

Preparation of Australia's southern bluefin tuna catch and effort data submission for 2009

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Working Paper CCSBT-ESC/0809/07 prepared for the Fourteenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (SC14) of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, 5–11 September 2009, Busan, Korea

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Abstract

The aggregated catch and effort, catch by fleet, raised catch, catch at size, and non-retained catch data sets submitted to the Commission for Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) by the Bureau of Rural Sciences on behalf of the Australian Government are compiled from a number of databases. The daily fishing logbooks, catch disposal records and fisheries observer reports, collected and managed by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, are the main data sources. The Australian catch of southern bluefin tuna (SBT) from the surface (purse seine) fishery is also sampled by contracted field staff prior to release into farm cages. The sample data includes size and weight measurements that are used to calculate representative size distributions and average weights.

Relational databases, spreadsheets and query scripts are used to integrate and process the source data sets and create the data files required for the CCSBT data exchange. In some cases data submitted in previous years are revised where errors are identified or statistical methodology is improved. This document provides facsimiles of data collection forms as well as flow charts illustrating the data integration procedures.

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Introduction

The Bureau of Rural Sciences (BRS), within the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, provides data reports each year to the Commission for Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) as part of the annual data exchange. In April 2009, BRS submitted the following reports to the data exchange:

- Aggregated Catch and Effort data 2007 and 2008
- Raised Catch 2007 and 2008
- Total Catch by Fleet 2007 and 2008 (quota and calendar year)
- Catch at Size data 2007 and 2008
- Non-retained Catches 2007 and 2008.

The following reports are also provided directly to the data exchange by CSIRO:

- Tag Releases / recoveries and Reporting Rates
- Direct Ageing data
- · Catch at Age data
- Indonesian Longline Fishery Age and Size Composition
- Raised Catch-at-age for the Australian Surface Fishery
- CPUE series
- Aerial Survey Index
- Commercial Spotting Index.

Preparation of the CSIRO data sets are described in separate papers.

Data Sources

For the 2009 data submission, there were four sources of data used to produce the data reports. These were: the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) Daily Fishing Logs Database; Catch Disposal Database; Tow Cage Size Monitoring Database; and Fisheries Observer Database.

Daily Fishing Logs Database

The Daily Fishing Logs Database is maintained by the AFMA and contains data collected from scientific logbooks that fishers are required to complete. The logbooks of relevance to southern bluefin tuna (SBT) catch for the 2009 submission were the AL05 and AL06 (longline and minor line – AL06 only in operation since November 2007), and TPB03 (purse seine and pole log for farmed SBT). See Appendix 2 for samples of these logbooks. Each fishing operation is given a unique identifier in the Daily Fishing Logs Database and tables are linked using this identifier. The following tables are required from this database:

- 1. **Operations** contains information on each operation, including start latitude, start longitude and vessel identifier.
- 2. **Catch** contains a separate record for each species caught, together with the number of fish caught and estimated weight of the catch.
- 3. **Fishing_Effort** contains fishing method used and fishing effort information (eg. number of hooks for longline operations; search hours for purse seine operations).

- 4. **Operation_Longline** contains other information on longlining operations (eg. length of mainline).
- 5. **Operation_Pole** contains other information on poling operations eg. (number of poles used).
- 6. **Vessel** contains information on each licensed vessel; vessel name is used to identify individual vessels when determining the number of vessels that fished.
- 7. **Tow_Cage_Transfer** contains information on each transfer of fish from the capture vessel to the tow cage in each purse seine operation. Provides the link between the Daily Logs Database and the OtherInfo table produced from the Tow Cage Size Monitoring Reports.

Catch Disposal Database

The Catch Disposal Database is used by AFMA for quota monitoring and contains data collected from the CR4A (SBT Catch Disposal Record; all methods except purse seining for farms), SBT02 (SBT Farm Catch Disposal Record – Purse Seine Boat) and SBT04A (SBT Farm Catch Disposal Record; purse seining for farms). See Appendix 3 for samples of these forms. The following tables are required from this database:

- 1. **Catch Disposal** contains information on trip start and end dates.
- 2. **Landing** contains information on species caught, numbers of fish caught and weight of catch.
- 3. **Fishing_Method** provides the fishing method information.
- 4. **Tow_Catch_Transfer** contains identification of capture vessel for purse seine operations.

Tow Cage Size Monitoring Database

Tow cage size monitoring data are collected by Protec Marine Pty Ltd, a company contracted to AFMA, and its primary purpose is for estimation of total weight of SBT in tow cages prior to transfer of fish to farm cages. In 2006, BRS developed a database for Protec Marine to use to record this information, the Tow Cage Size Monitoring Database, replacing a series of spreadsheet forms. Data for the 2006–07 and previous fishing seasons were then entered into this database from the original spreadsheets. From December 2007, data were entered directly into the database rather than using spreadsheets as an intermediate step. The database has been used as the source of SBT length samples for the purse seine component of the Catch at Size reports for 2007 and 2008. A sample of one of the reports produced by the database is given in Appendix 4.

For each tow cage, fish were sampled until forty fish weighing 10 kg or more were measured and weighed. The length and weight of all fish sampled were entered into the database, including fish smaller than 10 kg, as were the total number of fish transferred to farm cages. Data were then collated to produce a table of statistics for each tow cage, named **Analysis** – **OtherInfo**, which was used in preparation of Raised Catch and Total Catch by Fleet reports (see Appendix 1). The raw lengths and weights of all sampled fish for the year were combined and used in conjunction with the Daily Fishing Logs data to prepare the Catch at Size report.

Fisheries Observer Database

AFMA employs fisheries observers to collect data on board fishing vessels in a number of domestic fisheries and opportunistically on the high seas. Observer coverage of pelagic longline vessels has been variable between 2001 and 2008, mainly concentrated in the eastern Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). There has been limited coverage of longline fisheries in the southern and western EEZ and minimal purse seine coverage. A database of observed fishing operations is maintained by AFMA, including records of retained and discarded catch and biological data collection including length measurements. Length data collected by observers

were used to compile the longline component of the Catch at Size reports for 2007 and 2008. The AFMA observer data was also used to produce the "Non-retained Catches" reports for 2007 and 2008. These reports provided numbers of non-retained fish observed in the longline fishery and were not raised or imputed from logbook data. The total longline fishing effort for each five degree cell is provided from the Aggregated Catch and Effort report with the corresponding observed effort and non-retained catch. The following observer database tables contributed data to the Non-retained Catches report:

- 1. **Activity_Log** describes vessel activity eg setting, hauling, searching and time, location, environmental conditions.
- 2. **Voyage** details of observer cruise including vessel identifier.
- 3. **Voyage_Gear_Items** contains values of attributes for each fishing operation eg number of hooks deployed.
- 4. **Bio_Collection** describes biological attributes of animals caught including life status of retained and discarded fish

Data Preparation

Raw data files of database tables from the AFMA Daily Fishing Logs, Catch Disposal Records and Observer databases are acquired late in the first quarter of each calendar year. The data are loaded into an Oracle relational database server to enable analysis using Structured Query Language (SQL) via Microsoft Access software on client workstations. The length data sets in the Tow Cage Size Monitoring Database (MS Access database) are processed at least partly in MS Excel and some output data imported to Access for combination with other database sets. Standard queries and procedures have been established to produce the data reports that BRS submits each year. These queries may require minor modification each year as changes are made to the source data collection process or CCSBT requirements.

See Appendix 1 for flow diagrams of data sources and tables used to produce the various reports.

Definition of Seasons

All data reports use date of capture to sort catch records by time period, except the catch by fleet – quota year statistics. The quota year statistics use tow end date (farm purse seining) or trip end date (other methods) to define whether a catch falls within a particular season/fishing period.

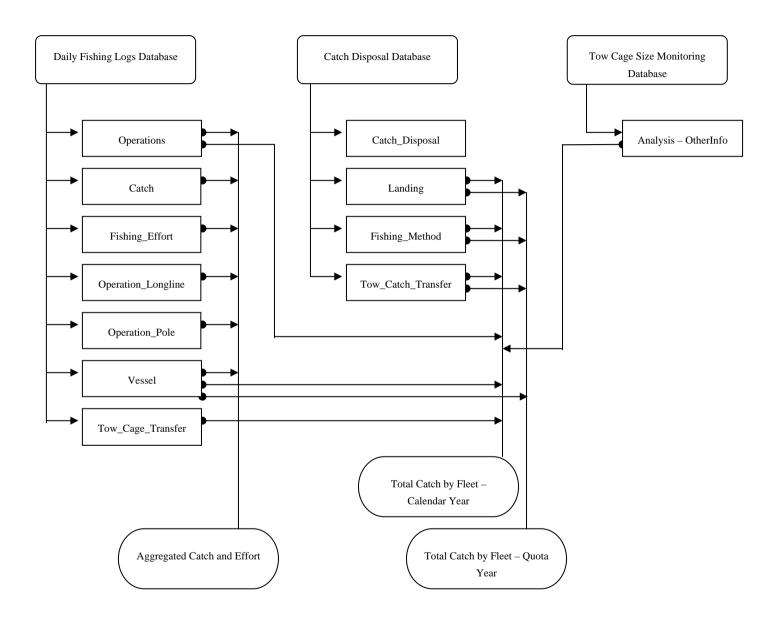
Spatial Definitions

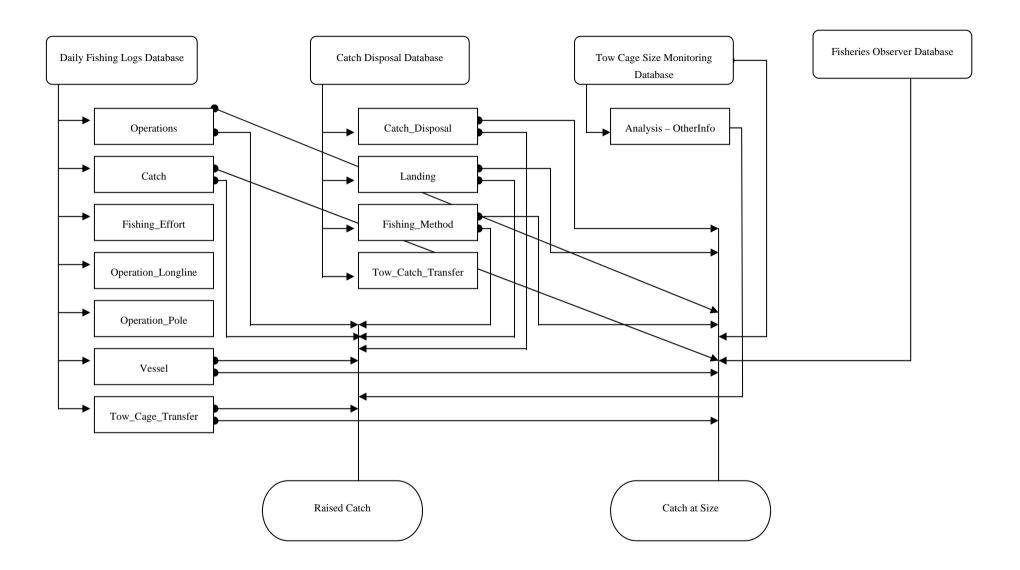
Since the 2003 data exchange, raised catch or catch at size data have been provided by latitude/longitude grid cells (1x1 degrees for purse seine and 5x5 degrees for longline). This was made possible for the farm sector by the introduction of the SBT03 forms. The forms enable the linking of the Tow Cage Size Monitoring Database to the Daily Fishing Logs Database, thus providing capture location information for SBT transferred from tow cages. The Aggregated Catch and Effort Report also provides spatial information, all data for this report coming from the Daily Fishing Logs Database.

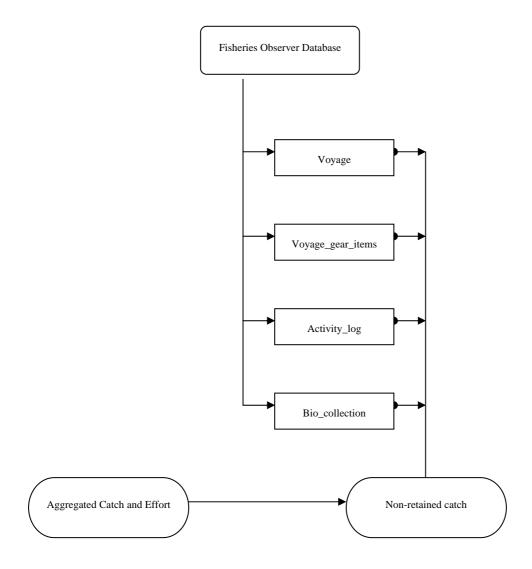
Closing Remarks

The description of data preparation and submission in this report applies to the 2007 and 2008 commercial fishery catch and effort data supplied to the CCSBT. The BRS can provide more details of data collection and data processing methods upon request.

Appendix 1: Flow Charts Showing Flow of Data from Data Sources to Reports







Appendix 2: Scientific Logbook Forms (AL05, AL06, and TPB03)

Date

15/6/02

Australian Pelagic Longline Daily Fishing Log – AL05

Australian Fisheries Management Authority. Box 7051 Canberra Mail Centre ACT 2610 NOTE: DO NOT USE A SINGLE PAGE FOR MORE THAN ONE TRIP Original Copy - Send to AFMA Time Zone Fished | Departure Port Page No. Boat Name Dist. Symbol Log No. ULLADULLA LFB963 Cormorant Departure Date 12/6/00 SHOT INFORMATION Shot 1 Date 13/6/02 Shot 2 Date 15/6/02 Vessel docked between 9/6/02 and 11/6/02 Start Set Time (24h) 0300 0230 Start Set Non-fishing Date/s and Codes during a Trip (ENTER CODE IN BOX) Lat. (dd mm) 35 35 36 31 3 – Broken Down 4 – 5 – Other Fishery (SPECIFY) 1 - Bad Weather 6 - Searching Position Long. (ddd mm) 42 151 151 55 End Set Time (24h) 0610 0515 Date/s Code 12/6 /02 to 4 End Set Lat. (dd mm) 35 19 25 36 Long. (ddd mm) Position 14/6/02 to 6 151 40 151 40 1 1 27 nm/km Mainline Length No. hooks 900 800 nm(km) to (Yes) Line shooter used (CIRCLE) No Yes No Seabird Mitigation Measures Used (CIRCLE) TORI THAW PSBL NSED LWEI CHUTE CAPS DYED OTHER NA TORI THAW PSBL NSET LWEI CHUTE CAPS DYED OTHER NAP Snood cut to release large, lively blue marlin. Discards refer to fish not sought by Estimated average depth targeted in metres 80 70 9 10 No. hooks between bubble No. of lightsticks used 300 400 Minor Line Methods Used Complete at End of Trip Squid/Pilchards 200kg Bait type/wt used for shot Pilchards 160 Trolling / Hrs 2 Port of Landing Bought Self caught Live bait Dead bait V Live bait Dead bait Sea surface temp. (C) ULLADULLA Rod & Reel Hrs 17 16 18 16 Trip End Date Set Handline Hrs Wind direction (ie. NW) S SSE SW WSW End 15/6/00 Wind speed (kn) 12 2 15 8 12 No. of Lines Used? First Receiver/s of Fish Catch Details Tick box below No. Fish Kept Wt Kept (kg) Code Not Kept No. Fish Kept Wt Kept (kg) Code Not Kept No. Fish Kept Wt Kept (kg) Code Not Kept **ULLADULLA CO-OP** Wt Kept (kg) to show target species Yellowfin Tuna 11 350 GG 3 14 GG 3 GG 480 60 Bigeye Tuna 4 150 GG 6 160 GG Albacore 7 50 W 4 40 W 2 W 15 Southern Bluefin Tuna See writing template for a Broadbill Swordfish list of 2 90 TR FORM CODES -Striped Marlin 35 TR to be entered with each Ray's Bream 2 3 GG shot 10 Northern 'Jumbo' Bluefin Tuna MITIGATION MEASURES Short Finned Mako Shark F 80 1 CODES Bronze Whaler Shark = bird scaring line TORI Dusky Whaler Shark & pole Blue Shark THAW = thawed bait 4 Oceanic Whitetip Shark PSBL = punctured swim bladder (Bait) Blacktin Shark NSET = night setting Tiger Shark LWEI = line weighting Hammerhead Shark Silky Shark CHUTE = under-water Porheagle Shark 2 TR setting chute 90 Rudderfish CAPS = under-water 2 10 GG1 30 TR setting capsule Oilfish 4 GG 1 DYED = dyed bait Escolar (Black Oilfish) 3 25 GG OTHER = please describe Dolphinfish 1 in comments Wahoo-Sunfish section. eg. bait casting Lancetfish 3 machine Moonfish
Thresher Shark 2 NAPP = eg. fishing north TR F 50 10 of 30°, or caught Number Released Dead during haul Number Released Species Number Released live | Dead Alive Take Species Blue Marlin Please provide an Black Marlin estimate of the time Great White Shark taken to complete this S 12 mins form Grey Nurse Shark Species Group eg. seabird, cetacean, turtle OR Species (if known) No. Released Position Caught Lat. (dd mm) / Long. (ddd mm) Estimated Time of Shot No. Caught During Alive Interaction Interactions Loggerhead Turtle 35° 24'S 151° 41'E N/A N/A 1 1 2 Albatross 36° 29'S 151° 52'E 0700 1 Bycatch / COMMENTS - Is there anything else that you consider to be important? eg. gear failure, tag or band numbers, was the animal hooked or entangled, etc. Non-Fish E Shot No. 2. Hooked in beak - Bird drowned, carcase discarded. Band no. and further details recorded on Tag Form. Photos provided with logsheets. Turtle released alive, trace cur at hook. Tag (Band No) A754L I certify the information which I have provided on this form to be a complete and accurate record.

NOTE • If tagged fish / animals or banded birds are captured, please complete tag form at back of book and return to AFMA

Printed Name TIM GARDENER

Concession Holder

CCSBT-ESC/0909/07 9

Signature

T. Gardener

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NOTE • If tagged fish / animals or banded birds are captured, please complete tag form at back of book and return to AFMA.

Australian Purse Seine and Pole Daily Fishing Log - For Farmed Southern Bluefin Tuna Only TPB03

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Appendix 3: Catch Disposal Forms (CR4A, SBT03A, SBT04A)

CR4A Form						
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery Catch Disposal Record		Book No.		Page N	o.	
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SFR Holder Tuna International P/L	E	Boat Hunter	r IV		Dist. Symbol	0999
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I declare that the information I have pro Part A to be a complete and accurate re			b. the tail is no	ot wholly rem	oved.	nu
SFR Holder or Authorised Representative]
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Signature & Date		ا ار				
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the amount of fish referred to in Part A. Printed Name of Driver			ish to the receive			
		- L				
PETER BRADLEY	· · · <u>• · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·</u>					
Signature & Date						
Peter Bradley	1417 104	<u> </u>				

arm Transit		na Fisher	У					Log No:	Page No:
Carrier Bo	at Name	MARY L	DU			Dist. Symbol	DE 123		
Perm	it Holder	A B CUT	TER			Carri Permit N	er Boat 4	00100	
Tow Cage ID	Number	T600				r Gillin I	tumbor		
Fish Receiv	red From	Purse Se	ine Boat - (Complete Sec	tions 1 and 3	then 4 or 5			
Fish Receiv	ed From	Carrier B	oat – Comp	lete Sections	2 and 3 then	4 or 5			
Section 1	urse Seine		Dist. ymbol	Transfe Date & T Last Transfer		Estimate (SBT02 Book No	SBT02 D. Page No.
BLUE 00	CEAN			20/12 / 0		5(111	05
Section 2	Previous at Name					Dist. Symbol			
SBT03A Lo	og No:	Page No:					of Mortalities in Box "G" of BT03A	E	-
TOW Clarica	2/12 /	04 8:30	Reco	ord a Date + N for Each 2	Number of No 24 hr Foriod.	ortalities			
Tow Started Z				for Each 2		rtalities			
	2/12 /	24/12	25/12 1			rtalities			
Tow Started Z	22/12	24/12	25/12	for Each 2		rtalities			
Date Number	22/12	24/12	25/12	for Each 2		rtalities			
Date Number Date	22/12	24/12	25/12	for Each 2		rtalities			
Date Number Date Number	22/12	24/12	25/12	for Each 2		rtalities			
Date Number Date Number Date Number	22/12	24/12	25/12	for Each 2		Progress	sive Total of	G 1	7
Date Number Date Number Date Number Total Mortalities	22/12	24/12 5	25/12	for Each 2 28/12	4 hr Friod.	Progress		(i) G 1	7
Date Number Date Number Date Number Total Mortalities	22/12 10 During This	24/12 5	25/12	for Each 2 28/12	4 hr Friod.	Progress Mortalitie		i) G 1	7
Date Number Date Number Date Number Total Mortalities Section 4	22/12 10 During This	24/12 5	25/12	for Each 2 28/12	4 hr Friod.	Progress Mortalitie r Carrier Boat Dist. Symbol	me Tow	(G 1	7
Date Number Date Number Date Number Total Mortalities Section 4 Carrier Bo	22/12 10 During This pat Name SBT03A	24/12 5	25/12 1 17 Tow Cage	for Each 2 28/12	To Another	Progress Mortalitie r Carrier Boat Dist. Symbol Date/Ti Cage Tran	me Tow	(G 1	7
Date Number Date Number Date Number Total Mortalities Section 4 Carrier Bo	During This at Name SBT03A Book No	24/12 5	17 Tow Cage Tow Ca	for Each 2 28/12 1 Transferred	To Another	Progress Mortalitie r Carrier Boat Dist. Symbol Date/Ti Cage Tran	me Tow nsferred	G 1	7 :
Date Number Date Number Date Number Total Mortalities Section 4 Carrier Bo Date/Time Tow Ended Declaration	During This pat Name SBT03A Book No 29 / 12 / 1 that the in	24/12 5 s Tow F	25/12 1 17 Tow Cage Tow Cage No Receiv	Transferred age Transfer Name of F ver Permit Hol ave provide	To Another red To Fish McNA	Progress Mortalitie r Carrier Boat Dist. Symbol Date/Ti Cage Tran	me Tow sterred Fish	/ /	9999

arm Catch Dispo	Tuna Fishery osal Record					Log No:	Page No
Part 1							
Fish Receiver Permit Holder Name	McNally Fresh	Fish			Tow Cage ID No	umber	T600
Fish Receiver Permit Holder Number	9999	9		5	Carrier Vessel [SBT03A Log and Page No	Log No: 198	Page No.
	Progressi	ive Total of mo	ortalities during	tow (G = SB	T03A) A 17		
	Number of morta	alities recorde	d from date of	receipt of tov	cage B 8		
			rom Tow Cag				
	Transfer Date	Farm Nu Cage I	mber		Fish Count	-	
	29/1/05	A9:	3	4	,802		
_	30/1/05	A85	5	1,	,098		
					100		
					9		
400				Prov			
			-	J Y			
			Cor	unt Total C	5,900		
	_		A.A.		-,,		
tal Number of mortali	ities F = A + B + J	35	(E: Average W	ght Total D	107675		
Total Weight of mor (E: Ave	rage Weight in Kg)	638.75	cond the c	ucted by AFN ount taken. are that the i	portunity to witne IA's Agent and I and Information which and accurate reco	agree with a	nd verify
deo Reference Numbe	29304	104		FRP Holder	E. Wa	tson	
Video Reference Date	e 1 / 2	/ 05	FR	P Signature	E. Wa	itson	
	Y				Date	1 / 2	
					Date		/ 05
art 2					Date		/ 05
art 2 urse Seine TUNA	1				Dist. 025:	3	/ 05
urse Seine TINA	Page No:		J	10 NL	Dist. 025	s during	/ 05
SBT02 Log No:	Page No:		ht sample fro	10 NL	Dist. 0253	s during	/ 05
urse Seine Soat Name TUNA SBT02 Log No:	Page No:	Name of Pe	ht sample fro	10 NL	Dist. 025:	s during	
SBT02	Page No:	Name of Pe	ht sample fro erson Sampling	10 NL	Dist. 025:	s during to tow cage	
SBT02 Log No: 12 Sample Date 29 / 1 / 0: Average Weight in Kg	Page No: 4 A	Name of Pe	ht sample fro erson Sampling	10 NL	Dist. 025:	s during to tow cage	
SBT02 Log No: 12 Sample Date 29 / 1 / 0: Average Weight in Kg	Page No: 4 A S No. of Fish t	Name of Pe	tht sample fro erson Sampling 1 cage	n Tow Cage	Dist. Symbol T, Smith	s during to tow cage	

Appendix 4: Tow Cage Size Monitoring Report

	2005.		- marcon socia	
		Towlde	ntification	
Tow Cage ID			Catch Disposal Form	Book No. Page No.
Tow Number for Seaso	OF		Fish Pecelver Number	10.
		2111		3
		Catchir	nformation	
Cartolier Vessel			A FMA Forms	
Capture location				
Date of Flist Transfer to Tow Cage				
Date of LastTransfer b Tow Cage				
Tow Vesse I				
DateTow Ended			Total Weight of Fish Captured in this Tow C	200.
Number of Mortalitis during Catching			Estimated Weight (kg):	p. 50.71
Number of Mortalites	502		Total Number of Mortal	
derbig Tow Number of Mortalites between end of Tow			Total Number of Fish:	44 44
and Release to Farm	19			
		Average Weight	Sample Information	
620000				
Sample D	Ate	Wheses	A ∧e ta Se	Length Average Weight
		Fish Coun	t Information	
Transfer Cafe	Video Count	Tonnage	Static Cage ID	Static Cage Owner

	200506	
Weight Leight Tag Under 10 kg Rish		Tow/Identification
Average Weight Data 40 Fish Sample Weight Leight Tag Under 10 kg Fish Under 10 kg Fish		Book No. Page No.
Average Weight Data 40 Fish Sample Number of Under 10 kg Fish 0 Weight Leight Tag Under 10 kg Fish	ow Cage ID	Catch Disposal Form
40 Rish Sample Number of Under 10 kg Rish 0 Weight Leaght Tag Under 10 kg Rish	ow Numberfor Season	Fish Receiver Number:
Weight Length Tag Under 10 kg Rish		Average Weight Data
Weight Leag th Tag Under 10 kg Rish		Number of Under 10 kg R sh 0
	Wegit Leigh Tag	