

**HAWAII LONGLINE OBSERVER PROGRAM
ANNUAL STATUS REPORT
JANUARY 1, 1997 - DECEMBER 31, 1997**

Observer Management
Southwest Region
National Marine Fisheries Service

The Hawaii longline fishery targeting swordfish and tunas has been monitored under a mandatory observer program since February 1994. Beginning March 1994, branch personnel have conducted daily shoreside dock rounds in Honolulu to determine which fishing vessels are in port. These dock rounds are used to obtain an estimate of fishing effort on a real-time basis by assuming that a vessel is fishing when it is absent from the harbor. Approximately 1,123 vessels departed port between January 1, 1997, and December 31, 1997, 40 of which carried observers, representing about 3.6% observer coverage. The following table summarizes protected species interactions for all observed trips which returned during calendar year 1997.

PROTECTED SPECIES ENCOUNTERS - OBSERVED RESULTS

Completed Trips _____>	38
Trips with Turtles _____>	18
Trips without Turtles _____>	20
Sea Turtle Encounters _____>	40
Released Alive	
Leatherback _____>	11
Loggerhead _____>	24
Olive Ridley _____>	3
Released, Disposition Unknown	
Leatherback _____>	1
Unid. Hardshell _____>	1
Marine Mammal Encounters _____>	5
Released Alive	
False Killer Whale --->	1
Risso's Dolphin _____>	2
Spinner Dolphin _____>	1
Released Dead	
Short-Finned Pilot Whale	1
Seabird Encounters _____>	172
Released Alive	
Albatross	
Black-footed _____>	24
Laysan _____>	19
Released Dead	
Albatross	
Black-footed _____>	86
Laysan _____>	43
Total Sets _____>	507
Total Hooks Retrieved _____>	585,763
Turtles per 1,000 Hooks _____>	0.068