



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
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**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION
PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH, AND STATISTICS**

WCPFC-SC5-AR/CCM-30

EL SALVADOR

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMISSION
PART 1: INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

EL SALVADOR.

1. Summary

El Salvador is a small developing coastal State that borders the Pacific Ocean. The tuna industry has become one of the country's main economic revenues and represents the livelihood of a large number of families who live directly and indirectly from it.

Our tuna purse seine fleet consists of only four vessels whose main tuna catches are made within the Eastern Pacific Ocean. These vessels are fully controlled by two effective monitoring tools: VMS and 100% observer coverage by the IATTC program, who remains on board even when the vessel operates outside of the IATTC Convention Area. In addition, we comply with regulations such as: Fishing Capacity Limits, prohibition of at sea transshipments, and also strong bycatch conservation measures regarding shark finning, dolphin protection, and sea turtles, amongst other species. In addition to promoting and implementing effective fisheries closures.

As you can see all our vessels are fully controlled and compliant, and our record of compliance in the IATTC and AIDCP is excellent. In the Western Pacific, our fisheries have been conducted pursuant to licensing of coastal states of the region.

As tuna stocks have no boundaries, as members of the IATTC we believe that it is very important that both the IATTC and WCPFC cooperate to effectively manage this fishery. Only joint management can help make it sustainable for all, as we all fish within the same Pacific Ocean and share many of the stocks.

Finally, El Salvador being a very small coastal state whose communities strongly depend on our fisheries and aquaculture production, we are knowledgeable of the importance of complying and implementing effective management regulations in order to promote sustainable fisheries. It is our complete commitment to not only give full compliance to the measures emanating from the WCPFC but also actively participate in the work of this Commission.

2. Background.

Historically, El Salvador's presence in the WCPFC area began in 2001. We have a total of 4 tuna purse seiners and our fishing capacity is limited by IATTC regulations. In WCPFC we have fished with only two vessels.

Our presence in WCPFC area during the years 2001 to 2004 give us an average of 24 days per vessel.

MONTEROCIO (ex-Alexandros)	<i>El Salvador's Flag</i>
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Year	Days of fishing per year in WCPFC
2001	16
2002	34
total	50

MONTELUICIA	<i>El Salvador's Flag</i>
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Year	days of fishing in WCPFC
2001	12
2002	38
2003	3
total	53

Table 1. presence vessels of El Salvador in WCPFC area.

The El Salvador purse seiner fleet started its fishing activity in the Western Pacific Ocean at the beginning of 2001. During the years 2004 to 2006 there was no fishing of Salvadorean vessels in the WCPFC area.

Fishing vessels operating in the Eastern Pacific Ocean have 100% coverage of onboard observers, complying the regulations of the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP) and the Inter American Tropical Tuna Commission IATTC. The observers continue to take data even when outside the IATTC area.

In 2.008, we had a Kiribati program observer on board one vessel during one full trip and during 2.009, we had the presence of WCPFC approved observers in both vessels during one trip and also during all the FAD closure period.

During 2.008 the presence of El Salvador vessels in high seas were zero (0) days carrying out all our fishing in the EEZ of Kiribati waters. The two purse seiners have fishing license in Kiribati.

Since 2.007 the two purse seiners are fully controlled by FFA VMS and also with El Salvador VMS, and we can check where our vessels are fishing. Every 6 hours we have full information of the position and speed, of the vessels and also if is necessary we can obtain the actual position by our control system.



TOTAL FLEET IN EL SALVADOR

4 VESSELS: (MONTELUCIA, MONTEROCIO, MONTELAPE AND

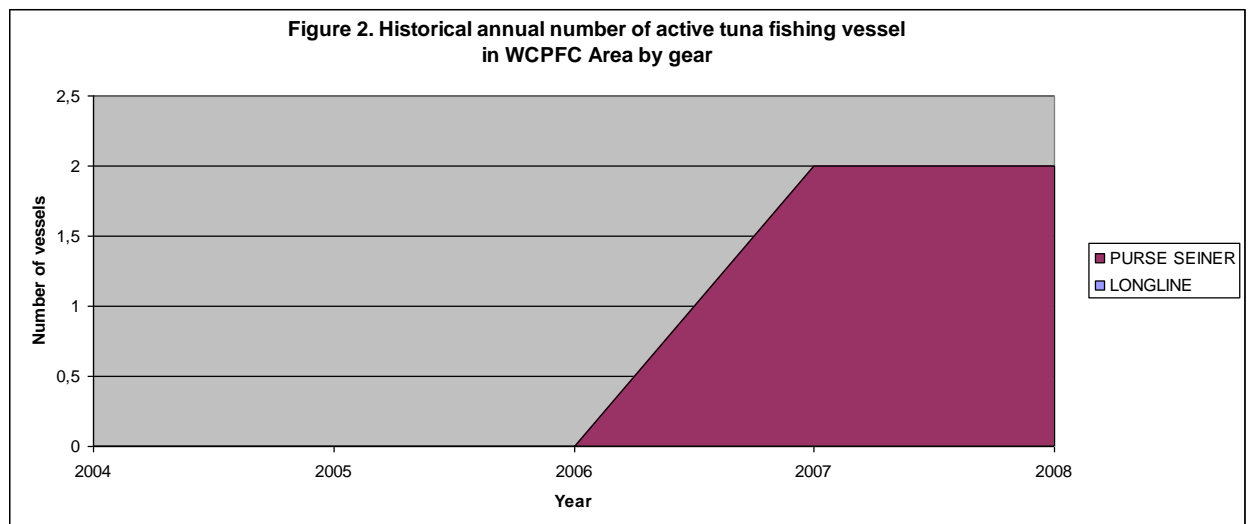
	M3 capacity
MONTELUCIA	2.550
MONTEROCIO	1.919
MONTELAPE	1.082
MONTEALEGRE	1.860

100% VMS Onboard (each hour per vessel El Salvador authorities received position,speed)

IATTC observer on board in all the trips and all the vessels including WCPFC area

3. Flag State Reporting.

El Salvador has set complete data for the historical and actual fishing presence to WCPFC.



GEAR	LONGLINE				
FLEET	EL SALVADOR FLAGGED				
Size class (GRT)	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
0-10	0	0	0	0	0
10-50	0	0	0	0	0
50-200	0	0	0	0	0
200-500	0	0	0	0	0
500+	0	0	0	0	0
total	0	0	0	0	0
GEAR	PURSE SEINER				
FLEET	EL SALVADOR FLAGGED				
Size class (GRT)	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
0-500	0	0	0	0	0
500-1000	0	0	0	0	0
1000-1500	0	0	0	0	0
1500+	0	0	0	2	2
total	0	0	0	2	2

Table 2. Number of active tuna fishing vessels in WCPFC Area
(by gear and Size classes) for last 5 years (2004-2008)

GEAR	PURSE SEINER				
FLEET	EL SALVADOR FLAGGED				
Species	2.004	2.005	2.006	2.007	2.008
skipjack	0	0	0	1.691	6.903
yellow fin	0	0	0	396	376
bigeye	0	0	0	355	1.083
albacore	0	0	0	-	-
marlin				-	-
total	0	0	0	2.442	8.362

Figure 1. Historical annual catch for the El salvador vessels, by gear and primary species, for the WCPFC Convention Area, only purse seiner, for last 5 years

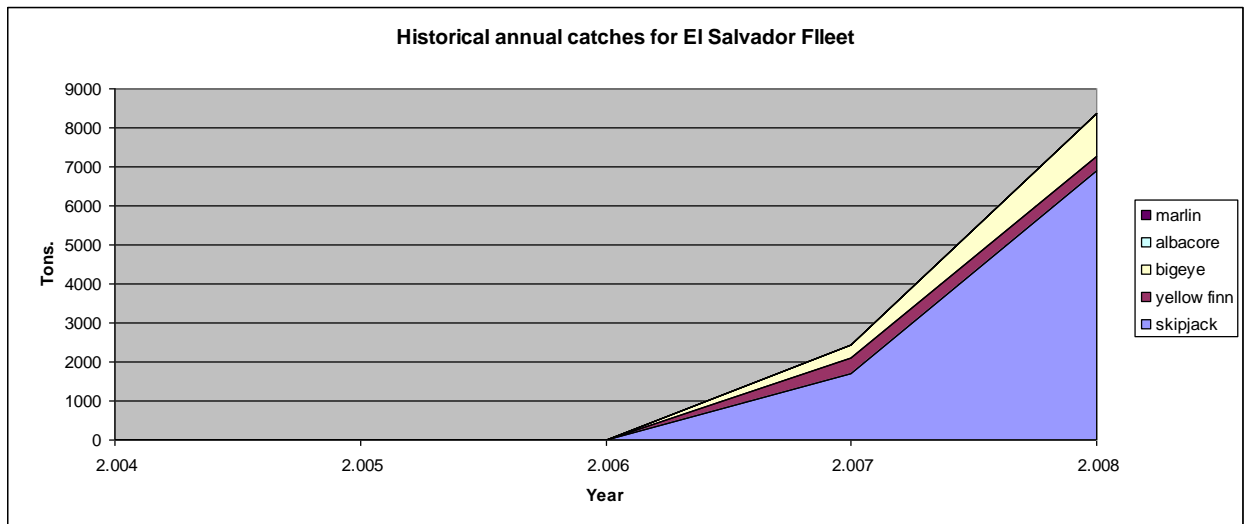
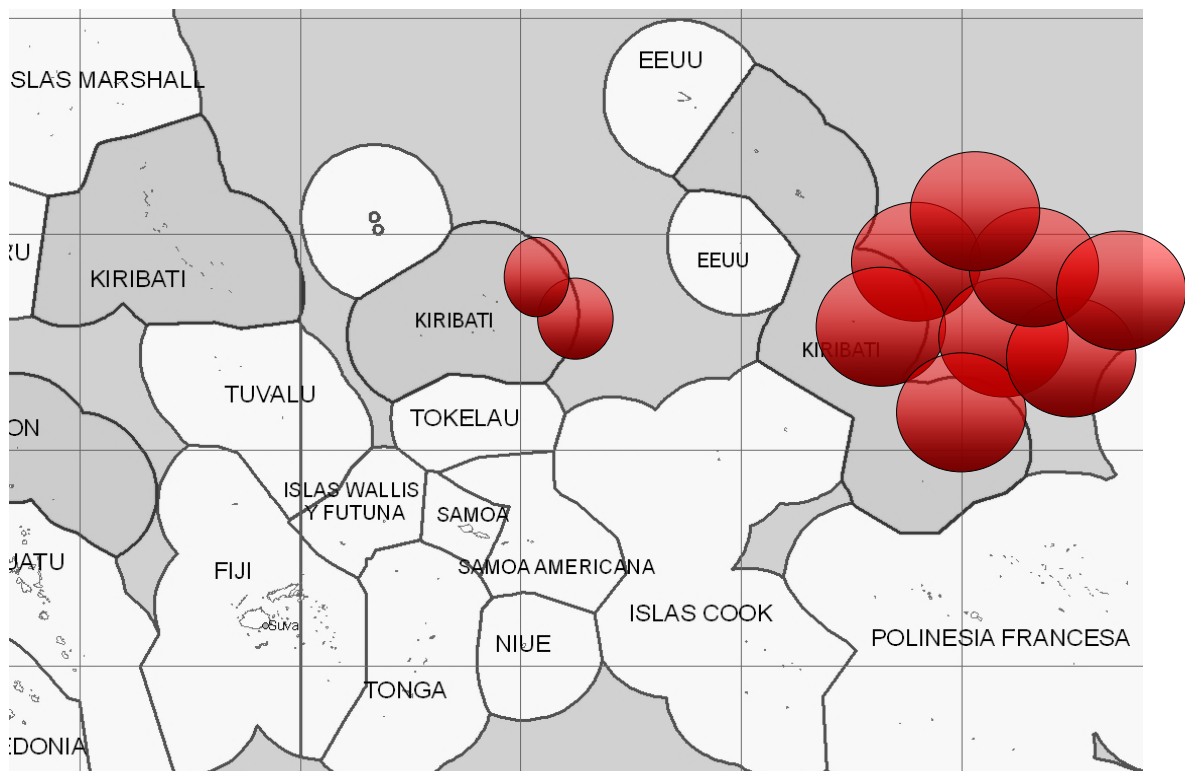


Table 3. Historical Fishing areas where Fishing takes place by Salvadorean flagged vessels.



During 2008, according to the Commission's decision, El Salvador vessels did not fish in High Seas waters and only were fishing in ZEE Kiribati waters, therefore complying with the requirements of the Commission during 2008.

In 2.009, the presence in High seas waters is limited to the average of days in High Seas waters during the period 2001-2004 of 50 days, (25 days per vessels)

GEAR	PURSE SEINER	
FLEET	EL SALVADOR FLAGGED	
	2.008	2009*
High Seas	0	13
ZEE Kiribati	61	92

Table 4. Number of days in High Seas and ZEE Kiribati

*Until 31/7/2009

4. Coastal State Reporting.

El Salvador is not a coastal state of the WCPFC Area.