



CCSBT-CC/2410/16

**Draft Specifications and cost estimates of an open-access CCSBT webpage to search individual SBT information by CDS tag number  
(CC Agenda item 6.3.2)**

## 1. Background

Following the commitment at CCSBT 29, Japan submitted its detailed market proposal ([CCSBT-SFM/2307/06](#)) to the 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Strategy and Fisheries Management Working Group (SFMWG 6), including a proposal on utilisation of electronic data accumulated in eCDS for traceability. With SFMWG's general support, Japan provided an updated proposal on open-access CCSBT's webpage to search individual SBTs by tag number" (hereinafter open-access SBT search, [CCSBT-CC/2310/19](#)), recognising increasing demands for traceability of fish products.

At CC 18, Members congratulated Japan on the market initiative, and the meeting agreed to strongly recommend to the EC that, as a part of the CC 18 Workplan, the Secretariat should develop the draft Specifications and cost estimates of an open-access SBT search for Members' consideration at CC 19 in 2024.

In this paper, the Secretariat summarises its view on questions raised at CC 19, and provides possible options with associated cost estimates.

## 2. Secretariat's view and suggestions on questions raised at CC 19

During the discussion on open-access SBT search, some questions were raised for consideration<sup>1</sup>:

- *Who would be the users of the search and how would they get a CDS tag number;*
- *Whether registration/log-in to search a CDS tag number is required;*
- *Should a CMF number be included for search; and*
- *What extent of information should be made available from the webpage in the context of confidentiality.*

In addition, CC should consider *when open-access SBT search on the CCSBT website should be implemented.*

The Secretariat's view on each question above is summarised below.

### (1) Who would be the users of the search and how would they get a CDS tag number

At SFMWG 6 and CC 18, Japan recognised increasing demands for traceability of fish products, and also described one of the aims of this proposal to be that anyone involved in SBT trade can easily trace the SBT and self-check its legality.

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<sup>1</sup> Paragraph 81 of [CC 18 report](#).

### ***Who would be the users of the search***

Considering CC 18 strongly supported this proposal, and to take full advantage of this initiative, the Secretariat suggests allowing anyone who is interested (including consumers, not limited to market stakeholders) to be the users.

### ***How would they get a CDS tag number***

Market stakeholders (whole SBT buyer, wholesaler, exporter and importer) may get CDS tag number information from fish directly. Whether retailers and/or consumers know a CDS tag number associated with the fish product depends on how the vendor sells SBTs. The Secretariat suggests Members make every effort to encourage domestic stakeholders to share CDS tag numbers in all possible ways, end to end.

## **(2) Whether registration/log-in to search a CDS tag number is required**

The Secretariat suggests that anyone who is interested can search SBT on the public domain of the CCSBT website without registration or login.

As noted in the above Section 2-(1), the Secretariat considers this initiative should be opened to broader users.

In principle, anyone who wishes to create a CCSBT web account to log-in to the private area is required to contact the CCSBT Secretariat (through the contact point of each Member, with clear notification on the access level for each account) for security reasons. Considering the process of creating a new CCSBT web account will take some time, users, especially those interested for the first time, may not be able to search in a timely manner, which could hinder the widespread and casual use of this initiative. In addition, account creation process would increase the Secretariat's administrative burden significantly.

It is possible to add a new automatic function to the CCSBT website to allow users to create their accounts without the Secretariat staff's direct intervention for this purpose. However, it is not recommended for security and administrative reasons, and it will also incur some additional costs. The Secretariat considers it more useful to collect statistics, such as the number of searches by country per month/year, rather than user's email addresses linked to the web account, to analyse user demographics for future improvement.

## **(3) Should a CMF number be included for search**

The Secretariat suggests not including a CMF number (nor other related CDS form numbers).

Market stakeholders (whole SBT buyer, wholesaler, exporter, and importer) may get the CDS document number as they may have direct access to those documents. Others who are interested (e.g. consumers) do not have access to CDS documents, and hence, CDS document numbers do not provide any additional information for them. Consequently, CMF numbers would not be informative for this CDS tag search.

## **(4) What extent of information should be made available from the webpage in the context of confidentiality**

The Secretariat suggests that, from traceability viewpoints, Members consider which CDS data items should be included in this SBT tag search based on the list in **Attachment A**.

In addition, the Secretariat suggests that Members authorise the Extended Commission/the Secretariat to release those CDS data items (as specified in **Attachment A**) for this open-access SBT search purposes.

In accordance with the [Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the CCSBT](#), individual CDS data is classified as Non-Public Domain data, with “Medium” confidentiality classification (see **Attachment B**). This means any individual CDS data items cannot be released to third parties, unless the Member of the Extended Commission that originally provided data authorises the EC to release them.

The Secretariat considers this confidentiality barrier on CDS data could be overcome if all Members clearly specify data items and give authorisation to release them for the SBT tag search purposes, and the EC approves such agreements as a part of the EC meeting report as the EC’s decision.

### (5) When open-access SBT search on the CCSBT website should be implemented

Japan’s original proposal suggested that installation of the search page should be started after full implementation of eCDS, even if CC 19 decides to establish the page. Currently, the EC aimed the full implementation of eCDS from 1 January 2026.

However, even though there is a time lag in data entry to the system from paper CDS forms, CDS data are accumulated in the CCSBT database, and open-access SBT search could be implemented earlier using the existing data as a trial basis.

The Secretariat suggests that the development of an open-access SBT search be commenced in 2025 (and deployed to the CCSBT website once the development work and Member testing is completed) if the Member agrees on the specification and approves the required budget.

### 3. Draft specifications of open-access SBT search

Based on the suggestions in the above Section 2, the Secretariat proposes draft specifications of open-access SBT search as below:

Items	Notes
Project name	Development of an open-access CCSBT webpage to search individual SBT information by CDS tag number (open-access SBT search)
Platform	Existing CCSBT website – Public Domain (no log-in required)
Data source	Existing eSBT/CCSBT Database
Data to be used	Selected CDS data provided by Members (Confidentiality classification: Medium)
Data/information items to be shown as a search result	Selected data items from relevant CDS forms ( <b>Attachment A</b> of this paper with changes by Members)
Data release authorisation	Members need to authorise the release of relevant data items. One approach for Members is to agree on the list of data items to be released at the CC meeting and get approval from the EC.
Targeted users	Anyone
Development and Implementation timing	First half of 2025 (so that Members can review a trial open-access SBT search at the CC 20 meeting in October 2025)

Items	Notes
Development work	Managed by the Secretariat (e.g. managing contracts and payments with/to service providers, liaising detailed technical coordination, coordinating other administrative aspects)
Interface image	See <b>Attachment C</b>

#### 4. Additional suggestion for functional expansion of open-access SBT search

As the Secretariat announced in Circular #2024/29, a new QR code option for CCSBT centralised CDS tags will become available from the 2025 fishing season.

If Members agree to develop open-access SBT search, the Secretariat suggests developing the system (CCSBT website) so that scanning the default QR code on CDS tags<sup>2</sup> automatically takes the user to the open-access SBT search result page.

This feature would facilitate the use of open-access SBT search and enhance its function as a traceability tool.

Currently, it is planned that related costs to make a QR code tag option available (initial costs of approximately AUD 5,500 (one-off), and testing costs AUD approximately 450 per year) be shared between Members who wish to choose this option in the 2025 fishing season. However, if Members agree with incorporating this function to open-access SBT search, the Secretariat suggests the EC cover these initial/testing costs related to QR code tag.

#### 5. Cost estimates for the development of open-access SBT search based on the draft specifications (Section 3) and suggested functional expansion (Section 4)

Cost estimates for the development of open-access SBT search based on the above sections are summarised below.

Cost item	Estimated Costs (AUD)	Notes
Update CCSBT website	2,800	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Add a new search column to the top page</li> <li>- Add a new routine to query related information to DB and show the result</li> <li>- Add a new routine to jump to SBT tag search result directly from scanning a QR code</li> <li>- Other adjustments when required</li> </ul>
Update eSBT	2200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update code to allow data exchange between eSBT and the CCSBT website</li> <li>- Other adjustments when required</li> </ul>

<sup>2</sup> Current default information included in the QR code on the CDS tag is a unique tag number only (when a user scans a QR code, the default web browser of the user's device is launched, with the tag number filled into the search window). It is possible to directly jump to the SBT tag search result window from scanning a QR code if it includes a specific internet address (e.g. <https://www.ccsbt.org/en/content/NZ25987654>).

Cost item	Estimated Costs (AUD)	Notes
Develop QR code option for CCSBT centralised CDS tag	6,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Software development (one-off, approx. AUD 3,000)</li> <li>- Code reading checker cost (one-off, approx. AUD 2,500)</li> <li>- Testing fee (approx. AUD 500 per year)</li> </ul>

## 6. Action required

Noting the strong support at CC 18 in 2023, CC 19 is invited to:

- 1) Consider the Secretariat's suggestions in response to questions raised at CC 18 (Section 2), and make required changes to the list of Data items for open-access SBT search in **Attachment A**;
- 2) Consider whether the CC 19 recommends the EC to approve the draft specifications (Sections 3 and 4) and draft budget (Section 5), with suggested changes by CC 19; and
- 3) If required, consider the next steps related to the open-access SBT search.

**Prepared by the Secretariat**

**The Secretariat's suggestion on information that should be made available from the webpage in the context of confidentiality**

Rules and Procedures for the Protection, Access to, and Dissemination of Data Compiled by the CCSBT classifies all data items in the table below as "Medium" that are not publicly available and require specific authorisation to be released.

**The Secretariat suggests Members decide which Tier(s) in the table below are authorised to be released for the open-access SBT search purposes.**

CDS Data item	Data from	Notes
<b>Tier 1 (Basic information on fish)</b>		
Catch/Harvest Member	Tag, CMF	Publicly available from tag number country code
Wild/Farmed	CMF	
Month of Catch/Harvest	CMF	
CCSBT Statistical Area	CMF	
<b>Tier 2 (Information on fisher/farm)</b>		
Name of Catching Vessel	CMF	Details are publicly available from the CCSBT website (authorised fishing vessel list)
Gear Code	CMF	Gear code should be translated to gear type (e.g. LL - Longline)
Name of Farm	CMF	Details are publicly available from the CCSBT website (authorised farm list)
<b>Tier 3 (Information on relevant activities after catch/harvest)</b>		
Transshipment (Y/N)	CMF	
Name of Receiving Vessel	CMF	Details are publicly available from the CCSBT website (authorised carrier vessel list)
Export (Y/N)	CMF	
Point of Export	CMF	
Landing of Domestic Product (Y/N)	CMF	"Point of Landing" information is not included in the CDS form
Import (Y/N)	CMF	

CDS Data item	Data from	Notes
Import City, State or Province, State/Fishing Entity	CMF	
Re-Export or Export after Landing of Domestic Product	REEF	
Point of Re-Export	REEF	
Import City, State or Province, State/Fishing Entity	REEF	
<b>Tier 4 (Dates of certification/validation for legality check)</b>		
Catch/Harvest Validation date	CMF	
Export Certification Date	CMF	
Export Validation Date	CMF	
Landing Certified Date	CMF	
Import Certified Date	CMF	
Export Certification Date	REEF	
Export Validation Date	REEF	
Import Certified Date	REEF	
<b>Tier 5 (Not informative for traceability purposes)</b>		
CMF/REEF/CTF number	CMF	Not informative as the third-party does not have access to CMF/CTF.
Fresh/Frozen	CMF	Not informative as the status of the product before the searching person may be different.
Type: RD/GGO/GGT/DRO/DRT/FL/OT	CMF	Not informative as the status of the product before the searching person may be different.
<b>Tier 6 (Includes private or commercially confidential information)</b>		
Name of Processing Establishment (if applicable)	CMF	This includes private information.
Catch/Harvest Validator Name and Title	CMF	This includes private information.
Export Certifier Name	CMF	This includes private information.
Export Validator Name and Title	CMF	This includes private information.

<b>CDS Data item</b>		<b>Data from</b>	<b>Notes</b>
	Landing Certifier Name	CMF	This includes private information.
	Import Certifier Name	CMF	This includes private information.
	Name of Processing Establishment	REEF	This includes private information.
	Export Certifier Name	REEF	This includes private information.
	Export Validator Name and Title	REEF	This includes private information.
	Import Certifier Name	REEF	This includes private information.
	Weight (kg)	CTF	Commercially confidential for a specific Member. The status of the product before the searching person may be different.
	Fork Length (cm)	CTF	Commercially confidential for a specific Member. The status of the product before the searching person may be different.



Extract of

**RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE PROTECTION, ACCESS TO,  
AND DISSEMINATION OF DATA COMPILED BY THE CCSBT**

**1. Basic principles relating to the dissemination of the data by the CCSBT under these rules**

1. Data and information specified in Table 1 and held by the CCSBT or its Secretariat, and by service providers or contractors acting on their behalf, shall only be released in accordance with these Rules and Procedures.
2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, data may be released if the Member (or Cooperating Non-Member) of the Extended Commission providing the data to the CCSBT authorises its release.

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**2. Risk classification and definition of confidentiality**

7. Data covered by these Rules and Procedures will be classified in accordance with the risk classification methodology included in **Table 1**, which reflects *inter alia* the damage that would be done to the operations or credibility of the Extended Commission as a consequence of the unauthorised disclosure of such information.
8. Data covered by these Rules and Procedures are determined to be either public domain or non-public domain data in accordance with the confidentiality risk classification established in **Table 1**.

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**3. Dissemination of Public Domain Data**

9. Except for data as described in Paragraph 10, the types of data listed in Table 1 with a “No risk” classification have been designated to be Public Domain data.
10. Data in the public domain shall not reveal the individual activities or identity of any vessel, entity or person.

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**4. Dissemination of Non-Public Domain Data**

***4.1 Definition of Non-Public Domain Data***

13. Subject to the decisions of the Extended Commission, all types of data not described in paragraph 9 shall be referred to as Non-Public Domain data.

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***4.5 Disseminations of Non-Public Domain data in other circumstances***

23. Non-Public Domain data will be made available by the Secretariat to any persons<sup>3</sup> if the Member or CNM of the Extended Commission that originally provided that data authorises the Extended Commission to release them. In cases where a Member or CNM of the Extended Commission elects to provide an ongoing authorisation for the release of such data, the Member

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<sup>3</sup> Including universities, researchers, NGOs, media, consultants, industry, federations, etc.

or CNM may at any time cancel this authorisation by notifying the Secretariat that it has revised its earlier decision.

24. Conditions for access to Non-Public Domain data by each non-Member shall be determined on a case by case basis by the Member or CNM of the Extended Commission that originally provided the data. At the discretion of that Member or CNM, these conditions may or may not involve procedures similar to those specified at Attachment 2.

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**Table 1: Types of information and confidentiality risk classification.**

Information types that have not received a risk classification within this table will not be managed within these confidentiality rules. However, this table may be updated by the Extended Commission from time to time, including through intercessional agreement between Members of the Extended Commission, as required.

With the exception of approved summaries of certain information types below, the following broad dissemination principles apply to the four confidentiality risk classifications<sup>4</sup>:

- “No risk”: Publicly available and may be placed on the public area of the CCSBT web site.
- “Low Risk”: Not publicly available. However, unless stated otherwise, these data are available to all Members and CNMs without specific approval and may be placed on the private area of the CCSBT web site and on the CCSBT Data CD. These data may also be shared with other RFMOs subject to paragraph 22.
- “Medium Risk”: Not publicly available. Requires specific authorisation to be released. May not be placed on the CCSBT Data CD or on the private area of the CCSBT web site (unless in a special part of the private area that is further restricted to specifically authorised people).
- “High Risk”: Not publicly available. Requires specific authorisation to be released. May not be placed on the CCSBT Data CD or on the private area of the CCSBT web site.

Information Type	Risk Classification
....	....
Catch Documentation Scheme and Trade Information Scheme.	Medium
....	....

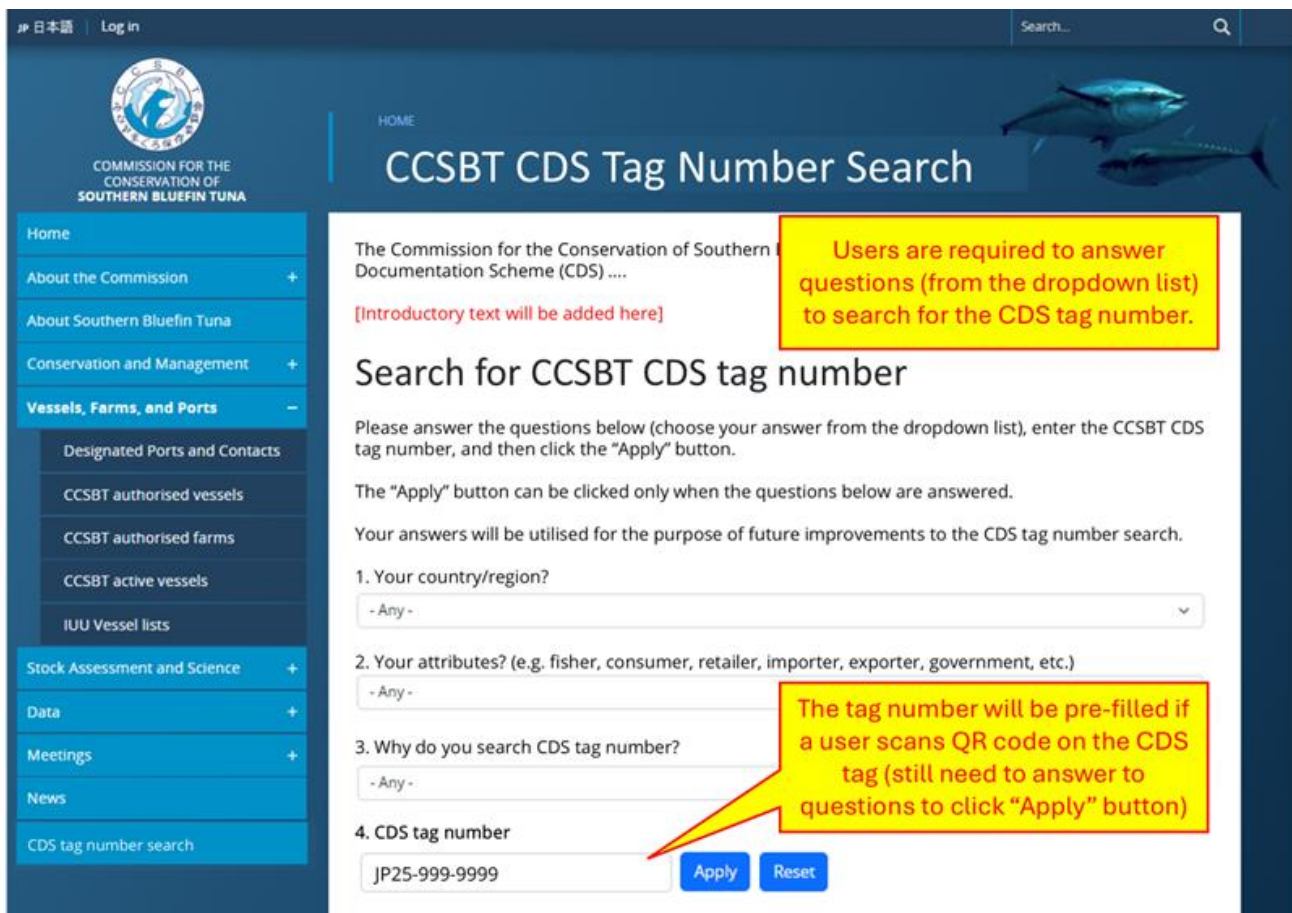
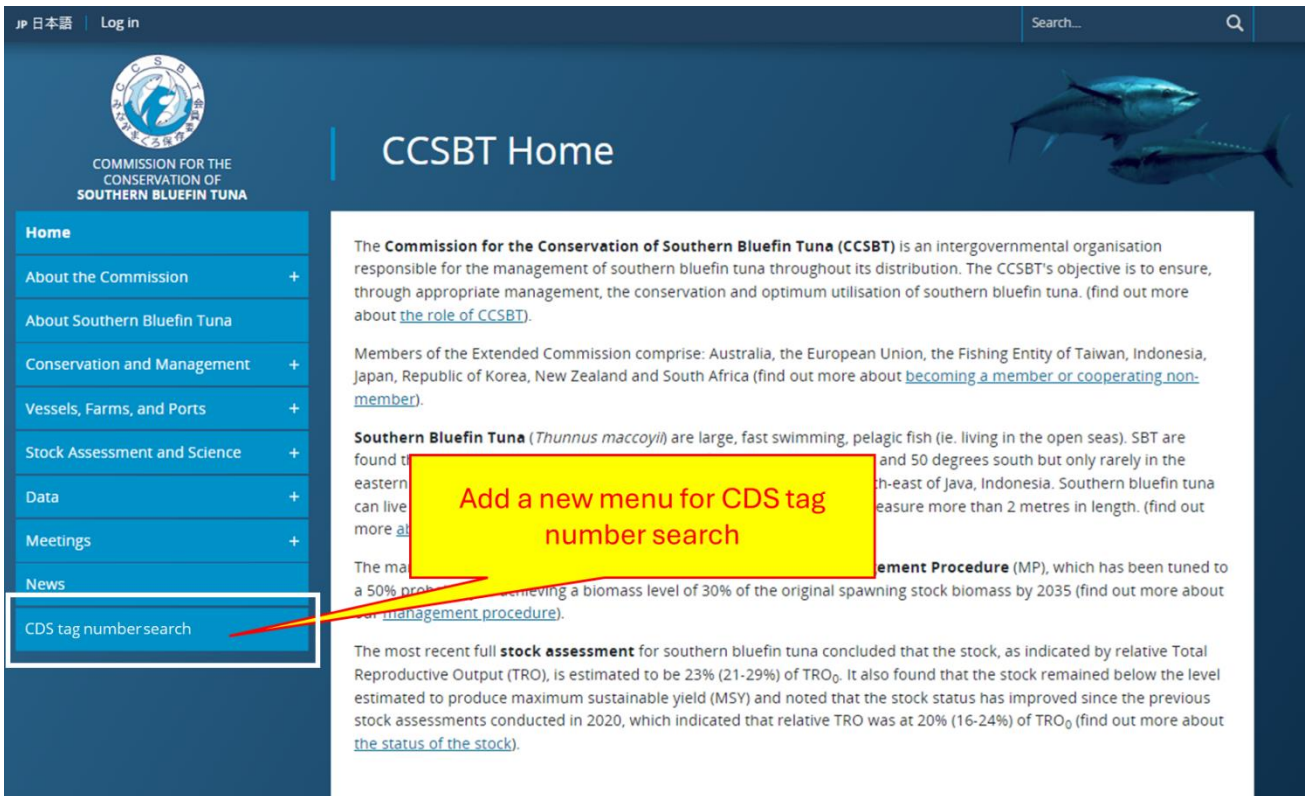
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**Table 2: Annotations on information types mentioned in Table 1.**


Information Type	Annotations
....	....
Catch Documentation Scheme and Trade Information Scheme	Data collected through the CCSBT Catch Documentation and Trade Information Schemes
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<sup>4</sup> The four risk classifications are also differentiated by the required level of security that applies to each classification as specified in the CCSBT Data Confidentiality Security Policy.

Interface image of the open-access SBT search on the CCSBT website



JP 日本語 | Log in | Search...



COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA

HOME

# JP25-999-9999

- Home
- About the Commission +
- About Southern Bluefin Tuna
- Conservation and Management +
- Vessels, Farms, and Ports +
- Stock Assessment and Science +
- Data +
- Meetings +
- News
- CDS tag number search

Catch/Harvest Member: Japan  
 Wild/Farmed: Wild  
 Name of Catching Vessel: Fishing Vessel 01  
 Name of Farm: -  
 Month of Catch/Harvest: DD MM YY  
 Gear Code: LL (Longline)  
 CCSBT Statistical Area: 9  
 Catch/Harvest Validation date: DD MM YY  
 Transhipment: Yes (at sea)  
 Name of Receiving Vessel: Carrier Vessel 01  
 Export: No  
 Point of Export: -  
 Export Validation Date: -  
 Export Certification Date: -  
 Landing of Domestic Product: Yes  
 Landing Certified Date: DD MM YY

Example of a search-result page

- Conservation and Management +
- Vessels, Farms, and Ports -
- Designated Ports and Contacts
- CCSBT authorised vessels
- CCSBT authorised farms
- CCSBT active vessels
- IUU Vessel lists
- Stock Assessment and Science +
- Data +
- Meetings +
- News
- CDS tag number search

## Search for CCSBT CDS tag number

Please answer the questions below (choose your answer from the dropdown list), enter the CCSBT CDS tag number, and then click the "Apply" button.

The "Apply" button can be clicked only when the questions below are answered.

Your answers will be utilised for the purpose of future improvements to the CDS tag number search.

- Your country/region?
- Your attributes? (e.g. fisher, consumer, retailer, importer, exporter, government, etc.)
- Why do you search CDS tag number?
- CDS tag number

The Search result may be displayed on the same page

CDS Tag No.	Catch/Harvest Member	Wild/Farmed	Month of Catch/Harvest	CCSBT Statistical Area
JP25999999	Japan	Wild	Oct 2024	9