

# FINAL REPORT

## Protected species interactions reported to the Commonwealth Fishery logbooks for the period **1 July to 30 September 2020**

**This is the final report that the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) has provided to the Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment (DoAWE) on behalf of Commonwealth fishers. This report compiles protected species interactions for the period 1 July to 30 September 2020 from official logbook records submitted to AFMA by fishers (concession holders). This report will be published on the AFMA website at [Protected Species Interaction Reports](#).**

Consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AFMA and DoAWE, protected species refers to all listed threatened, migratory and marine species and cetaceans consistent with the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). It is an offence for any person to undertake an activity in a Commonwealth area that results in the unintentional death, injury, trading, taking, keeping or moving of a species listed under the EPBC Act. However, the EPBC Act specifies certain actions are not offences, including actions undertaken in accordance with an accredited management plan or regime.

All Commonwealth-managed fisheries have been assessed and accredited under the EPBC Act on the basis that the management plan or regime includes all reasonable steps to ensure that members of protected species are not adversely affected by the fishing operation. As long as operators are fishing in accordance with the fishery management arrangements, it is not an offence to interact with a protected species. It is, however, an offence not to report these interactions.

Under the MOU between AFMA and DoAWE, AFMA provides a quarterly summary of logbook reports on interactions with protected species in AFMA-managed fisheries to DoAWE on behalf of fishers. New species may be added to EPBC Act lists and the tables below are updated accordingly. Logbook data is not routinely verified and therefore AFMA cannot attest to the accuracy of this data nor authenticate that this data is a complete record of all interactions occurring in these fisheries.

AFMA publishes protected species interaction reports on the [AFMA website](#) to allow interested stakeholders to have earlier access to this information. There may be minor differences between preliminary and final reports due to late submissions of logbooks to AFMA. The preliminary report of protected species interactions for AFMA-managed fisheries as reported in fishery logbooks for the period **1 July to 30 September 2020** is below. The report has been provided to DoAWE and is compiled from official logbook records submitted to AFMA by fishers (concessions holders).

Protected species management fact sheets available on the [AFMA website](#) provide information on how protected species interactions are minimised including specific mitigation measures currently in place, thereby providing a useful context for the quarterly reports.

Should you require further information regarding these reports, please contact:

Australian Fisheries Management Authority Fisheries Services

Tel: (02) 6225 5555

Email: [Observers@afma.gov.au](mailto:Observers@afma.gov.au)

## FINAL REPORT

Protected species interactions reported in Commonwealth Fishery logbooks for the period **1 July to 30 September 2020**

### Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Pelagic Longline	Birds	3	-	3	-	-	Hooked
	Common dolphin	1	1	-	-	-	Hooked
	Dolphins	3	3	-	-	-	Hooked
	Green Turtle	3	2	1	-	-	Hooked
	Leatherback Turtle	4	4	-	-	-	Hooked
	Loggerhead Turtle	3	3	-	-	-	Hooked
	Longfin Mako	2	-	-	-	2	Hooked
	Petrels and Shearwaters	2	-	2	-	-	Hooked
	Porbeagle	2	-	1	-	1	Hooked
	Shearwaters	1	-	1	-	-	Hooked
	Shortfin Mako	506	5	158	-	343	Hooked
	Silky Shark	4	-	-	-	4	Hooked
	Turtles	3	3	-	-	-	Hooked
Total Interactions		537	21	166		350	

### Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Pelagic Longline	Leatherback Turtle	3	3	-	-	-	Hooked
	Porbeagle	8	-	-	-	8	Hooked
	Shortfin Mako	65	-	-	-	65	Hooked
Total Interactions		76	3	-		73	

## Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery – Commonwealth Trawl Sector

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Bottom Otter Trawl	Australian Fur Seal	41	3	38	-	-	Entangled
	Dolphins	1	-	1	-	-	Entangled
	New Zealand Fur Seal	3	-	3	-	-	Entangled
	Seals	8	2	6	-	-	Entangled
	Shortfin Mako	1	-	1	-	-	Entangled
Danish Seine (Trawl Fishery)	Australian Fur Seal	2	-	2	-	-	Entangled
	Seals	8	4	4	-	-	Entangled
Midwater Otter Trawl	Australian Fur Seal	1	-	1	-	-	Entangled
	New Zealand Fur Seal	2	-	2	-	-	Entangled
	Porbeagle	1	-	1	-	-	Entangled
	Seals	1	-	1	-	-	Entangled
Total Interactions		69	9	60			

## Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery – Gillnet, Hook & Trap Sector

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Set Gillnet	Albatrosses	1	-	1	-	-	Netted
	Australian Fur Seal	5	-	5	-	-	Netted
	Common Dolphin	4	-	4	-	-	Netted
	Dolphins	7	-	7	-	-	Netted
	Seals	5	-	5	-	-	Netted
Set Autolongline	Longfin Mako	2	-	2	-	-	Hooked
	Porbeagle	2	-	2	-	-	Hooked
	Shortfin Mako	4	-	4	-	-	Hooked
	Shy Albatross	1	1	-	-	-	Hooked
Set Longline	Shortfin Mako	1	-	1	-	-	Hooked
Total Interactions		32	1	31		-	

## Northern Prawn Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Bottom Shrimp Trawl (Prawn Trawl)	Dwarf Sawfish	3	2	1	-	-	Entangled
	Flatback Turtle	5	4	1	-	-	Entangled
	Freshwater Sawfish	5	4	1	-	-	Entangled
	Green Sawfish	6	6	-	-	-	Entangled
	Green Turtle	7	7				Entangled
	Loggerhead Turtle	1	1				Entangled
	Narrow Sawfish	210	149	59	2	-	Entangled
	Olive Ridley Turtle	4	4	-	-	-	Entangled
	Sawfishes	385	229	155	1	-	Entangled
	Seahorses & Pipefishes	47	14	33	-	-	Entangled
	Seasnakes	6290	5029	1256	5	-	Entangled
Turtles	43	43	-	-	-	Entangled	
Total Interactions		7006	5492	1506	8		

## Torres Strait Prawn Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Bottom Prawn Trawl	Seasnakes	274	67	18	-	202	Entangled
Total Interactions		287	67	18		202	

## Live Broodstock Collection Permit (Black Tiger Prawns - NPF)

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Bottom Prawn Trawl	Narrow Sawfish	7	-	7	-	-	Entangled
	Seasnakes	43	33	-	-	10	Entangled
Total Interactions		50	33	7		10	

## Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status		Interaction type
			Alive	Dead/Injured	
Demersal Longline	Southern Elephant Seal	2	1	1	Hooked/Entangled
Total Interactions		2	1	1	

## Active Fisheries Recording no Interactions

Fishery	Fishing under scientific permit
Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery	No
Coral Sea Fishery	No
Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector	No
High Seas Fishery (SPRFMO area of waters)	No
Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery	No
North West Slope Trawl Fishery	No
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	No
Southern Squid Jig Fishery	No
Small Pelagic Fishery	No
Torres Strait Fisheries – all methods	No

## Inactive Fisheries

Fishery	Fishing under scientific permit
East Coast Deepwater Trawl Sector	No
High Seas Fishery (SIOFA area of waters)	No
Norfolk Island Fishery (Offshore)	No
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	No