

# Preparation of Australia's southern bluefin tuna catch and effort data submission for 2016

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# Summary

The aggregated catch and effort, catch by fleet, raised catch, catch at size, and non-retained catch data sets submitted to the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES), 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 (AFMA), 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. This report provides facsimiles of data collection forms, as well as flow charts illustrating the data integration procedures. The paper also describes the data validation procedures.

## 1 Introduction

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES), within the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (the department), provides data reports each year to the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT) as part of the annual data exchange (CCSBT 2012). In April 2016, the following reports were submitted to the data exchange:

- Aggregated Catch and Effort data 2014 and 2015
- Raised Catch 2014 and 2015
- Total Catch by Fleet 2014 and 2015 (quota and calendar year)
- Catch at Size data 2014 and 2015
- Non-retained Catches 2014 and 2015
- CPUE series (GAMM)

The following reports are also provided directly to the data exchange by the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO):

- Tag Releases/Recoveries and Reporting Rates
- Direct Ageing data
- Catch at Age data
- Raised Catch-at-Age for the Australian Surface Fishery
- CPUE series (nominal)

Preparation of the CSIRO data sets is described in separate papers (e.g. Preece et al. 2004; Eveson 2011).

## 2 Data Sources

In recent years, the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) have developed a Data Warehouse that draws together data from various tables within the original databases. These original databases have evolved over time, with changes to logbooks, the introduction of electronic logbooks (e-logs) and transfer of catch disposal data to the licencing database (PISCES). Not all data are drawn into the data warehouse, however, it is still possible link back to necessary tables in the original databases when required.

Also, the introduction of electronic-monitoring (e-monitoring) has meant that from 1 July 2016 observers are no longer deployed on longline vessels and length measurements are now obtained solely from port sampling rather than at time of catch.

For the 2016 data submission, queries were rewritten to use the Data Warehouse rather than the original databases. As data are still entered into these original databases, a description of these is provided here, and a new description of how the Data Warehouse was used is outlined.

There were four sources of data used to produce the data reports. These were: 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 AFMA and contains data collected from logbooks that fishers are required to complete. The logbooks of relevance to southern bluefin tuna (SBT) catch for the 2016 data submission were the AL06 (pelagic longline), TPB03 (purse seine and pole log for farmed SBT), and PS01A (purse seine log for non-farm SBT). See Appendix A 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) **Elect\_Shot\_Detail** contains depth and position information for e-logs.
- 4) **Fishing\_Effort** contains fishing method used and fishing effort information (e.g. number of hooks for longline operations; search hours for purse seine operations).
- 5) **Operation\_Longline** contains other information on longlining operations (e.g. length of mainline).
- 6) **Operation\_Pole** contains other information on poling operations (e.g. number of poles used).
- 7) **Vessel** contains information on each licensed vessel; vessel name is used to identify individual vessels when determining the number of vessels that fished.
- 8) **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 SBT04B (SBT Farm Catch Disposal Record; purse seining for farms). See Appendix B 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.

#### **PISCES** Database

PISCES is the licencing database. Landings data and quota monitoring has been moved into this database. The relevant tables for this database are now:

- 1) **CDR\_Catch\_Disposal** contains general information about the landing, such as trip end date and fishing trip id.
- CDR\_Operator\_Landing where there is no receiver information, operator reported catches are used.
- 3) **CDR\_Receiver Landing** contains information about the catch, as reported by the receiver.
- **4) CDR\_SBT, CDR\_SBT03**, **CDR\_SBT03\_Mortality, CDR\_SBT04, CDR\_SBT04\_Transfer** SBT information is kept in these separate table which store information about the SBT farm sector, such as tow cage information and transfers to farm cages.

AFMA create a single landings table in their Data Warehouse, which combines the Catch Disposal Database with the PISCES Database. However, this does not include the fishing method. ABARES has developed queries to append PISCES data to the Catch Disposal Database in such a way that fishing method is included and code changes have been accounted for.

#### 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, the then Bureau of Rural Sciences (now the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences; ABARES) developed a database for Protec Marine 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 2008 to 2016 submissions. A sample of one of the reports produced by the database is given in Appendix C.

For each tow cage, fish were sampled until 100 fish (40-fish prior to 2012) 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 D). 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.

In the 2010–11 fishing season, stereo video was used to measure fish lengths and determine the average weight for some of the tow cages. These data were initially recorded in another database. However, for the purposes of the data preparation, all necessary data were migrated to the Tow Cage Size Monitoring Database.

#### Fisheries Observer Database

AFMA employs fisheries observers to collect data on board fishing vessels in a number of fisheries. Observer coverage of pelagic longline vessels has been variable between 2001 and 2015, mainly concentrated in the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery. 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 and trolling components of the Catch at Size reports for 2013 and 2014. The AFMA observer data were also used to produce the "Non-retained Catches" reports for 2013 and 2014. 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.

AFMA implemented a new Observer Database in September 2008, so this new database was used for the 2014 data submission. The following observer database tables contributed data to the Non-retained Catches report:

- 1) **Activity** describes vessel activity (e.g. setting, hauling, searching and time, location, environmental conditions).
- 2) **Opn\_Biological** describes biological attributes of animals caught including life status of retained and discarded fish.
- 3) **Opn\_Biological\_Length** gives the length type and length measurement of each sampled fish.
- 4) **Vyg\_Project** provides the name of the project under which the observer was operating.

Port sampled lengths were provided by AFMA in a spreadsheet for use in the longline length frequency submission for 2015.

#### **Data Warehouse**

Single tables have been created to bring data from the disparate areas together for easier access. The key tables in the warehouse are:

- 1) **Fact\_CDR\_Boat\_Landing\_Spcs** draws together the Catch Disposal Database and the PISCES Database to create a single table with a complete time series of landings data.
- 2) **Fact\_Fishery\_Boat\_Operation** draws together data from the various tables in the Daily Fishing Logs Database to produce a single table with shot date, position and effort

- information. It retains the original record number so that it can link back to the Daily Fishing Logs Database at any time, when required.
- 3) **Fact\_Fishery\_Boat\_Optn\_Species** draw together data from the various tables in the Daily Fishing Logs Database and shows logbook recorded catches of each species in each operation.

# 3 Data Preparation

Oracle export files from the AFMA Daily Fishing Logs, Catch Disposal Records, Observer databases and Data Warehouse are acquired late in the first quarter of each calendar year. The data are imported into an Oracle relational database server to enable analysis using Structured Query Language (SQL) via Microsoft Access software on client workstations. The length data for the Catch at Size reports are processed at least partly in MS Excel to enable estimation of size distributions for month-location strata that have not been sampled by observers or Protec Marine Pty Ltd. New queries and procedures were established in 2016 to produce the data reports that ABARES submits each year. These queries may require minor modification each year as changes, if any, are made to the source data collection process or CCSBT requirements.

See Appendix D for flow diagrams of data sources and tables used to produce the various reports. Note that with the introduction of e-monitoring in July 2015, Australia is still investigating how to prepare the Non-retained Catch component of the data submission. The flow diagram included here is how the 2014 data was prepared, using the observer data.

#### **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.

# 4 Data Validation

### **Data Management Systems**

AFMA maintains two systems for tracking catches of SBT in Australian waters. One system is on MS Excel spreadsheets and the other is AFMA's main Oracle database that stores all logbook and catch disposal records. These two systems are cross-referenced to ensure that data entry is correct in both systems. This process ensures validity and plausibility of data during the data entry process.

ABARES obtains copies of the AFMA Daily Fishing Logs Database and Catch Disposal Database and stores it in an Oracle system. It is these copies that are used for the preparation of the annual data submission.

## **Cross-Verification of Datasets**

All Commonwealth authorised receivers of SBT are required to complete reconciliation sheets at the end of each season that are then cross-checked against catch disposal records and catch documentation scheme records. This is called the Audit Level 1.

There are a number of triggers (such as discrepancies in the Audit Level 1) that can trigger the Audit Level 2, which involves AFMA officers examining the books and invoices of the company involved.

During the preparation of the annual data submission, data from the Tow Cage Monitoring Database are cross-referenced with data from the Daily Fishing Logs Database and Catch Disposal Database to ensure accuracy of results. Any discrepancies are tracked down to original forms, if required.

Lengths and weights in the Tow Cage Monitoring Database are graphed to identify any outliers.

# 5 Closing Remarks

The description of data preparation and submission in this report applies to the 2014 and 2015 commercial fishery catch and effort data supplied to the CCSBT. ABARES can provide more details of data collection and data processing methods upon request.

# 6 References

CCSBT, 2012, Report of the Seventeenth meeting of the Scientific Committee, 27–21 August 2012, Tokyo, Japan

Eveson P, 2011 Updated growth estimates for the 1990s and 2000s, and new age-length cut points for the operating model and management procedures, CCSBT-ESC16/1107/09, CCSBT  $16^{\rm th}$  Meeting of the Scientific Committee, 19–28 July 2011, Bali, Indonesia

Preece A, Cooper S, Hartog J, 2004, Data post-processing for input to the 2004 stock assessments and comparisons of 2001 and 2004 assessment datasets, CCSBT-ESC9/0409/27, CCSBT  $9^{th}$  Meeting of the Scientific Committee, 13–16 September 2004, Jeju, Korea

# Appendix A

# Example Scientific Logbook Forms (AL06, TPB03, PS01A)

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# Appendix B

## Example Catch Disposal Forms (CR4A, SBT03B, SBT04B)

CR4A Form					· · · · · · · · ·	
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	_	Truck	YLT-091	14	/ 7 /	04 15:30
SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA			.}			<u></u>
Number Total Accurate Weight Kg Form Code of Fish	'					
3 300 B						
						•
NODTHEDN DURETHETHA			Fo	rm C	odes	
NORTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA  Number of Fish Total Accurate Weight Kg Form Code		W A	means Whol means SBT			I
	**************************************		gutted so the	at:	•	
• .			b. the tail is	wholly	removed,	
		В.	means SBT gutted so that a, the gill pla	at:	Ü	
I declare that the information I have provided in Part A to be a complete and accurate record.			b. the tail is			
SFR Holder or Authorised Representative						
JOHN WELSH	$\neg$					?
Signature & Date						
J. Welsh ' 14/7/0	04	F	Forward White	copy to	AFMA with	in
Part B			24 hours of unli Leave Green or	·		
l acknowledge that I have received for transportat	ion		Send the Blue :	and Yel	low copies v	with the
the amount of fish referred to in Part A.  Printed Name of Driver		1	ish to the recei	ver of	your fish.	
PETER BRADLEY						
Signature & Date						
Peter Bradley 1417 10			•			
, etc. Dianeeg 1477						

#### SBT03B Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery Farm Transit Log

Log No:	Page No:

Section 1										
Carrier	Boat Name	MARY LO	)U			0	ist. Symbol	DE 1	23	
Pe	ermit Holder	A B CUT	TER			j		ier Boat Number	400100	
Tow Cage	ID Number	T800				j				
Fish Rec	eived From	✓ Purse Sei	ne Boat – Co	omplete Sec	ctions 1, 2,	4 and 7	7, then Secti	ion 5 or 6		
Fish Rec	ceived From	Carrier Bo	oat – Comple	te Sections	1, 3, 4 and	d 7, ther	n Section 5	or 6		
Section 2	!			Transfer	Details					
Name of Pu	rse Seine Boa	nt Dist. Symbol		& Time sfer Started		Date & T		Estimat		SBT02 Page No.
BLUE	OCEAN	333	20 /12 /0	09 9:30			11:30	50	111	05
Section 3	1									
Carrier	Previous Boat Name						ist. Symbol			
SBT03A	Log No:	Page No:	Mortalities	of Retained Recorded evious SBT	in Box	G1	F		of Mortalities in Box "G" of BT03B	
Section 4			Record	of Mortali	ties Durir	ng This	s Tow			
Date/Time	20/ 12 /	09 09:30	٦	d a Date + I		Mortalit				
Date	20/12	21/12	22/12	23/12	24/1	2				
Number	5	1	3	4	2					
Date						Т				
Number										
Date				Y						
Number										
Total Mortaliti	ies During Thi	s Tow		F 15				rogressive talities (E		5
Total Mortaliti	ies Retained t	o Land During	This Tow	G2 <b>4</b>		Ret	Progressive ained to Lar	Total of M	lortalities G2 = G3) G3 4	
Section 5		To	ow Cage Tr	ansferred	To Anot	her Ca	rrier Boat			
Carrier	Boat Name	MISTY M	100N				ist. Symbol	FJ30	08	
	SBT03B Book No	333 SBT Page					Date/Ti Cage Trai	ime Tow nsferred	25/ 12 / 09 0	06:30
Section 6			Fish T	ransferre	d To Fish	Recei	ver			
Date/Tim Transfer Ende		<i>I</i> :	Receive	Name of r Permit Ho					Fish Receiver ermit Number	
	re that the i	nformation or their Agent		e provide	d on this	form	to be a co	mplete a	nd accurate rec	ord.
Print Name JAS	SON MAN	IING	Sig	nature	T. Manning	ŀ			Date 25 / 12	2 / 09

#### SBT04B Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery

Log No:	Page No:

Farm Catch Dis	posal Record				
Part 1					
Fish Receiver Permit Holder Name	McNally Fresh	Fish		Tow Cage ID N	umber T600
Fish Receive Permit Holder Numbe		9		Carrier Boat/s SBT03B Log and Page No/s	Log No: Page No: 198 15
Progre	ssive total of all mort	talities during tow (G =	SBT03B) A	17	
Total number of	mortalities recorded	from date of receipt o	f tow cage <sup>B</sup>	2	
Record the	number of retained	to land mortalities fro of receipt of the		2	
		Transfer from To	w Cage to F	arm	
	Transfer Date	Farm Number Cage No.		Live Fish Count	
	29/01/10	CO1		4,802	
	30/01/10	C02		1,098	<u> </u>
					_
			+		
Total Num	ber of mortalities F	35	Count To	otal <sup>c</sup> 5,900	
	F-A+B+J	57	Weight To		
	nortalities негх Е Average Weight in Kg)	638.75	verage Weight in I have had the	( Kg) copportunity to witness the ve	rifled count conducted by
Total Weight	of Fish in Kg	08313.75			e count taken. e on the form to be a complete
Video Reference Num		0-1	FRP	Holder E. W	atson
No. of Videos view	wed (2) 4				
Video Referenc	e Date 2 / 2	/10 sign	FRP ature	E, Wateon	Date: 2 / 2 / 10
Part 2 I author	rise AFMA to deduct the	SBT kilos of quota reco	rded in box I	above from my/our quota h	noidings:
SFR Holder	A. Brazil	Sign	SFR ature	A. Brozil	Date: 2 / 2 / 10
Part 3	Boat 1	Во	at 2	Во	et 1 Boat 2
Purse Seine Boat Name	IA 1			Dist. 02 Symbol	53
SBT02 Log1	No: Page No: L	Log No: Page No:	F		r of mortalities during and transfer to tow cage
Progressive	total of retained to I		Ī	Numbe	r of mortalities retained during pursing and
mortalities (	during tow (G3=SBT)	38) 2 Average Weight sam	Die from To	transfe	r to tow cage
Sample Da		Name of Person S	-	_	of Person Sampling
28 / 1 /		T. Smith		T. Smith	
Average Weight In	1 Kg No. of Fish t	aken from tow cage	_	Boat 1	Boat 2
E 18.25	4	2	Fan Stockin Form No	g FSAU 10 00101	
I declare that the Int	formation which I pro	ovide on the form to be	a complete	and accurate record.	
AFMA Agent's Name	Т. Рорру	AFMA.A Sigi	gent's 7.	Рорру	Date: 3 / 2 / 10

# Appendix C

# Tow Cage Size Monitoring Report

	2005/06		
		tification	
			Scot No. Page No
Tow Case ID	<del></del>	Orton Disposal Form	TOUR NO. Page NO
four Nember for Season		FRE People: Number	
	Catch H	formation	
Catcher Vessel		A FBIA Forms	
aptive location			
Date of Flict Traus & r b Tow Cage			
Date of Lact Transfer to Toar Cage			
Store Versoe I			
Date Tour En ded		Total Veight of Rish Captured in this Tow Cage:	
Number of Blortaille : Burk g Calcibleg		Extended Valght/ligit	
Number of Mortalities Sering Tow		Total Number of Bortalities :	
Himber of Blorbalth a between end of Tow and Pelnace to Farm		Total Number of Fish:	
	Average Weight S	ample information	
Sample Date	Wheres	Awaye Lengt	h A verage Velight
	Fish Count	Information	
Transfer Date Video Cour	nt Tonnage	State Cage ID	Static Cage Owner
otal number of the fit is considered;			

	2005/06				
		Towlden	tification		
Dow Cage ID Dow Number for Season		8	Cath Disposal F		Book No. Page No
		Average W	Keight Data		
100.000	46 Rith Sample		Number o	of Under 199g R	th 0
We gat	Leigh	Тај		Under 189g	R in
				Weight	Leogt

# Appendix D

## Flow of Data from Data Sources to Reports







