

## Iran (Islamic Republic of) National Report to the Scientific Committee of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, 2022

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### INFORMATION ON FISHERIES, RESEARCH AND STATISTICS

<p>In accordance with IOTC Resolution 15/02, final scientific data for the previous year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the current year, <b>for all fleets other than longline</b> [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2021, final data for the 2020 calendar year must be provided to the Secretariat by 30 June 2021)</p>	<p>YES Submitted the 29 June 2022</p>
<p>In accordance with IOTC Resolution 15/02, provisional <b>longline data</b> for the previous year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June of the current year [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2021, preliminary data for the 2020 calendar year was provided to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 June 2021). <b>REMINDER:</b> Final longline data for the previous year is due to the IOTC Secretariat by 30 Dec of the current year [e.g. for a National Report submitted to the IOTC Secretariat in 2021, final data for the 2020 calendar year must be provided to the Secretariat by 30 December 2021).</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>If no, please indicate the reason(s) and intended actions: There is only one industrial longline vessel which has not been active in recent years. Over the past few years, in complying with IOTC regulations to reduce the fishing pressure on coastal commercial species, a number of small traditional coastal gillnetters with a length of less than 24 meters are temporarily and seasonally transferred to longline fishery to catch fish in coastal waters and final the catch &amp; effort data of these type of vessels are submitted to the IOTC every year.</p>	

***Executive Summary:***

Iran fishing grounds in southern waters of country are of the oldest and most important resources of large pelagic species. There are 4 coastal provinces in those areas and more than 11 thousand vessels consist of fishing boat, dhows and vessels which are engaged in fishing in the coastal and offshore waters. There are four fishing methods targeting tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area which include gillnet, purse seine, long line by traditional boats and also some of small boats use trolling in coastal fisheries. Gillnet is the dominant fishing gear in the IOTC area competency, Majority of the production comes from the gillnet vessels operating within EEZ of Iran as well as offshore fishery. Iran has taken various actions to implement the Scientific Committee recommendations and IOTC Resolutions. One of them is national actions to improve data collection system for Tuna fishery. We have implemented modification of logbook template for Iran industrial purse seiners and artisanal gillnets to meet mandatory minimum statistic requirement, particularly concerning data recording of vessel position in IOTC area for target species, by-catch including 8 species of sharks and 5 species of billfish, non-targeted, associated and dependent species and discard.

The total production of large pelagic species during 2021 was 308,231 Mt which 274,235Mt belongs to tuna and tuna-like fishes in the Indian Ocean areas. Those amount of catch contains 211269 Mt of Tunas, 36969 Mt of Seerfish 26,530 Mt of Billfish, 4,140 Mt different species of shark and 29,323 Mt other species.

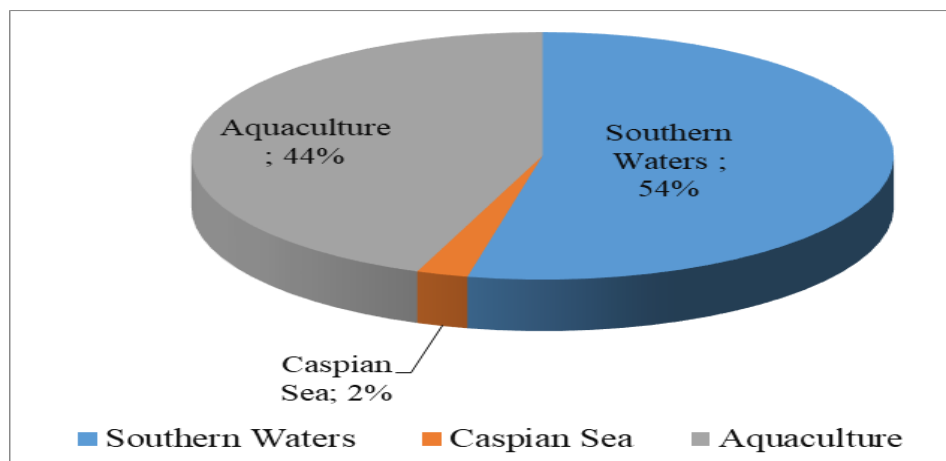
## *CONTENTS*

Information on Fisheries, Research and Statistics-----	1
Executive Summary -----	2
Contents -----	3
1. Background/General fishery information-----	4
2. Fleet structure-----	5
3. Catch and effort (by species, area and gear) -----	6
4. Recreational Fishery -----	11
5. Ecosystem and bycatch issues -----	11
5.1. Sharks-----	12
5.2. Sea birds-----	13
5.3. Marine turtles-----	13
5.4. Other ecologically related species-----	14
6. National data collection and processing system-----	14
6.1. Logsheet data collection and verification-----	14
6.2. Vessel Monitoring System-----	14
6.3. Observer Programme-----	14
6.4. Port Sampling Programme-----	15
6.5. Unloading/Transshipment of flag-----	19
6.6. Actions taken to monitor catches & manage fisheries for Striped Marlin, Black Marlin, Blue Marlin and Indo-pacific Sailfish -----	19
6.7. Gillnet observer coverage and monitoring -----	19
6.8. Unloading/Transshipment of flag-----	20
7. National Research Programmes-----	20
8. Implementation of Scientific Committee Recommendations and Resolutions of the IOTC Relevant to the SC-----	21

## 1. BACKGROUND/GENERAL FISHERY INFORMATION

Islamic Republic of Iran with vast resources in terms of 5,800 km coastline (including coastal areas of the Persian Gulf Islands), 2700 km length of continental coastline and 196000 km<sup>2</sup> Shelf areas has the opportunity to access high seas through strait of Hurmoz. In Iran fishing management is based on sustainable fishing of marine resources approach and according to Law of Marine Resources Protection approved in 1995. The long Iran coastline about 190 port and landing places encompassing, 140 thousand fishermen and 11500 fishing crafts consist of fishing boat, dhows and vessel which are engaged in fishing in the coastal and offshore waters.

There are three categories of fisheries activities in Iran consist of the southern fishery, the northern fishery (the Caspian Sea) and inland fishery and aquaculture. In 2021 total fish catch & aquaculture production in Iran was 1,258,910 Mt, which has distributed as 54% from the southern fishery, 2% from Caspian Sea and 44% through Aquaculture (*Figure 1.1*). The total catch in 2021 was 672,596 Mt; out of which about 274,235 Mt was of tuna & tuna like species. Tuna and tuna-like species fisheries is one of the most important activities in the Persian Gulf, Oman Sea and high seas. Those catch consist of Yellowfin tuna 44,280 Mt, Skipjack tuna 68,107 Mt, Bigeye tuna 620 Mt, Longtail tuna 51,668 Mt, Kawakawa 39,567 Mt, Frigate tuna 7,027 Mt, Billfish 26,530 Mt, Indo-pacific king mackerel 10,156 Mt, Narrow- barred Spanish mackerel 26,813 Mt, Sharks 4,140 Mt, and other species 29,323 Mt.



*Figure 1.1: Total Catch & production in the country during in 2021*

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The main fishing grounds for large pelagic species in southern of the country are located in the coastal sectors of Persian Gulf and Oman Sea and total volume of production in the coastal and offshore waters in 2021 as mentioned above around 684000Mt, which consist of large pelagic 5% of total catch, Small Pelagic 15%, Demersal species, Shrimp 1%. Figure1.2. shows the catches quantity of different aquatic species group in the southern waters of Iran.

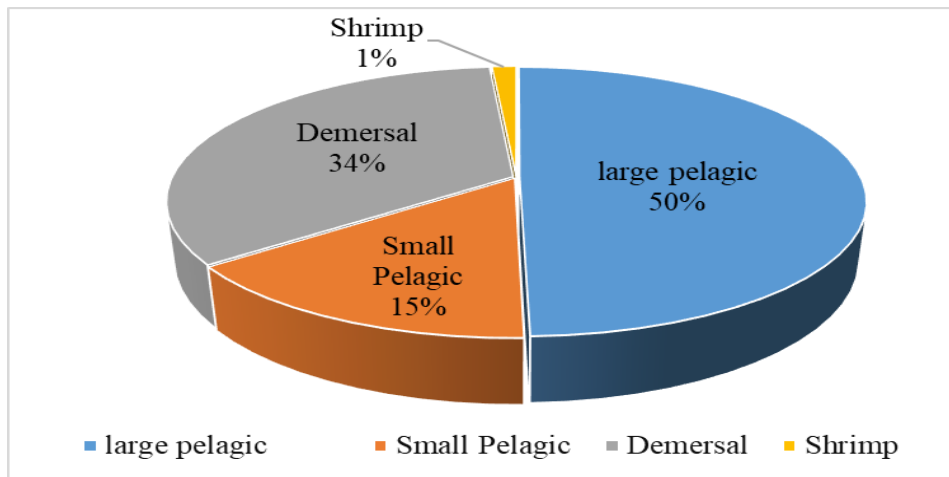


Figure1.2: The catches quantity of different aquatic species group in the southern waters of Iran

## 2. FLEET STRUCTURE

Iran industrial and semi-industrial fishing fleets owned by private enterprises carry out almost all fisheries in the coastal and high seas. Around 5,917 vessels of this fleet are engaged in large pelagic species fishing in 2021, which 5 of them are active industrial purse seiners, 3,387 artisanal vessels (Dhows) and 7,230 fishing boats. Around 1210 vessels are active in tuna and tuna like fishing in the Oman Sea, and offshore waters in 2021. This means more than 80 percent of crafts operate in the coastal areas and about 20% of the fishing vessels operating in distant waters. Those fishing crafts and GT of purse seiners is up to1000 t and GT of gillnetters ranges from less than 3 t to more than 100 t. Gillnet and purse seine are two main fishing gears for catching tuna and tuna-like species in the IOTC area and also some of small boats used trolling method in coastal fisheries. Table 2.1 shows the fishing fleet is disaggregated into the following (GT) categories during 2017-2021.

GEAR GROUP	Capacity GT	NO. of active vessels by gear type and size				
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Purse seine	1000 - 2000	5	5	5	5	5
Coastal artisanal longline **	< 3	324	324	400	250	280
	21 to 50	165	165	184	70	0
	101 up	14	14	20	0	70
	0	0	1	1	1	1
Gillnet	< 3	2,758	3,168	3,319	3,752	2,694
	3 - 20	239	226	258	230	437
	21 - 50	318	271	391	216	254
	51 - 100	316	297	171	246	506
	101 - up	326	377	283	487	246
Trolling	< 3	1,820	1,645	1,748	1,900	1,771

Table 2.1: Number of active vessels which are operating in the IOTC area of competence, by gear type and size

\*We don't have any specific active industrial longline vessel, but numbers of artisanal longline were encouraged extensionally to move to long line seasonal and temporal during a year. This number are not included in total crafts number.

### 3. CATCH AND EFFORT (BY SPECIES AND GEAR)

Tuna and tuna like fisheries by Iran fleet, are done in coastal area and high seas by different type of vessels that the result of catch reflected in table 3.1 and figure3.1 shows the total yearly catch by gear type and species reported for the all fleet. The catch quantity of large pelagic in Iran was 308,231 Mt in 2021 and around 274,235 Mt belongs to tuna and tuna-like species in the coastal and high seas. Figure 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 showing the amount of catch for different fishing methods by species during 2017 to 2021. Total catch for purse seine, gillnet, long line by coastal artisanal boats and trolling in 2021 was estimated 531 Mt, 293,053 Mt, 5,660Mt and 8,987 Mt respectively. Gillnet with 95% of Catch is the dominant fishing gear followed by long line with 2% and around 3% comes from Trolling vessels.

IOTC-2022-SC25-NR10

GEAR GROUP	SPECIES	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Purse Seine	KAW	5	0	0	0	0
	LOT	1,891	998	467	416	220
	SKJ	2,477	356	190	0	59
	YFT	1,764	3,898	3,361	610	247
	BET	29	0	0	0	0
	Others	39	40	28	0	6
Coastal artisanal longline **	YFT	8,452	11,974	8,441	8,839	5,600
	DOL	122	0	0	0	60
Gillnet	FRI	10,251	9,135	8,938	12,222	6,902
	KAW	38,311	36,006	32,822	34,549	39,109
	LOT	56,658	59,503	47,984	53,810	49,527
	SKJ	50,822	49,608	39,782	44,516	68,049
	YFT	45,551	42,071	45,298	34,779	35,235
	BET	3,577	3,700	1,949	1,526	620
	COM	22,529	23,675	21,549	23,749	24,508
	GUT	9,326	9,581	10,112	10,445	9,871
	SFA	10,405	10,601	7,910	11,025	15,834
	BLM	4,974	5,859	6,109	7,054	6,527
	Other billfish	3,368	4,012	3,577	2,846	3,716
	FAL	586	308	419	154	239
	SPN	22	12	20	6	9
	MAK	37	19	22	10	15
	CCW	272	239	291	331	379
	RHA	1,623	1,430	1,739	1,983	2,271
	Other sharks	904	764	934	1,016	1,172
	Other Species	17,819	36,013	29,078	24,396	29,069
Trolling	FRI	14	45	20	4	125
	KAW	458	1,105	428	1,108	457
	LOT	1,665	667	568	2,328	1,921
	YFT	354	707	944	4,087	3,198
	COM	1,538	1,519	2,227	2,539	2,305
	GUT	120	448	226	211	285
	SFA	48	3	82	1,071	453
	Sharks	180	195	103	95	55
	Others	0	0	56	58	188

Table.3.1 Annual catch by gear type and species (Mt)

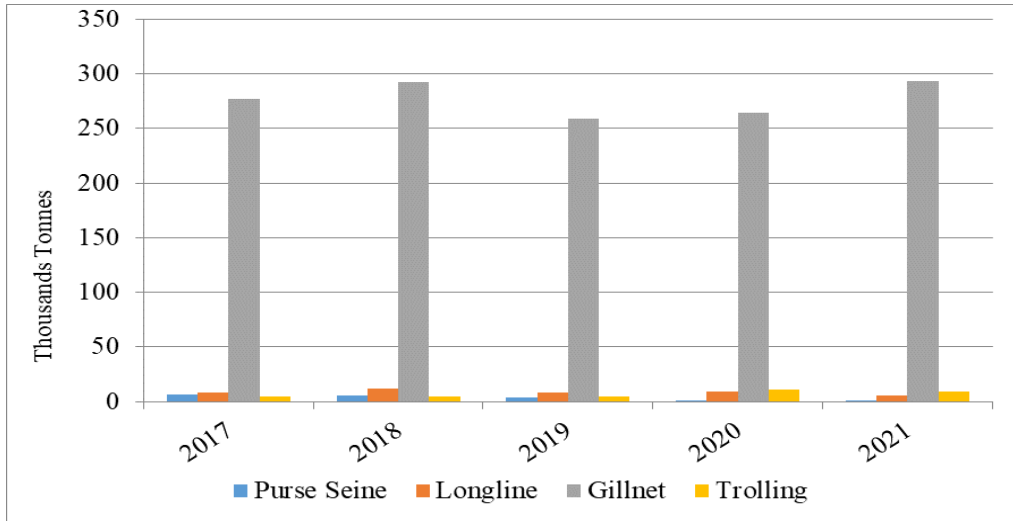


Figure 3.1- Annual catch by gear type

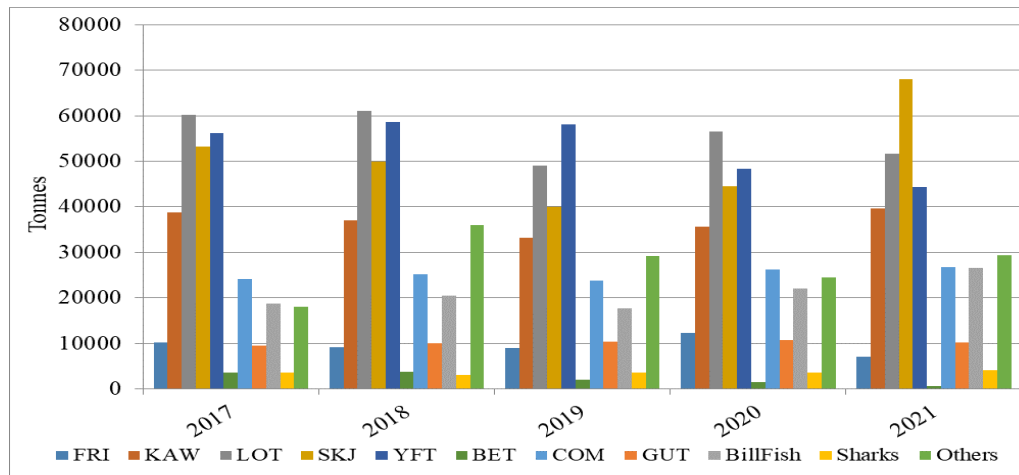


Figure 3.2. Annual catch of all gear type by species

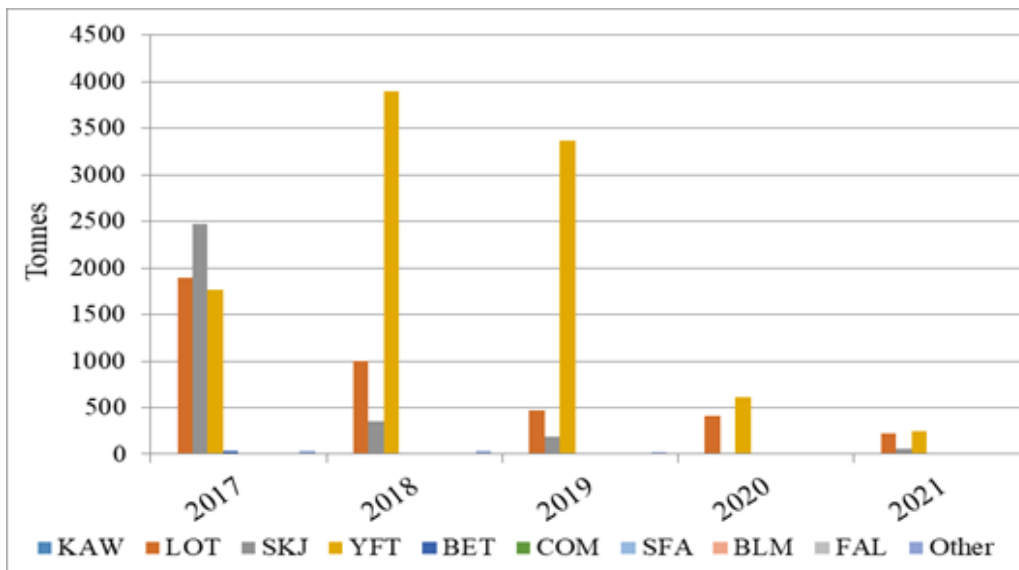


Figure 3.3 Annual Catch of Purse Seiners by Species



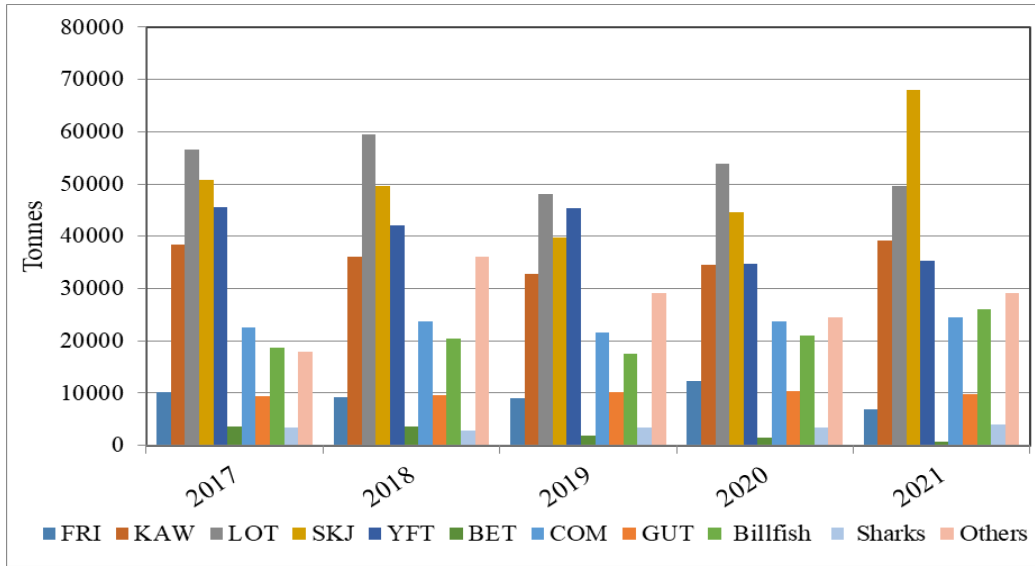


Figure 3.4 Annual catch of gillnets by species

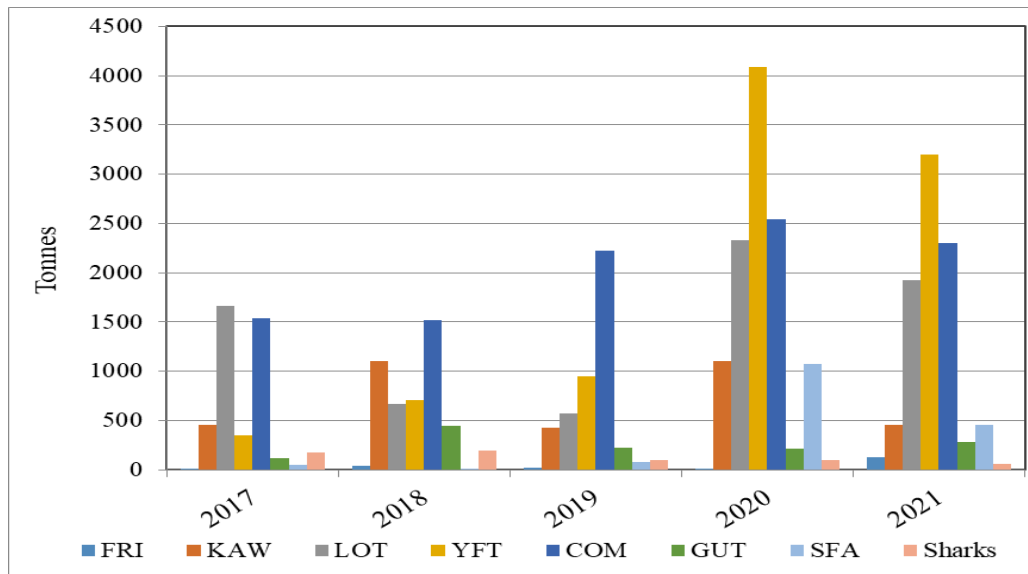


Figure 3.5 Annual catch of trolling method by species

GEAR GROUP	Capacity GT	Annual fishing effort by different vessel categories (days)				
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Purse Seiners	1000 - 2000	1,085	715	1,164	401	376
Coastal artisanal longline**	< 3	19,440	24,300	20,000	34,000	45,000
	21 to 50	6,600	14,025	11,040	9,520	0
	101 up	560	1,190	1,200	0	16,800
Total fishing effort		26,600	39,515	32,240	43,520	61,800
Gillnet	< 3	438,046	516,149	487,646	764,432	541,066
	3 - 20	43,035	44,779	41,682	43,369	77,334
	21 - 50	58,114	51,045	74,870	44,594	60,629
	51 - 100	54,873	52,410	30,337	36,904	93,199
	101 - up	59,746	69,535	50,530	72,941	46,197
Total Gillnet fishing effort		653,815	733,918	685,064	962,241	818,425
Trolling	< 3	196,440	224,708	258,713	133,500	127,260
Total Trolling fishing effort		196,440	224,708	258,713	133,500	127,260

Table 3.2: Fishing effort by different types of vessel

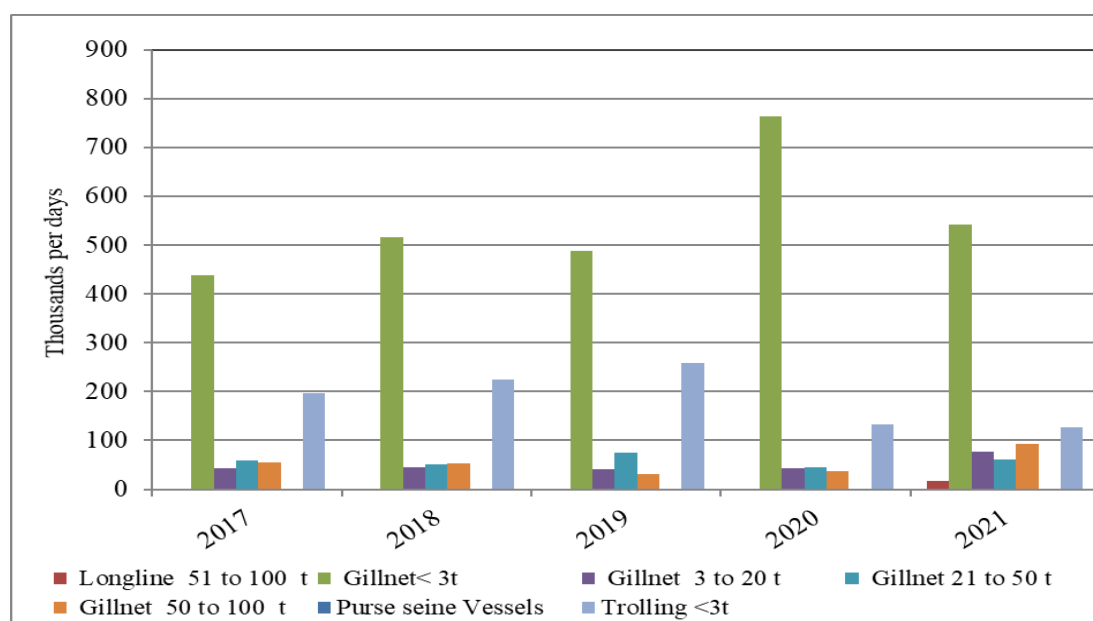


Figure 3.5 Tuna and tuna like fishing effort by all fleet in (fishing day)

#### **4. RECREATIONAL FISHERY**

According current regulations of Iran Fisheries Organization, there are no tuna recreational fisheries. In fact, there is no interest for tuna recreational fisheries, so any licenses are not issued for this type of fisheries.

#### **5. Ecosystem and by-catch issues**

Base on Iran Fisheries Organization (IFO) current procedure, monitoring and control of fishing vessels and their catch are happening in fishing landing areas, by port based monitoring system. On this way our experts control all catch gears and devices, related standards and the vessel crews before starting sailing and in the end of each trip by focus on catch results, its composition and related by-catch.

##### **5.1. Sharks**

According to the national fishery regulations, target catches of shark species is prohibited and it is caught only as a by-catch. In cooperation with Environment organization, Iran Fisheries Organization (IFO) has recently corresponded the following issues to all southern coastal provinces for upcoming follow-up actions:

- Binding all fishermen to release any live shark in the catch composition. Regarding the dead sharks, if there are around five dead sharks in the catch composition, they should be released to sea. However, if the number of dead sharks in the catch composition is high, they should be transferred to the fishing port. The port authorities will then deliver the dead sharks to fish powder processing plants. It should be noted that the whole body of sharks should be delivered.
- Any trade, transportation or keeping of shark and rays' species in cold stores for processing or exporting is subjected to heavy penalties. To this end, inspection of cold stores, processing and packaging factories should be carried out periodically.
- Adopting serious and preventing measures to inhibit the capture of these species by vessels and illegal fishermen and those fishermen who infringed the law should be introduced to the related court for any probable penalty.

IOTC-2022-SC25-NR10

-Implementing various conservation and management training courses regarding endangered species and also to train the fishermen the instruction of releasing those species to sea.

Accordingly, we have not received any reports about total number of released/discarded of sharks, by species from national fleet in the IOTC area of competence because of on board observer lack. But IFO monitors and controls all the species during landing times in fishing harbours. However, although there are weaknesses in access to historical data of different species especially sharks, but sharks information had recorded by species since 2012. Base on Statistical information total weight of sharks, by species, that retained by the national fleet in the IOTC area of competence has been recorded during 2017–2021 as table 3.1. It is obviously clear the total catch of different sharks species has increased slightly in 2021.

#### ***5.1.2. Sharks finning regulation***

Importance of shark fishes on tuna fishing has always been considered by Iran Fisheries Organization and prohibit the removal of shark fins on board vessels has been mentioned in national regulation for tuna fishing.

#### ***5.1.3. Blue shark***

Blue shark the Purse Seine, gillnet and trolling fisheries for tuna and tuna-like species do not catch blue sharks. So IFO has never received any report about blue sharks by Iran fishing vessels.

#### ***5.2. Seabirds***

Base on IOTC 12/06 Resolution, reduction of Seabirds by-catch only distinguished for long-line fisheries as a target gear and it is not applicable for other gears. Also base on our current fleet structure, we have not had any industrial long-line active vessels, so it is not applicable for Iran. For more insurance, IFO has have tried to give more awareness and explanation to fishermen about seabirds importance and necessity of their conservation during different training workshops and meetings.

### **5.3. Marine Turtle**

The main national strategy of Iran related to marine turtles is, conservation of different species of turtles, and this strategy practically implemented, because there is no use for turtles in Iran. Although, the Environment Organization is identified as a national competent authority for protection of Sea turtles by the government, but we intent to define a joint project with them regarding to survey on sea turtles and incident entanglement of them in fishermen nets. So for increasing of public awareness of fishermen, IFO has continued related training programs by hold of workshop, distribution of some brochures and posters. On this way the capacity of NGOs was used and around 50 fishermen are trained on their vessels by cooperation of NGOs. Although environment organization have had some projects about the biology of turtles, but both organizations intent to develop a joint project related with fisheries activities.

### **5.4. Other ecologically related species (e.g. marine mammals, whale sharks)**

Base on national laws and Iran Fisheries Organization regulations, catch of Mammals or any other sensitive and endangered species, are forbidden and if any fishermen catch accidentally any Mammals, Turtles, Sharks or any other sensitive species, they should release them safely and rapidly. In the other hand if our inspectors or fishery guard (fisheries/ Environment Guard or Police) find any endangered species on board, the owner and captain of the vessel are introduced to court and also punish by fishery infraction investigation commission which are defined and active in different cities and provinces and has the authority to stopped fish up to three months. According to IFO regulations, the offices have never issued any licences for catch of different species of Mammals or whale sharks and fishermen try to release all entangled Mammals or endangered species and only some sharks are seen as a by-catch in landing places are monitored through the sampling programme listed in table 3.1. So we have never received any report about mammals or whale sharks by Iran fishing vessels.

## ***6. National data collection and processing system***

### ***6.1. Logbook program was implemented for Iranian artisanal gillnets and industrial purse seiners as follows:***

In recent years, Iran has started to complete the logbooks for the industrial purse seiners, and we hope to extend to other artisanal fleets in future, according to the Iran fisheries regulations which adopted in 2020, that will cover 10% of the high seas vessels.

### ***6.2. Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)***

The Islamic Republic of Iran has prepared a plan for the implementation of VMS, which is to cover fishing vessels in full. Iranian Fisheries Organization (IFO) has started this program more than 5 years ago, but unfortunately, this project has been stopped after a few years due to international sanctions. So far, only 72 vessels included in the plan (10%) have been equipped with satellite systems by 2020. However, the Iranian Fisheries Organization (IFO) intends to develop and implement a VMS plan based on Resolution 15/03 over three years, until 2023.

On this way, the main problem is that all satellites except the Thuraya satellite in Iran are subject to sanction regulations and IFO does not have access to them. Therefore, the conditions for making a decision are quite difficult.

### ***6.3. Observer program***

Iran fishing fleet unfortunately because of some problems due to lack of accommodations, we have not been able to install observers on board the vessels. Iran has focused for better implementation of observer scheme only in ports and port sampling to achieve the observer rate required by IOTC. So our data and information are collected by monitoring in fishing ports and landing centres. This activity is covering more than 10% of active vessels.

## **6.4. Port sampling program**

### **6.4.1. Catch Data sampling**

Catch and effort and biological data of the coastal and offshore large pelagic fishery are collected at the 43 out of 63 fish landing sites. Consist of 10 landing sites in KHOZESTAN Province, 8 landing in BUSHEHR Province, 20 landing sites in HORMOZGAN Province and 5 landing sites SISTAN-BLUCHESTAN Province in the alongside the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea coastlines, and port samplers stay on landing sites during disembarkation time of fish and they collect the data and fill out the forms. Also Biometry of fish for collecting length/weight frequency data is done during landing time. Catch and Effort data were collected in all the above sites by stratified random sampling by the samplers, in this way, 10% of total fishing crafts for different vessel classes of fishing dhows and boats are picked out randomly and their fishing data will be registered. Landing surveys are undertaken to obtain data on catches in the artisanal fisheries.

Port sampling was carried out for small-scale fisheries. In this way, 10% of fishing vessels are randomly selected and the sample data are raised to all active fishing vessels and total catches are maintained by vessel categories, gear types and species composition, landing site and each month. In each landing site, there is one enumerator who is responsible to collect data. All of the operations are fulfilled by Iran Fisheries Organization fish statistic Software called AMAR Software. In addition, Control of fishing license and Questionnaire carry out by the Head of fishery Statistical Unit in the relevant port. This kind of control will then be carried out in Province center through computer. Afterwards this will be processed in Data Center in Tehran. Cross Check by total census in one or two landing site will then be undertaken.



*Map of Landing sites distribution in the southern coastlines*

#### **6.4.2. Size data sampling**

There are 13 important commercial species in Iranian southern waters which their size frequency data will be compiled. The species comprised of:

1. Narrow-barred spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus Commerson*),
2. Tigertooth croaker (*Otolithes ruber*),
3. Silver pomfret (*Pampus argenteus*),
4. Black pomfret (*Parastromateus niger*),
5. Javelin grunter (*Pomadasys kaakan*),
6. Longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*),
7. Kawakawa (*Euthynnus affinis*).
8. Fourfinger threadfin (*Eleutheronema tetradactylum*),
9. Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacores*),
10. Skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*),
11. Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*),
12. Grouper(serranidae),
13. Emperor(lethrinidae),

The length and weight frequency of species has been recorded from 2001. Sampling in southern waters carried out in 16 landing centers consist of, Choebdeh and Hendijan in Khozestan Province, Daylam, Dayer, Jofreh & Bandargah in Bushehr Province, Jask, Javad'el'aemeh, Salakh, Bostaneh, Kong & Kohestak in Hormozgan Province, Ramin, Pozm, Beris & Pasabandar in Sistan & Bluchestan Province.

There is biometry software to input the size frequency data in a data bank. Data entry interface for length frequency is available; it just needs to be connected to the AMAR Software as integrated software. For strengthened tuna size sampling, we added two more landing centers in Sistan & Bluchestan Province (Ramin & Pasabandar Ports) to compile Tuna size frequency data by gillnet fishery. Size frequency data reported to IOTC per fleet, year, gear, type of school, monthly and 5° square areas for purse seine fishery. For oceanic gillnet fishery a pilot plan is in progress and gradually all Iranian gillnetters in high seas will be equipped with logbook system and vessel position can be derived via logbooks. The species for which the size data is reported include 6 tuna species comprised of: YFT, SKJ, BET, KAW, COM & LOT at 16 landing places.



IOTC-2022-SC25-NR10

As an overview, collection of information as port sampling is one of the regular monitoring that has implemented many years ago for all fishing activities and it would be a part of ROS pilot project of IOTC for making more progress on it. On this way Iran offered its interest to join the project. On this way IFO expect beside of making a progress in our monitoring and data collection system, we select as a pilot for learning other countries for port sampling methods.

Iran has taken various actions to implement the Scientific Committee recommendations and IOTC Resolutions. One of the major national actions taken to improve data collection system is to collect "**length frequency data**" for Tuna fisheries. The length frequency data for each tuna species has been provided for all available gears and for all major tropical tuna species according to the guideline. Sampling has been carried out through random sampling procedure by the field samplers at the designated landing centers. In 2021, around 95,505 fish measured. In this way, fork length frequency for 6 economically important tuna species has been measured. These species include:

Longtail tuna (*Thunnus tonggol*) (LOT) dominated the other tuna species with (28%) [26,839] followed by Kawakawa (*Euthynnus affinis*) (KAW) [23,448 (25%)], Narrow-barred Spanish mackerel (*Scomberomorus commerson*) (COM) [23,254 (24%)], Yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacares*) (YFT) [15,213 (16%)], Skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) (SKJ) [6,183 (6%)] and Bigeye tuna (*Thunnus obesus*) (BET) [568 (1%)].

Major share of the size data was realized in gillnets (97%) and the other fishing gears including longline and purse seine share with (2%) and (1%) respectively.

Neritic tunas (Coastal species) are abundant and commonly found in the waters throughout the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea, while tropical tunas (Oceanic species) are found mainly in Oman Sea and Indian Ocean. Neritic tunas contributed to 77% of total tuna fish measured. However tropical tunas contributed to 23% of the whole size data compiled in 2021.

Size Data recorded in the IOTC Database						
GEAR GROUP	SPECIES	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Gillnet	FRI	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	KAW	26088	32721	37985	25230	23448
	LOT	19449	30985	46811	33735	26839
	SKJ	30577	24177	18474	19398	5959
	YFT	25885	16684	22970	18063	12470
	BET	2639	1782	1256	502	465
	COM	39753	37591	42115	26946	23254
Purse seine	KAW	0	0	0	0	0
	LOT	0	0	1,097	0	0
	SKJ	1,576	2,152	278	0	224
	YFT	1,923	6,995	6,786	285	659
	BET	716	708	0	0	103
Trolling/ Hand & Line	COM	980	335	2,059	2,428	0
	LOT	0	0	0	0	0
	FT(by Coastal LL Method)	18,457	9,813	7,371	7,712	2,084
	FT(by Hook & Line method)	2,485	3,371	0	0	0
<b>Total Trolling/ Hand &amp; Line Length Frequency</b>		<b>21,922</b>	<b>13,519</b>	<b>9,430</b>	<b>10,140</b>	<b>2,084</b>
Mean Length Data recorded in the IOTC Database						
GEAR GROUP	SPECIES GROUP	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Gillnet	FRI	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	KAW	50.7	53.0	53.3	55.2	52.5
	LOT	64.1	61.5	68.2	72.0	68.2
	SKJ	56.4	54.7	54.7	60.4	59.5
	YFT	93.4	84.0	82.5	84.0	81.8
	BET	85.8	86.2	82.8	84.3	79.6
	COM	88.8	84.8	85.7	87.9	86.9
Purse seine	FRI	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	KAW	0.0	0.0	78.4	0.0	0.0
	LOT	55.1	53.6	60.9	0.0	54.2
	SKJ	97.9	110.0	116.2	136.4	98.7
	YFT	78.3	79.5	0.0	0.0	87.3
Trolling/ Hand & Line	COM	110.3	119.1	95.0	83.5	0.0
	LOT	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	FT(by Coastal_LL_Method)	119.8	110.5	103.1	95.7	84.2
	FT(by Hook & Line_Method)	100.1	108.1	0.0	0.0	0.0

Table.6.1. Number of Tuna and Tuna like species that their length are measured by gear types

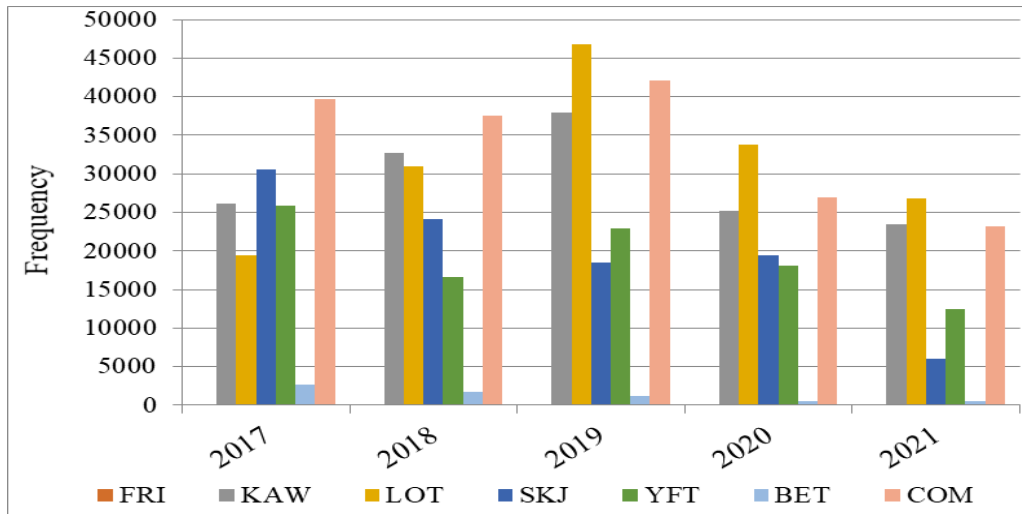


Figure.6.1 Length Frequency of Tuna species by gillnet fishery

### 6.5. Unloading/Transshipment of flag

Unloading or Transshipment of fish at sea and in ports for Iran flagged vessels are not permitted under our rules/regulations.

### 6.6. Actions taken to monitor catches & manage fisheries for Striped Marlin, Black Marlin, Blue Marlin and Indo-pacific Sailfish

The landings of Striped Marlin, Black Marlin, Blue Marlin and Indo-pacific Sailfish are monitored through the sampling programme has been recorded during 2017–2021 in table 3.1, and according to national regulation for tuna fishing management those billfish smaller than 60 cm Lower Jaw Fork Length is prohibited.

### 6.7. Gillnet observer coverage and monitoring

Iran fishing fleet unfortunately because of some problems due to lack of accommodations, we have not been able to install observers on board the vessels. Iran has focused for better implementation of observer scheme only in ports and port sampling to achieve the observer rate required by IOTC. So our data and information are collected by monitoring in fishing ports and landing centers. This activity is covering more than 10% of active vessels.

### 6.8 *Sampling plans for mobulid rays*

Sampling plans for mobulid rays Iran has a national sampling programme, for all the fish caught, including mobulid rays caught by the artisanal fishery. To date no mobulid rays is reported in notional coastal waters, but according to our offshore fishermen's report a few of them has been entangle in oceanic gillnet fishery and released immediately to sea.

### 7. *National Research Program*

Project title: Monitoring the harvest status of some commercial fish in the Persian Gulf and the Oman Sea through biometrics, as part of this project, *Carcharhinus Dussumieri* (Carcharhinae) species are also investigated, this speices is Near-threatened based on IUCN. The main goals of the project are: a) To measure the mean length of *c. dussumieri* caught; b) To measure *c. dussumieri* caught under the LM50 length; c) To estimate percentage of growth parameters and fishing mortalities.

**Table 8. Summery table of national program including dates**

Project title	Period	Countries involved	Budget total	Funding source	Objectives	Short description
Monitoring the status of tuna catch species in P.G & O.S. (Landing sites of Sistan Bluchistan and Hormozgan Province) using fish Biometry method	2021-2024	Persian Gulf , Oman Sea & High Seas	20000 US \$	Iranian Fisheries Science Research Institute	-To determine catch composition of tuna landed -To estimate length frequency of tuna landed, by species -To estimate mean fork length of tuna landed and trace the trend of mean length of the catch. - To determine mature and unmature percentage by species (using length maturity(LM50)) to determine ethe percentage of unmature tuna fish tuna fish landed -Estimating growth parameters and fishing mortalities for each tuna species.	Ongoing

IOTC-2022-SC25-NR10

**Table 9.** *Scientific requirements contained in Resolutions of the Commission, adopted between 2012 and 2021.*

Res. No.	Resolution	Scientific requirement	CPC progress
11/04	On a regional observer scheme	Paragraph 9	Partially adopted before (Port Observing). Related report has sent before to the secretariat.
12/04	On the conservation of marine turtles	Paragraphs 3, 4, 6–10	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Related report has sent before to the secretariat.
12/06	On reducing the incidental bycatch of seabirds in longline fisheries.	Paragraphs 3–7	Not Applicable, related report has sent before to the secretariat.
12/09	On the conservation of thresher sharks (family alopiidae) caught in association with fisheries in the IOTC area of competence	Paragraphs 4–8	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Big penalties and sanctions approved for offenders, related report has sent before to the secretariat.
13/04	On the conservation of cetaceans	Paragraphs 7–9	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Big penalties and sanctions approved for offenders, related report has sent before to the secretariat.
13/05	On the conservation of whale sharks ( <i>Rhincodon typus</i> )	Paragraphs 7–9	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Big penalties and sanctions approved for offenders, related report has sent before to the secretariat.
13/06	On a scientific and management framework on the conservation of shark species caught in association with IOTC managed fisheries	Paragraph 5–6	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Big penalties and sanctions approved for offenders, related report has sent before to the secretariat.
15/01	On the recording of catch and effort by fishing vessels in the IOTC area of competence	Paragraphs 1–10	Catch and efforts by gears and vessel types are recorded and reported monthly.
15/02	Mandatory statistical reporting requirements for IOTC Contracting Parties and Cooperating Non-Contracting Parties (CPCs)	Paragraphs 1–7	According to the Res. Iran submitted -Total catch data, -Catch by gear and effort data, - Size (Biometry) data, But, Only Iran dose not submitted, - Timelines and position of data,
17/05	On the conservation of sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by IOTC	Paragraphs 6, 9, 11	Training fishermen Translated current resolutions and distributed among fishermen, there is no interest for their catch because of no market. Related report has sent before to the secretariat. In total in 2021 the amount of sharks that are caught during tuna fisheries is around 1.3% of total catch.

IOTC-2022-SC25-NR10

Res. No.	Resolution	Scientific requirement	CPC progress
18/02	On management measures for the conservation of blue shark caught in association with IOTC fisheries	Paragraphs 2-5	
18/05	On management measures for the conservation of the Billfishes: Striped marlin, black marlin, blue marlin and Indo-Pacific sailfish	Paragraphs 7 – 11	Catch by gear and efforts submitted, but size and timeline (position) did not report.
18/07	On measures applicable in case of non-fulfilment of reporting obligations in the IOTC	Paragraphs 1, 4	Related report has sent before to the secretariat.
19/01	On an Interim Plan for Rebuilding the Indian Ocean Yellowfin Tuna Stock in the IOTC Area of Competence	Paragraph 22	Iran is implementing in accordance with Resolution 19/01 Paragraph 22.
19/03	On the Conservation of Mobulid Rays Caught in Association with Fisheries in the IOTC Area of Competence	Paragraph 11	In 2021 no intentional catch of Mobulid Rays in Iran