

FINAL REPORT

Protected species interactions reported to the Commonwealth Fishery logbooks for the period **1 October to 31 December 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 October to 31 December 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 final report of protected species interactions for AFMA-managed fisheries as reported in fishery logbooks for the period **1 October to 31 December 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:

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Protected species interactions reported in Commonwealth Fishery logbooks for the period
1 October to 31 December 2020

Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Pelagic Longline	Albatrosses	1	-	1	-	-	Hooked
	Birds	11	-	11	-	-	Hooked
	Common dolphin	1	-	1	-	-	Hooked
	Green Turtle	8	6	2	-	-	Hooked
	Leatherback Turtle	5	5	-	-	-	Hooked
	Loggerhead Turtle	4	4	-	-	-	Hooked
	Manta Ray	2	2	-	-	-	Hooked
	Pacific Ridley Turtle	1	1	-	-	-	Hooked
	Petrels and Shearwaters	1	-	1	-	-	Hooked
	Porbeagle	1	-	1	-	-	Hooked
	Shortfin Mako	159	12	67	-	80	Hooked
	Silky Shark	72	-	-	-	72	Hooked
	Terns	1	-	1	-	-	Hooked
	Turtles	9	7	2	-	-	Hooked
	Whales – unidentified	1	1	-	-	-	Hooked
Total Interactions		277	38	87		152	

Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Pelagic Longline	Australian sea lion	1	1	-	-	-	Hooked
	Flesh Footed Shearwater	1	1	-	-	-	Hooked
	Shortfin Mako	37	-	-	-	37	Hooked
Total Interactions		39	2			37	

Small Pelagic Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Midwater Otter Trawl	Common dolphin	1	-	1	-	-	Entangled
	New Zealand fur seal	5	-	5	-	-	Entangled
	Seals	1	-	1	-	-	Entangled
	Shearwaters	1	1	-	-	-	Entangled
	Shortfin Mako	1	-	1	-	-	Entangled
Total Interactions		9	1	8			

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	7	2	5	-	-	Entangled
	New Zealand fur seal	2	-	2	-	-	Entangled
	Shearwaters	1	1	-	-	-	Entangled
	Shortfin Mako	1	-	1	-	-	Entangled
Danish Seine (Trawl Fishery)	Australian fur seal	5	-	5	-	-	Entangled
	Seahorses & pipefishes	2	-	2	-	-	Entangled
	Seals	1	-	1	-	-	Entangled
Total Interactions		19	3	16			

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	Australian fur seal	1	-	1	-	-	Netted
	Birds	3	-	3	-	-	Netted
	Common dolphin	2	-	2	-	-	Netted
	Cormorants	3	-	3	-	-	Netted
	Dolphins	7	-	7	-	-	Netted
	Longfin Mako	2	-	2	-	-	Netted
	New Zealand fur seal	1	-	1	-	-	Netted
	Seals	4	1	3	-	-	Netted
	Shearwaters	1	1	-	-	-	Netted
	Shortfin Mako	4	-	4	-	-	Netted
	Terns	1	-	1	-	-	Netted
	White Shark	1	-	1	-	-	Netted
Set Autolongline	Albatrosses	2	-	2	-	-	Hooked
	Longfin Mako	3	1	2	-	-	Hooked
	Porbeagle	3	-	3	-	-	Hooked
	Shearwaters	3	-	3	-	-	Hooked
	Shortfin Mako	3	-	3	-	-	Hooked
	Shy Albatross	1	1	-	-	-	Hooked
	White Chinned Petrel	2	-	2	-	-	Hooked
	White Shark	1	1	-	-	-	Hooked
Set Longline	Albatrosses	1	-	1	-	-	Hooked
	Shortfin Mako	5	-	5	-	-	Hooked
	Southern Royal Albatross	1	1	-	-	-	Hooked
	White Shark	2	2	-	-	-	Hooked
Dropline	Shortfin Mako	6	-	6	-	-	Hooked
Total Interactions		63	8	55			

Northern Prawn Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Bottom Shrimp Trawl (Prawn Trawl)	Dwarf Sawfish	1	1		-	-	Entangled
	Flatback Turtle	1	1		-	-	Entangled
	Freshwater Sawfish	5	2	3	-	-	Entangled
	Green Sawfish	5	3	2	-	-	Entangled
	Green Turtle	4	4				Entangled
	Narrow Sawfish	120	95	25			Entangled
	Olive Ridley Turtle	4	4		-	-	Entangled
	Sawfishes	191	164	27	-	-	Entangled
	Seahorses & pipefishes	5	1	4	-	-	Entangled
	Seasnakes	3871	2921	946	4	-	Entangled
	Turtles - unidentified	26	26		-	-	Entangled
Total Interactions		4233	3222	1007	4		

Torres Strait Prawn Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Bottom Prawn Trawl	Sawfishes	1	1	-	-	-	Entangled
	Seasnakes	316	25	2	-	289	Entangled
Total Interactions		317	26	2		289	

Live Broodstock Collection Permit (Black Tiger Prawns)

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status				Interaction type
			Alive	Dead	Injured	Unknown	
Bottom Prawn Trawl	Narrow Sawfish	6	3	3	-	-	Entangled
	Freshwater Sawfish	3	2	1	-	-	Entangled
	Seasnakes	20	20	-	-	-	Entangled
Total Interactions		29	25	4			

Heard Island and McDonald Islands Fishery

Gear Type	Common name	Total	Life status		Interaction type
			Alive	Dead/Injured	
Bottom Otter Trawl	White Chinned Petrel	1	-	1	Entangled
Demersal Longline	Southern Elephant Seal	2	-	2	Hooked/Entangled
Total Interactions		3		3	

Active Fisheries Recording Zero Interactions

Fishery	Fishing under scientific permit
Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery	No
CCAMLR Exploratory	No
Coral Sea Fishery	No
Great Australian Bight Trawl Sector	No
High Seas Fishery (SIOFA area of competence – Indian Ocean)	No
North West Slope Trawl Fishery	No
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	No
Southern Squid Jig Fishery	No
Torres Strait Fisheries – all methods (except Torres Strait Prawn Fishery)	No
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	No

Inactive Fisheries

Fishery	Fishing under scientific permit
East Coast Deepwater Trawl Sector	No
High Seas Fishery (SPRFMO area of competence – Pacific Ocean)	No
Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery	No
Norfolk Island Fishery (Offshore)	No
Skipjack Tuna Fishery	No