

**The American Samoa Longline Limited-entry Fishery  
Quarterly Report  
1 July–30 September 2023<sup>1</sup>**

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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 third quarter of 2023 (1 July–30 September; 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>

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<sup>1</sup>Data reported by fishers in electronic and paper logs were queried for the third quarter of 2023 (1 July–30 September) 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 third quarter of 2023.

| Report Coverage |                          |  |           |  |
|-----------------|--------------------------|--|-----------|--|
| Time Period     | 1 July–30 September 2023 | Number of vessels active               | 9         |  |
| Set Types       | All Sets                 | Number of trips (partial or completed) | 17        |  |
| Fishing Area    | All Areas                | Number of sets                         | 351       |  |
|                 |                          | Number of hooks set                    | 1,064,829 |  |

  

| Pelagic Management Unit Species (PMUS) | Number Caught | Number Kept   | Number Released | CPUE Number Caught per 1000 Hooks |
|--|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>PMUS</b>                            |               |               |                 |                                   |
| <b>Billfish PMUS</b>                   |               |               |                 |                                   |
| Blue marlin                            | 170           | 164           | 6               | 0.16                              |
| Striped marlin                         | 23            | 22            | 1               | 0.02                              |
| Shortbill spearfish                    | 55            | 8             | 47              | 0.05                              |
| Swordfish                              | 42            | 18            | 24              | 0.04                              |
| Other billfishes                       | 16            | 12            | 4               | 0.02                              |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>306</b>    | <b>224</b>    | <b>82</b>       | <b>0.29</b>                       |
| <b>Shark PMUS</b>                      |               |               |                 |                                   |
| Blue shark                             | 353           | 0             | 353             | 0.33                              |
| Mako sharks                            | 16            | 0             | 16              | 0.02                              |
| Thresher sharks                        | 14            | 0             | 14              | 0.01                              |
| Oceanic whitetip shark                 | 73            | 0             | 73              | 0.07                              |
| Silky shark                            | 220           | 0             | 220             | 0.21                              |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>676</b>    | <b>0</b>      | <b>676</b>      | <b>0.63</b>                       |
| <b>Tuna PMUS</b>                       |               |               |                 |                                   |
| Albacore                               | 14,563        | 14,219        | 344             | 13.68                             |
| Bigeye tuna                            | 511           | 494           | 17              | 0.48                              |
| Yellowfin tuna                         | 1,918         | 1,796         | 122             | 1.80                              |
| Bluefin tuna                           | 0             | 0             | 0               | 0.00                              |
| Skipjack tuna                          | 1,243         | 1,224         | 19              | 1.17                              |
| Other tunas                            | 0             | 0             | 0               | 0.00                              |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>18,235</b> | <b>17,733</b> | <b>502</b>      | <b>17.12</b>                      |
| <b>Other PMUS</b>                      |               |               |                 |                                   |
| Mahimahi                               | 47            | 44            | 3               | 0.04                              |
| Moonfish                               | 3             | 1             | 2               | 0.00                              |
| Wahoo                                  | 380           | 355           | 25              | 0.36                              |
| Oilfish                                | 487           | 1             | 486             | 0.46                              |
| Pomfret                                | 137           | 9             | 128             | 0.13                              |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>1,054</b>  | <b>410</b>    | <b>644</b>      | <b>0.99</b>                       |
| <b>Total PMUS</b>                      | <b>20,271</b> | <b>18,367</b> | <b>1,904</b>    | <b>19.04</b>                      |
| Non-PMUS Sharks                        | 0             | 0             | 0               | 0.00                              |
| <b>Total Non-PMUS</b>                  | <b>1,180</b>  | <b>32</b>     | <b>1,148</b>    | <b>1.11</b>                       |
| <b>Total All Species</b>               | <b>21,451</b> | <b>18,399</b> | <b>3,052</b>    | <b>20.15</b>                      |