

Preparation of Australia's southern bluefin tuna catch and effort data submission for 2008

P.I. Hobsbawn and P.C. Sahlqvist

Working Paper CCSBT-ESC/0809/11 prepared for the Thirteenth Meeting of the Scientific Committee (SC13) of the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna, 9-12 September 2008, Rotorua, New Zealand

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Postal address: Bureau of Rural Sciences GPO Box 858 Canberra, ACT 2601

Abstract

The aggregated catch and effort, catch by fleet, raised catch, catch at size, and non-retained catch data sets submitted to 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 SBT from surface and longline fisheries is also sampled by contracted field staff prior to release into farm cages or processing (longline catch). 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 is 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, within the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, provides data reports each year to the CCSBT as part of the annual data exchange. In April 2008, BRS submitted the following reports to the data exchange.

- 1. Aggregated catch and effort data 2007 and 2006
- 2. Raised Catch 2007 and 2006
- 3. Total Catch by Fleet 2007 and 2006 (quota and calendar year)
- 4. Catch at Size data 2007
- 5. Catch at Size data 2006
- 6. Non-retained Catches 2007
- 7. Non-retained Catches 2006

Reports are also provided directly to the data exchange by CSIRO, the preparation of which is covered in a separate paper.

Data Sources

There are five sources of data required to produce the data reports. These are: the Daily Fishing Logs Database; Catch Disposal Database; Tow Cage Size Monitoring Database and the Longline Fishery Size Monitoring Reports; and Fisheries Observer Database.

Daily Fishing Logs Database

The Daily Fishing Logs Database is maintained by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) and contains data collected from scientific logbooks that fishers are required to complete. The logbooks of relevance to SBT catch for the 2007 submission were the AL05 and AL06 (longline and minor line – AL06 only in operation since November 2007), OT03 (minor line), PS01 (purse seine), TPB02 and TPB03 (purse seine and pole). 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 boats 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

This is the database AFMA uses 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 is 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. Data for the 2006–07 and previous seasons were then entered into this database from the original spreadsheets. Data for the 2007-08 season were entered directly into the database rather than using spreadsheets as an intermediate step. The database was then used when preparing the data submission to CCSBT. 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. 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.

Longline Fishery Size Monitoring Reports

For the 2006 calendar year, these data are provided by WW Fisheries Pty Ltd, a company contracted to AFMA and were collected onshore at processing establishments. The reports included the length and weight information for non-farm fish, all caught by longline. The 2007 size data was sourced from the AFMA Fishery Observer Database. The size data from both data sets were raised to the number of fish reported in the Raised Catch 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 over the period 2001 to 2007, mainly concentrated in the eastern 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. The AFMA observer data was used to produce the "Non-retained Catches" reports for 2006 and 2007. 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 ie Tow Cage Size Monitoring Database (MS Access database) and Longline Fishery Size Monitoring Reports (MS Excel workbook) 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

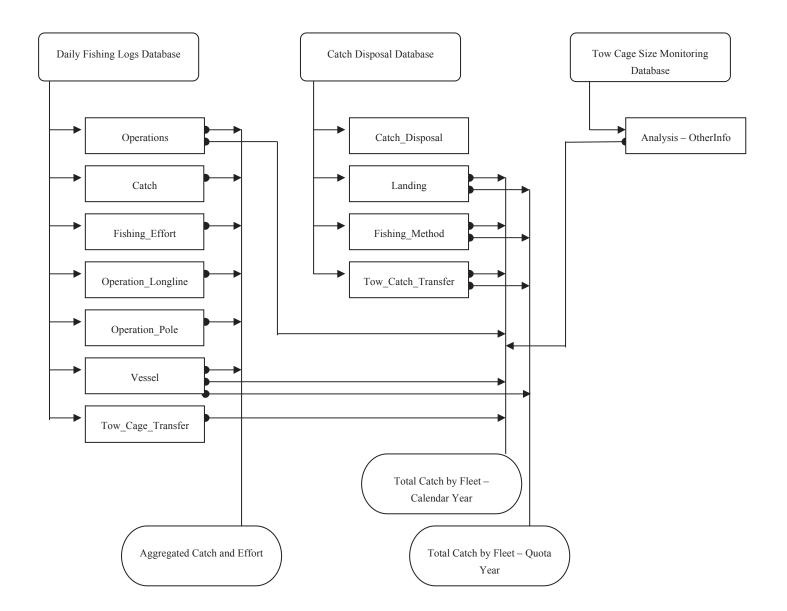
The 2003 submission was the first time that raised catch or catch at size data were provided by latitude/longitude grid (1x1 degrees for purse seine and 5x5 degrees for longline). This was made possible for the farm sector by the introduction of the SBT03 forms. The forms enable the linking of Tow Cage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

Closing Remarks

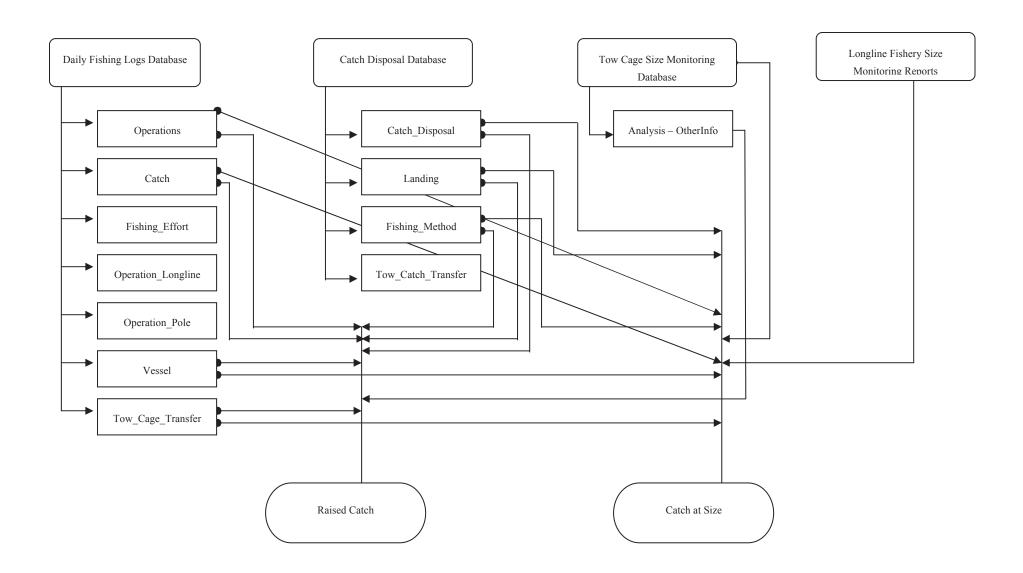
The description of data preparation and submission in this report applies to the 2006 and 2007 commercial fishery catch and effort data supplied to the CCSBT. The Bureau of Rural Sciences can provide more details of data collection and data processing methods upon request.

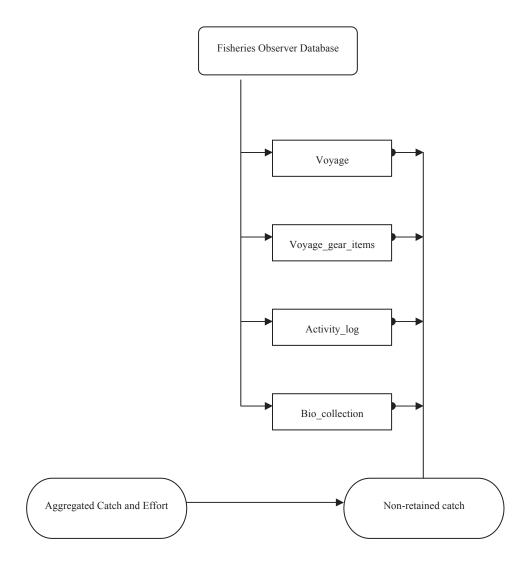
Appendix 1: Flow Charts Showing Flow of Data from Data Sources to Reports

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Longline Fishery Size Monitoring Reports





Appendix 2: Scientific Logbook Forms (AL05, AL06, OT03, PSP01, TPB02 and TPB03)

Australian Fisheries Management Authority. Box 7051

$Australian\ Pelagic\ Longline\ Daily\ Fishing\ Log-AL05$

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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.

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MOTE + If tagged fish / animals or banded birds are captured, please complete tag form at back of book and return to APMA.

Australian Tuna Minor Line Daily Fishing Logbook - OT03

Form Codes: W = Whole; G = Gilled & Gutted; H = Headed; F = Filleted; T = Trunk (headed & gutted).

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Type (think they were hamp	I think they were humpbacks,	lo,	

Working Paper CCSBT-ESC/0809/11

Original Copy - Send to AFMA Estimated % of school caught Estimated Catch Weights per Shot (kg) - tick box below fish name to indicate your target species Page No. Please provide an estimate of the time taken to Other Spec. (list above) mins Other Spec. (list above) Log No. Southern Bluefin Tuna Complete at End of Trip complete this form Purse Seining Australian Purse Seine and Pole Daily Fishing Log – PSP01 NOTE: IF POLING AND DOING DAY TRIPS PLEASE USE THE TUNA MINOR LINE LOGBOOK TO RECORD YOUR CATCH Jack Mackerel Poling Yellowfin Tuna Albacore Tuna First Receiver's of Fish Fishing Method Used (tick appropriate box)
Distinguishing Nos. of assisting vessels
State whether pole or seine boats Port of Depature Port of Landing Trip Start Date Trip End Date Date Skipjack Tuna Total Wt of bait caught & used (kg) NOTE • If tagged fish / animals or banded birds are captured, please complete tag form at back of book and return form and tag to AFMA. List species of bait caught each day If yes, please enter details on a "Wildlife and Other Protected Species" Form at the back of this book 9N Bait Details Did you have an interaction with any wildlife or other protected species? Please tick: Yes tsod ania2 N/Y batsissA Dist. Symbol Fishing Details
If poling please note in comments
whether other than single poles are us Signature certify the information which I have provided on this form to be a complete and accurate record. No. Poles besU Longitude (ddd mm) Comments Latitude (dd mm) 5 - Other Fishery (SPECIFY IN COMMENTS) 4 - Steaming Time Zone used for log entries Start Time (24 hr) (local time) and Sea Surface Temp. (C) 3 - Broken Down Non-fishing Codes during a Trip Search Details see Spotter Plane Used (Y/N) Printed Name Australian Fisheries Management Authority PO Box 7051 Canberra BC ACT 2610 Hours Searched Vessel docked between S NF Code Codes listed below Concession Holder or Authorised Person 1 - Bad Weather 6 - Searching Boat Name Date (day/month) Fishing Date

Master's Signature: Learlify that the information I have provided on this form is a complete and accurate record. Other Spec, (list above) Estimated Catch Weights per Shot (kg) - tick box below fish name to indicate your larget species Other Spec. (list above) Poling Yellowtail Kingfish: Fishing Method Used? (tick appropriate box)
Distinguishing Nos. of assisting vessels
NB: State whether pole or seine boats Jack Mackerel D Verified Weights for State Species Bycatch: Yellowfin Trina Albacore Tuna Dolphinfish: Australian Purse Seine and Pole Daily Fishing Log - TPB02

MPORTANT NOTE: IF POLING AND DOING DAY TRIPS PLEASE USE THE OTOS LOGBOOK TO RECORD YOUR CATCH

[Dist. Symbol: | Master's Name: | Skipjack Southern Bluefin Tuna Other species (specify): Other species (specify): Other species (specify): of bart caught & used? (kg) D. D kg kg 7 Cage Towing List species of bait caught each day Bait Details 5 Other Fishery (specify) 3 Broken Down Other species (specify): Wildlife Interactions: List any wildlife interacting with you during your fishing activities, including netted animals. If possible, list Species name, Interaction Date, No. of Animals and Life Status of any animals released after capture. Life Status Codes are listed on the writing template. Please record any extra details in the Comments section. 1 Bad Weather 2 In Port Life Status Pole Boal N/Y belsizsA 10 Refit No. Poles Used ? Verified Catch Weights for Trip: Cly: Longitude 4 Steaming Kg by Ď Fishing Details TICK APPROPRIATE NON-FISHING (NF) CODE BOX AT RIGHT: Latitude Skipjack: Southern Bluefin: Albacore: Yellowfin: Time Zone used for log entries Sea Surface Temp (C) Start Time (Adht) (local time) and Boat Name: Search Details Spoller Plane Used ? (Y/V) Page No: Hours did not work between NF S Code? Codes listed above Landing Details 092 Owner of Cage - if cage towing: Port of Landing: Date of Landing: Date (day/month) Fish Sold To: Date of Fishing

school caught

BLUE COPY - retain for your records

WHITE COPY - send to AFMA

Note: There are lagged fish/wildlife recapture forms at the rear of this log.

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

Search 285.198and 28111.98. 4 Steaming 10 Petit 2 In Pot 4 Steaming 7 Cage Towing 10 Carrel Box 4 Steam 10 Cage Towing 10 Carrel Box 4 Steaming 10 Cage Towing	0008	9	OO26 NO.	2 -	Boat	Boat Name:	Con Course					Dist. Symbol:	1FR 12345		Master's Name		C. Gavin				
28. 5.198. and 28.111.98 4 Steaming 10 Reft	TICK AP	PROPRI	ATE NON	FISHIN	(G (NF)	CODEB	OX AT RIGHT:	-	1	In Port	8	7 Cage	Towing	2		Fishing	Method Used? (tic	k appropriate	2		x) Poling Purse Seining
Total Weight and Type of Right Secretarian Total Weight To	I did not w	ork bet	ween	28	2 198		281 111 98.) Refit						Distingui NB: Stat	shing Nos. of assist e whether pole or se	ing vessels eine boats		76,00	LFBO23 (pole boat)
Section Start Colored Section Start Colored Section Section	Date of Fishing	NF Code?	Sea	rch			Fishi	ng Details				Total Weight and Type of Bait		stimated Ca ghts per Sho	tch of (kg)			Tor	wing		
6 4 20 1300 32°40' 132°30' 4 8,000 90 Star 8,000 4 4 N 27 1200 34°05' 137°20' W 5 9 79 1700 33°56' 137°20' W 2 9 19 1600 33°56' 137°77' 9 12,000 95 Jav 8,000 25,000 70 " 25,000 12,000 10 " 12,000	Date (day/ month)	Codes listed avode	Hours	Spotter Plane	Sea Surface Temp. (C)	Start Time (24hr) (local time)	Latitude	Longitude			N/Y batalas/		SBT Weight	Other	Other Weight	% batemite3 % of school for school		Weight		sfer	sfer te Book No. Pe
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	Wildlife List any w Interaction the writing	Inter ildlife ir Date,	action nteractin No. of a	is: g with Animal	you dt. s and l	iring you life Stat y extra (ur fishing activitii us of any anima details in the Co	es, including ne Is released afte mments section	etted anii ar captur n.	mals. If	possib	le, list Species name, Codes are listed on	Cor I com	ncession half the in plete and acc	tolder or formation I urate recon	Author have prod.	orised Perso	m: m is a			
ession H that the int	Species:							Jale/s:		Oty:		Life Status:] `	1						
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2													Sign	Signature:		0	Garin	. 2			

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

CR4A Form Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery Catch Disposal Record

Book No.	Page No.	
omplete		

aten Disposa	ai necord								
	der or Authorised Rep	resentative t	o Compi	ete					
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rip Start Date	8/7/04	Trip En	d Date	14 /	7 / 04			1 1	,
ort Unloaded	Tuncurry	Date Un	loaded	14 /	7 / 04			Hrs.	. 5 min
Whole Catch	Consigned Part Cato	h Consigned	Book No.	Pag	e No.	ther CF	4A deta	ils	
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lame of ransporter B	radley Transport			Type of Vehicle	Trailer Vehicle Reg		te/Time nsignme Uni		
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sc	OUTHERN BLUEFIN TU	NA							
Number of Fish	Total Accurate Weight Kg	Form Code					•		
3	300	В							
									• •
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PETER BRA	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,								
Signature & Date		*****							
	0.40-	11 000							
Peter Bro	aavey	1417 1)4						

SBT03A

Log No:	Page No:

Carrier Boat Name	MARY LO	U				Dist. Symbol	DE 12	3	
Permit Holder	A B CUT	TER				Carri Permit I	ier Boat Number	400100	0
Tow Cage ID Number	T600						V	Į.	1 .
Fish Received From	Purse Sei	ne Boat – Co	omplete S	Sections	1 and 3	then 4 or 5			
Fish Received From	Carrier Bo	at - Comple	ete Sectio	ns 2 and	d 3 then	4 or 5			
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BLUE OCEAN	3	333 2	0/12	/ 04	9:30	50	0	111	05
Previous Carrier Boat Name SBT03A Log No:	Page No:					A Record of Recorded in Previous S	in Box "G"		[e
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BT04A outhern Bluefin arm Catch Dispo							Log No:	Page No:
Part 1								
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Fish Receiver Permit Holder Number	9999)			SBT03A	r Vessel Log and Page No	Log No: 198	Page No:
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	Number of morta					8	_	
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gela T				Ellin.	No. 7			
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			С	ount Total	c 5	,900		
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tal Number of mortal	ities F=A+B+J	35		D = C x E Weight in Kg)		7675		
Total Weight of mon (E: Ave	erage Weight in Kg)	638.75 8313.75	the	ive had the or iducted by A count taken clare that the e a complet	AFMA's Age n. ne informat	ent and I a	agree with a	ind verify
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art 2								
urse Seine Boat Name	1				Dist. Symbol	025	3	
SBT02 Log No: 12	Page No:		J	10	Number of pursing and		s during to tow cage	
Sample Date	A	verage Weig	iht sample fi erson Samplin			lianatura -	4 D 0-	
29 / 1 / 0	5	T. Smith		9		- Smith	of Person Sa	mpling
Average Weight in K	g No. of Fish to	aken from tow						
18.25	4							
eclare that the inform	mation which I prov	ide on the for	m to be a cor	mplete and a	accurate re	cord.		
FMA Agent's Name	B. Brown		AFMA Agent's Signature	B. Brow			Date: 29 /	1 / 05

Appendix 4: Tow Cage Size Monitoring Report

Town Cage ID Catcher Vessel Capture location Date of Flist Tians in r Town Cage Safe of Last Tians in r	Towldentification Catch Disposal File Receiter N Catch Information AFMA Forms	YARAS	Book No. Page No.
Count Humberfor Season Catcher Vessel Capture location Date of First Transfer o Tow Cage	Fish Receiper N	YARAS	Book No. Page No.
Count Humberfor Season Catcher Vessel Capture location Date of First Transfer o Tow Cage	Fish Receiper N	YARAS	
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Capture location Nate of Flist Transfer o Tow Cage	A FMA Forms		
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lumber of Mortalités Nink g Tow	Total Number of	Mortalities:	8 8
ium ber of Mortalites etween end of Tow nid Release to Farm	Total Humber of	Huh:	92
Average	Weight Sample Informati	on	
Sample Ente With	nesses A	enge Length	Average Welgint
F	ish Count Information		
Transfer Cale Video Count To	nnagé Static Cagé ID	Static	Cage Owner
Otal number of uerfich contribut:	I		<u> </u>

	2005/06				
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Town Number for Seaso	E(:	-	Fix it Receivers	Humber:	
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