WPEB11: BYCATCH DATASETS AVAILABLE

LAST UPDATED: 16/08/2016

The following datasets are available for download. Please inform the IOTC Secretariat if you encounter any problems accessing the data. The data have been submitted to several validation procedures at the Secretariat; however, the procedures may not be exhaustive enough to uncover all potential problems.

If you discover any major inconsistencies in the data, please contact the Secretariat as soon as possible at: secretariat@iotc.org or data.assistant@iotc.org

Data Catalogues

The file *IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA02-Catalog (*will be available in due course) contains information on the amount of nominal catches strata data available, by main shark species by fisheries.

Data for the stock assessment of Blue shark

The file IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA03_BSH_SA (as of 03-08-2016) contains information data for the stock assessments of Blue shark for the period 1950-2015, as prepared by the IOTC Secretariat. Please refer to worksheet NOTES within the excel file for reference.

Nominal Catches

Total catch estimates per Fleet, Year, Gear, IOTC Area and species. The catches not reported by species or gear were assigned by gear and/or species by the Secretariat, using information from alternative sources. The catches estimated for 1950-2015 and details about the data source and data quality can be found in the Excel spreadsheet **IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA04-NC.zip** (as of 03-08-2016) (compressed with WinZip).

Catch and Effort

Catch and effort data (as of 03-08-2016) are presented as three different files (csv files compressed with WinZip):

•vessels using drifting longlines — **IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA05_CELongline.zip**

•vessels using pole and lines or purse seines — **IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA06_CESurface.zip**

•vessels using gears other than those referred to above — **IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA07_CECoastal.zip**

Or click here if you want to download the above three files in one go **IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA08_CEALL.zip**

Catches (in tonnes or/and in number) and effort are recorded per Fleet, Year, Gear, Type of School, Time Interval (month or quarter usually), grid (usually 1 degree square areas for surface gears and 5 degrees square areas for longlines) and species.

Catches and effort are not available for all Nominal catches strata. When recorded, the catches in these datasets might represent the total catches of the species in the year for the fleet and gear concerned or represent simply a sample of those.

More details about the catch and effort information available and the way in which the above text files might be read can be found in **IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA09_CEreference.zip** (compressed with WinZip). **Users of these files are advised that the new CE files published contain separate catch data for one or more species of sharks**

Size frequency data

The size frequency data available in the IOTC databases is presented in **IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA10_SFSKH** (xls file compressed with WinZip); it includes all size data available for **blue shark (BSH), bigeye thresher shark (BTH), silky shark (FAL), oceanic whitetip shark (OCS), porbeagle (POR), crocodile shark (PSK), and shortfin mako (SMA)** (as of 03-08-2016).

All size data strata not recorded as standard length (fork length for sharks) was converted into standard length by using the equations available for each species. Fish recorded under size class intervals other than those used for billfish species was assigned to the corresponding size class interval(s) for each species (first class is 15cm for all billfish species and class interval is 3cm).

Equations: The equations used to estimate standard lengths from non-standard measurements and to estimate weight from the available lengths can be found in **IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA11-Equations.pdf**

Details about the type of SF data available can be found in **IOTC-2016-WPEB12-DATA12_sfref.zip** (compressed with WinZip).

For further information:

For any questions regarding the datasets published by the IOTC Secretariat, please contact secretariat@iotc.org or data.assistant@iotc.org