

**The American Samoa Longline Limited-entry Fishery
Quarterly Report
1 January–31 March 2023¹**

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Effort and catch statistics for the American Samoa longline limited-entry fishery reported by fishers on electronic and paper logs are summarized for the first quarter of 2023 (1 January–31 March; PIFSC, 2024). Catch and effort data are summarized for all fishing sets across all fishing locations performed by the American Samoa longline fleet during the reporting period. Total fishing effort for the fleet is summarized by the number of active vessels, trips, sets, and hooks set. Catch is summarized by the number of fish caught, kept, and released for the species included as pelagic management unit species (PMUS) for the Pacific Island Region as defined by the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council. The catch per unit effort (CPUE) is also summarized for each PMUS based on the number of fish caught per 1000 hooks.

Catch and effort statistics are based on the date fishing gear is hauled and are summarized quarterly, semi-annually, and annually in separate reports. As a result, statistics (e.g., number of vessels or trips) may be included in more than one summary period type (e.g., annual, semi-annual, quarter), and fishing trip totals for a summary period type may be either for partial or entire trips (i.e., as some trips may occur across multiple time periods). As such, catch and effort statistics are not additive (e.g., sum of catch for four quarters is not equal to the total catch for the year).

References:

Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, 2024: American Samoa Longline Logbook, <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/1775>

¹Data reported by fishers in electronic and paper logs were queried for the first quarter of 2023 (1 January–31 March) from the Pacific Islands Fishery Science Center Information Management System oracle database from table LLDS_REPORT_STATS_PRELIM_AS.

Table 1. Catch and effort data summarized for all fishing locations and sets performed by the American Samoa limited-entry fishery for the first quarter of 2023.

Report Coverage					
Time Period	1 January–31 March 2023	Number of vessels active		6	
Set Types	All Sets	Number of trips (partial or completed)		10	
Fishing Area	All Areas	Number of sets		252	
		Number of hooks set		797,665	
Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks	
PMUS					
Billfish PMUS					
Blue marlin	183	174	9	0.23	
Striped marlin	13	12	1	0.02	
Shortbill spearfish	11	4	7	0.01	
Swordfish	19	10	9	0.02	
Other billfishes	14	8	6	0.02	
Total	240	208	32	0.30	
Shark PMUS					
Blue shark	114	0	114	0.14	
Mako sharks	7	0	7	0.01	
Thresher sharks	16	0	16	0.02	
Oceanic whitetip shark	41	0	41	0.05	
Silky shark	120	0	120	0.15	
Total	298	0	298	0.37	
Tuna PMUS					
Albacore	8,097	7,918	179	10.15	
Bigeye tuna	218	196	22	0.27	
Yellowfin tuna	1,736	1,484	252	2.18	
Bluefin tuna	0	0	0	0.00	
Skipjack tuna	966	929	37	1.21	
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00	
Total	11,017	10,527	490	13.81	
Other PMUS					
Mahimahi	34	33	1	0.04	
Moonfish	7	3	4	0.01	
Wahoo	259	243	16	0.32	
Oilfish	159	2	157	0.20	
Pomfret	42	3	39	0.05	
Total	501	284	217	0.63	
Total PMUS	12,056	11,019	1,037	15.11	
Non-PMUS Sharks	0	0	0	0.00	
Total Non-PMUS	312	27	285	0.39	
Total All Species	12,368	11,046	1,322	15.51	