



## FINAL REPORT

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

Protected species interactions reported in Commonwealth Fishery logbooks for the period **1 July to 30 September 2012**

Fishery	Gear	No.	Common name	Life status	Interaction type#	Comments
<b>Bass Strait Central Zone Scallop Fishery</b>	Harvester	NIL	-	-	-	-
<b>Coral Sea Fishery</b>	All methods	NIL	-	-	-	-
<b>Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery</b>	Longline	2	Leatherback Turtle	Alive-1 Unknown-1	Hooked	-
		1	Longfin Mako**	Dead-1	Hooked	-
		2	Porbeagle shark**	Dead-1 Unknown-1	Hooked	-
		788	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-615 Unknown-173	Hooked	-
<b>Heard Island and McDonald Island Fishery</b>	Longline	1	Diving Petrel	Dead-1	Collision with vessel	Seabird found dead on deck after collision with vessel in bad weather
		1	Southern elephant seal	Dead-1	Hooked	Female seal was hooked in mouth and wrapped around the mainline
	Trawl	NIL	-	-	-	-
	Pot	NIL	-	-	-	-
<b>Macquarie Island Toothfish Fishery</b>	Longline	1	Southern royal albatross	Dead-1	Collision with vessel	The bird collided with the mast of the vessel
	Trawl	NIL	-	-	-	-
<b>Norfolk Island Fishery (Offshore)</b>	Trawl & minor line	NIL	-	-	-	No fishing activity
<b>Northern Prawn Fishery</b>	Trawl	1	Dolphins* (unclassified)	Dead-1	Entangled	Caught in cod end drawstrings
		4	Flatback Turtle	Alive-4	Entangled	-
		19	Green Turtle	Alive-19	Entangled	-

		2	Hawksbill Turtle	Alive-2	Entangled	-
		5	Loggerhead Turtle	Alive-5	Entangled	-
		5	Pacific (Olive) Ridley Turtle	Alive-5	Entangled	-
		9	Turtles (unclassified)	Alive-9	Entangled	-
		1	Dwarf Sawfish	Alive-1	Entangled	-
		19	Green Sawfish	Alive-17 Dead-2	Entangled	-
		59	Narrow Sawfish	Alive-52 Dead-7	Entangled	-
		74	Sawfishes (unclassified)	Alive-62 Dead-9 Injured-3	Entangled	-
		2475	Sea snakes (unclassified)	Alive-2009 Dead-193 Injured-31 Unknown-242	Entangled	-
<b>North West Slope Trawl Fishery</b>	Trawl	NIL	-	-	-	No fishing activity
<b>Small Pelagic Fishery</b>	Purse seine & midwater trawl	NIL	-	-	-	-
<b>Southern Bluefin Tuna Fishery</b>	Purse seine	NIL	-	-	-	-
<b>Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery - Great Australian Bight</b>	Trawl	NIL	-	-	-	-
<b>Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery - Gillnet, Hook &amp; Trap</b>	Gillnet	2	Australian Fur Seal	Alive-1 Dead-1	Netted	-
		1	Cormorants	Dead-1	Netted	-
		3	Dolphins* (unclassified)	Dead-3	Netted	-

		1	New Zealand Fur Seal	Dead-1	Netted	-
		17	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-17	Netted	-
	Mechanised Handline	NIL	-	-	-	-
	Longline	3	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-3	Hooked	-
<b>Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery - Commonwealth Trawl Sector</b>	Bottom otter trawl	2	Albatross (unclassified)	Dead-2	Entangled	-
		19	Australian fur seal	Alive-3 Dead-16	Entangled	-
		3	New Zealand fur seal	Dead-3	Entangled	-
		69	Seahorses and pipefish	Alive-32 Dead-37	Entangled	-
		14	Seals (unclassified)	Alive-2 Dead-12	Entangled	-
		8	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-8	Entangled	-
		1	Shy Albatross	Alive-1	Entangled	-
		1	White Shark*	Alive-1	Entangled	Shark was probably chasing a seal that was also caught in the net, returned alive
	Danish seine	3	Seals (unclassified)	Alive-1 Dead-2	Entangled	-
	Midwater otter trawl	6	Australian fur seal	Alive-1 Dead-5	Entangled	-
1		Fairy Prion	Dead-1	Entangled	-	
2		Shy Albatross	Alive-1 Dead-1	Entangled	-	
<b>Southern Squid Jig Fishery</b>	Jig	NIL	-	-	-	
<b>Torres Strait Prawn Fishery</b>	Trawl	439	Sea snakes (unclassified)	Alive-375 Unknown-64	Entangled	-
<b>Torres Strait Fisheries (other)</b>	Multiple methods	NIL	-	-	-	-
<b>Western Deepwater</b>	Trawl	NIL	-	-	-	No fishing activity

<b>Trawl Fishery</b>						
<b>Western Tuna and Billfish Fishery</b>	Longline	239	Shortfin Mako**	Dead-4 Unknown-235	Hooked	-
		1	Loggerhead Turtle	Alive-1	Hooked	-
		2	Turtles (unclassified)	Alive-2	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

PRELIMINARY