



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Pacific Islands Regional Office
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MAY 1 - 2008

Mr. Andrew Wright
Executive Director
Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission
P.O. Box 2356
Kolonia
Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia

Dear Mr. Wright: *Drew*

To fulfill the reporting requirements of WCPFC Conservation and Management Measures 2005-03 (North Pacific albacore), 2006-03 (South Pacific swordfish), and 2006-04 (South Pacific striped marlin), included in Attachment 1 is the following information:

- (1) For the latter half of 2007, 2006 and 2007, U.S. catches of albacore north of the equator in the Pacific Ocean;
- (2) For 2006 and 2007, U.S. fishing effort north of the equator in the Pacific Ocean in fisheries directed at albacore;
- (3) For 2006 and 2007, the number of U.S. vessels that fished for swordfish south of 20°S in the Convention Area; and
- (4) For 2006 and 2007, the number of, and catches by, U.S. vessels that fished for striped marlin, and bycatch of striped marlin, south of 15°S in the Convention Area.

If you have any questions about this information please contact Tom Graham at +1 808-944-2219 or tom.graham@noaa.gov.

Sincerely,

William L. Robinson
Regional Administrator

Attachment

cc: William Gibbons-Fly, U.S. Department of State
Ufagafa Ray Tulafono, American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources
Celestino O. Igisomar, CNMI Department of Lands and Resources
Carlotta A. Leon Guerrero, Guam Office of the Lieutenant Governor



Attachment 1. United States reporting under WCPFC Conservation and Management Measures 2005-03, 2006-03 and 2006-04; reported May 2008.

Table 1. Estimated catches of albacore (metric tons) by U.S. vessels north of the equator in the Pacific Ocean, by gear type, second half of 2007, 2006 (updated from previous report) and 2007.

Gear type	1 Jul – 31 Dec 2007	2006	2007
Albacore troll	10,965	12,542	11,436
Longline	124	270	250
Gillnet	5	3	5
Pole and line	21	22	21
Purse seine	77	0	77
Other*	540	392	557
TOTAL	11,731	13,228	12,345

* Includes Hawaii troll and handline, charter sport, and miscellaneous gear.

Table 2. Estimated fishing effort (vessel-days fished) by U.S. vessels in fisheries directed at albacore north of the equator in the Pacific Ocean, by gear type, 2006 (updated from previous report) and 2007.

Gear type	2006	2007
Albacore troll	21,663	19,854

Table 3. Number of U.S. vessels that fished for swordfish south of 20°S in the Convention Area, 2006 (updated from previous report) and 2007.

	2006	2007
Number of vessels fishing for swordfish	2	2

Table 4. Number of, and catches by, U.S. vessels that fished for striped marlin, and bycatch of striped marlin, south of 15°S in the Convention Area, 2006 (updated from previous report) and 2007.

	2006	2007
Number of vessels fishing for striped marlin	0	0
Striped marlin catch by vessels fishing for striped marlin (mt)	0	0
Total bycatch of striped marlin (mt)	3	2