annual SBT catch transhipped at sea | Percentage of the annual SBT catch transhipped in port |
|--|--|---|
| 2017/18 | 0 | 11.7 |

ii. The list of the LSTLVs registered in the CCSBT Authorised Vessel List which have transhipped at sea and in port during the previous fishing season:-

No transhipment occurred at sea or in port for the authorised South African vessels.

iii. A comprehensive report assessing the content and conclusions of the reports of the observers assigned to carrier vessels which have received at-sea transhipments from their LSTLVs during the previous fishing season:-

Not applicable.

(b) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring transhipments in port. This should include details of:

i. Flag State rules for and names of:

- designated foreign ports where SBT may be transhipped, and
- foreign ports where in-port transhipments of SBT are prohibited:-

All domestic tuna vessels may only tranship in ports, which have been designated as landing ports in accordance with the 2017/18 Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line permit conditions.

Foreign fishing vessels may only tranship in three ports, Cape Town, Durban and Port Elizabeth.

ii. Flag State inspection requirements for in-port transhipments of SBT (include % coverage):-

South Africa ratified the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU Fishing in 2014. All vessels fishing in the South African fishery which wishes to tranship in port needs to apply for a transhipment permit. The application form makes provision for the applicant to provide all the relevant information such as vessel names, quantities by species to be transhipped and port where transhipment will take place. Only on the authority of a permit and subject to monitoring may the vessel tranship. Monitoring is mandatory.

iii. Information sharing with designated Port States:-

As a port state, South Africa requires flag states to acknowledge the quantity of SBT on board their vessels before the foreign fishing vessel is authorised to enter port South Africa's ports. Vessels fishing in the South African fishery have only landed or transhipped product in designated South African ports.

iv. Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT transhipped:-

Fishery Control Officers/Fish Monitors (FCOs/FMs) are required to monitor every offload and transhipment for all vessels fishing in the South African Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line fisheries as well as foreign fishing vessels. Fish are sorted by species on deck before being weighed in order to determine the weight by species.

The FCOs/FMs record the information and signs off a landing declaration form which the representative of the right holder is also required to sign.

- v. *Process for validating*^{Error! Bookmark not defined.} *and collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form, Catch Tagging Form):-*

Landing Declaration Sheets are used together with submitted Catch Tagging Forms (CTFs) and Catch Monitoring Forms (CMF's) to assess quota uptake against each individual Rights Holder. Verification are undertaken following the initial validation undertaken during vessel landing. Electronic catch summaries or hard copies submitted by Fishing Skippers two weeks after landing are used to verify catch data.

Catch Monitoring Forms (CMFs) must be signed by a DAFF Official whose name appears on the Official List of CCSBT authorised validators. Verification by the DAFF Official entails cross-checking with fish details (Product Type; Date of harvest; Vessel Gear Code; Statistical Area of Capture; Fish weight (kg) and other information listed on the Catch Tagging Form. Landing declarations and Invoices, before the CMF can be signed. The CMF is then completed with details of either the intermediate or final product destination, dressed or 'flying weight' of the fish (Conversion Factor DRT) and then signed by the DAFF Official at the time of export.

- vi. *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*

Marine Living Resources Act, (Act No 18 of 1998);

The Regulations promulgated under the MLRA;

General Policy on the Allocation and Management of Fishing Rights: 2013;

Policy on the allocation and management of Commercial Fishing Rights in the Large Pelagic Longline Fishery: 2015;

The 2017/18 Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line Permit Conditions;

Penalties could range from revocation of the right, licence or permit; suspension of the right, licence or permit for a period determined by the Minister; cancellation of the right, licence or permit from a date determined by the Minister; or alter the terms or conditions of the right, licence or permit in the case of serious offences. Section 28 of the MLRA makes provision for sanctions in the event that the holder of a right, licence or permit:

- (a) has furnished information in the application for that right, licence or permit, or has submitted any other information required in terms of this Act, which is not true or complete;
- (b) contravenes or fails to comply with a condition imposed in the right, licence or permit;
- (c) contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of the Act;
- (d) is convicted of an offence in terms of the Act or
- (e) fails to effectively utilise that right, licence or permit.

- vii. *Other relevant information*³*:-*

(c) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring transshipments at sea. This should include details of:

Not applicable as Transshipment at sea is not permitted under South African laws.

(4) Port Inspections of Foreign FVs/CVs with SBT/SBT Products on Board

This section provides for reporting with respect to the CCSBT's Scheme for Minimum Standards for Inspection in Port. It should be filled out by Port State Members that have authorised foreign Fishing Vessels/Carrier Vessels carrying SBT or SBT products to enter their designated ports for the purpose of landing and/or transshipment. Only information for landings/transshipments of SBT or SBT products that have NOT been previously landed or transhipped at port should be included in the table below.

i. Provide a list of designated ports into which foreign FVs/ CVs carrying SBT or SBT product may request entry:-

Cape Town, Durban and Port Elizabeth.

ii. Provide the minimum number of hours of notice required for foreign FVs/CVs carrying SBT or SBT product to request authorisation to enter these designated ports:-

72 hours.

iii. For the most recent whole calendar year, provide information about the number of landing/transshipment operations that foreign FVs/CVs carrying SBT or SBT product made in port, the number of those landing/transshipment operations that were inspected, and the number of inspections where infringements of CCSBT's measures were detected:-

| Calendar Year | Foreign Flag | No. of Landing/ Transshipment Operations (that occurred) | No. of Landing/ Transshipment Operations Inspected | No. of Landing/ Transshipment Operations where an Infringement of CCSBT's Measures was Detected |
|---------------|---|---|---|---|
| 2017 | Japan | 8 | 8 | 0 |
| | Korea | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| | Taiwan | 7 | 7 | 0 |
| | Japan (fishing vessel) – Japan (carrier vessel) | 7 | | 0 |
| | Japan (fishing vessel) – Liberia (carrier vessel) | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| | Korea (fishing vessel) – Liberia (carrier vessel) | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| | TOTAL NUMBER | | 34 | 34 |

(5) Landings of Domestic Product (from both fishing vessels and farms)

(a) Specify the approximate percentage of the annual SBT catch that was landed as domestic product.

1.5

(b) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring domestic landings of SBT. This should include details of:

i. Rules for designated ports of landing of SBT:-

Landing ports in South Africa are documented in terms of the permit conditions. South African flagged vessels, operating in the tuna sectors are only permitted to offload their catches in South Africa's designated ports as stipulated in the permit conditions.

ii. Inspections required for landings of SBT (including % coverage):-

There is 100% inspection and monitoring of SBT landings.

- iii. *Details of genetic testing conducted and any other techniques that are used to verify that SBT are not being landed as a different species:-*

None currently, it should however be noted that South Africa will in not too distant future set up a genetic technology that would also be used for verification of SBT landed. Currently, all right holders and Fisheries Compliance Officers are given Species Identification Booklet to improve on the accuracy of identifying SBT.

- iv. *Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT landed:-*

Fishery Control officers/ Fishery Monitors are required to monitor every offload of vessels fishing in the South African large pelagic longline and Tuna Pole-line fisheries. Fish are sorted by species on deck before being weighed in order to determine the weight by species. The FCOs/FMs record the information and signs off a landing declaration form which the representative of the right holder is also required to sign.

- v. *Process for validating^{Error! Bookmark not defined.} and collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form, and depending on circumstances, Catch Tagging Form):-*

Landing Declaration Sheets are used together with submitted Catch Tagging Forms (CTFs) and Catch Monitoring Forms (CMF's) to assess quota uptake against each individual Rights Holder. Verification are undertaken following the initial validation undertaken during vessel landing. Electronic catch summaries or hard copies submitted by Fishing Skippers two weeks after landing are used to verify catch data.

Catch Monitoring Forms (CMFs) must be signed by a DAFF Official whose name appears on the Official List of CCSBT authorised validators. Verification by the DAFF Official entails cross-checking with fish details (Product Type; Date of harvest; Vessel Gear Code; Statistical Area of Capture; Fish weight (kg) and other information listed on the Catch Tagging Form. Landing declarations and Invoices, before the CMF can be signed. The CMF is then completed with details of either the intermediate or final product destination, dressed or 'flying weight' of the fish (Conversion Factor DRT) and then signed by the DAFF Official at the time of export.

- vi. *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*

Marine Living Resources Act, (Act No 18 of 1998);

The Regulations promulgated under the MLRA;

General Policy on the Allocation and Management of Fishing Rights: 2013;

Policy on the allocation and management of Commercial Fishing Rights in the Large Pelagic Longline Fishery: 2015;

The 2017/18 Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line Permit Conditions;

Penalties could range from revocation of the right, licence or permit; suspension of the right, licence or permit for a period determined by the Minister; cancellation of the right, licence or permit from a date determined by the Minister; or alter the terms or conditions of the right, licence or permit in the case of serious offences. Section 28 of the MLRA makes provision for sanctions in the event that the holder of a right, licence or permit:

- (a) has furnished information in the application for that right, licence or permit, or has submitted any other information required in terms of this Act, which is not true or complete;
- (b) contravenes or fails to comply with a condition imposed in the right, licence or permit;
- (c) contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of the Act;
- (d) is convicted of an offence in terms of the Act or
- (e) fails to effectively utilise that right, licence or permit.

- vii. *Other relevant information³:-*

(6) SBT Exports

(a)

i. Specify the quantity of the domestic catch that was exported and provide an estimate of the total quantity of the domestic SBT catch (weight in tonnes to 1 decimal place) that was retained within the country/fishing entity (i.e. the quantity can be estimated by subtracting the total export from domestic catch) during each of the last 3 full calendar years to each country/fishing entity. All weights provided in this table should be net weights, not whole weights.

| Calendar Year ⁴ | Estimate of retained within the country/fishing entity (Domestic catch-Export) | SBT Exported to | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------|------|-------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | Japan | USA | Italy | | | | | |
| 2015 | 2.9 | 21.1 | 31.8 | 0.7 | | | | | |
| 2016 | 3.6 | 35.7 | 25.1 | | | | | | |
| 2017 | 2.7 | 80.9 | 64.0 | | | | | | |

ii. Specify the quantity of imported catch that was re-exported

| Calendar Year ⁴ | Country / Fishing Entity 1 | SBT Re-exported to | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | ∴ | ∴ | ∴ | ∴ | ∴ | ∴ | ∴ |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |

None for the last three calendar years

(b) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring exports of SBT (including of landings directly from the vessel to the foreign importing port). This should include details of:

South African flagged vessels are not permitted to land any SBT in foreign ports. Hence, the information provided below addresses measures implemented for product landed in South African ports.

- i. *Inspections required for export of SBT (including % coverage):-*
All SBT is inspected and monitored when a vessel offloads or tranships in port. There is insufficient capacity to monitor product at the points of export. Only through random sampling or through a tip off are consignments physically inspected at the airports.
- ii. *Details of genetic testing conducted and any other techniques that are used to verify that SBT are not being exported as a different species:-*
None currently, it should however be noted that South Africa will in not too distant future set up a genetic technology that would also be used for verification of SBT to be exported. National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS), the government agency responsible for the administration of compulsory specifications and other technical regulations with the view to protect human health, safety, the environment and ensure fair trade in accordance with government policies and guidelines, is responsible for the random testing of fish and fisheries products being exported. In

⁴ "Calendar year" refers to the calendar year of the (re-)export date

addition, all Exporters and Fisheries Compliance Officers are given Species Identification Booklet to improve on the accuracy of identifying exports of SBT.

iii. *Monitoring systems for recording the quantity of SBT exported:-*

The main system used to record the quantity of SBT exported are the CMFs. In addition, all marine products to be exported require an export permit. In terms of the export permit conditions, the exporter has to provide prior notification to our compliance office of all consignments to be exported. Monthly summaries of export by species are also required to be electronically submitted by the exporter to DAFF.

iv. *Process for validating ^{Error! Bookmark not defined.} and collecting the relevant CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form and depending on circumstances, Catch Tagging Form or Re-export/Export after landing of domestic product Form):-*

Landing Declaration Sheets are used together with submitted Catch Tagging Forms (CTFs) and Catch Monitoring Forms (CMF's) to assess quota uptake against each individual Rights Holder. Verification are undertaken following the initial validation undertaken during vessel landing. Electronic catch summaries or hard copies submitted by Fishing Skippers two weeks after landing are used to verify catch data.

Catch Monitoring Forms (CMFs) must be signed by a DAFF Official whose name appears on the Official List of CCSBT authorised validators. Verification by the DAFF Official entails cross-checking with fish details (Product Type; Date of harvest; Vessel Gear Code; Statistical Area of Capture; Fish weight (kg) and other information listed on the Catch Tagging Form. Landing declarations and Invoices, before the CMF can be signed. The CMF is then completed with details of either the intermediate or final product destination, dressed or 'flying weight' of the fish (Conversion Factor DRT) and then signed by the DAFF Official at the time of export.

Lastly, it is an export permit condition that validated CDS documents accompany the consignments of all SBT for export.

v. *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*

Marine Living Resources Act, (Act No 18 of 1998);

The Regulations promulgated under the MLRA;

General Policy on the Allocation and Management of Fishing Rights: 2013;

Policy on the allocation and management of Commercial Fishing Rights in the Large Pelagic Longline Fishery: 2015;

The 2017/18 Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line Permit Conditions;

Penalties could range from revocation of the right, licence or permit; suspension of the right, licence or permit for a period determined by the Minister; cancellation of the right, licence or permit from a date determined by the Minister; or alter the terms or conditions of the right, licence or permit in the case of serious offences. Section 28 of the MLRA makes provision for sanctions in the event that the holder of a right, licence or permit:

- (a) has furnished information in the application for that right, licence or permit, or has submitted any other information required in terms of this Act, which is not true or complete;
- (b) contravenes or fails to comply with a condition imposed in the right, licence or permit;
- (c) contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of the Act;
- (d) is convicted of an offence in terms of the Act or
- (e) fails to effectively utilise that right, licence or permit.

vi. Other relevant information³:-

A new CDS database has been developed and is in implementation phase for the 2018/2019 season. The CDS database has been developed and designed in MS ACCESS and provides user friendly Forms for input and extraction of CDS data (**Figure 1**). The specific objectives for developing the CDS database were to:

- Minimise data capturing errors
- Prevent invalid formats
- Prevent duplicates
- Ensure reproducibility of CDS reports
- Prevent version corruptions
- Increase data capturing efficiency
- Early identification of misreporting
- Facilitate internal cross-validation with independent data streams (logbooks, landing declarations)

The screenshot shows the 'CDS_Entry_Form' interface. At the top, there is a header with the South African flag logo and the text 'Entry Form: Catch Documentation Scheme South Africa'. Below this, there are buttons for 'Add New Vessel', 'Add New Certifier', and 'Open Data Query Form'. The main form area contains several input fields and dropdown menus: ID (900), Document No (TZA170681), Origin Wild/Farm (W), CMD No (CMZA17070080), Vessel (SEAWIN EMER), Flag (ZA), TagNo (ZA18000015), Dressing (DRT), Weight_kg (59.5), Length_cm (168), Gear Code (LL), Area (9), Month (2017/09/01), Certifier (Aphive), Signature (Y), Date Certified (2017/09/09), and Title (SAO). There is also an 'Update All List Entries' button. At the bottom, there are buttons for 'Add New Record', 'Go to Last Record', 'Save Record', 'Undo Record', and 'Delete Record'. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'Record: 900 of 901' and 'No Filter'.

Figure 1. Showing the Entry Form of the South African Catch Documentation Scheme MS ACCESS database (default start-up).

(7) SBT Imports

(a) Specify the total quantity of SBT (weight in tonnes to 1 decimal place) imported during each of the last 3 full calendar years from each country/fishing entity. All weights provided in this table should be net weights, not whole weights.

| Calendar Year ⁴ | SBT Imported from | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Taiwan | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| 2015 | | | | | | | | | |
| 2016 | 15.8 | | | | | | | | |
| 2017 | | | | | | | | | |

(b) Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring imports of SBT. This should include details of:

- i. *Rules for designating specific ports for the import of SBT:-*
There are no specific rules designating ports for the import of SBT. However, foreign vessels are limited in that they can use, only one of three ports, namely Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Durban. It is possible for SBT to be imported by air freight, but this is unlikely as South Africa is unable to pay the international market price for SBT.
- ii. *Inspections required for imports of SBT (including % coverage):-*
There are no routine inspections in place for the importing of SBT.
- iii. *Details of genetic testing conducted and any other techniques that are used to verify that SBT are not being imported as a different species:-*
None currently, it should however be noted that South Africa will in not too distant future set up a genetic technology that would also be used for verification of SBT to be imported. National Regulator for Compulsory Specifications (NRCS), the government agency responsible for the administration of compulsory specifications and other technical regulations with the view to protect human health, safety, the environment and ensure fair trade in accordance with government policies and guidelines, is responsible for the random testing of fish and fisheries products being imported. In addition, all Importers and Fisheries Compliance Officers are given Species Identification Booklet to improve on the accuracy of identifying exports of SBT.
- iv. *Process for checking and collecting CCSBT CDS documents (Catch Monitoring Form and depending on circumstances, Re-export/Export after landing of domestic product Form):-*
For import of any marine/fishery product, including SBT requires a valid import permit. The import permit conditions require that a validated CDS document be submitted to DAFF for all imported consignments of SBT.
- v. *Reference to applicable legislation and penalties:-*
Marine Living Resources Act, (Act No 18 of 1998);
The Regulations promulgated under the MLRA;
General Policy on the Allocation and Management of Fishing Rights: 2013;
Policy on the allocation and management of Commercial Fishing Rights in the Large Pelagic Longline Fishery: 2015;
The 2017/18 Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line Permit Conditions;
Penalties could range from revocation of the right, licence or permit; suspension of the right, licence or permit for a period determined by the Minister; cancellation of the right, licence or permit from a date determined by the Minister; or alter the terms or conditions of the right, licence or permit in the case of serious offences. Section 28 of

the MLRA makes provision for sanctions in the event that the holder of a right, licence or permit:

- (a) has furnished information in the application for that right, licence or permit, or has submitted any other information required in terms of this Act, which is not true or complete;
- (b) contravenes or fails to comply with a condition imposed in the right, licence or permit;
- (c) contravenes or fails to comply with a provision of the Act;
- (d) is convicted of an offence in terms of the Act or
- (e) fails to effectively utilise that right, licence or permit.

vi. *Other relevant information*³:-

(8) SBT Markets

(a) *Describe any activities targeted at points in the supply chain between landing and the market:-*
South Africa is not generally regarded as a market state for SBT. Hence the questions below are not relevant to South Africa.

(b) *Describe the system used for controlling and monitoring of SBT at markets (e.g. voluntary or mandatory requirements for certain documentation and/or presence of tags, and monitoring or audit of compliance with such requirements):-*

None.

(c) *Other relevant information*³

None.

(9) Other

Description of any other MCS systems of relevance.

III. Additional Reporting Requirements

(1) Coverage and Type of CDS Audit undertaken

As per paragraph 5.9 of the CDS Resolution, specify details on the level of coverage and type of audit undertaken, in accordance with 5.8⁵ of the Resolution, and the level of compliance.

All landings by the Large Pelagic Longline and Tuna Pole-line fleets are inspected and monitored by a Fishery Control Officer/ Fishery Monitor. These officials are required to produce a landing declaration, which is used to validate the CMFs.

(2) Ecologically Related Species

(a) Reporting requirements in relation to implementation of the 2008 ERS Recommendation:

- i. Specify whether each of the following plans/guidelines have been implemented, and if not, specify the action that has been taken towards implementing each of these plans/guidelines:-*
 - *International Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries:*

The National Plan of Action for Reducing Incidental Catches of Seabirds in Longline Fisheries was published in August 2008 and implemented, with good results in reducing seabird mortality in the longline fishery. The plan is currently undergoing a review and an updated plan is in draft format.
 - *International Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks:*

The National Plan of Action for the Conservation and Management of Sharks (NPOA-sharks) was published in November 2013. South Africa has taken numerous steps to conserve and manage sharks. Some notable actions have been: the protection status given to great white sharks; the termination of the Pelagic Shark Longline Fishery in favour of developing a large Pelagic Tuna Longline Fishery, where sharks are managed as by-catch; the banning of several CITES listed pelagic shark species (porbeagle, hammerheads, silky, oceanic white-tip, and threshers), manta and mobula rays in the Large Pelagic Longline fishery; the ban on the use of wire traces in the Large Pelagic Longline fishery, the introduction of shark by-catch limits; the appointment of a shark researcher; improved data collection, and stock assessments conducted for the two most important demersal shark species. The review of the NPOA is underway and will be concluded in 2019.
 - *FAO Guidelines to reduce sea turtle mortality in fishing operations:*

De-hooking and release procedures are included in the Large Pelagic Longline permit conditions. Turtles are not allowed to be landed.
- ii. Specify whether all current binding and recommendatory measures⁶ aimed at the protection of ecologically related species⁷ from fishing of the following tuna RFMOs are being complied with. If not, specify which measures are not being complied with and the progress that is being made towards compliance:-*
 - *IOTC, when fishing within IOTC's Convention Area:*

Since 2016, DAFF has initiated a process aiming to achieve 20% observer coverage for the pelagic longline fleet as stipulated in the permit conditions. The required observer deployments are partially funded through the Common Oceans Projects and the remainder at cost to industry. This is also to ensure meeting the 5% observer

⁵ Paragraph 5.8 of the CDS Resolution specifies that "Members and Cooperating Non-Members shall undertake an appropriate level of audit, including inspections of vessels, landings, and where possible markets, to the extent necessary to validate the information contained in the CDS documentation."

⁶ Relevant measures of these RFMOs can be found at: http://www.ccsbt.org/site/bycatch_mitigation.php.

⁷ Including seabirds, sea turtles and sharks.

coverage and that all conservation and bycatch mitigation measures are complied with as specified by the IOTC.

- *WCPFC, when fishing within WCPFC's Convention Area:*
Not applicable, South Africa does not fish in the WCPFCs Convention Area.
- *ICCAT, when fishing within ICCAT's Convention Area:*
. Since 2016, DAFF has initiated a process aiming to achieve 20% observer coverage for the pelagic longline fleet as stipulated in the permit conditions. This is also to ensure the mandatory 5% observer coverage.

Specify whether data is being collected and reported on ecologically related species in accordance with the requirements of the following tuna RFMOs. If data are not being collected and reported in accordance with these requirements, specify which measures are not being complied with and the progress that is being made towards compliance:-

- *CCSBT⁸:*
Ecologically Related Species (ERS) information was provided in ERS annual report.
- *IOTC, for fishing within IOTC's Convention Area:*
The ERS data on seabird, turtle and shark captures and release mortalities obtained from the observer are reported to the IOTC, together with observer size data for sharks.
- *WCPFC, for fishing within WCPFC's Convention Area:*
Not applicable, South Africa does not fish in the WCPFCs Convention Area.
- *ICCAT, for fishing within ICCAT's Convention Area:*
The ERS data on seabird, turtle and shark captures and release mortalities obtained from the observer are reported to the IOTC, together with observer size data for sharks

(b) Specify the number of observed ERS interactions including mortalities, and describe the methods of scaling used to produce estimates of total mortality (information should be provided by species – including the scientific name – wherever possible⁹):

| | Sector 1 <i>(Domestic Longline)</i> | | Sector 2 <i>(Charter Longline)</i> | |
|---|--|------------------|--|------------------|
| Most Recent Calendar Year (2017) | | | | |
| <i>Total number of hooks (shots for PS)</i> | 399 656 | | 230 774 | |
| <i>Percentage of hooks (shots) observed</i> | 4.6 | | 100 | |
| | <i>Total number of observed interactions/mortality</i> | | | |
| | <i>Interactions</i> | <i>Mortality</i> | <i>Interactions</i> | <i>Mortality</i> |
| <i>Seabirds</i> | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| <i>Sharks</i> | 1246 | 605 | 694 | 272 |
| <i>Sea Turtles</i> | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

⁸ Current CCSBT requirements are those in the Scientific Observer Program Standards and those necessary for completing the template for the annual report to the ERSWG.

⁹ Where species specific information is available, insert additional line(s) for each species below the relevant Seabird, Sharks, and/or Sea Turtles sub headings.

| | Sector 1 (Domestic Longline) | | Sector 2 (Charter Longline) | |
|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Previous Calendar Year (2016) | | | | |
| Total number of hooks (shots for PS) | 208 027 | | 133 581 | |
| Percentage of hooks (shots) observed | 0.5 | | 62.3 | |
| | <i>Total number of observed interactions/mortality</i> | | | |
| | <i>Interactions</i> | <i>Mortality</i> | <i>Interactions</i> | <i>Mortality</i> |
| <i>Seabirds</i> | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| <i>Sharks</i> | 40 | 30 | 538 | 272 |
| <i>Sea Turtles</i> | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Values represent observed mortality based on observer data. Only sets that targeted SBT are included in terms of effort and bycatch interaction.

(c) *Mitigation – describe the current mitigation requirements:*

When fishing in South Africa’s EEZ the start and completion of the line setting is conducted at night only; defined by the period between nautical dusk and nautical dawn. In addition to night setting, the vessel shall choose between using a bird-scaring line or using line weighting

If a bird-scaring line is used as the second seabird bycatch mitigation measure, vessels shall have on board an approved bird-scaring line, which must be deployed before setting starts each night and may only be retrieved after setting ends. If line weighting is used as the second seabird bycatch mitigation measure, the branch lines (snoods) shall be properly weighted; 40 g or greater attached within 0.5 m of the hook (to minimize gear loss from shark bite-offs), or 60 g or greater attached within 1 m of the hook, or 80 g or greater attached within 2 m of the hook. The gear shall be configured with weights attached for port inspections if this measure is chosen by the vessel

Vessels may use ‘hook shielding devices’ (as approved by the Agreement on the Conservation of Albatross and Petrels).

Vessels fishing on the high seas may set during daylight hours subject to the following conditions: 1) the vessel shall have an observer on board; 2) the vessel shall deploy two tori lines and and; 3) the branch lines shall be weighted as specified in permit conditions.

The vessel is restricted to an initial seabird mortality limit of 25 birds per year irrespective of vessel replacements. Once this limit is reached the vessel is required to use additional mitigation measures. No further setting shall be permitted once this limit has been reached.

Sharks

In terms Permit Conditions, Large Pelagic Longline vessels are not allowed to use wire traces. The entire Large Pelagic Longline fleet is restricted to a Precautionary Upper Catch Limit of 2000t. The following shark species are prohibited from being landed: hammerheads; porbeagle, silky; threshers, and; oceanic whitetip.

Sea Turtles

All sea turtles must be released, according procedures as prescribed in permit conditions.

(d) *Monitoring usage of bycatch mitigation measures:*

- i. Describe the methods being used to monitor compliance with bycatch mitigation measures (e.g. types of port inspections conducted and other monitoring and surveillance programs used to monitor compliance). Include details of the level of coverage (e.g. proportion of vessels inspected each year):

All Large Pelagic Longline vessels are subjected to port inspection in line with Port State Measures and as per attached Annexure 5 of the Large Pelagic Longline permit conditions. This port inspection is carried out by the Fishery Compliance Officers in conjunction with the Observers. This includes the Tori line measurements, checking the availability of the de_hooking devices as well as line cutters. In addition, Patrol vessels are from time to time tasked to randomly board the large pelagic longline vessels for the inspection of the above.

- ii. Describe the type of information that is collected on mitigation measures as part of compliance programmes for SBT vessels:

Through section B and C of the attached Annexure 5 of the Large Pelagic Longline permit conditions, an Observer is required to confirm the deployment of Tori line every day as well as weighted lines.

(3) Historical SBT Catch (retained and non-retained)

Specify the best estimate (weight and number as available) of the historical fishing amounts of SBT for each sector (e.g. commercial longline, commercial purse seine, commercial charter fleet, domestic fleet, recreational) in the table below. The table should include the most recently completed fishing season. Figures should be provided for both retained SBT and non-retained SBT. For longline and recreational, "Retained SBT" includes SBT retained on vessel and "Non-Retained SBT" includes those returned to the water. For farming, "Retained SBT" includes SBT stocked to farming cages and "Non-Retained SBT" includes towing mortalities. If possible, provide both the weight in tonnes and the number of individuals in square brackets (e.g. [250]) for each sector. Table cells should not be left empty. If the value is zero, enter "0". It is recognised that for some sectors, the information requested in this table may not yet be available. Therefore, if the value is unknown, enter "?". However, estimates are preferred over unknown entries. Cells containing estimates with a high degree of uncertainty should be shaded in light grey. A description of any estimation methods should be provided below the table.

| Fishing Season (e.g. 2011/12) | Retained and Non-Retained SBT | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| | Sector 1 (Domestic Longline) | | Sector 2 (Charter Longline) | | Sector 3 (Domestic Tuna Pole-line) | |
| | Retained SBT | Non-Retained SBT | Retained SBT | Non-Retained SBT | Retained SBT | Non-Retained SBT |
| 2015/2016 | 48t (616) | no reliable estimate | 5.4t (66) | 104 | | |
| 2016/2017 | 47.2t (490) | no reliable estimate | 14.1t (147) | 43 | 3.2t (28) | no reliable estimate |
| 2017/2018 | 122.9t (1141) | 1 | 24.6t (1,227) | 243 | 0.14 t (1) | no reliable estimate |

Report of CCSBT 21

53. The action points shown in Table 1 were agreed by Members, noting that within the table, “External” refers to non-Member catches, while “Internal” relates to Members’ attributable catches.

Table 1: Action points in relation to implementing the Attributable SBT Catch.

| | External | Internal | ESC work schedule |
|-------------|---|--|---|
| 2015 | The EC initiates discussion on the principles and process for taking account of non-member catch in the 2018-20 TAC period. The ESC, CC and Members to undertake analyses to provide estimates of non-member catch. Commission market analyses on significant markets to contribute to estimating non-member catch. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Individual Member research on applicable sources of mortality and report back to ESC and CC for discussion and review. 2. Members shall endeavour to set allowances to commence for 2016-17 quota years for all sources of attributable mortality based on best estimates and notify other Members by CCSBT22. If Members can't they will notify CCSBT22 and explain why they are unable to and set a date by which they can set the allowance. 3. The EC initiate discussion and agreement to a process for dealing with attributable catch within the next quota block (2018-20). | Collation of information on unreported mortalities and categorising this information in accordance with OM “fleets” (ESC19 Report). |
| 2016 | The ESC, CC and Members continue analyses to provide estimates of non-member catch. The EC decides on the adjustment to take account of non-member catch in the 2018-20 TAC period. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The EC if necessary continue discussion so as to agree on a process for dealing with attributable catch within the next quota block (2018-20). 2. Individual Members continue research on applicable sources of mortality and report back to the ESC and CC for discussion and review. | ESC scheduled to run MP to recommend TAC for 2018-2020. |
| 2017 | The ESC, CC and Members continue analyses to provide estimates of non-member catch. | Individual Members continue research on applicable sources of mortality & report back to the ESC and CC for discussion review. | ESC scheduled to conduct full stock assessment and the first formal review of MP. |
| 2018 | | Full implementation of the common definition of attributable catch. | |

CCSBT Authorised Vessel Resolution

The flag Members and Co-operating Non-members of the vessels on the record shall:

- a) authorize their FVs to fish for SBT only if they are able to fulfill in respect of these vessels the requirements and responsibilities under the CCSBT Convention and its conservation and management measures;
- b) take necessary measures to ensure that their FVs comply with all the relevant CCSBT conservation and management measures;
- c) take necessary measures to ensure that their FVs on the CCSBT Record keep on board valid certificates of vessel registration and valid authorization to fish and/or tranship;
- d) affirm that if those vessels have record of IUU fishing activities, the owners have provided sufficient evidence demonstrating that they will not conduct such activities any more;
- e) ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners and operators of their FVs on the CCSBT Record are not engaged in or associated with fishing activities for SBT conducted by FVs not entered into the CCSBT Record;
- f) take necessary measures to ensure, to the extent possible under domestic law, that the owners of the FVs on the CCSBT Record are citizens or legal entities within the flag Members and Co-operating Non-members so that any control or punitive actions can be effectively taken against them.