



FINAL REPORT

Protected Species interactions reported in Commonwealth Fishery logbooks for the period **1 January to 31 March 2012**

Under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act 1999* 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 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 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.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (AFMA) and the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (SEWPAC) allows AFMA to report interactions with protected species in AFMA managed fisheries on behalf of fishers.

AFMA periodically provides summary reports on protected species interactions to SEWPAC. The record of protected species interactions for AFMA managed fisheries as reported in fishery logbooks for the period **1 January to 31 March 2012** is below. This report is compiled from official logbook records submitted to AFMA by fishers (concession holders). 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 the mentioned fisheries.

Final reports are published on the AFMA website at: <http://www.afma.gov.au/managing-our-fisheries/environment-and-sustainability/protected-species/>

Threatened, Endangered and Protected (TEP) species management fact sheets available on the AFMA website provide information on how TEP 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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Fishery	Gear	No.	Common name	Life status	Interaction type#	Comments
Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery	Harvester	NIL	-	-	-	-
Coral Sea Fishery	All methods	NIL	-	-	-	-
Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Longline	2	Green Turtle	Alive-2	Hooked	-
		1	Leatherback Turtle	Alive-1	Hooked	-
		2	Longfin Mako**	Unknown-2	Hooked	-
		319	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-286 Unknown-33	Hooked	-
		2	Porbeagle**	Dead-2	Hooked	-
Heard Island and McDonald Island Fishery	Longline	NIL	-	-	-	-
	Trawl	1	Cape Petrel	Alive-1	Collision with gear	The bird flew into the warp wire and fell into the water. It shook itself off and flew away
		1	Common Diving Petrel	Alive-1	Landed on deck	The bird was found on deck covered in grime and unable to fly. The bird was cleaned, released and flew away.
Pot	NIL	-	-	-	-	
Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery	Trawl	NIL	-	-	-	-
	Longline	NIL	-	-	-	-
Norfolk Island Fishery (Offshore)	Trawl & minor line	NIL	-	-	-	-
Northern Prawn Fishery	Trawl	NIL	-	-	-	NPF seasonal closure during this period
Northwest Slope Fishery	Trawl	NIL	-	-	-	-

Small Pelagic Fishery	Purse seine & midwater trawl	NIL	-	-	-	-
Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery	Purse seine	NIL	-	-	-	-
Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery-Great Australian Bight	Trawl	NIL	-	-	-	-
Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery-Gillnet, Hook & Trap	Gillnet	3	Dolphins*(unclassified)	Dead-3	Netted	-
		1	New Zealand Fur Seal	Dead-1	Netted	-
		5	Petrels Prions and Shearwaters	Alive-2 Dead-3	Netted	-
		1	Great White Shark*	Alive-1	Netted	-
		6	Australian Sea Lion	Dead-6	Netted	-
		1	Short Tailed Shearwater	Dead-1	Netted	-
		1	Albatross	Alive-1	Netted	-
		58	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-58	Netted	-
	Handline	8	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-8	Hooked	-
	Dropline	1	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-1	Hooked	-
	Longline	5	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-5	Hooked	-
		3	Buller's Albatross	Dead-3	Hooked	-
		3	Shy Albatross	Dead-2	Hooked	-
		20	Petrels Prions and Shearwaters	Dead-20	Hooked	18 of these interactions occurred during a trial allowing the use of hooks under a scientific permit. The trial aims to protect marine mammals. Impacts of the trial on other species will be monitored.
Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark	Trawl	6	Albatrosses (unclassified)	Alive-1 Dead-5	Entangled	-

Fishery- Commonwealth Trawl Sector		14	Australian Fur Seal	Alive-3 Dead-11	Entangled	-
		1	New Zealand Fur Seal	Dead-1	Entangled	-
		28	Seals (unclassified)	Alive-5 Dead-23	Entangled	-
		264	Seahorses and pipefish	Alive-65 Dead-199	Entangled	-
		1	Porbeagle**	Dead-1	Entangled	-
		2	Great White Shark*	Alive-1 Dead-1	Entangled	-
	Danish seine	1	Seal (unclassified)	Dead-1	Entangled	-
		2	Seahorses and pipefish	Dead-69 Unknown-1	Entangled	-
Southern Squid Jig Fishery	Jig	NIL	-	-	-	-
Torres Strait Prawn Fishery	Trawl	4	Green Turtle	Alive-4	Entangled	-
		1	Turtle (unclassified)	Alive-1	Entangled	-
		1	Narrow Sawfish	Alive-1	Entangled	-
		69	Seahorses and pipefish	Dead-69	Entangled	-
		312	Seasnakes (unclassified)	Alive-238 Dead-5 Unknown-69	Entangled	-
Torres Strait Fisheries (other)	Multiple methods	NIL	-	-	-	-
Western Deepwater Trawl Fishery	Trawl	NIL	-	-	-	-
Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery	Longline	190	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-1 Unknown-189	Hooked	-

Interaction type assumed where not recorded based on fishery method (hooked for longlines, entangled for trawling, netted for gillnets)

*Interactions previously reported to SEWPaC via triggered reporting

** Listed as Migratory species under Part 13 of the EPBC Act on 29 January 2010