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Trends in the South Pacific Albacore Longline and Troll Fisheries

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1 Executive Summary

This paper presents a compendium of fishery indicators for south Pacific albacore tuna, as requested at previous WCPFC-related meetings. These indicators include: total catch; catch by gear; and longline effort and nominal troll and longline CPUE trends, along with their spatial patterns. Commentary provided includes comparisons of 2017 values to 2016 and to the average over 2012-2016. Information provided includes data loaded into databases as of 9th July 2018. Note that catch levels and their distribution amongst areas may change as more data become available. This paper complements the information provided by [Brouwer et al. \(2018\)](#) that summarises the latest trends for the main target species for the fisheries of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC).

Transshipment data are available over the period from the inception of transshipment reporting (July 2010) to May 2018. Data presented represent high seas transshipments only; they do not include in-port or in-zone transshipments. Monthly reported transshipment levels fluctuate notably, and may reflect logistical/operational factors rather than fishing activity. There is a notable peak in transshipment activity in October 2017 (4,174 mt) of which 58% was reported by China (2,404 mt), and 27% by Vanuatu (1,119 mt) fleets. It should be noted that transshipment levels are unlikely to be fully reported for the most recent 18 months.

2 Introduction

At the 7th Technical and Compliance Committee, some members requested a paper on south Pacific albacore be prepared by the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) Secretariat. That request indicated the paper should contain all available catch and transshipment data available, and should highlight trends. The paper was first prepared by the Secretariat for WCPFC8 in March 2012. It has since been updated frequently, taking into consideration further requests from members.

This paper presents trends in catch, effort and Catch per Unit Effort (CPUE) both spatially and temporally for the south Pacific albacore fishery. In addition, information on transshipment patterns are presented, consistent with [WCPFC and SPC-OFP \(2013\)](#). Following the request for further information to assist in the interpretation of key observations, and noting that it is difficult to correctly interpret the stock status-related implications of trends in any indicators in isolation of other data sets, and population dynamics models, the potential consequences of recent fishing levels for future south Pacific albacore stock status are evaluated using stochastic projections.

The analyses presented are based on data available to SPC as of 9th July 2018. The overall catch, and its distribution amongst spatial areas, may change as more data become available. Catch and Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) effort in archipelagic waters have been excluded from analyses for the southern WCPFC Convention Area (WCP-CA) specifically (this represents approximately 2% of the effort). Please note that the figures may include or exclude specific fleets that are included in summaries made for other purposes (e.g. CMM tables) and therefore the reported values (catch, effort, CPUE, etc.) may not be identical to those presented in other documents. Additional information by latitudinal zone, requested at WCPFC9, are posted as Microsoft Excel files annexed to this paper (SC14-SA-IP-08a and SC14-SA-IP-08b). The vessel number data are for south of 20°S and excludes archipelagic waters.

3 Patterns of longline and troll fishing

Two groups of fleets exploit south Pacific albacore, longline and troll vessels. In this section we examine trends in their catch, effort and catch rate (CPUE). Catch and effort information come primarily from logsheet returns, or for the high seas from the provision of aggregate data from distant water fishing nations.

3.1 Catch

Annual catch estimates for albacore in the south Pacific (south of the equator) as a whole peaked in 2017 at 92,989 mt (all gears) (Figure 1). Catch by longliners represented 98% of the catch weight in 2017 at 91,035 mt. The 2017 longline catch was 29% higher than 2016. Provisional other catch (1,954 mt; the majority (1,952 mt) being by troll catch) was 12% higher than 2016.

By comparison, the 2017 total albacore catch in the south Pacific was 72,272 mt and the longline catch within the southern part of the WCP-CA¹ (excluding archipelagic waters; Table 1) was 69,688 mt, one of the highest in the last 10 years. High seas longline catch estimates represent 51% of the total, and have ranged from 27-51% of the total over the last 10 years. By flag (or attributed nationality based on charter agreements), China and Chinese Taipei had the highest catch estimates of south Pacific albacore in 2017 (29,125 mt and 12,086 mt respectively), the combined total representing 59% of the total catch Table A1-1, 70% of their catch was taken on the high seas (Table A1-2).

Four flag states reported troll catch during the period 2000 to 2017 within the WCP-CA, namely Canada, the Cook Islands, USA and New Zealand (Table A1-3) totalling 2,584 mt. Troll activity has been reported only in the New Zealand EEZ and on the high seas in 2017 (Table 2). Catch estimates for 2017 were 632 mt for the high seas and 1,952 mt for the New Zealand EEZ. The total troll catch in 2017 was 22% higher than the 2016 catch.

The spatial pattern of south Pacific albacore catch over the long-term (1950-2012), the last 5 years (2013-2017) and 2017 alone, are shown in Figure 2. In recent years, catch has been concentrated in the 10-20°S latitudinal band. Note that while 2017 estimates remain provisional, the geographic distribution of catch is generally consistent with that seen in recent years, however, there is a large increase in catch between 10-20°S around 170°W, mostly within high seas area I8 and to a lesser extent from Vanuatu and Fiji (Table A1-2).

3.2 Effort

It is challenging to identify the specific species being targeted by longline vessels, particularly within the aggregate data received from particular fleets fishing on the high seas. To more directly relate the patterns seen in effort to the declared south Pacific albacore catch, we have evaluated fishing effort south of 10°S to approximate south Pacific albacore targeting (noting that this will include longline effort targeting swordfish) and to attempt to exclude 'tropical' longline fishery effort.

Raised effort data for the southern WCP-CA south of 10°S (excluding archipelagic waters) were available up to 2017 (Figure 3). We note there is considerable uncertainty in 2017 effort estimates. The number of deployed hooks in 2017 within the WCP-CA south of 10°S was 30% higher than in 2016, and 13% lower than the high seen in 2012. The estimated longline effort in this region was estimated at 277 million hooks in 2017.

Effort data from VMS provides the most 'up to date' information available, given that logsheet effort for recent years may be incomplete, and hence the uncertainty in raised annual logsheet effort estimates is increased. VMS data analysed represents days-at-sea and includes fishing and transit activity, but excludes data close to port. As for the aggregate longline data, it does not allow information on the species targeted by vessels during fishing to be assessed. In turn, some trends over time may be influenced by increased coverage of VMS across longline vessels in the south Pacific, while data for certain EEZs may be incomplete or non-existent. A list of notes on the VMS data and a table of effort by high seas area are provided in Appendix 2. To overcome the absence of VMS data for some EEZs, data were augmented with logsheet information in these locations.

Effort south of 10°S (VMS days-at-sea, augmented by logsheet days) both within EEZs and on the high seas generally increased through to 2013 but has declined slightly since then. Around 29% of the VMS days occurred within the high seas in 2017 (Table 3). Overall effort has increased in the EEZs and decreased on the high seas (Table 2). Of the VMS effort in 2017 within the international waters 32% was in region I5 east of the Line Islands and French Polynesia, and 40% from region north and northeast of New Zealand (I7) (Figure 4; Figure A2-1; Table A2-1).

¹Note that these annual catch estimate-based tables approximate the southern area of the WCP-CA as far as possible, given that some EEZs and high seas area span the equator.

3.3 Catch per unit effort

Figure 5 presents nominal longline south Pacific albacore CPUE series by key distant water fleets south of 10° south (note, the values presented in Brouwer et al. (2018) are south of the equator and will therefore differ from those presented here):

- Japanese longline CPUE in 2017 (1.08 fish per 100 hooks) was a 8% increase on 2016, the 2012-2016 average was 0.99 fish per 100 hooks;
- Korean longline CPUE in 2017 (0.16 fish per 100 hooks) was a 0% increase on 2016 the 2012-2016 average was 0.11 fish per 100 hooks;
- Chinese longline CPUE in 2017 (1.37 fish per 100 hooks) was a 17% increase on 2016 the 2012-2016 average was 0.92 fish per 100 hooks;
- Chinese Taipei longline CPUE in 2017 (0.62 fish per 100 hooks) was a 6% increase on 2016 the 2012-2016 average was 0.54 fish per 100 hooks.

Examining longer term trends, the average nominal CPUE for the Korean fleet was 0.15 between 1991 and 2000, while that for the Chinese Taipei fleet was 0.96. In contrast, the Japanese fleet averaged 2.12 over that time.

The relative spatial pattern of CPUE is presented in Figure 6 for two time periods, and for 2017. In the period 1950-2000, catch rates were relatively high across much of the southern WCP-CA, in particular within high seas areas and the EEZs of New Caledonia, Vanuatu and Tonga. Catch rates in the recent period (2001-2017) are generally lower across the region, with northern Tonga, American Samoa and the Cook Islands latitudinal band of 15°S, as well as some high seas areas, showing relatively high catch rates for that period. It is notable that increases in effort within particular 5°x5° squares are generally matched by declines in CPUE.

Figure 7 presents nominal south Pacific albacore CPUE series for two troll fleets. The CPUE of the US fleet generally declined over the period 1987 to 2006, with catch rates in the most recent years of activity being comparable to that in the mid-2000s. By comparison, the nominal CPUE of the New Zealand fleet has generally been lower, but relatively stable.

4 Transshipment information

High seas transshipment data are available from July 2010 to March 2017; no in-port or in-zone transshipment data are presented. Fluctuations in reported transshipments may reflect logistical/operational factors rather than fishing activity. It is noted that historically south Pacific albacore would have been offloaded directly to canneries (e.g. Pago Pago, American Samoa, or Levuka, Fiji) rather than being transshipped on the high seas. There is a notable peak in transshipment activity in September of each year while Vanuatu has had the highest transshipment volumes in the past, and the highest peak in the time series in October 2017 (4,174 mt) (Figure 8), of which 2,403 mt was by China and 1,119 mt Vanuatu. Further transshipment information by flag and month is presented in Appendix 3. It should be noted that transshipment levels are unlikely to be fully reported for the most recent 18 months. Transshipment data for 2017 to 2018 should, therefore, be considered preliminary and subject to change.

5 Albacore stock status

While a new south Pacific albacore stock assessment is being conducted in 2018 (Tremblay-Boyer et al., 2018) and will be presented to SC14, no projections will be undertaken until post SC14, and the 2018 assessment is yet to be reviewed by the SC.

Acknowledgments

The authors would like to thank John Hampton and Steven Hare for useful comments on earlier drafts of this paper.

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Tables

Table 1: Annual southern WCP-CA albacore longline catch estimates (excluding archipelagic waters) by EEZ and High Seas, for the most recent 10 years. Note: Available operational and aggregate logsheet data raised to annual catch estimates. EEZ are approximate 200-mile boundaries; High seas is the high seas in the WCPFC Convention Area, south of the equator. Allocation of flag catch to EEZ is approximate due to the lack of operational logsheet data in some cases.

EEZ	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
American Samoa	4,667	2,830	3,188	2,833	1,782	2,410	1,764	1,376	1,778	1,587	1,396
Australia	1,867	1,256	1,471	706	627	655	708	656	911	1,007	803
Cook Islands	2,999	2,467	4,643	4,857	5,583	10,533	6,299	4,581	3,532	4,519	2,949
Fiji	3,998	4,520	5,609	5,744	4,159	4,275	3,956	3,927	5,998	4,933	6,312
High seas	16,818	23,658	30,713	36,993	23,266	29,679	28,633	20,201	20,520	14,259	35,797
Jarvis (USA)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kiribati	675	360	1,125	1,270	598	1,240	841	1,253	2,577	4,741	279
Matthew and Hunter	6	2	24	15	7	10	0	0	2	1	6
New Caledonia	1,312	1,484	1,611	1,923	1,732	1,700	1,712	1,624	1,569	1,735	1,687
Niue	216	337	241	196	0	0	362	208	206	92	13
New Zealand	277	382	422	460	418	266	302	311	223	233	181
French Polynesia	3,924	3,060	3,560	3,482	3,223	3,591	3,495	3,743	3,392	3,243	2,127
PNG	1,919	507	864	795	294	801	237	308	408	647	1,212
Solomon Islands	5,035	6,637	10,112	7,284	6,503	8,120	9,855	14,159	10,798	3,772	3,985
Tokelau	0	144	0	0	108	254	0	8	1,852	2,220	931
Tonga	354	220	124	57	36	760	1,439	264	710	1,189	517
Tuvalu	459	159	351	674	459	917	1,508	489	451	1,555	1,553
Vanuatu	5,065	5,474	5,493	2,934	6,149	4,320	6,983	5,475	4,490	6,827	7,604
Wallis and Futuna	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Samoa	3,113	2,342	2,816	2,529	1,415	2,037	1,640	800	840	946	2,336
Total	52,704	55,839	72,367	72,752	56,362	71,568	69,734	59,383	60,257	53,506	69,688
EEZ Percent	68	58	58	49	59	59	59	66	66	73	49
HS percent	32	42	42	51	41	41	41	34	34	27	51

Table 2: Annual southern WCP-CA albacore troll catch estimates by EEZ and High Seas, for the most recent 10 years. Note: Available operational and aggregate logsheet data raised to annual catch estimates. EEZ are approximate 200-mile boundaries (excluding archipelagic waters); High seas is the high seas in the WCPFC Convention Area, south of the equator.

EEZ	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
High seas	352	151	237	307	472	235	390	466	177	166	632
New Zealand	1,736	3,352	1,794	1,832	2,787	2,727	2,836	1,937	2,425	1,952	1,952
Total	2,088	3,503	2,031	2,139	3,259	2,962	3,226	2,403	2,602	2,118	2,584
EEZ Percent	83	96	88	86	86	92	88	81	93	92	76
HS percent	17	4	12	14	14	8	12	19	7	8	24

Table 3: Total VMS days-at-sea (augmented by logsheet information) by year and geographic area in the WCP-CA south of 10°S (excluding effort in archipelagic waters).

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
EEZ	73,054	75,543	77,717	64,007	64,909	71,661	64,586
High seas	23,667	24,019	32,481	28,128	23,951	21,581	26,858
Total	96,721	99,562	110,198	92,135	88,860	93,242	91,444
Percent EEZ	76	76	71	69	73	77	71
Percent High seas	24	24	29	31	27	23	29

Table 4: Annual total and monthly average transshipment in mt (July 2010 to May 2018).

Year	Annual total	Monthly average
2010	4,091	682
2011	9,454	788
2012	5,487	457
2013	9,321	777
2014	9,587	799
2015	9,943	829
2016	18,281	1,523
2017	18,018	1,502
2018	6,804	567

Table 5: Estimates of reference points and stock status from the last (2015) south Pacific albacore tuna stock assessment (southern WCPFC region only), based upon the single reference case run, and the 18 runs used to capture uncertainty (5th percentile, median and 95th percentile).

Management quantity	2015 reference case	5 th percentile	Grid median	95 th percentile
MSY (mt)	76,800	62,260	84,980	129,814
$SB_{latest}/SB_{F=0}$	0.40	0.30	0.44	0.60
$F_{current}/F_{MSY}$	0.39	0.13	0.34	0.62
SB_{latest}/SB_{MSY}	2.86	1.74	3.2	7.03
SB_{MSY}	57,430	35,762	59,180	90,778
$SB_{F=0}$	408,361	392,358	442,163	486,146

Figures

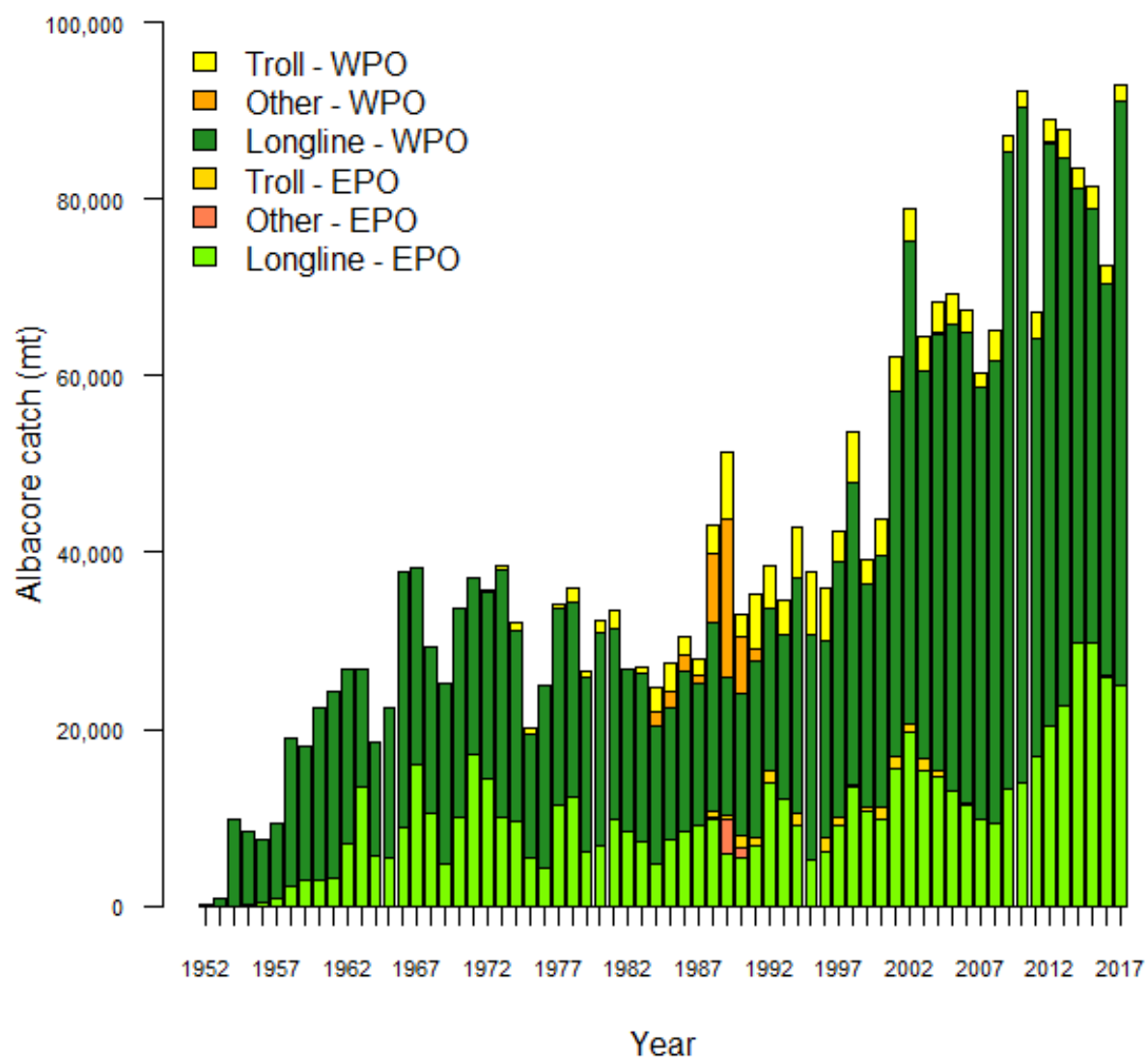


Figure 1: South Pacific albacore catch by gear (total south Pacific Ocean, including archipelagic waters).

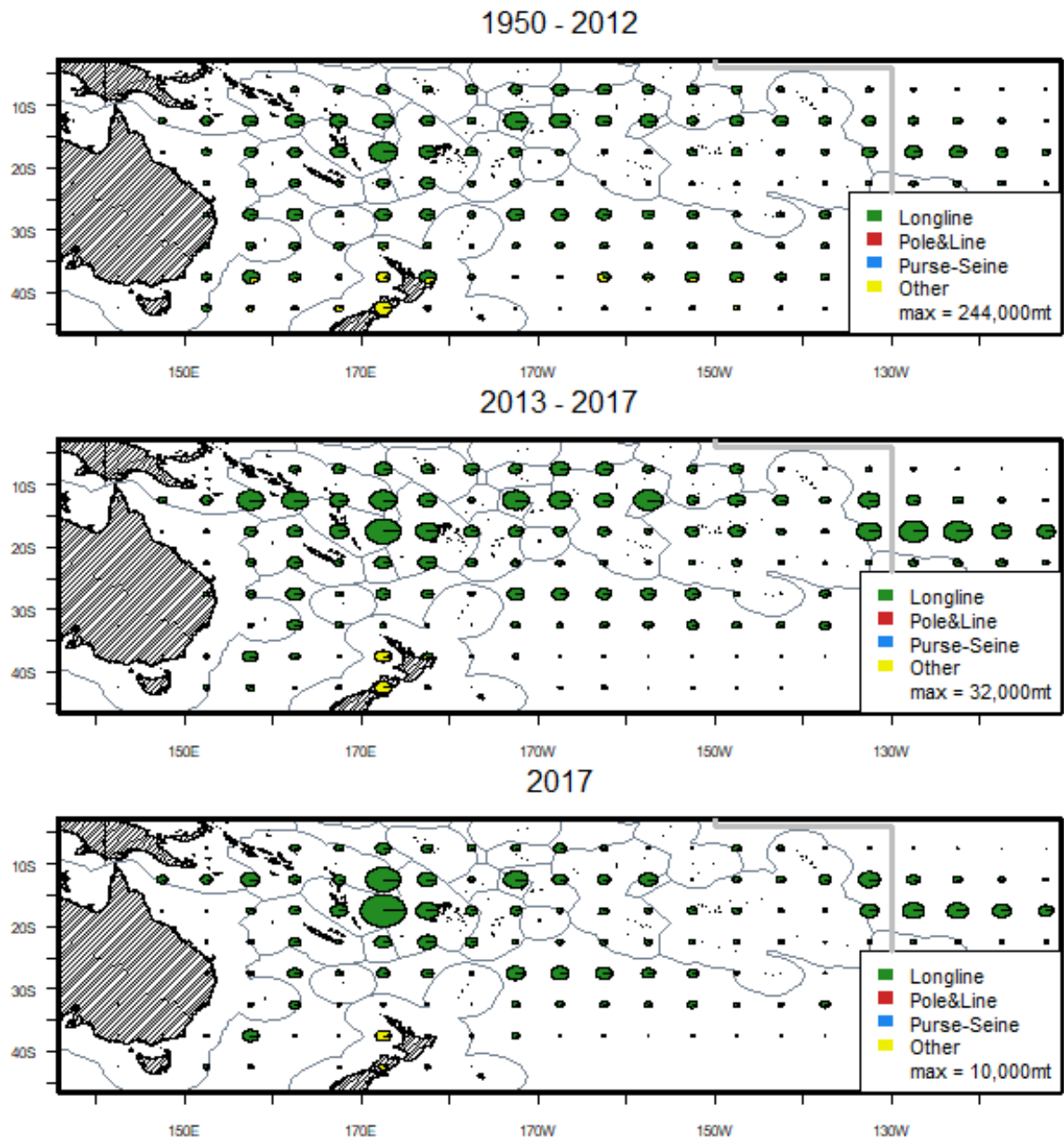


Figure 2: Albacore tuna catch distribution by gear type and 5x5 degree region in the south Pacific ocean for the period 1950-2012 (top), 2013 -2017 (middle) and 2017 (bottom). Circle size represents total catch volume with maximum circle size presented in the legends.

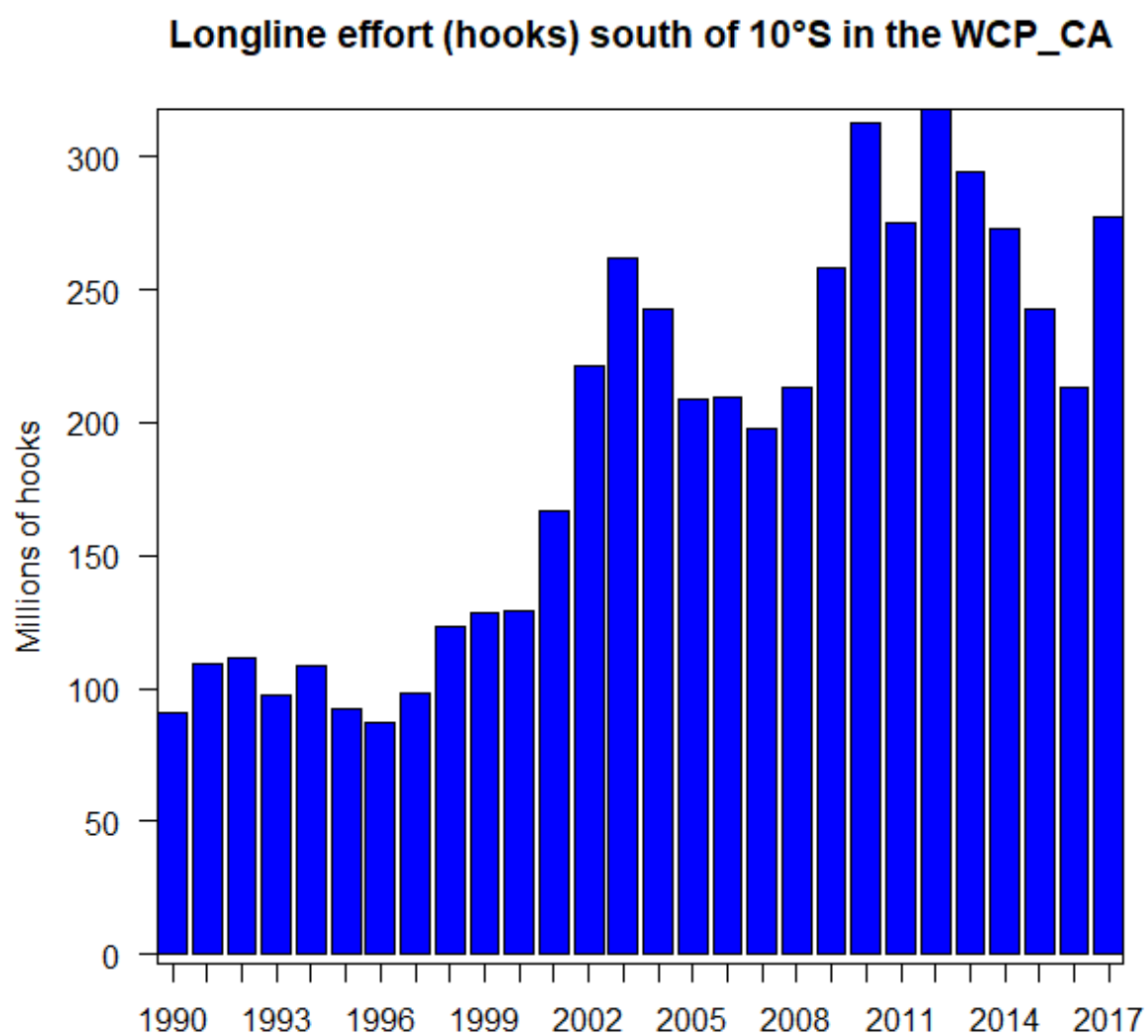


Figure 3: Temporal trends in effort (millions of hooks) in the southern longline fishery (WCP-CA south of 10°S; excluding effort in archipelagic waters).

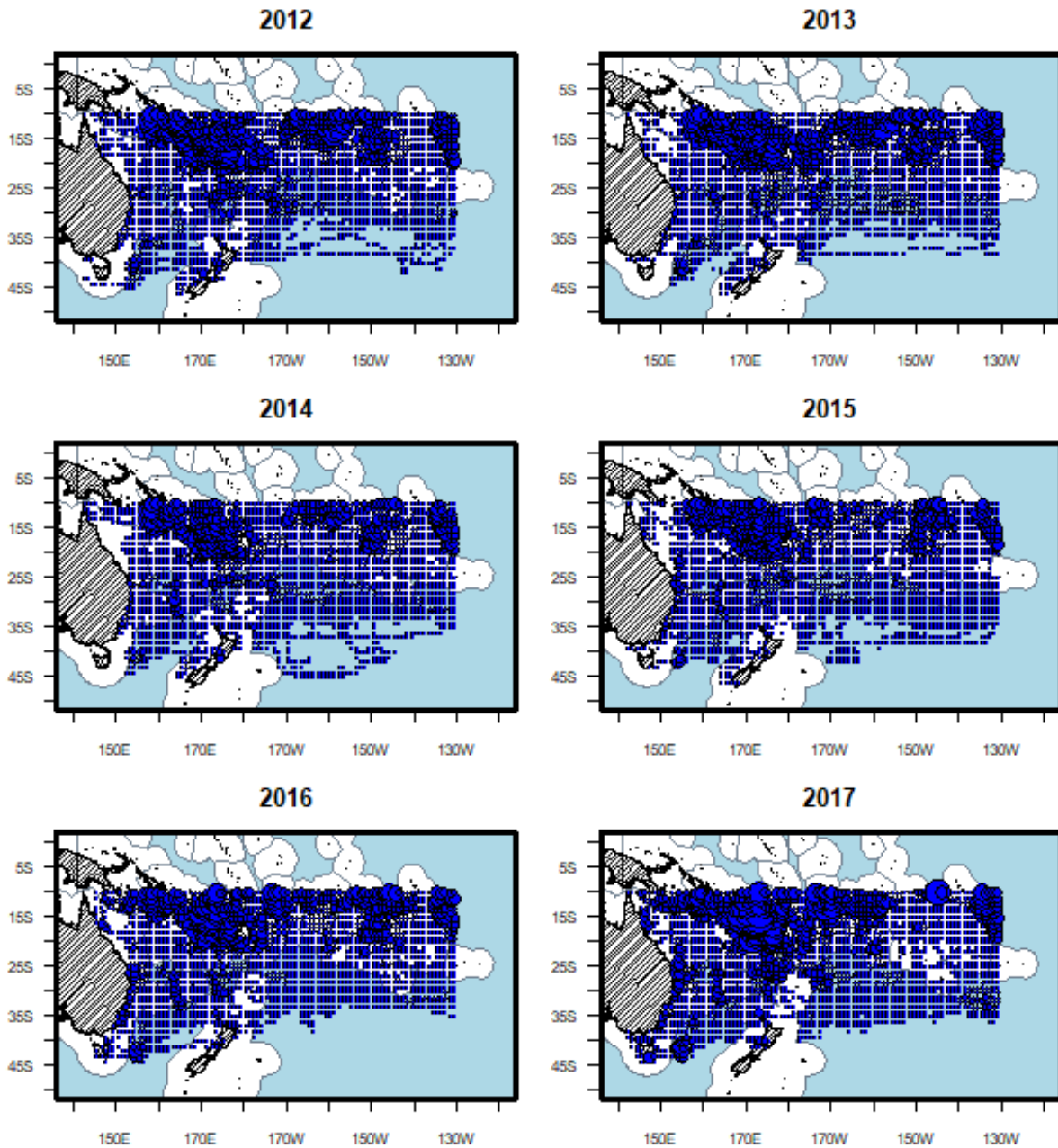


Figure 4: Longline VMS days-at-sea (augmented by logsheets) within the southern WCP-CA at $1^\circ \times 1^\circ$ (excluding archipelagic waters), south of 10°S . Maximum circle size = 1,191 days.

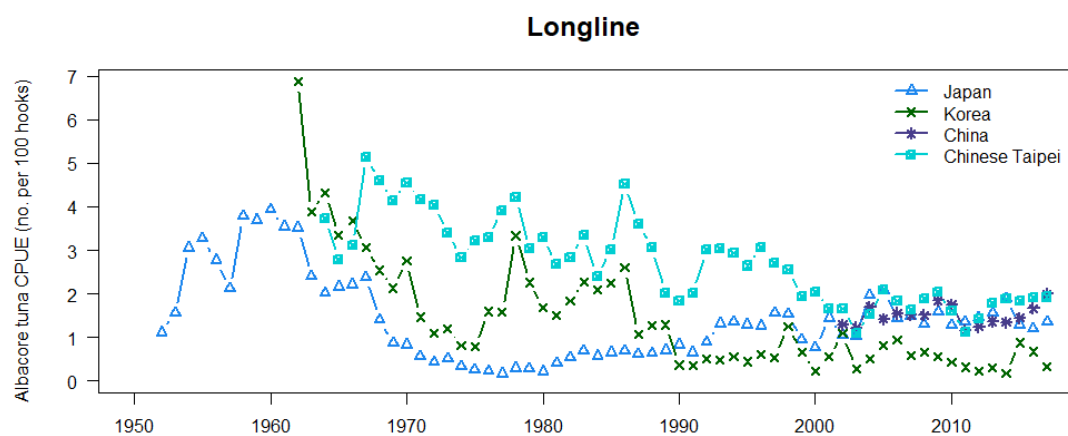


Figure 5: Trends in the nominal CPUE (number of fish per 100 hooks) over time for key distant water fleets in the southern WCP-CA south of 10°S.

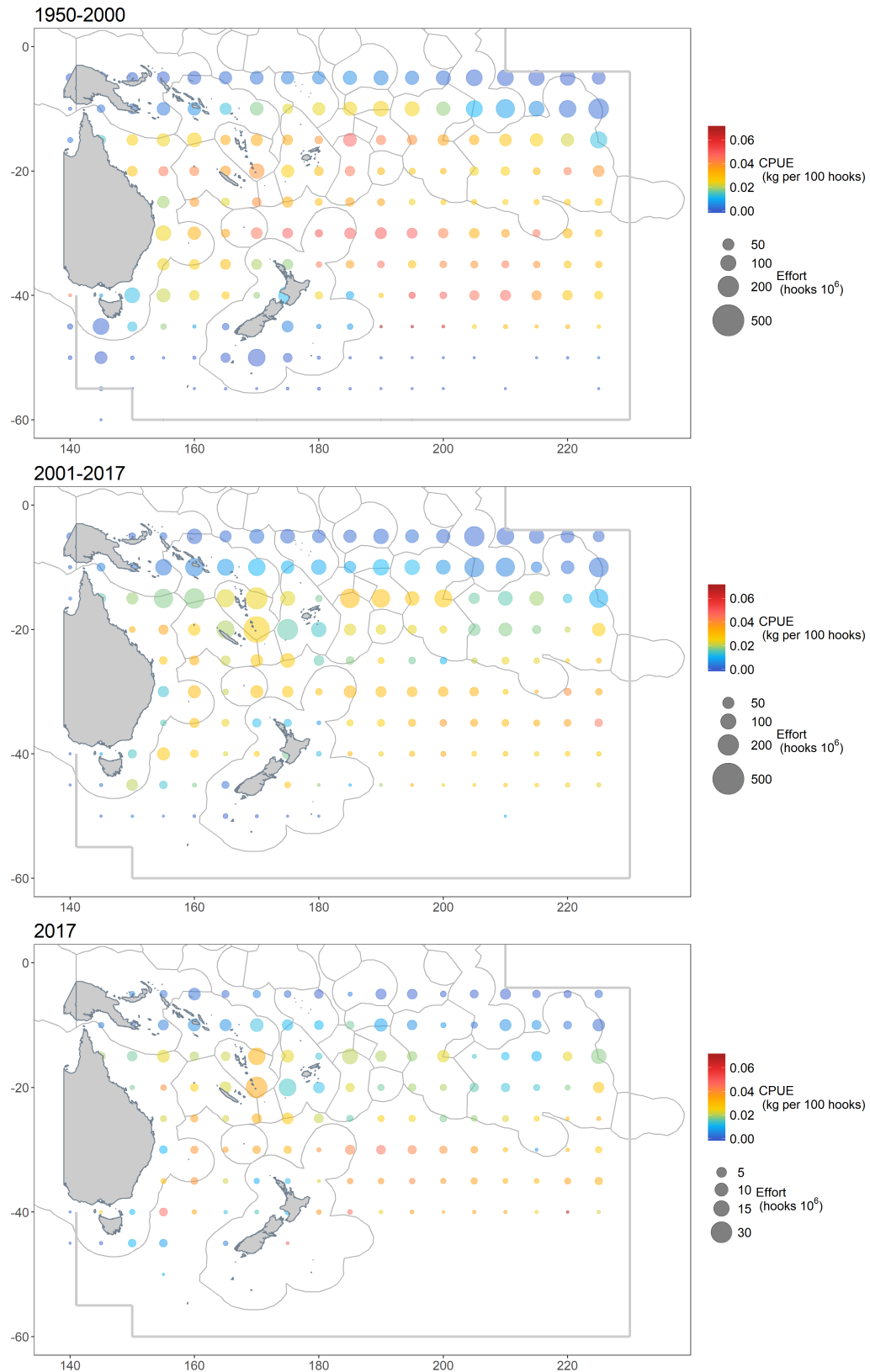


Figure 6: Albacore tuna longline CPUE distribution for the period 1950-2000 (top), 2001-2017 (middle) and 2017 (bottom). CPUE (kg/100 hooks) for a given 5°x5° square is indicated by the colour of the circle, while the relative size of the circle give an indication of the underlying effort over the period (millions of hooks). Note the change in scales between plots.

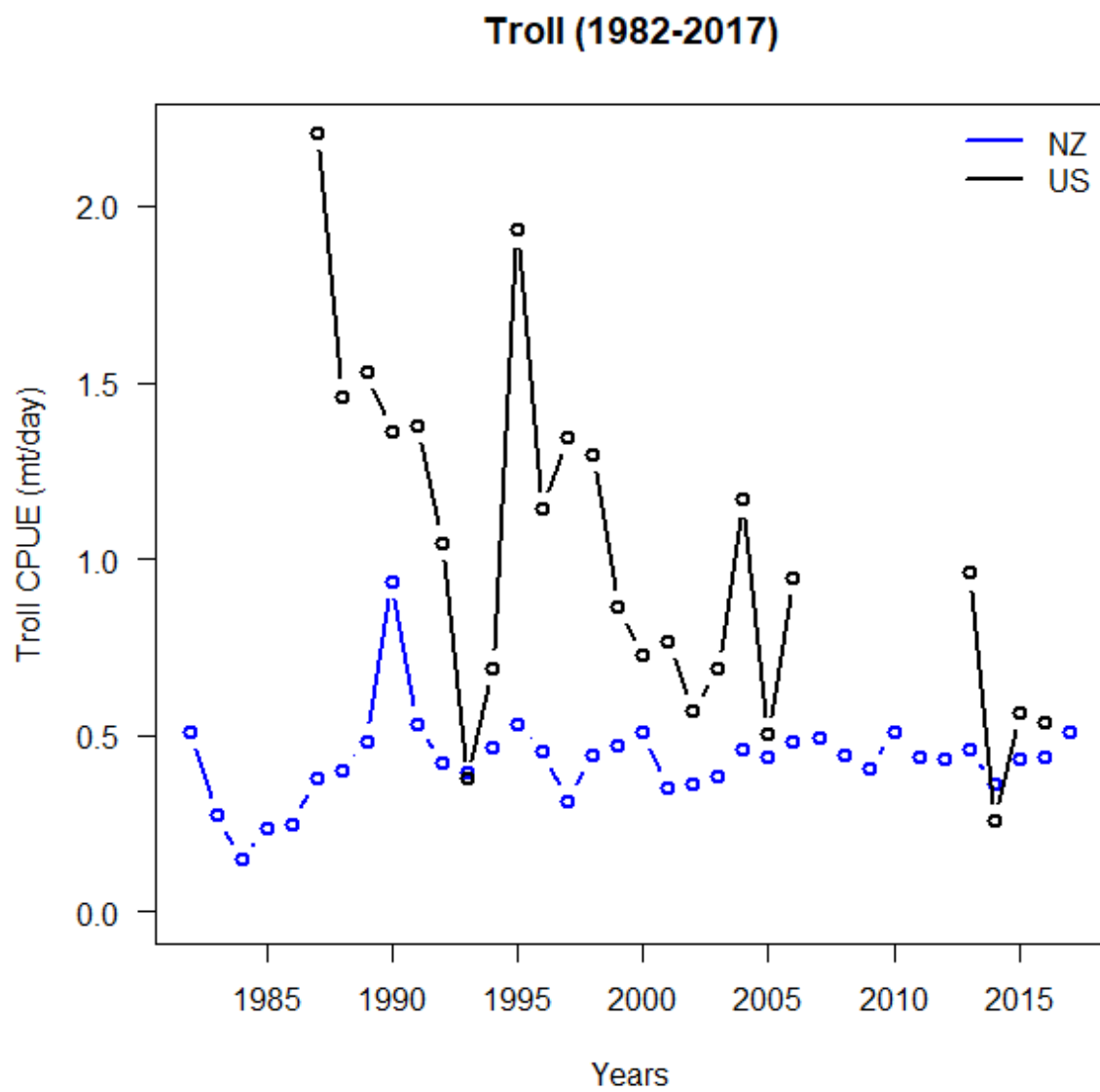


Figure 7: Trends in troll CPUE (albacore mt/day) over time for two troll fleets.

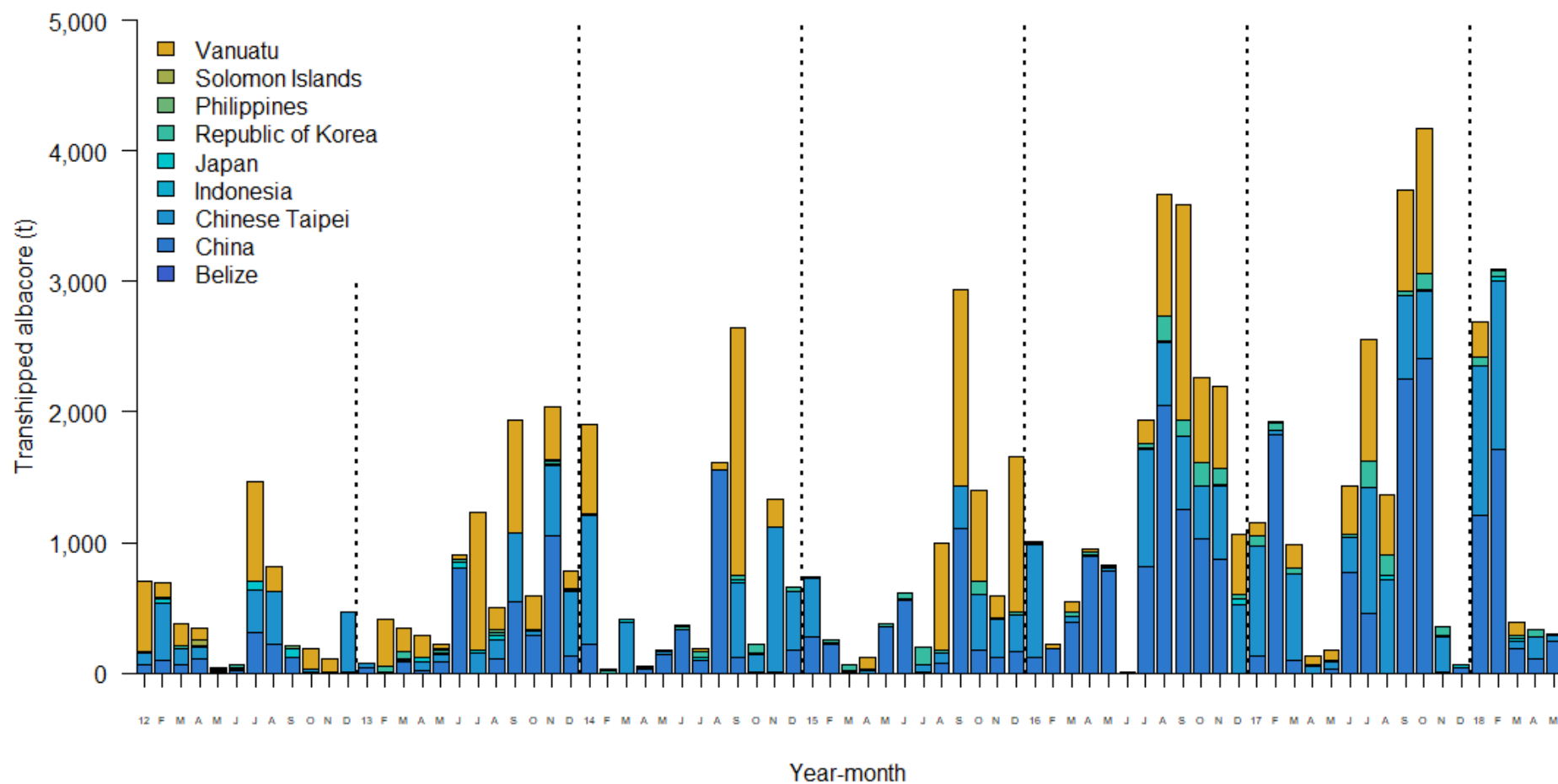


Figure 8: Reported transshipment (mt) by flag and month (2012 to May 2018). Source: WCPFC Transshipment Events Database (29 June 2018). 'Other' includes Belize, Indonesia, Philippines and Solomon Islands.

Appendix 1: Summaries of south Pacific albacore longline and troll catch, by flag/geographic region

Table A1-1: Annual southern WCP-CA albacore longline catch estimates by Vessel Nation, 2001 - 2017. Note: Available operational and aggregate logsheet data raised to annual catch estimates (ACE). Differences in annual totals between this table and Table 1 result from rounding errors. Southern WCP-CA approximated - some EEZ and high seas areas span the equator.

Flag	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Australia	591	553	490	667	743	2,591	1,925	1,277	1,523	745	653	709	773	737	949	1,101	831
Belize	4,050	1,467	885	353	7	0	164	7	26	10	105	32	0	0	0	0	0
Cook Islands	2	490	1,358	1,869	2,371	2,223	2,644	2,224	1,551	2,423	2,182	2,757	1,354	1,186	1,167	1,265	1,275
China	2,495	2,704	6,002	5,828	4,026	7,111	5,416	15,058	20,093	12,926	11,847	24,523	23,788	14,476	14,486	16,118	29,125
Spain (EC)	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	33	35	6	3	2	2	1	0	1	1
Fiji	7,256	7,282	6,310	10,867	11,077	11,481	6,930	9,262	12,098	8,604	9,948	9,370	8,702	7,014	6,974	7,254	9,757
FSM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	173	664	318	177	1,899	464
Japan	3,336	2,638	3,148	4,005	4,654	3,290	2,990	2,371	2,824	2,638	2,170	2,085	1,819	1,269	784	1,165	1,296
Kiribati	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	200	349	40	7	358	510	639
Republic of Korea	1,728	2,850	1,394	743	2,167	790	1,080	1,143	1,208	1,027	488	892	767	689	1,012	1,383	1,134
New Caledonia	1,020	1,165	1,111	1,468	1,590	1,358	1,324	1,506	1,649	1,939	1,736	1,715	1,714	1,630	1,583	1,747	1,733
Niue	0	0	0	0	55	213	216	337	154	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Zealand	2,614	2,545	2,971	1,248	602	496	357	382	422	460	418	266	302	311	223	233	181
French Polynesia	4,261	4,557	3,846	2,218	2,426	2,918	3,957	3,068	3,560	3,483	3,225	3,594	3,512	3,744	3,392	3,245	2,127
PNG	72	82	645	1,529	2,181	1,741	1,556	437	807	791	245	693	235	308	336	77	689
Portugal (EC)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	67	1	0	0	0
Solomon Islands	54	121	95	207	0	0	0	0	0	7,708	899	0	0	14,241	11,216	0	0
Senegal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tonga	1,268	1,189	611	182	283	414	390	220	124	57	34	20	13	25	29	42	26
Tuvalu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	184	432	169	78	97	52	175
Chinese Taipei	12,900	16,164	12,421	8,778	8,704	8,778	9,225	7,680	11,558	13,120	13,353	11,757	13,574	7,450	7,941	10,885	12,086
USA	3,861	6,105	4,233	2,622	3,060	4,146	5,298	3,686	3,937	4,082	2,555	3,461	2,213	1,543	1,980	1,732	1,424
Vanuatu	655	5,275	3,182	6,261	7,684	7,949	6,119	4,805	7,979	10,039	4,694	6,699	8,384	3,554	6,714	3,851	4,353
Wallis and Futuna	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Samoa	4,820	4,223	2,253	1,233	1,263	2,113	3,113	2,342	2,816	2,529	1,415	2,038	1,642	800	840	946	2,374
Total	50,983	59,410	50,955	50,080	52,895	57,612	52,704	55,838	72,364	72,751	56,362	71,568	69,734	59,382	60,258	53,506	69,690

Table A1-2: Annual southern WCP-CA albacore longline catch estimates by Vessel Nation, 2000 - 2017. Note: Available operational and aggregate logsheet data raised to annual catch estimates (ACE). Differences in annual totals between this table and Table 1 result from rounding errors. Southern WCP-CA approximated - some EEZ and high seas areas span the equator.

EEZ	Flag	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
AS	US	626	3,217	5,334	3,204	2,019	2,880	4,078	4,667	2,830	3,188	2,833	1,782	2,410	1,764	1,376	1,778	1,587	1,396
AU	AU	359	554	505	391	587	619	2,526	1,867	1,256	1,471	706	627	655	708	656	911	1,006	803
CK	BZ	0	0	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CK	0	2	490	1,344	1,866	2,276	1,993	2,385	1,918	1,357	2,229	2,178	2,726	1,223	1,073	1,039	1,199	1,186
	CN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	148	2,970	2,223	3,186	2,240	1,440	1,293
	FJ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	139	395	329	80	0	0	0	0
	FM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	156	650	271	173	1,876	463
	KI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	244	29	0	0	0	0
	KR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
	PF	0	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TW	0	0	11	12	0	0	0	311	64	972	192	163	311	0	0	0	0	4
	US	0	7	617	420	297	16	0	304	485	590	975	581	653	271	41	76	0	0
	VU	0	0	0	15	9	0	0	0	0	1,723	1,322	2,119	3,144	1,824	10	4	3	2
	WS	0	0	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FJ	CK	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CN	0	0	77	63	151	151	131	400	135	375	152	295	430	302	202	639	926	720
	FJ	4,212	6,566	5,528	3,755	5,847	5,439	5,334	3,512	4,376	5,228	5,580	3,760	3,844	3,259	3,725	5,190	4,005	5,590
	KR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	69	0	38	0	0	2	0
	NZ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	TW	292	541	374	116	36	2	2	6	7	6	1	5	0	3	1	1	0	0
	VU	0	187	304	119	33	1	5	0	2	0	1	30	1	355	0	168	0	1
HS	AU	22	37	48	99	80	124	65	58	21	52	39	26	54	65	81	38	95	28
	BZ	31	2,800	1,467	805	2	7	0	19	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CK	0	0	0	14	3	5	75	156	180	31	50	4	23	28	0	1	7	51
	CN	2,029	2,413	2,494	5,588	5,271	2,465	4,480	2,857	12,409	14,932	11,460	7,763	16,244	12,889	5,888	5,832	2,015	18,806
	ES	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	33	35	6	3	2	2	1	0	1	1
	FJ	345	214	709	1,294	2,173	2,210	2,012	1,042	1,337	2,133	1,357	2,476	2,466	1,885	1,781	1,077	1,139	1,497
	FM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	16	14	47	4	23	0
	JP	2,072	3,176	2,466	2,909	3,978	4,533	1,909	1,690	1,382	1,563	907	1,645	1,127	1,248	1,208	697	667	800
	KI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	145	16	3	1	12	37	291
	KR	284	1,070	1,837	1,095	444	1,787	307	408	410	521	421	226	427	425	149	257	462	632
	NC	8	1	4	23	94	10	8	12	22	38	16	4	14	2	6	12	12	45
	NU	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	NZ	10	21	23	35	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	PF	37	0	2	19	7	134	72	33	8	0	1	2	3	17	1	0	2	0
	PT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	67	1	0	0	0
	SB	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,494	74	0	0	1,058	485	0	0
	SN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TO	4	194	344	293	3	27	9	36	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1

Table A1-2: (continued)

EEZ	Flag	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
	TV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	16	12	1	1	1	62
	TW	7,527	11,336	14,434	11,369	6,683	5,980	4,989	5,723	4,370	5,978	11,976	9,004	6,669	9,096	6,674	7,049	7,700	10,206
	US	454	636	155	555	304	164	68	327	259	159	275	192	397	178	126	126	145	27
	VU	0	276	4,058	1,560	4,778	5,866	5,168	4,455	3,226	5,268	7,989	1,685	2,203	2,697	3,178	4,928	1,954	3,311
	WS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	38
KI	BZ	0	0	0	0	351	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0	0
	CN	1	82	0	48	9	0	0	0	1	157	398	208	292	221	308	1,355	3,329	168
	FJ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	41	29	176	152	149	6
	FM	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	JP	42	69	43	40	27	11	2	0	9	38	19	13	45	8	6	0	0	0
	KI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	55	46	3	1	0	107	69
	KR	224	576	692	262	234	134	131	189	140	261	358	99	335	186	349	612	410	11
	TV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	48	0	0	0	0	0
	TW	2	0	23	94	116	28	14	263	98	266	48	130	327	350	263	252	649	22
	US	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	VU	0	0	0	230	96	68	152	223	112	403	381	73	74	44	150	206	96	2
MA	FJ	2	0	0	17	4	9	2	4	2	10	14	7	8	0	0	1	1	0
	NC	2	4	1	1	7	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
	VU	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	0	14	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
NC	NC	885	1,015	1,160	1,087	1,367	1,579	1,348	1,312	1,484	1,611	1,923	1,732	1,700	1,712	1,624	1,569	1,735	1,687
NU	CK	0	0	0	0	0	0	47	0	0	87	99	0	0	85	33	0	0	0
	FJ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	277	157	203	92	13
	NU	0	0	0	0	0	55	211	216	337	154	97	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	PF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TW	0	0	34	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	3	0	0
NZ	NZ	1,334	2,593	2,522	2,936	1,246	602	496	277	382	422	460	418	266	302	311	223	233	181
PF	KR	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	PF	3,436	4,261	4,555	3,813	2,211	2,259	2,846	3,924	3,060	3,560	3,482	3,223	3,591	3,495	3,743	3,392	3,243	2,127
SB	BZ	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	145	7	24	10	105	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CK	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	0	12	16	0	0	5	18	79	0	0	0
	CN	0	0	17	102	157	426	1,035	896	1,315	2,400	68	976	1,734	2,898	238	0	1,860	2,250
	FJ	10	2	162	59	400	242	831	554	1,270	2,707	91	1,121	1,306	1,773	131	0	592	174
	JP	85	69	128	196	0	110	1,372	1,300	980	1,223	1,471	506	855	563	55	34	0	0
	KI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
	KR	0	0	76	16	24	83	324	313	463	299	33	43	111	96	57	34	2	39
	PG	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SB	221	54	121	95	207	0	0	0	0	0	5,214	825	0	0	13,183	10,731	0	0
	TV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TW	88	63	274	196	906	1,394	1,831	1,443	2,032	3,118	378	2,727	3,240	2,424	278	0	1,319	1,340
	VU	0	0	307	305	756	487	1,036	385	558	325	17	187	869	2,077	138	0	0	181

Table A1-2: (continued)

EEZ	Flag	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
TK	CK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	127	58	38
	FJ	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75	93	0	2	1	0	0
	KI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	0	5	346	365	279
	TV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	134	0	0	0	0	0
	TW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
	US	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	111	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	VU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,378	1,796	614
	CN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	155	106	61	1	7
	FJ	0	0	0	0	27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	123	0	3	1	0
	TO	858	1,074	845	318	179	256	405	354	220	124	57	34	20	13	24	29	42	25
TV	TW	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	700	1,149	133	618	1,145	485
	CK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	49	20	56	35	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
	CN	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	77	0	0	128	149	289	526
	FJ	0	0	0	31	180	119	1	152	15	124	182	159	539	191	148	69	707	463
	JP	41	22	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	241	5	57	0	0	0	0	0
	KI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0
	KR	55	81	184	18	41	162	6	171	123	127	204	51	19	22	135	108	508	451
	TV	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	142	234	157	77	95	51	112
	TW	145	0	0	0	4	15	0	0	1	0	12	3	0	88	1	0	0	0
	US	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
VU	VU	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	86	0	45	1	22	48	1,051	0	30	0	1
	BZ	160	1,251	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CK	0	0	0	0	0	85	63	54	62	3	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CN	0	0	115	202	241	985	1,465	1,262	1,197	2,230	847	2,378	2,843	5,101	4,421	4,211	6,258	5,355
	FJ	830	473	883	1,155	2,237	3,057	3,300	1,666	2,263	1,896	1,241	1,938	714	1,085	893	279	569	2,014
	JP	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	KR	0	0	62	4	0	0	21	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TW	1,911	960	1,015	635	1,034	1,286	1,892	1,116	1,038	1,162	508	1,253	403	462	83	1	0	0
	VU	0	192	605	951	588	1,261	1,587	966	907	202	328	579	360	335	78	0	0	235
	WF	0	0	0	0	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WS	WF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	WS	4,067	4,820	4,205	2,253	1,233	1,263	2,113	3,113	2,342	2,816	2,529	1,415	2,037	1,640	800	840	946	2,336

Table A1-3: Annual south Pacific albacore troll catch estimates by flag, 2000 - 2017.

Year	Canada	Cook Islands	New Zealand	USA	Total
2000	351	335	3,336	2,433	6,455
2001	206	202	2,736	2,107	5,251
2002	144	166	3,012	1,337	4,659
2003	0	688	3,721	1,574	5,983
2004	63	376	3,212	960	4,611
2005	72	89	2,855	576	3,592
2006	135	121	2,043	587	2,886
2007	27	53	1,736	272	2,088
2008	0	0	3,352	151	3,503
2009	0	0	1,794	237	2,031
2010	0	0	1,832	307	2,139
2011	1	0	2,787	471	3,259
2012	0	0	2,727	235	2,962
2013	0	0	2,836	390	3,226
2014	0	21	1,937	445	2,403
2015	0	21	2,425	156	2,602
2016	0	21	1,952	145	2,118
2017	55	21	1,952	556	2,584

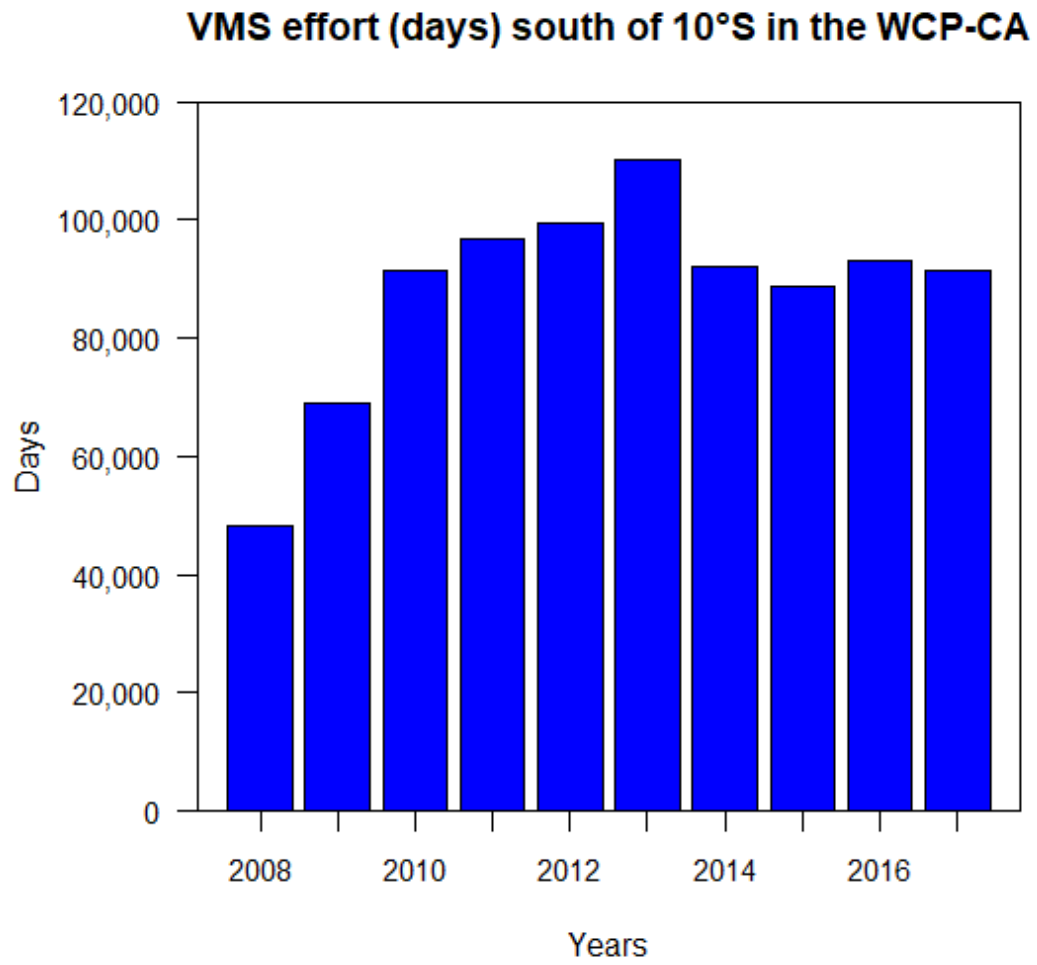


Figure A1-2: Longline VMS days-at-sea (augmented by logsheets for French Polynesia) within the southern WCP-CA at 1°x1° (excluding archipelagic waters), south of 10°S.

Appendix 2: Notes on the time series of longline VMS information in the South Pacific

The analysis summarises the longline VMS information available to SPC through the FFA and WCPFC over the period 2010-2017, by geographic region of the southern WCPFC-CA. Effort in that database corresponds to days-at-sea (i.e. includes fishing and transiting). Please note:

- This analysis uses annual VMS data available up to and including 9th July 2018;
- Effort represents total longline effort, not just that targeted at South Pacific albacore;
- VMS effort presented for EEZs includes that in archipelagic waters;
- Effort data for some countries (e.g. those with domestic longliners not on FFA VMS) will not be included within EEZ patterns;
- Effort for some countries (e.g. New Caledonia; French Polynesia) may be incomplete;
- Some trends may result from improved VMS coverage of vessels over time;
- EEZ effort excludes the Indonesian EEZ.

Table A2-1: Total VMS days-at-sea by year in International Waters, south of 10°S (Figure A2-1).

International waters code	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
I2	236	205	175	196	251	307	264	384	644	578
I5	455	1,593	5,868	4,765	5,276	11,051	8,448	7,097	7,939	8,632
I7	5,299	7,823	10,673	12,666	10,816	13,673	13,452	11,648	8,443	10,825
I8	2,158	1,814	2,856	3,427	2,384	2,968	2,774	3,100	3,460	5,183
I9	279	1,158	1,788	2,612	5,291	4,484	3,189	1,721	1,095	1,640
Total	8,427	12,593	21,360	23,666	24,018	32,483	28,127	23,950	21,581	26,858

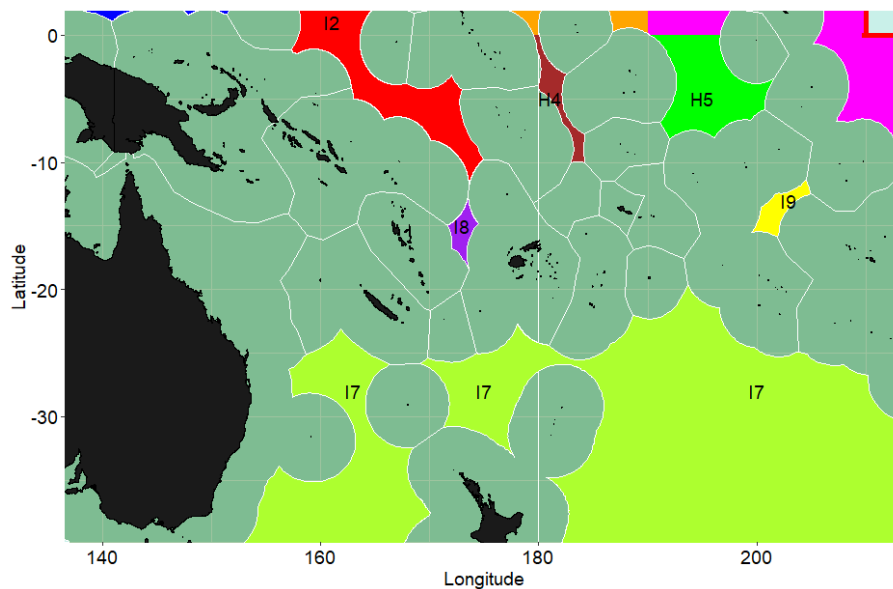


Figure A2-1: Map of International Waters in the southerly WCPFC-CA.

Table A2-2: Map key (Figure A2-1).

Code	Area	Color
H4	International waters between Tuvalu, Phoenix and Tokelau	Brown
H5	International waters between Phoenix and Line groups	Bright green
I2	Doughnut hole between FSM, Solomon Islands, Kiribati, RMI, Nauru and Tuvalu	Red
I5	International waters between Phoenix and Line groups and east of Line group	Pink
I7	High seas area to the east of Australia and New Zealand	Light green
I8	High seas pocket between Fiji and Vanuatu	Purple
I9	High seas pocket between the Cook Islands and French Polynesia	Yellow

Appendix 3: High Seas transshipment data for albacore based on CMM 2009-06 reporting

The tables below show high Seas transshipment data for albacore, by flag, year and month from July 2010 - May 2018.

Notes:

1. The requirement to report (within 15 days of transshipment) high seas transshipment activities commenced in July 2010.
2. The data refer to high seas transshipments inside and outside the WCPFC Convention Area, and it should be noted that a proportion of the catch will likely have been caught within EEZs in the Convention Area and the IATTC Convention area.
3. Weights are in kg.

Table A3-1: 2010.

CCM responsible for reporting for the Fishing Vessel	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Belize	0	0	0	0	2,837	0
China	0	0	166,000	210,668	247,192	17,091
Chinese Taipei	0	115,000	165,552	125,298	147,809	20,582
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	44,170	869
Japan	0	900	0	53,543	35,437	30,000
Korea (Republic of)	16,984	0	22,303	41,890	0	6,389
Philippines	0	0	0	7,500	0	4,848
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanuatu	0	1,435,000	270,600	232,293	521,630	148,835
Total	16,984	1,550,900	624,455	671,192	999,075	228,614

Table A3-2: 2011.

CCM responsible for reporting for the Fishing Vessel	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Belize	2,015	0	0	36,000	0	0	710	0	0	0	0	0
China	5,073	101,989	24,854	31,588	31,987	29,524	61,905	748,608	34,656	82,198	63,458	28,013
Indonesia	0	0	0	794	8,277	0	0	0	8,322	29,668	0	7,220
Japan	10,850	79,731	22,475	0	1,850	5,777	822	2,900	0	32,364	57,286	4,687
Korea (Republic of)	42,584	3,017	45,988	33,941	5,622	16,595	3,678	0	1,225	13,768	98,599	6,360
Philippines	0	0	0	400	0	500	17,303	2,284	0	10,346	0	6,723
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanuatu	100,000	110,000	1,020,165	290,970	597	13,700	816,794	313,038	62,000	12,857	0	341,175
Total	978,878	477,595	2,012,132	408,499	100,393	259,750	1,613,952	1,532,525	452,848	276,160	540,194	801,118

Table A3-3: 2012.

CCM responsible for reporting for the Fishing Vessel	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Belize	0	0	0	0	0	0	841	0	0	0	0	0
China	67,701	95,807	61,927	103,977	8,055	20,149	305,884	216,568	118,390	6,507	0	11,276
Chinese Taipei	87,183	438,492	127,178	91,510	12,089	0	326,644	406,037	0	18,305	0	457,106
Indonesia	1,894	4,820	1,900	0	0	11,505	0	0	0	0	0	4,656
Japan	0	31,016	1,774	12,999	1,575	13,449	66,858	2,597	72,544	0	3,281	0
Republic of Korea	3,777	13,163	14,234	5,454	12,710	16,829	6,312	0	0	0	4,920	0
Philippines	1,500	0	4,684	0	0	0	0	0	19,278	0	0	0
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	45,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanuatu	544,933	108,000	161,242	90,280	1,657	0	764,900	185,000	0	165,000	105,000	0
Total	706,988	691,298	372,939	349,720	36,086	61,932	1,471,439	810,202	210,212	189,812	113,201	473,038

Table A3-4: 2013.

CCM responsible for reporting for the Fishing Vessel	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Belize	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	42,364	7,376	84,590	24,498	90,383	805,828	0	110,513	542,675	282,996	1,048,906	127,757
Chinese Taipei	33,541	0	5,000	59,423	50,711	0	157,174	140,100	532,164	39,331	543,864	498,889
Indonesia	0	0	6,891	286	5,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,403
Japan	0	0	9,481	38,422	3,100	39,089	13,602	42,460	147	14,639	10,539	2,765
Republic of Korea	0	45,342	53,797	0	29,523	26,676	0	20,268	0	0	24,377	18,848
Philippines	0	0	4,959	0	7,982	0	0	15,527	0	0	2,798	0
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanuatu	0	361,951	175,489	165,000	28,228	28,496	1,062,757	174,754	864,995	249,017	412,360	130,000
Total	75,905	414,669	340,207	287,629	215,727	900,089	1,233,533	503,622	1,939,981	585,983	2,042,844	780,662

Table A3-5: 2014.

CCM responsible for reporting for the Fishing Vessel	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Belize	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	224,998	875	26	31,578	138,573	331,788	102,822	1,551,373	115,965	6,825	12,505	171,219
Chinese Taipei	985,503	636	386,115	8,688	31,399	529	0	0	576,390	133,748	1,109,509	449,172
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	3,728	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	3,626	0	27,308	0	2,000	200	20,533	0	23,693	8,005	0	0
Republic of Korea	0	22,285	0	8,844	3,393	13,958	46,724	6,004	37,687	74,214	0	37,621
Philippines	0	1,162	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanuatu	691,021	0	2,620	0	0	12,639	17,935	49,549	1,895,708	578	205,667	0
Total	1,905,148	24,958	416,069	49,110	175,365	362,842	188,014	1,606,926	2,649,443	223,370	1,327,681	658,012

Table A3-6: 2015.

CCM responsible for reporting for the Fishing Vessel	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Belize	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	273,169	215,527	3,889	16	352,621	557,865	5,512	70,724	1,102,161	181,347	122,120	168,716
Chinese Taipei	449,399	7,915	12,663	19,320	0	6,246	61,526	80,938	329,500	419,241	294,284	274,693
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	1,515	5,101	5,645	2,221	119	0	647	1,466	0	5,587	6,566	0
Republic of Korea	2,444	22,212	43,063	3,759	25,975	50,251	127,526	26,143	0	100,741	4,395	21,934
Philippines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanuatu	9,294	5,049	409	90,697	2,505	4,601	0	817,041	1,508,373	687,356	160,944	1,190,359
Total	735,821	255,804	65,669	116,013	381,220	618,963	195,211	996,312	2,940,034	1,394,272	588,309	1,655,702

Table A3-7: 2016.

CCM responsible for reporting for the Fishing Vessel	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Belize	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	115,400	187,463	385,696	898,315	783,017	370	811,943	2,046,259	1,258,269	1,028,406	869,370	0
Chinese Taipei	873,578	407	47,290	6,081	17,946	0	901,867	484,572	555,906	399,841	561,586	521,253
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	2,560	0	331	0	134	1,988	13,900	12,000	4,830	0	9,639	46,529
Republic of Korea	2,821	3,631	37,070	29,140	20,184	7,152	26,756	188,441	118,212	187,865	122,317	29,322
Philippines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanuatu	9,871	28,238	71,941	20,172	352	3,084	188,895	937,255	1,654,204	642,294	635,085	469,531
Total	1,004,230	219,739	542,328	953,708	821,633	12,594	1,943,361	3,668,527	3,591,421	2,258,406	2,197,997	1,066,635

Table A3-8: 2017.

CCM responsible for reporting for the Fishing Vessel	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Belize	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	133,080	1,822,209	98,552	526	28,601	771,543	453,184	1,879	2,253,152	2,403,932	10,212	38,636
Chinese Taipei	840,630	39,726	664,783	49,596	60,490	267,056	971,775	709,197	634,064	523,330	265,325	6,421
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	0	0	0	1,095	0	0	0	34,153	0	4,934	13,859	13,858
Republic of Korea	72,225	56,070	39,073	18,069	8,269	27,823	193,395	159,459	34,395	123,394	65,785	79
Philippines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanuatu	101,369	13,198	178,822	57,754	80,000	370,842	932,147	461,393	782,433	1,119,250	2,384	4,945
Total	1,147,304	1,931,203	981,230	127,040	177,360	1,437,264	2,550,501	1,366,081	3,704,044	4,174,840	357,565	63,939

Table A3-9: 2018.

CCM responsible for reporting for the Fishing Vessel	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Belize	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
China	1,208,960	1,708,710	184,882	110,875	242,078	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chinese Taipei	1,142,945	1,299,532	59,416	161,974	51,048	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indonesia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Japan	0	30,499	18,542	7,977	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Republic of Korea	66,696	45,182	24,074	56,270	1,059	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Philippines	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solomon Islands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vanuatu	270,596	4,528	107,290	1,300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2,689,197	3,088,451	394,204	338,396	294,185	0	0	0	0	0	0	0