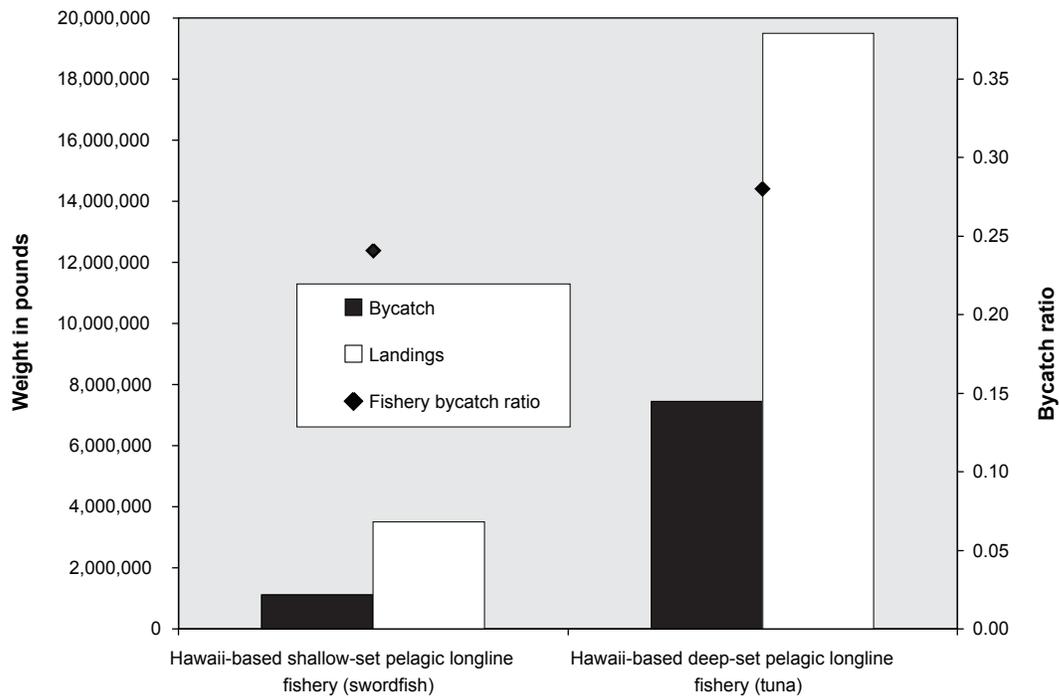


Fast facts:

- A total of 31 commercial fisheries are included in this report for the Pacific Islands Region.
- Landings from all Pacific Islands fisheries were valued at approximately \$71 million in 2005.
- Five FMPs regulate the harvest of federally managed species in the Pacific Islands Region.
- Observer programs are in place for 3 of the 31 fisheries.
- Fish bycatch estimates are available for 2 fisheries and 88 species or species groups.
- Protected species bycatch estimates are available for 2 fisheries and 23 species or species groups.

Fish bycatch and landings by fishery for the Pacific Islands Region



U.S. NATIONAL BYCATCH REPORT

Bycatch of Pacific Islands Region key stocks in 2005 ^a

Fish and invertebrates	Bycatch estimate (lb) ^b	Bycatch ratio
Bigeye thresher shark	433,000	*
Blue shark	5,639,000	*
Longnose lancetfish	928,000	*
Protected species	Bycatch estimate (individuals) ^b Inside EEZ	Bycatch estimate (individuals) ^b outside EEZ
Blue whale	*	*
False killer whale/false killer or short-finned pilot whale (unidentified)	9	8
Fin whale	*	*
Hawaiian monk seal	*	*
Humpback whale	0	0.2
Sei whale	*	*
Sperm whale	0	0
Protected species	Bycatch estimate (individuals) ^b	
Green sea turtle	0	
Hawksbill sea turtle	*	
Leatherback sea turtle	12	
Loggerhead sea turtle	10	
Olive ridley sea turtle	16	
Black-footed albatross	89	
Brown booby	3	
Hawaiian dark-rumped petrel	*	
Laysan albatross	105	
Newell's Townsend's shearwater	*	
Short-tailed albatross	0	

^a Bycatch estimates of rare-event species may incorporate data from multiple years.

^b Estimates have been rounded.

* Indicates landings were not available for a species (or species is not landed, as for protected species), bycatch was not observed, or was observed but no estimate is available, or that bycatch and landings were in different units, so no bycatch ratio could be developed (fish). See Section 4.4 for further information.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Bycatch reduction success stories (2005 to present):

- Annual incidental take limits for two species of sea turtles (leatherback and loggerhead) that result in fishery closures for Hawaii longline fisheries have been reached only once since 2004.
- Take limits that trigger management actions but not fishery closures are in place for other sea turtle species in Hawaii longline fisheries.
- Large circle hooks and fish bait (rather than squid) are required in the Hawaii-based shallow-set pelagic longline fishery for swordfish. These measures have reduced sea turtle bycatch in the fishery by 90% for loggerheads and by 83% for leatherbacks. These measures are also used voluntarily by many participants in the Hawaii-based deep-set pelagic longline fishery for tuna and the American Samoa pelagic longline fishery. Measures to reduce sea turtle bycatch have been very successful, resulting in a 90–95% reduction for all species across the entire longline fishery.
- In 2006, the use of “side-setting” in the Hawaii longline fishery was demonstrated to be more effective at reducing seabird bycatch than several other seabird avoidance methods. Fishermen may choose to side-set or utilize a combination of other measures to meet FMP seabird avoidance requirements. Overall, interaction numbers have been reduced by 92 to 95%. Measures developed to reduce seabird bycatch in the Pacific Islands form the foundation of measures used to reduce seabird bycatch in member countries of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Management Commission and the Inter-America Tropical Tuna Commission.