

**The American Samoa Longline Limited-entry Fishery
Semi-annual Report
1 January–30 June 2023¹**

Fisheries Research and Monitoring Division (FRMD)
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC), NOAA Fisheries
NOAA Inouye Regional Center
1845 Wasp Boulevard, Building 176, Honolulu, HI 96818

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 half of 2023 (1 January–30 June; 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 half of 2023 (1 January–30 June) 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 half of 2023.

Report Coverage				Number of vessels active	9
Time Period	1 January–30 June, 2023			Number of trips (partial or completed)	18
Set Types	All Sets			Number of sets	562
Fishing Area	All Areas			Number of hooks set	1,772,865
Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS)	Number Caught	Number Kept	Number Released	CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks	
PMUS					
Billfish PMUS					
Blue marlin	352	327	25	0.20	
Striped marlin	21	20	1	0.01	
Shortbill spearfish	66	14	52	0.04	
Swordfish	45	13	32	0.03	
Other billfishes	31	19	12	0.02	
Total	515	393	122	0.29	
Shark PMUS					
Blue shark	451	0	451	0.25	
Mako sharks	19	1	18	0.01	
Thresher sharks	40	0	40	0.02	
Oceanic whitetip shark	172	0	172	0.10	
Silky shark	332	0	332	0.19	
Total	1,014	1	1,013	0.57	
Tuna PMUS					
Albacore	19,332	18,680	652	10.90	
Bigeye tuna	689	639	50	0.39	
Yellowfin tuna	5,775	5,150	625	3.26	
Bluefin tuna	1	1	0	0.00	
Skipjack tuna	2,778	2,637	141	1.57	
Other tunas	0	0	0	0.00	
Total	28,575	27,107	1,468	16.12	
Other PMUS					
Mahimahi	72	69	3	0.04	
Moonfish	13	4	9	0.01	
Wahoo	469	441	28	0.26	
Oilfish	544	4	540	0.31	
Pomfret	168	9	159	0.09	
Total	1,266	527	739	0.71	
Total PMUS	31,370	28,028	3,342	17.69	
Non-PMUS Sharks	1	0	1	0.00	
Total Non-PMUS	1,684	62	1,622	0.95	
Total All Species	33,054	28,090	4,964	18.64	