

PRELIMINARY REPORT

Protected species interactions reported to the Commonwealth Fishery logbooks for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 March 2026.

This is the preliminary report compiling protected species interactions for the period 1 January 2026 to 31 March 2026 from official logbook records submitted to AFMA by fishers (concession holders). The Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) compiles and provides the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) these reports on behalf of Commonwealth fishers. The final and preliminary reports are published on the AFMA website at [Protected Species Interaction Reports](#).

Consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between AFMA and DCCEEW, 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. If 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 DCCEEW, AFMA provides a quarterly summary of logbook reports on interactions with protected species in AFMA-managed fisheries to DCCEEW 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 January 2026 to 31 March 2026** is below. The report has been provided to DCCEEW and is compiled from official logbook records submitted to AFMA by fishers (concession 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

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Protected species interactions reported in Commonwealth Fishery logbooks for the period **1 January 2026 to 31 March 2026**

Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery

Gear Type	Common Name	Total	Life status	
			Alive	Dead
Demersal Longline	Shortfin Mako	1	1	0
Pelagic Longline	Albatrosses	7	1	6
	Australian fur seal	4	4	0
	Buller's Albatross	1	1	0
	Green Turtle	2	1	1
	Hawksbill Turtle	1	1	0
	Leatherback Turtle	1	1	0
	Loggerhead Turtle	2	2	0
	Longfin Mako	1	1	0
	Seals	2	1	1
	Shortfin Mako	95	34	61
	Turtles	2	2	0
Total Interactions		119	50	69

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery - Great Australian Bight

Gear Type	Common Name	Total	Life status
			Dead
Bottom Otter Trawl	Albatrosses	24	24
	White Shark	1	1
Total Interactions		25	25

Heard and McDonald Island Fishery

Gear Type	Common Name	Total	Life status	
			Alive	Dead
HMI Scientific Permits (Bottom Trawl)	Porbeagle	9	3	6
Total Interactions		9	3	6

North West Slope Fishery

Gear Type	Common Name	Total	Life status
			Alive
Bottom Otter Trawl	Grey Nurse Shark	1	1
Total Interactions		1	1

Northern Prawn Fishery

Gear Type	Common Name	Total	Life status
			Alive
Bottom Prawn Trawl	Seasnakes	1	1
Total Interactions		1	1

Small Pelagic Fishery

Gear Type	Common Name	Total	Life status	
			Alive	Dead
Midwater Otter Trawl	Albatrosses	1	1	0
	Common dolphin	1	0	1
	Flesh Footed Shearwater	1	0	1
	Seals	3	0	3
Total Interactions		6	1	5

Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery - Commonwealth Trawl Sector

Gear Type	Common Name	Total	Life status	
			Alive	Dead
Bottom Otter Trawl	Albatrosses	2	0	2
	Australian fur seal	9	4	5
	Birds	1	0	1
	Common dolphin	1	0	1
	Dolphins	1	0	1
	New Zealand fur seal	1	0	1
	Seals	5	3	2
Danish Seine	Australian fur seal	5	0	5
	Seals	1	1	0
Total Interactions		26	8	18

Southern and Eastern Scafish and Shark Fishery - Gillnet, Hook and Trap Sector

Gear Type	Common Name	Total	Life status		
			Alive	Dead	Unknown
Demersal Auto-longline	Albatrosses	4	3	1	0
	Birds	2	2	0	0
	Longfin Mako	5	0	5	0
	Shortfin Mako	3	0	3	0
Demersal Gillnet	Albatrosses	2	2	0	0
	Australian fur seal	2	0	1	1
	Birds	2	0	2	0
	Bottlenose dolphin	3	0	3	0
	Common dolphin	2	0	2	0
	New Zealand fur seal	5	0	5	0
	Seals	1	0	1	0
	Short Tailed Shearwater	1	1	0	0
	Shortfin Mako	13	3	10	0
	White Shark	3	2	1	0
Demersal Longline	Albatrosses	2	2	0	0
	Shortfin Mako	2	0	2	0
Handline	Flesh Footed Shearwater	1	1	0	0
	Shy Albatross	1	0	1	0
Total Interactions		54	16	37	1

Torres Strait Prawn Fishery

Gear Type	Common Name	Total	Life status
			Alive
Bottom Prawn Trawl	Seasnakes	2	2
Total Interactions		2	2

Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery

Gear Type	Common Name	Total	Life status	
			Alive	Dead
Pelagic Longline	Flesh Footed Shearwater	2	1	1
	Leatherback Turtle	3	3	0
	Shortfin Mako	29	18	11
Total Interactions		34	22	12

Active Fisheries with No Reported Interactions

Fishery Name
High Seas Non-Trawl Fishery
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery
Southern Squid Jig Fishery
Torres Strait Commercial Fishing Licence
Western Deep Water Fishery