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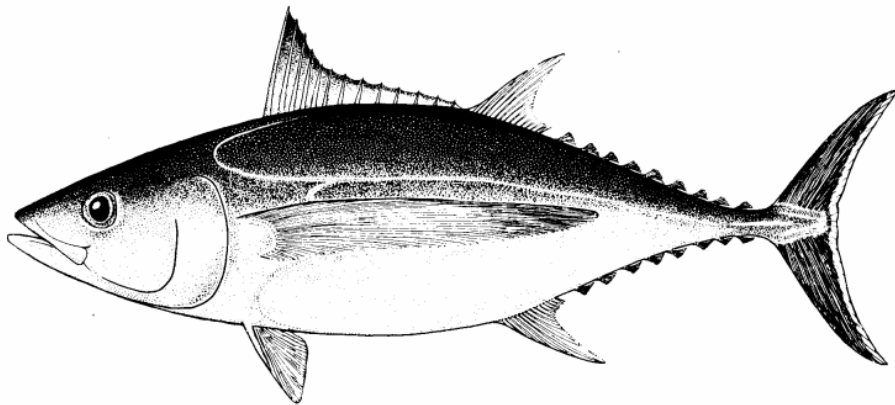
13-24 August 2007
Honolulu, United States of America

**ANNUAL REPORT – PART 1
INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH, AND STATISTICS**

WCPFC-SC3-AR PART 1/WP-17

REPUBLIC OF NAURU

TUNA FISHERIES IN NAURU



**OCEANIC DEPARTMENT
NAURU FISHERIES AND MARINE RESOURCES AUTHORITY
(*SERVICE DE LA PÊCHE*)**

NAURU

AUGUST 2007

1.1 Annual Fisheries Information

Introduction

The tuna fisheries in Nauru forms a key component to the economic development of Nauru with the access fees from Foreign fishing licenses contributing a significant component of national GDP. The fisheries development is characterized by a predominant reliance on the access fees from all the major purse seine fleets operating in the WCPO and little onshore development although the latter is an issue that is assuming higher priority with the planned restructuring of the Nauru Fisheries Trading Corporation.

The Nauru Exclusive Economic Zone continues to provide a rich ground for the Purse Seine fleets of the Fishing Partner members of the WCPFC with initial catch data for 2006 proving to be a relatively high level of catch.

Fleet Structure

Domestic fleet

The two longliners operated by the Nauru Fisheries Trading Corporation are still out of commission pending the business restructuring of the latter. Therefore there is no recent catch data beyond those presented at SC2 (Attachment A)

Fishing Partner Purse seine fleets:

In 2006 there were 112 foreign purse fleets licensed to operate in Nauru. In support of some of these purse seine fleets, Nauru licensed an additional 6 Bunker vessels. The following table gives a breakdown of the fleets by country and by size according to the size categories. The majority of the purse seine vessels fall within the 1001 -1500 GRT category (67) followed by the smaller 501 to 1000 size group and only 7 vessels fitting in the superseiner category of over 1500 GRT.

Table.1 Foreign Fishing Vessels Licensed to Nauru in 2006

Flag	No of vessels	Gear	0-500Grt	501-1000Grt	1001-1500Grt	1500Grt+
Japan	33	PS	0	1	31	1
Korea	27	PS	0	14	11	2
Korea	4	Bunker	0	0	0	4
Chinese T	33	PS	0	16	15	2
US	9	PS	0	2	6	1
China	10	PS	0	5	4	1
Singapore	2	Bunker	0	0	0	2

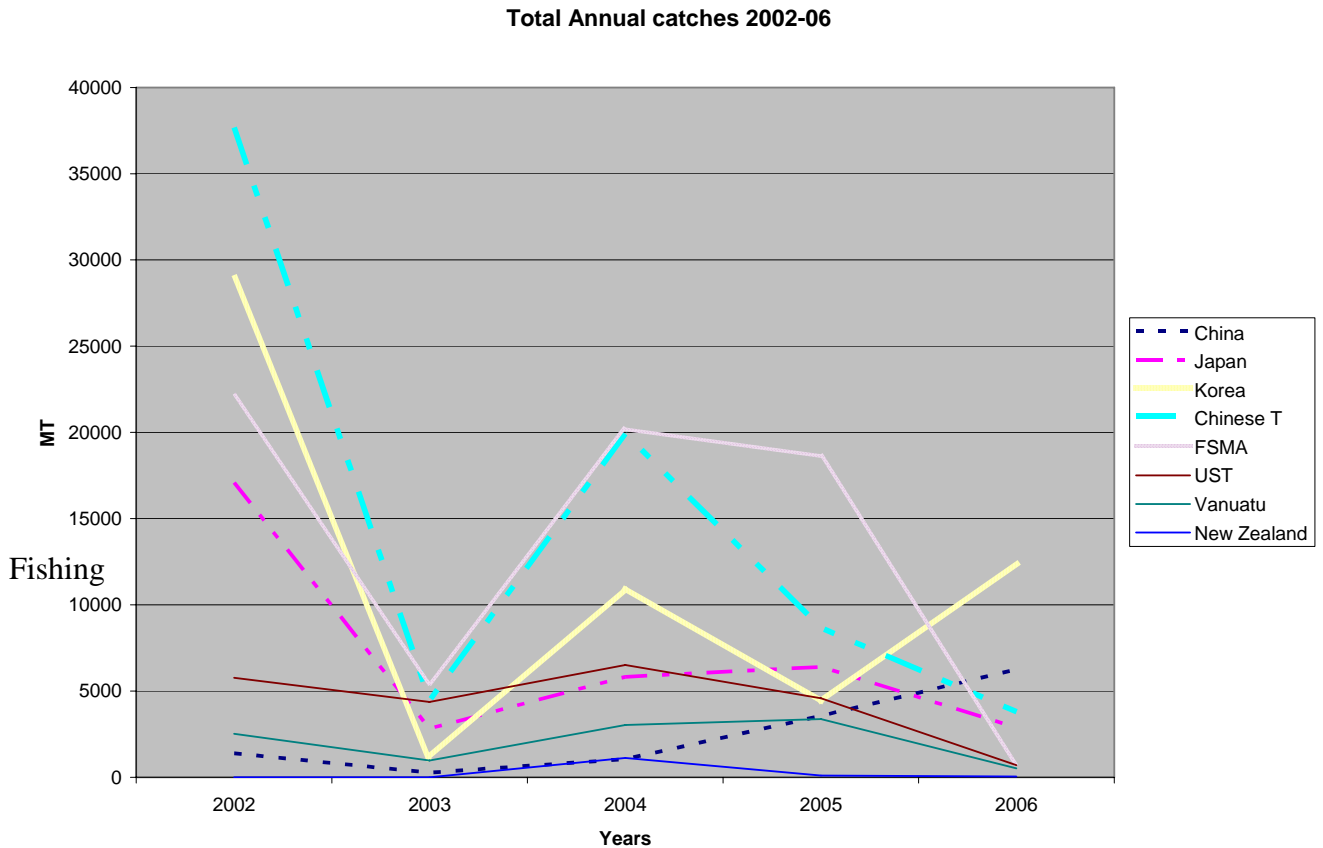
Annual Catches of foreign fleets

Table 2 shows the catch data from 2002 to 2006 (up to June 06) for the purse seine fleet operating in Nauru (Annual Catches by foreign purse seine fleets in the Nauru EEZ, by flag and species, 2002-2005. (Source: Unraised logsheet data collected held in the Regional Tuna Fisheries Database, SPC; catches for 2006 may be incomplete)

Table 2. catch data from 2002 to 2006 (up to June 06) for the purse seine fleet operating in Nauru.

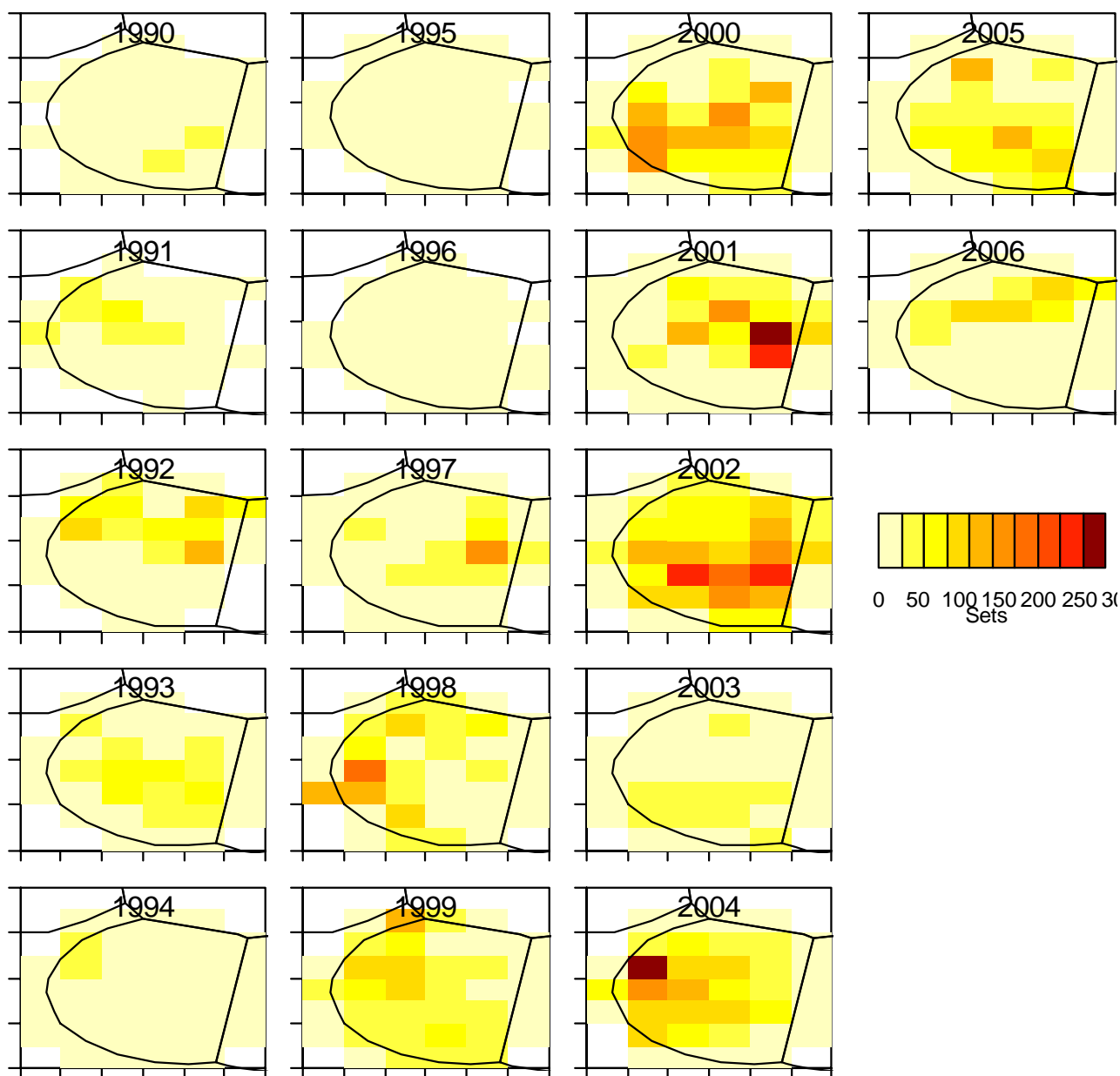
Fleet	Year	CATCH (Metric tones)				
		SKJ	YFT	BET	OTH	TOTAL
CN	2002	1,215	256	0	0	1,471
	2003	155	20	0	0	175
	2004	548	8	0	0	556
	2005	1,798	358	0	2	2,158
	2006	2,360	30	0	0	2,390
FA	2002	20,351	1,508	68	0	21,926
	2003	4,679	782	5	0	5,466
	2004	17,332	749	394	7	18,481
	2005	14,927	2,440	551	5	17,923
	2006	9,918	850	106	67	10,941
JP	2002	15,144	1,824	37	461	17,466
	2003	2,137	720	21	162	3,040
	2004	5,218	618	3	105	5,944
	2005	5,436	894	47	175	6,552
	2006	3,495	776	46	112	4,429
KR	2002	26,510	2,205	75	0	28,790
	2003	720	155	10	0	885
	2004	9,405	609	6	0	10,020
	2005	2,800	1,215	0	0	4,015
	2006	12,200	2,520	20	0	14,740
NZ	2002	0	0	0	0	0
	2003	7	5	0	0	12
	2004	1,107	161	0	0	1,268
	2005	841	9	0	0	850
	2006	53	28	18	0	99
TW	2002	35,240	2,796	248	0	38,284
	2003	3,730	902	65	0	4,697
	2004	19,085	1,219	33	5	20,342
	2005	8,030	896	54	1	8,980
	2006	12,258	1,113	31	0	13,401
US	2002	4,101	1,316	10	0	5,426
	2003	3,653	703	71	0	4,427
	2004	6,143	814	59	0	7,016
	2005	3,965	1,075	48	5	5,093
	2006	709	560	5	0	1,274
VU	2002	2,445	35	0	0	2,480
	2003	925	10	0	0	935
	2004	2,605	335	10	1	2,951
	2005	3,319	150	0	1	3,470
	2006	1,185	210	0	0	1,395
Total EEZ	2002	105,005	9,939	438	461	115,844
	2003	16,007	3,297	172	162	19,637
	2004	61,443	4,513	505	118	66,578
	2005	41,116	7,036	700	188	49,040
	2006	42,177	6,087	226	179	48,669

It is noted that the total annual catch for 2002 was the highest on record at around 120,000mt which correlates with the reported ENSO conditions at the time. The level of catches by fleet tend to match the level of effort and the Chinese Taipei fleet has had the most significant catches in Nauru although the general trend has been a consistent level of catches since the peak of 2002 levels.



Patterns (Catch by time/area)

The charts below shows the annual fishing patterns of all the foreign purse fleets in the Nauru EEZ from 1990 to 2006 depicted by the number of sets i.e. the level of effort in area matched by the different gradient in shading; the lighter shades representing lower effort and the darker shades for higher effort. In the years of high fishing effort it can be seen that those effort are concentrated between the latitudes of 1N and 3S.



(Source: SPC NTSFR Draft report for Nauru 2007 based on unraised logsheet data; catches for 2006 are incomplete)

1.2 Research and Statistics:

The nature of the commercial fishery in Nauru does not provide for an ideal environment for data and other statistical collection. It is a fishery that focuses on the licensing of offshore fishing operations, namely Purse seining, and which very rarely calls into port for transshipment operations given the lack of essential port facilities. Thus any data collection that the Authority undertakes is limited to the collection and collation of Catch

Report Forms from the fishing vessels after they have completed their trips. The Log sheets are entered into a database and then forwarded to the Oceanic Fisheries Program at SPC.

Likewise Nauru's is also limited with its observer program to the Regional Observer programs under the US Treaty and FSM Arrangement. There are provisions in the fishing agreements for Observers to be placed on Bilaterally licensed fishing vessels however given the lack of port facilities and the small size of the EEZ, the logistics of placing national observers make the exercise impractical.

There are recent initiatives to improve on the existing conditions and the Nauru Fisheries and Marine Resources Authority has received the support of SPC this year to conduct a National Tuna Fishery Status report to provide a thorough review of Nauru's fishery statistics, trends and status that will provide better catch estimates and advise regarding environmental/climatic impacts, fishery potential, bycatch and threatened species interactions and other factors identified for investigation by the NFMRA. The project has already commenced with an attachment by one of NFMRA officer at the SPC to work on the draft report in June this year. During the attachment some training was also provided to the officer on fisheries data collection process and the TUFMAN database system.

Attachment A

Domestic Longline Catches (kg) by species 2003-2005:

Year	BET	YFT	SKJ	Albacore	Blk Marlin	Barracuda	Swordfish	Wahoo	Sailfish
2003	8898	4839	2301	1489	119	107	239	112	265
2004	415	634	n/a	9	40		n/a	n/a	38
2005	315	315	n/a	n/a	n/a		n/a	n/a	60
Total	9628	5788	2301	1498	159		239	112	363
Year	Shark	Oilfish	rudderfish	Broadbill	Moonfish	Blue marlin	Mahi-mahi		
2003	497	56	63	196	44	465	36		
2004	54	n/a	n/a	230	n/a	n/a	20		
2005	n/a	n/a	n/a	131	n/a	n/a	n/a		
Total	551	56	63	557	44	465	56		