Commission for the Conservation of
Southern Bluefin Tuna

みなみまぐろ保存委員会

CCSBT-ESC/2608/04 Rev1

Secretariat Review of Catches (ESC agenda item 4.2)

This paper provides an update of the reported SBT global catches, catch and effort, and exports from CCSBT Members and Cooperating Non-Members.

1) Global SBT Catch

The global catch by flag is provided at **Attachment A**. The new and updated figures were obtained from the 2026 Data Exchange. The estimated total reported catch for the 2025 calendar year was 19,488t, an increase of 891t or 4.8% from the 2024 calendar year. The global TAC for the 2025 fishing season was 20,647t (before carry-forward adjustments). Of this, 20,641t was allocated to Members and 6t was reserved for Research Mortality Allowance.

The figures in **Attachment A** that differ from those in the report of the 2025 Extended Scientific Committee (ESC) meeting are italicised and shown in red.

For the Global Catch Table, the following should once again be noted:

- The column for "Retrospective unreported catch estimate scenarios" is separated into a surface fisheries catch scenario and a longline fisheries catch scenario. However, due to confidentiality that still exists in relation to these catch scenarios, the Secretariat recommends that the global catch table in the ESC report should:
    - exclude the retrospective catch estimate scenarios; and
    - contain the following explanatory text:
      "Reviews of southern bluefin tuna data presented to a Special Meeting of the Commission in 2006 suggested that the catches may have been substantially under-reported over the previous 10 to 20 years, and the data presented here do not yet include estimates for this unreported catch"

  In addition, due to confidentiality concerns, the Secretariat recommends that **Attachment A** of the present paper be excluded from the public domain.

Attachment B provides charts of global annual reported catch by flag (figure 1), by gear (figure 2) and by CCSBT statistical area and gear (figure 3 – for statistical areas where annual catch has exceeded 200mt for at least one year).

The following table provides the global TAC agreed by the CCSBT for each fishing season since adoption of the CCSBT Management Procedure together with the total reported catch of Members and Cooperating Non-Members against the TAC for those fishing seasons.

Fishing Season	TAC* (t)	TAC* + Carry-Forward[1]	Backdated Adjusted TAC*,[2]	Reported Catch (t)
2012	10,449	10,385	10,161	10,214
2013	10,949	11,128	10,912	11,433
2014	12,449	12,620	12,542	12,803
2015	14,637	14,670	14,445	14,108
2016	14,637	14,816	14,474	14,117
2017	14,637	14,934	14,168	14,102
2018	17,335	18,101	17,438	16,949
2019	17,335	17,998	17,474	16,830
2020	17,335	17,859	16,339	15,909
2021	17,641	19,161	17,768	16,611
2022	17,641	19,034	17,571	16,396
2023	17,641	19,105	17,975	17,014
2024	20,642	21,772	19,208	18,129
2025	20,642	23,205	21,084	18,891[3]
2026	20,642	22,764	N/A	N/A

* The TAC figures exclude RMA allowance and any allowance for IUU catch by Non-Members.

Indonesia exceeded its Total Available Catch for the 2020 fishing season by 456.6t. Members agreed that it will repay this amount by reducing its Total Available Catch by 91.3t for each of the 2022-2026 fishing seasons (Report of the Twenty Eighth Annual Meeting of the Commission).

2) Catch and Effort

The table below shows the number of active vessels by flag from 2016 to 2025. A vessel is considered active if the Secretariat has received CDS data (Catch Monitoring Form or Farm Stocking Form) indicating that the vessel caught SBT.

Flag	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Australia	32	26	40	34	37	36	38	45	43	42
Indonesia	107	108	139	150	154	150	170	236	211	201
Japan	85	86	87	85	79	77	69	73	65	44
Korea	11	12	10	11	9	9	9	9	9	9
New Zealand	41	36	37	29	31	36	59	35	27	20
South Africa	16	11	21	19	18	20	19	27	30	24
Taiwan	60	75	77	72	68	59	55	64	57	48
Total	**352**	**354**	**411**	**400**	**396**	**387**	**419**	**489**	**442**	**388**

[1] This includes over-catch payback amounts that are treated as a negative carry-forward.
[2] Carry forward amounts have been deducted from the TAC of the year carried forward from for this column. The 'Backdated Adjusted TAC' therefore redistributes the TAC across years according to the carry forward amounts. Comparing reported catch to this figure gives a more accurate indication of actual global over-catch and under-catch.
[3] For some Members, the 2025 fishing season does not finish until 31 March 2026. The reported catch for the 2025 fishing season is a preliminary estimate based on various sources of information, including the 2026 Data Exchange, Monthly Catch Reports, other reports from Members and the Catch Documentation Scheme.

Maps of Catch and Effort Distribution are provided in **Attachment C.** There are two series of charts, the first presents catch and effort distribution by year from 2011 to 2025, and the second presents average annual catch and effort by 5-year groups from 1981 to 2025

For all maps the following should be noted:

- The data are combined catch and effort for Australia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, South Africa, Taiwan, and do not include catch or effort for the European Union, Indonesia, or the Philippines, for which we do not have a representative time-series of catch and effort or raised catch data. In the European Union's case, this is because it has been reporting zero catch of SBT. Indonesia has provided catch and effort data for 2018 to 2025, but this represents less than 6% of its total catch for most years.
- Effort is for longline only and is shown as a heat map with dark red showing the highest concentration of effort, fading to pink and then shown as grey for the lowest effort. These data are from aggregated catch and effort data provided to the annual scientific data exchange. For some Members these data are not raised but coverage is generally high, especially for recent years. Effort data provided under the data exchange are not equal with Members using different rules for selecting data. For most map series the effort heat maps are not on a common scale and show relative effort concentration for each map. Effort is therefore presented for indicative purposes only and does not represent the best estimate of fishing effort that is targeting or catching SBT.
- Catch is taken from raised catch data provided to the annual scientific data exchange and is represented by circles on the maps.
- There are two separate and different catch scales on the maps, one for longline (yellow) and handline catches (blue), and another for pole-and-line (red) and purse seine catches (green). The catch scales are the same for all maps in a series.

3) Catch Documentation Scheme statistics

At ESC12, the meeting requested that the Secretariat provide Trade Information Scheme (TIS) information for future meetings of the ESC. The Trade Information Scheme ended on 31 December 2009 and was replaced by the Catch Documentation Scheme (CDS) as of 1 January 2010. TIS data are no longer be reported in this paper and are available in paper CCSBT-ESC/1509/04. This paper only presents data that have been taken from the CDS scheme, from 2010 onwards.

The complete details of the CDS scheme are available on the CCSBT web site at: https://www.ccsbt.org/sites/default/files/userfiles/file/docs_english/operational_resolutions/Resolution_CDS.pdf.

There are some limitations to the CDS that should be noted:

- The time lags between catch, landing, export and import for some SBT fisheries can result in lengthy delays before all catch information is available.
- The scheme involves reporting of net weights and product types on CDS documents. However, not all Members have provided conversion factors for converting these to whole weight estimates and consequently, default conversion factors must often be used.
- Catch data from farms are taken from the farm stocking forms and allocated to catch year by using the catch harvest dates on the forms. The catch harvest dates are a range that can be several months and span across years. In the case where the dates span across years the catch has been apportioned to the years using the number of days in each year, but these estimates will not always match actual catch by year and therefore may differ from the relevant Members' official catch figures.

Bearing in mind the limitations of the CDS, Table 1 of **Attachment D** provides a summary of the catch per year and flag. Table 1 uses data from both Catch Monitoring Forms (for Wild Caught SBT) and Farm Stocking Forms (for Farmed SBT) under the CDS Scheme.

Table 2 of **Attachment D** shows the conversion factors used in producing Table 1. When a conversion factor was supplied with the form then the provided conversion factor was used, if not then the factor shown in the table was used. Australian data with codes of GG, GGH, GGO, or GGT were converted using the Australian specific factors even if a conversion factor was provided. Conversion factors were provided mostly for Australian forms with processed codes of OT, LOI, and GGH, with a range of factors provided. Conversion factors were also provided for a small number of New Zealand and Indonesian forms.

CDS import and export statistics are reported in detail by the Secretariat to the Compliance Committee in Attachment C of the paper 'Compliance with CCSBT Management Measures'. The most recent version of this paper can be downloaded here: https://www.ccsbt.org/system/files/2025-09/CC20_04_Compliance_with_Measures_Rev_2.pdf.

4) Non-Member Effort in SBT Catch Areas

Maps of Non-Member longline effort by year from 2013 to 2024 are provided in **Attachment E**. The maps show SBT catch distribution for each year as heat maps, taken from CCSBT raised catch data, with pies of longline effort for Non-Members South of 20°S. The pies are proportional in size to total effort in the 5x5 degree square. Effort data is from IOTC, ICCAT, and WCPFC. The purpose of these maps is to provide a visual indication of the distribution of Non-Member effort with respect to known SBT catch areas, and to show any changes in fishing area by Non-Members over time. The Indian Ocean appears to have the largest overlap of Non-Member effort with SBT catch areas, particularly the Chinese fleet whose effort in that area of overlap has increased in the last four years. Note that these maps do not take any consideration of time of the year for the effort or catches of SBT.

Prepared by the Secretariat

Attachment A

This attachment is only available in the Members version of this report

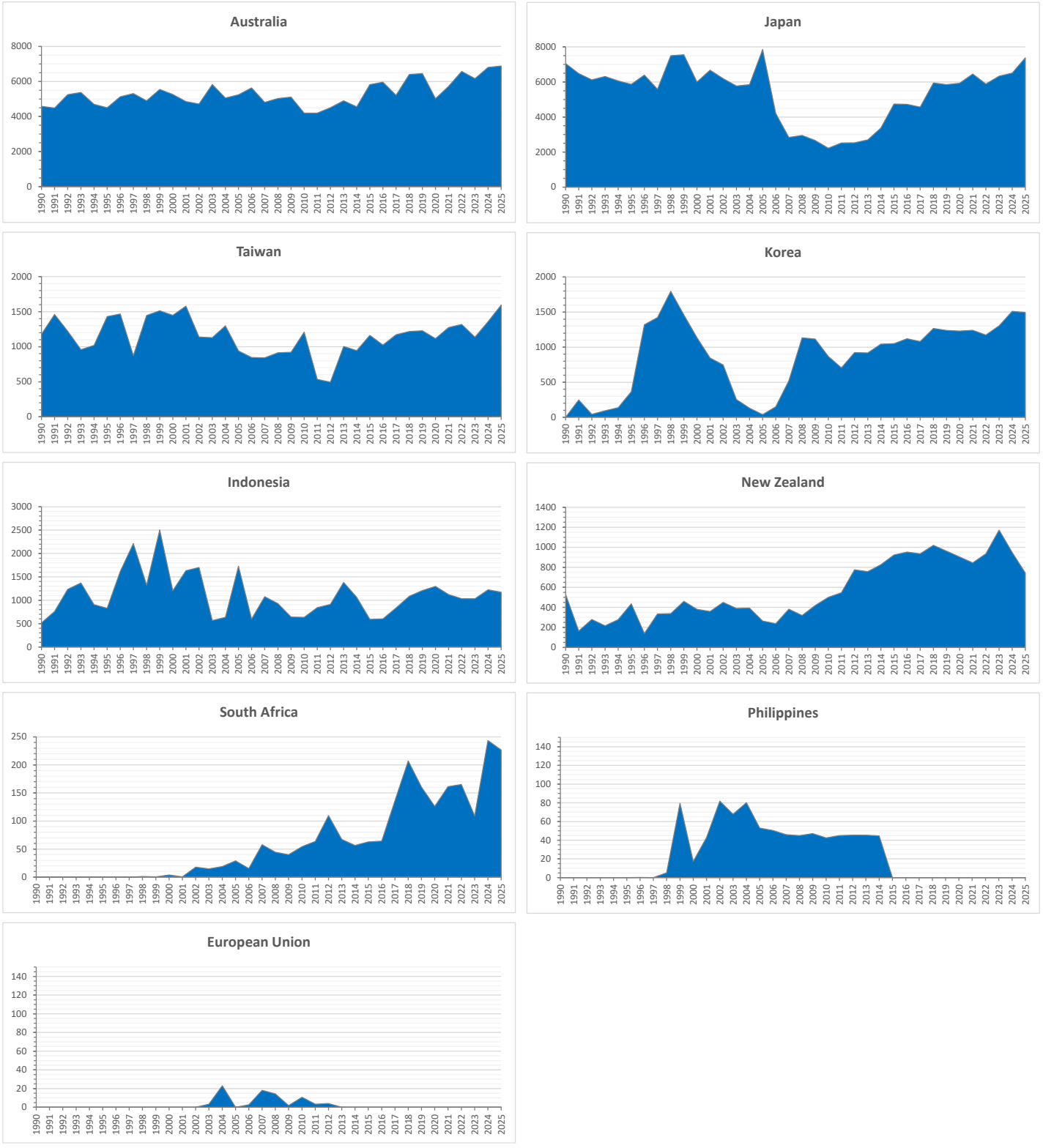


Figure 1 – Annual Global catch by Flag

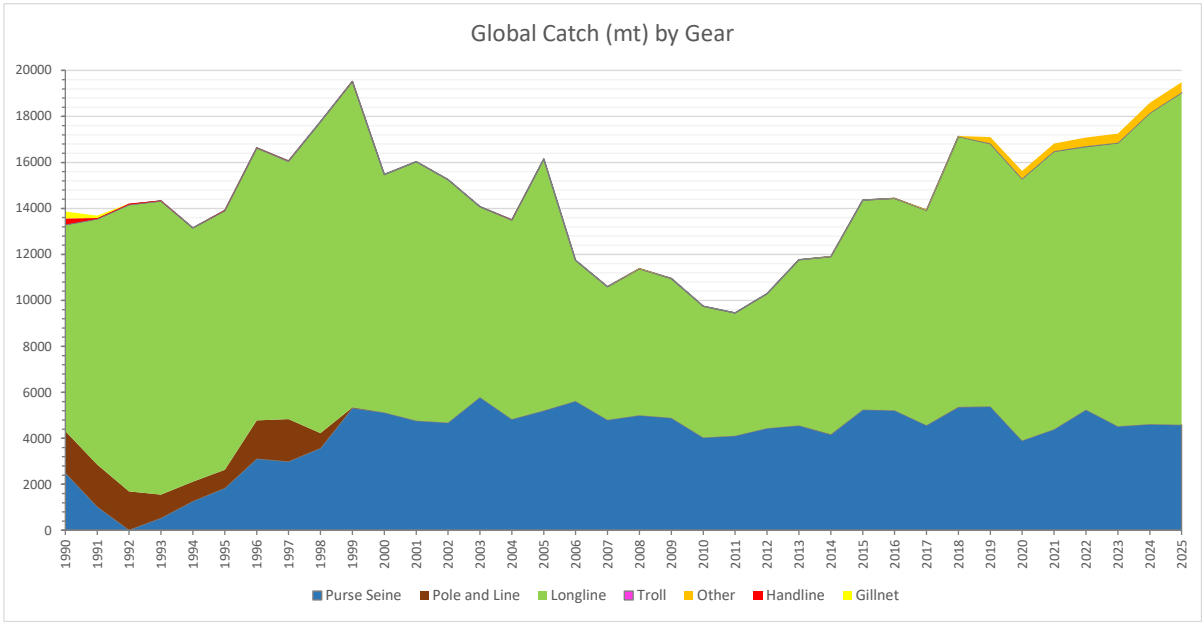


Figure 2 – Annual Global catch by Gear

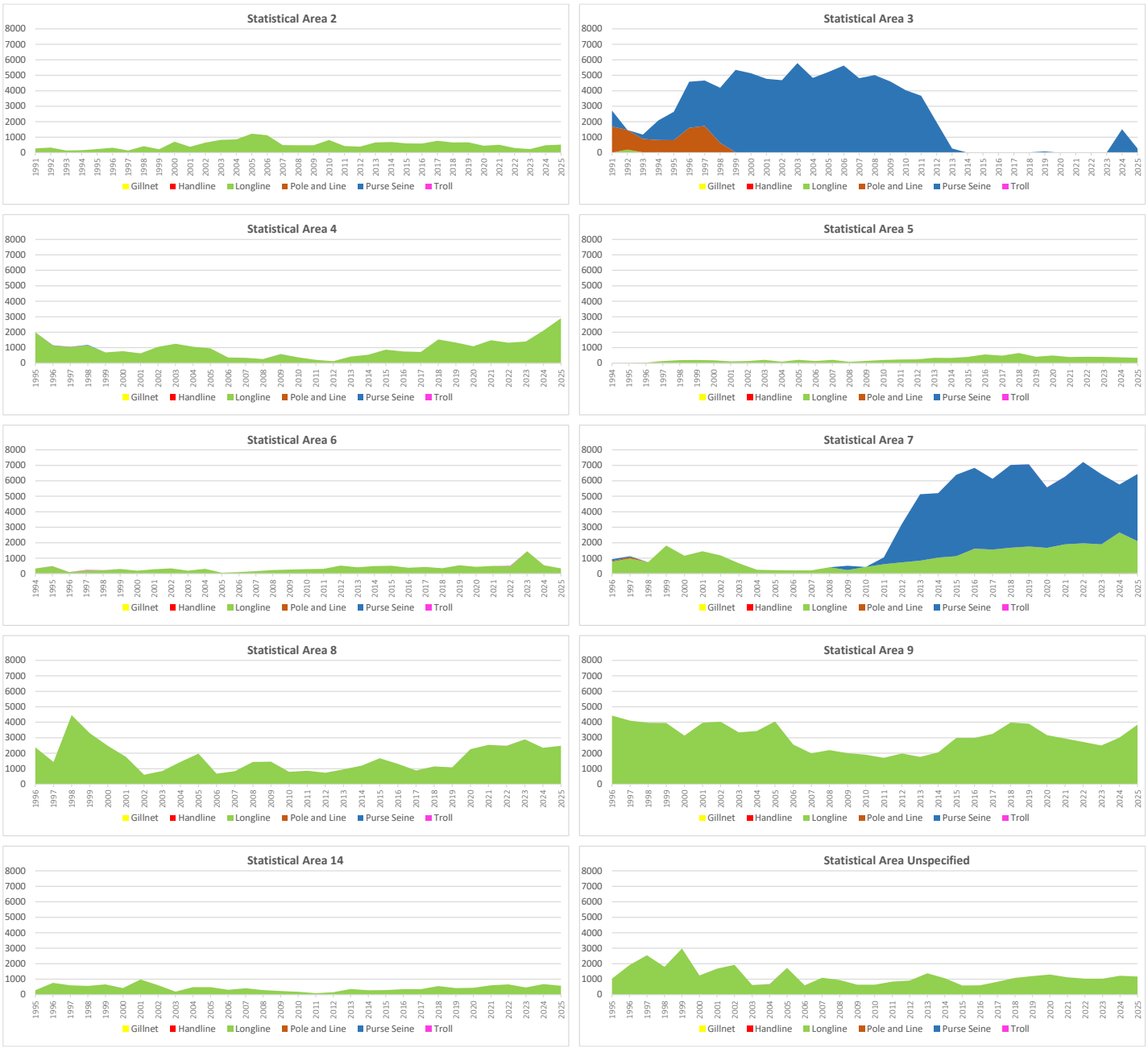
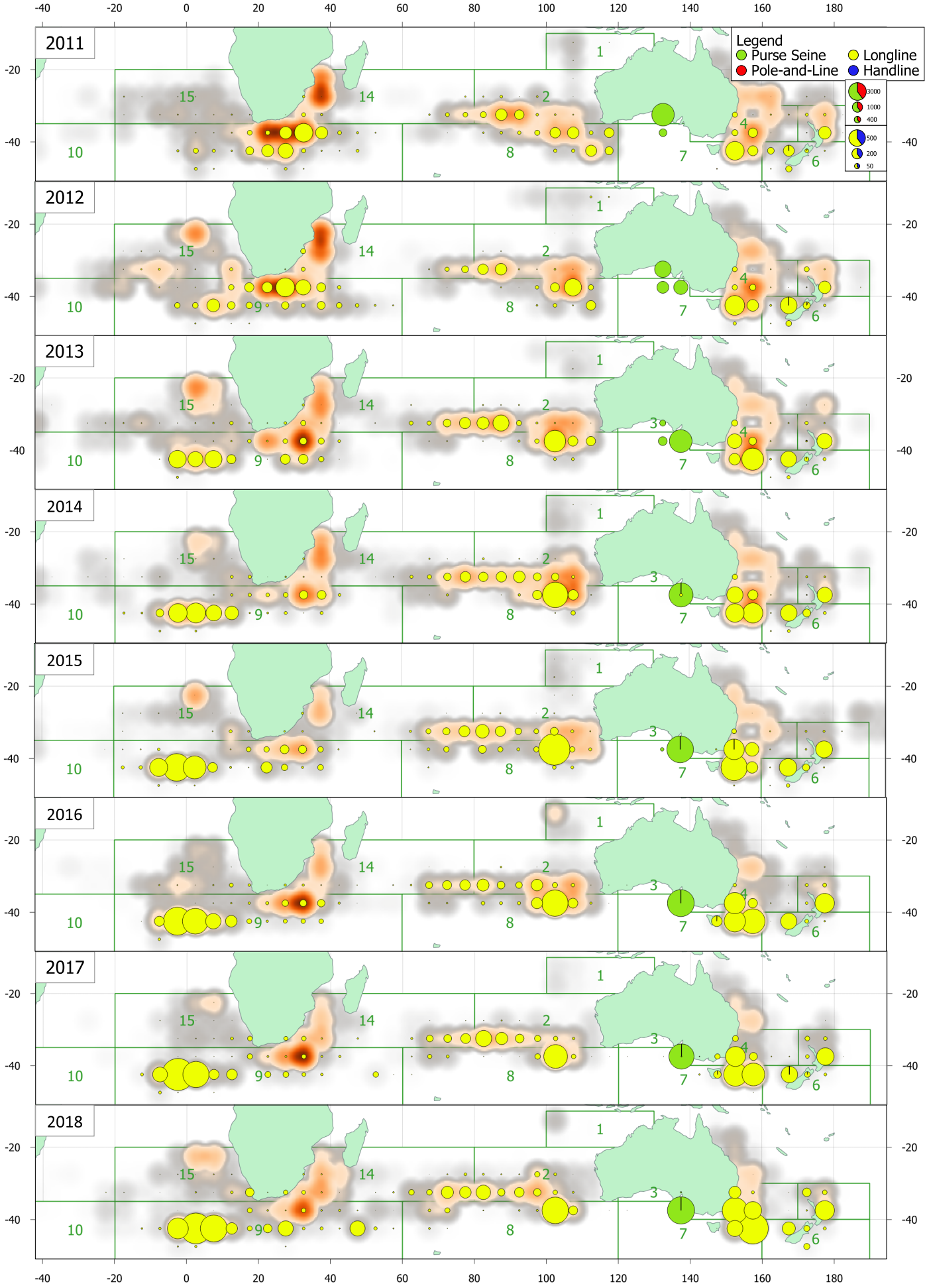
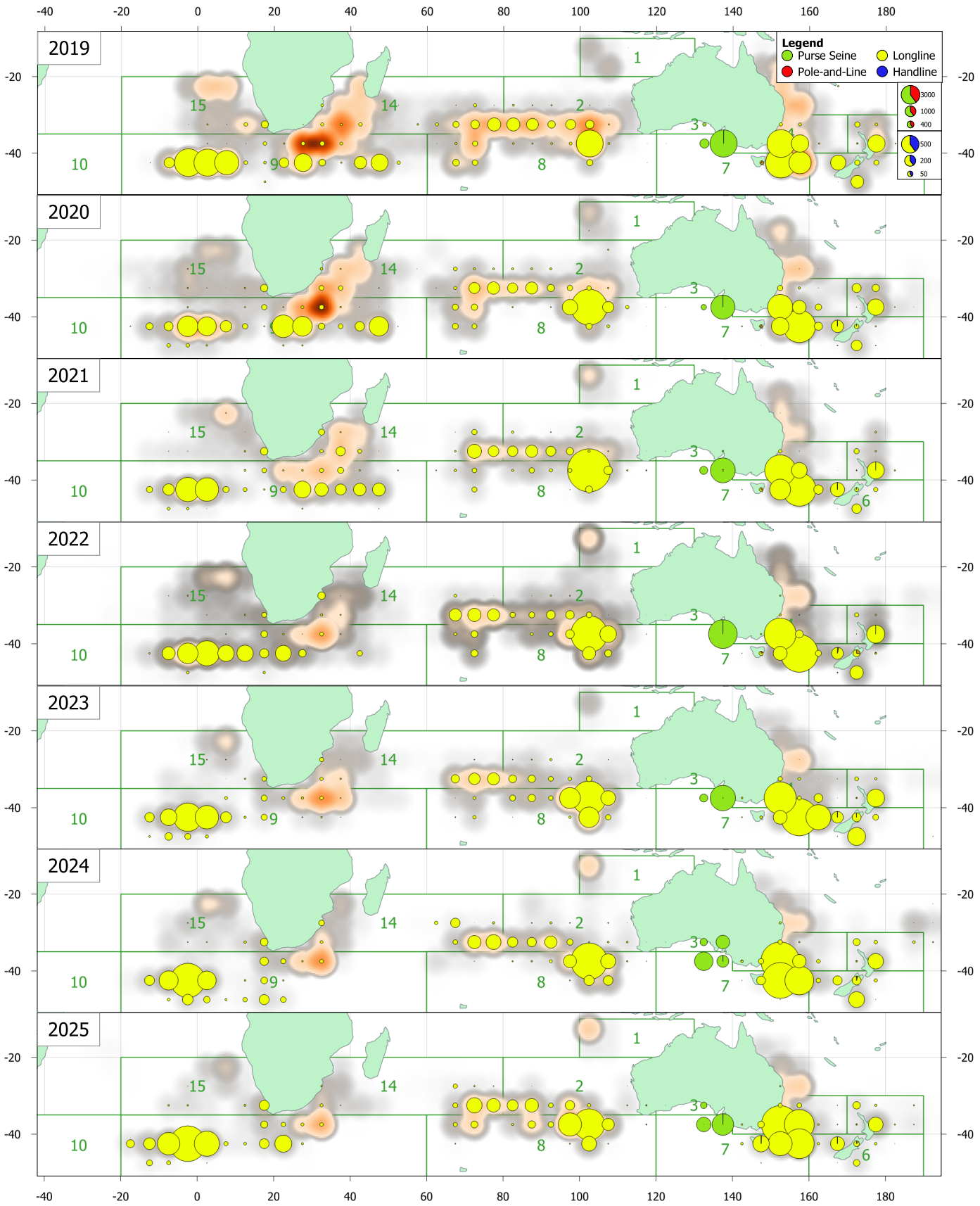


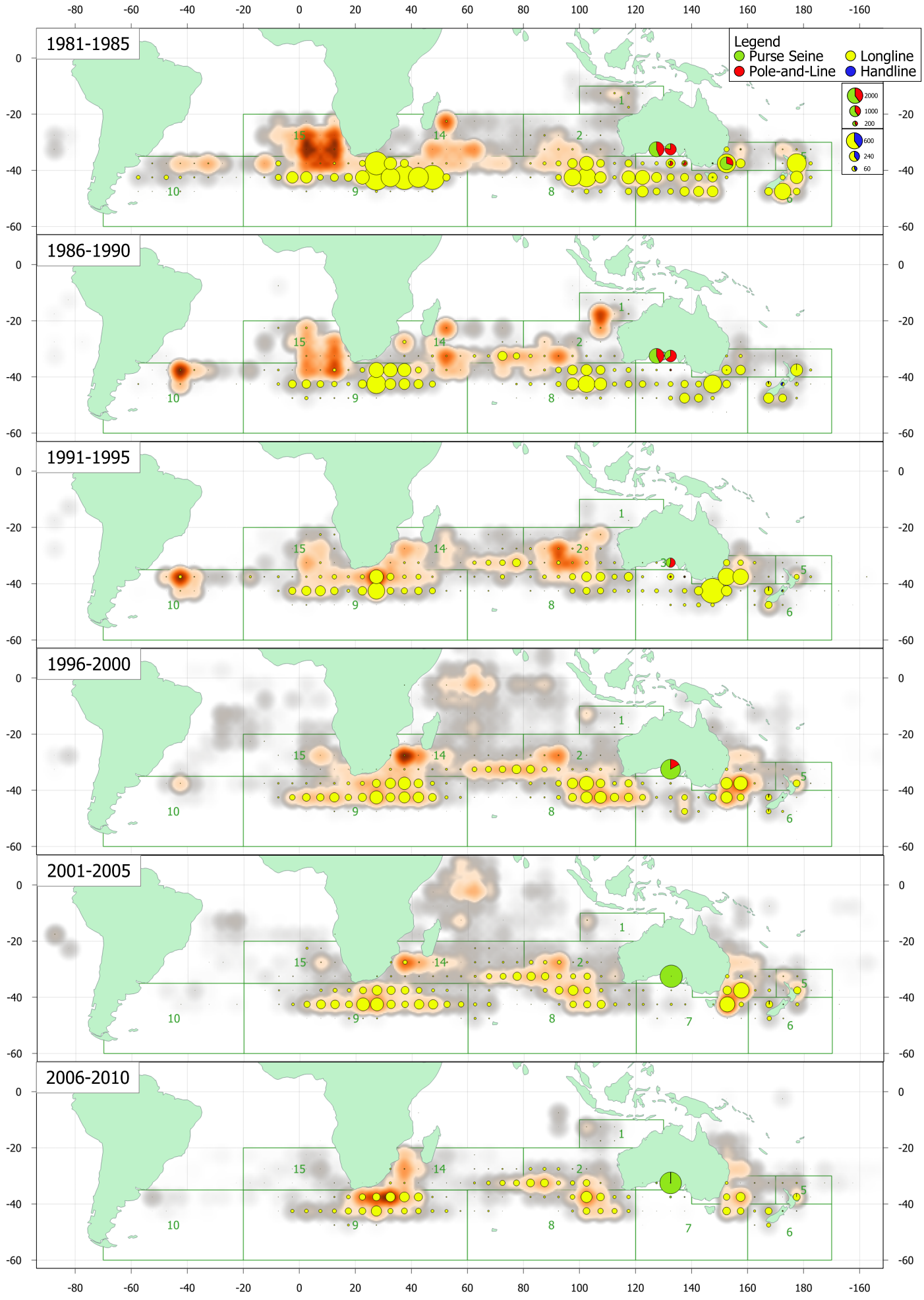
Figure 3 – Annual Global catch by Statistical Area and Gear

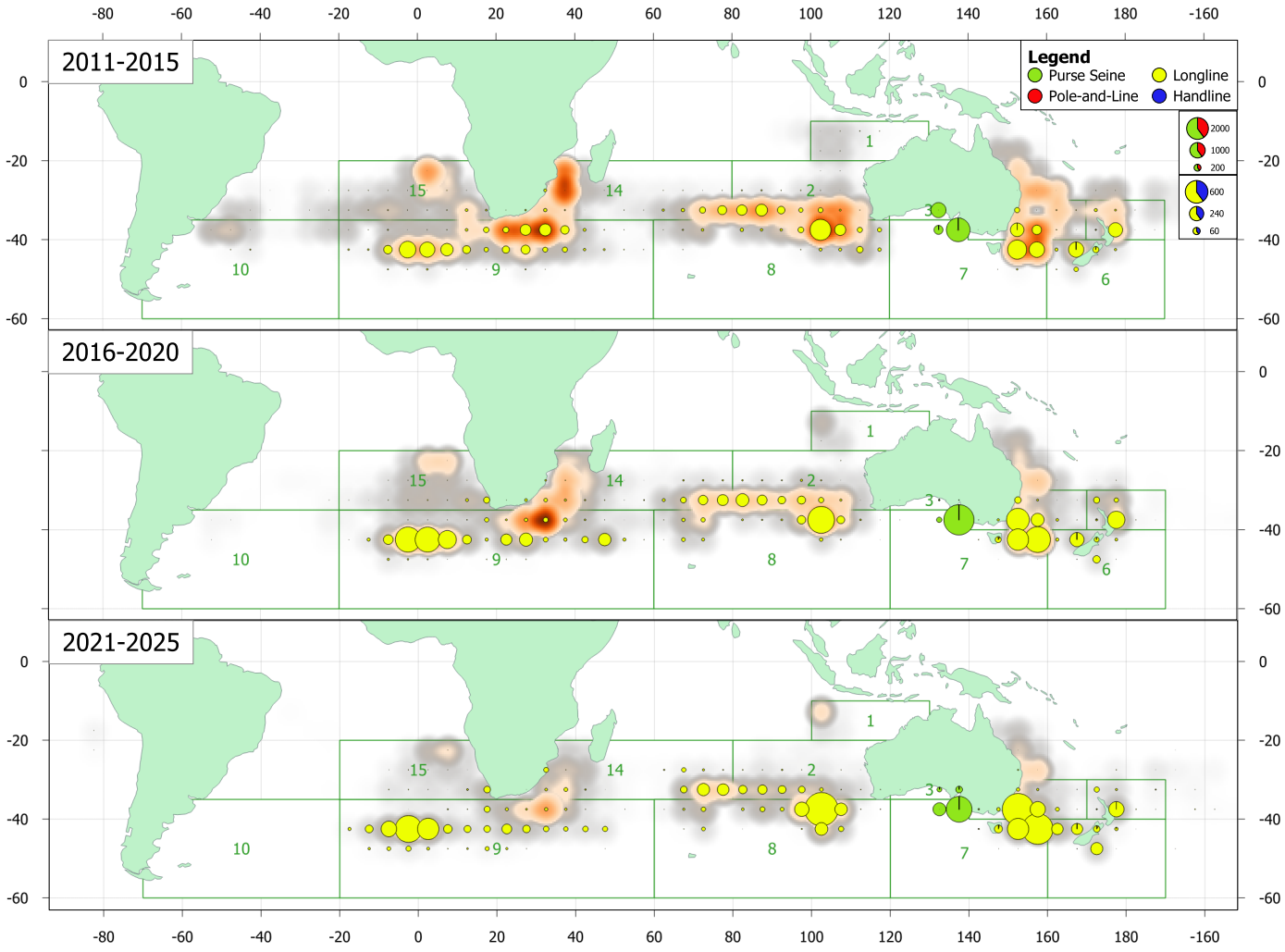
Distribution of longline effort (heat map of hooks from Catch and Effort data) and proportional pies of raised catch for all available flags combined by year (see text for more details - 2020 and 2021 have no South Africa data).
Note - The scale for Purse Seine/Pole-and-Line is not the same as the Longline/Handline scale, but the two scales are the same for all of the maps below.




2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025
Legend
Purse Seine
Longline
Pole-and-Line
Handline
3000
1000
400
500
200
50
-40
-20
0
20
40
60
80
100
120
140
160
180
-20
-40
1
2
3
7
8
9
10
14
15
6

Distribution of longline effort (heat map of hooks from Catch and Effort data) and proportional pies of average annual raised catch for all available flags by 5 year period (see text for more details).
Note - The scale for Purse Seine/Pole-and-Line is not the same as the Longline/Handline scale, but scales are standard for all maps.




2011-2015
2016-2020
2021-2025
Legend
Purse Seine
Longline
Pole-and-Line
Handline
2000
1000
200
600
240
60
1
2
3
6
7
8
9
10
14
15
-80
-60
-40
-20
0
20
40
60
80
100
120
140
160
180
-160
0
-20
-40
-60

Summary Statistics from the CCSBT Trade Information Scheme and Catch Documentation Scheme

Table 1: Catch estimates from CDS Documents (2010-2025). The conversion factors shown in Table 2 were used to convert processed weights into whole weight estimates. Data for 2025 may be incomplete due to time lags in the CDS. No correction is made for missing documents. Highlighted cells show cases where CDS estimates are higher than nationally reported catch by more than 2.5%, which is unexpected.

	Estimated **Whole Weight** of Catch (tonnes) from CDS									
Catch Year[(i)]	Australia (farms)[(ii)]	Australia (capture)	Japan	New Zealand	Korea	Taiwan[(iii)]	Indonesia	Philippines	South Africa	Other
2010	3,990	162	2,167	501	867	1,227	613	43	29	0
2011	4,119	86	2,428	556	713	550	732	45	53	0
2012	4,557	58	2,485	776	922	492	846	46	77	0
2013	4,618	343	2,578	749	918	995	1,372	46	60	0
2014	3,967	396	3,365	817	1,044	971	1,052	45	47	0
2015	5,613	572	4,746	907	1,069	1,193	586	0	58	0
2016	4,942	747	4,609	955	1,157	1,030	596	0	64	0
2017	4,572	653	4,570	898	1,111	1,183	835	0	150	0
2018	5,126	1,048	5,950	990	1,286	1,224	1,087	0	257	0
2019	5,218	821	5,847	955	1,249	1,244	1,206	0	197	0
2020	4,737	867	5,928	844	1,243	1,124	1,298	0	127	0
2021	4,665	1,069	6,405	784	1,246	1,275	1,123	0	129	
2022	4,457	1,020	5,808	871	1,182	1,326	1,031	0	162	0
2023	4,525	1,348	6,335	1,086	1,302	1,127	1,031	0	119	
2024	4,792	1,813	6,502	875	1,525	1,357	1,224	0	264	0
2025	4,004	1,830	7,375	657	1,493	1,593	1,040	0	234	0

[(i)] Catch Year is taken from the Harvest Data provided on the Catch Monitoring Form or Farm Stocking Form (for Farms)

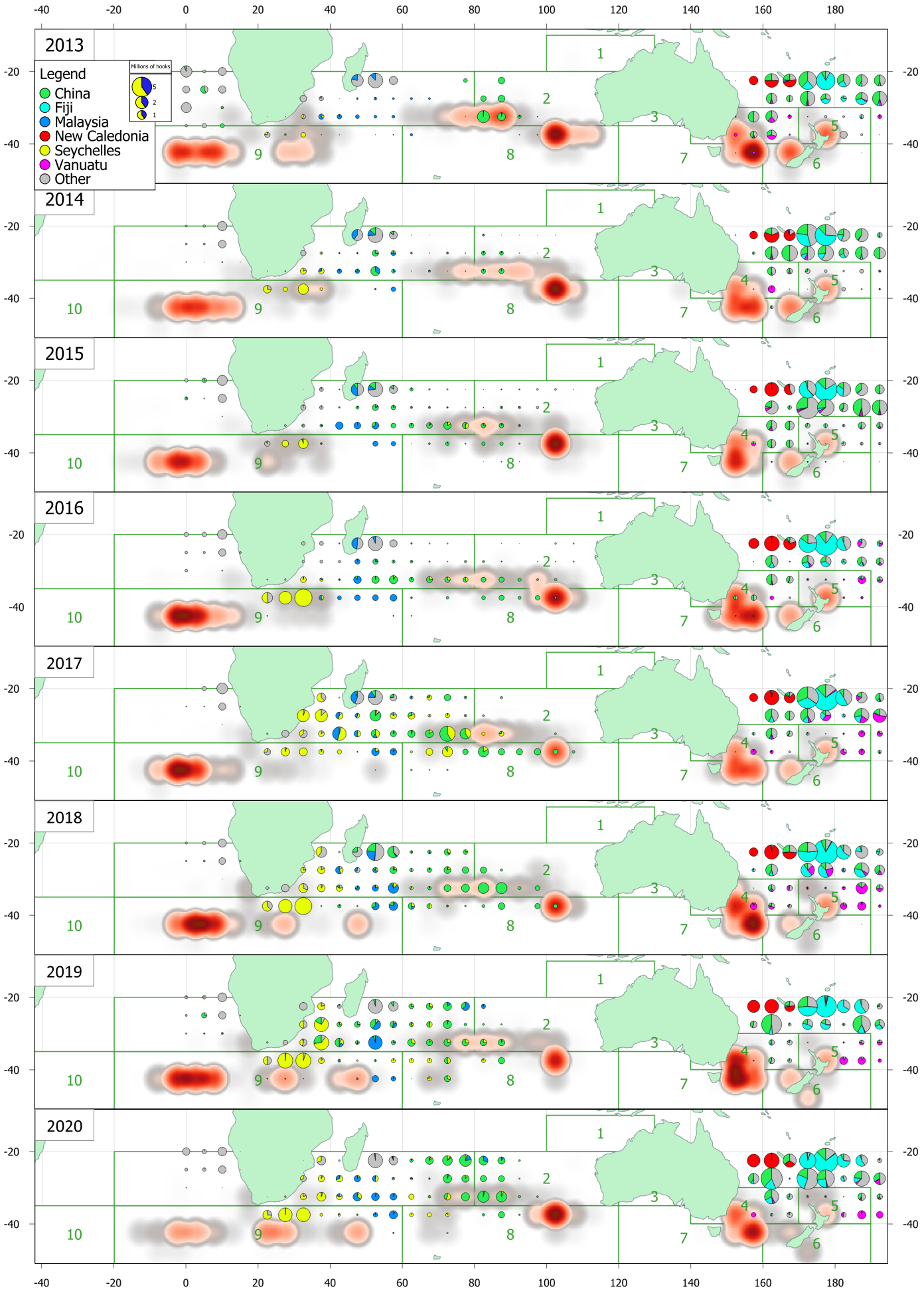
[(ii)] Catch data from Farms is taken from the Farm Stocking Forms. The catch harvest dates are used to apportion catch to years. When the catch harvest dates span across years, the catch has been apportioned to each year based on the number of days of harvest in each year since no detailed catch information is on the farm stocking forms. These estimates by year will therefore not always match actual catch.

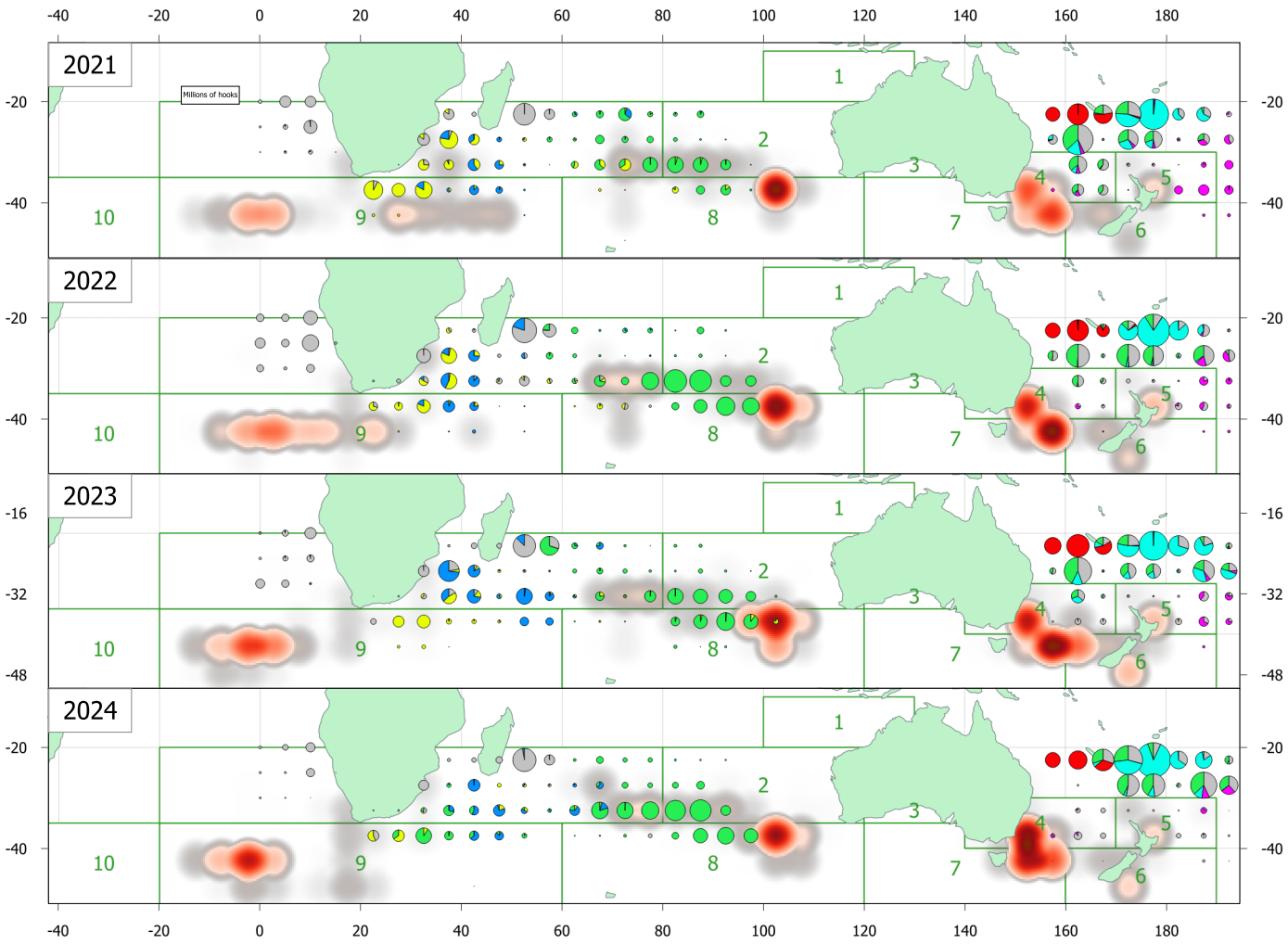
[(iii)] Taiwan advised that the cases where its reported catch was lower than the CDS estimate was due to weights for the CDS being measured at sea, which is not as accurate as its landed weight measurements (which were lower). According to Taiwan's regulations, fishers are requested to report landed weight after the sale of the catch relating to each document. Taiwan advised that the landed whole weight was not higher than its reported catch.

Table 2: Conversion factors which were used to convert processed weights to whole weights in Table 1 when a conversion factor was not supplied.

CDS Code	Flag	Product Type	Conversion Factor
BLO	ID	Block	2.5
BM	ID	Belly meat	2.5
DR	AU	Dressed	1.2
DR	NZ,ZA	Dressed	1.8
DRO	AU,NZ,ZA	Dressed - tail on	1.8
DRT	AU	Dressed - tail off	1.27
DRT	ID,KR,NZ,TW,ZA	Dressed - tail off	1.8
FL	AU,ID,NZ,ZA	Fillet	2.5
GG,GGO	AU	Gilled and gutted, Gilled and gutted - tail on	1.12 x processed weight + 1kg per fish
GGH,GGT	AU	Gilled and gutted - head removed, Gilled and gutted - tail off	1.176
GG,GGO, GGT	ID,JP,KR,NZ,PH,TW,ZA	Gilled and gutted, Gilled and gutted - tail on, Gilled and gutted - tail off	1.15
GGH	KR,NZ,TW,ZA	Gilled and gutted - head removed	1.5
LOI	AU,NZ,ZA	Loins	2.5
OT	AU,ID,NZ,ZA	Other	1.15
RD	AU,ID,NZ,ZA	Round	1
TR	ID	Toro	2.5

Distribution of SBT catch (heat map of catch in weight from raised catch data) and proportional pies of longline effort for Non-Members by year from ICCAT, IOTC, and WCPFC catch and effort data (see text for more details).
NOTE: There were no effort data available for Seychelles in 2022 or 2023.




2021
2022
2023
2024
Millions of hooks
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
-40
-20
0
20
40
60
80
100
120
140
160
180
-20
-40
-16
-32
-48