

INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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2018 ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC OBSERVER REPORT FOR EU (PORTUGAL) TUNA
LONGLINE FISHERY IN THE IATTC CONVENTION AREA

IATTC reporting obligations on resolution C-11-08 on scientific observers for longline
vessels

Portugal | 2018

1. Vessels authorized in 2018 for IATTC area

Table 1: Vessels authorized for IATTC area in 2018

Registration Number	Vessel's name	National ID Number	Fishing Gear
PRT000000115	ILHA BRAVA	L-3-N	Surface Longline
PRT000001538	VERDEMILHO	V-1065-C	Surface Longline
PRT000001540	VISTA ALEGRE	A-3148-C	Surface Longline
PRT000016119	ARTICO	PD-400-N	Surface Longline
PRT000016290	COSTA DE SAO JORGE	PD-464-C	Surface Longline
PRT000023097	BALUEIRO	O-2178-N	Surface Longline
PRT000022914	AVO MUSICO	V-24-N	Surface Longline
PRT000022649	VALMITÃO	PM-1291-N	Surface Longline
PRT000023043	NOVO RUIVO	V-25-N	Surface Longline
PRT000023093	ALMA LUSA	PM-1269-N	Surface Longline
PRT000019088	HEMISFÉRIO NORTE	V-1105-N	Surface Longline

2. Vessels operating in 2018 in the IATTC area

Table 2: Vessels operating in the IATTC area in 2018

PRT000016119	ARTICO	PD-400-N	Surface Longline
PRT000023097	BALUEIRO	O-2178-N	Surface Longline
PRT000019088	HEMISFÉRIO NORTE	V-1105-N	Surface Longline

3. Description of the fishery

The fishery in the IATTC area is exclusively composed by surface longliners targeting swordfish.

The report of the scientific observer describes this fishery as one that utilizes a nylon cable hanged between buoys and other smaller floating elements. The hooks are interleaved between all floating devices, using mackerel and squid as baiting.

For the upcoming years no significant changes are foreseen in this fishery. The number of active vessels is expected to remain within the current level.

The Portuguese Administration maintains regular contact with the industry present in the IATTC RA, including technical meetings to address specific topics, such as the preparation of the annual meeting. Information on management and conservation measures are always transmitted to the relevant industry in order to assure compliance with IATTC CMM.

Manuals have been provided by the PRT Scientific Institute to properly address the disentanglement of sea turtles, and the necessary gear is present on board these vessels. A separate logbook is utilized by the captain to register all interactions and information about the local (lat/long), species and status after release (dead/alive) is registered and transmitted by the captain to the Administration.

4. Total fishing days in the year of the longline fleet

Vessel	Number of fishing days
ARTICO	262 days, 2 hours, 47 minutes
BALUEIRO	364 days, 21 hours, 0 minutes
HEMISFÉRIO NORTE	102 days, 17 hours, 15 minutes
Total	729 days, 17 hours, 2 minutes

5. Observer coverage percentage (measured in fishing days)

The observer coverage was 4,25% equivalent to 31 fishing days (26/10/2018 to 27/11/2018), from a total of 729 days.

6. Total catch by vessels with observers on board & species composition of catches in vessels with observers on board

Table 2. List of main species recorded by scientific observer on longline fishery in the Convention Area in 2018 calendar year (October-November) – Vessel “Balueiro”

Codigo FAO	Nombre Cientifico	Nombre Comum	Piezas	Peso Vivo Kgs
SWO	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	Pez espada	963	41468,2
BSH	<i>Prionace glauca</i>	Tiburón azul	164	5116,0
DOL	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	Lampuga	159	1061,2
BET	<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Patudo	99	5045,0
YFT	<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Rabil	6	325,7
ALB	<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Atún Blanco	16	253,4
MLS	<i>Tetrapturus audax</i>	Marlin rayado	43	1261,1
LEC	<i>Lepidocybium flavobrunneum</i>	Escolar negro	1	12,3
		TOTAL	963	54542,9

7. Number of vessels with observers on board

Only vessel “Balueiro” carried an observer on board, whose coverage corresponded to 8,51% of the vessel’s fishing effort.



8. Number of sea turtles or sea birds caught incidentally on trips with observers

There were no interactions with sea turtles or seabirds on trips with observers. The observed vessel utilizes three mitigation measures for sea birds, namely:

- 1- Hook sinking system,;
- 2- Night setting of the longline; and
- 3- Use of tori lines.

9. Number of sharks caught in trips with observers?

Concerning the species *Prionace Glauca* (BSH) the procedure used on board was in line with the Regulation (EU) n. 605/2013, of 12 June.

10. Number of hooks used on fishing trips with observers

1680.

11. Type of hooks used

J-RECTO.