

## Revision of IOTC ROS fields by the longline subgroup

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This document summarizes revisions of IOTC ROS fields' scientific need, reporting requirement, and capabilities of collecting by onboard observers, electronic monitoring, and alternative means, by the longline subgroup appointed by the WGEMS under the umbrella of the WPDCS.

### (1) General principle of the ROS fields:

- The LL subgroup considered that the data items to be included in this document should indicate those required to collect with objective manner, either with human on-board observer (HO), electronic monitoring (EMS), or port sampling, and report to the Secretariat
- Each CPC is responsible to determine the most appropriate data collection procedure(s). While the current resolution only covers the industrial fleet, it should be considered to apply this list to all fleets, including those who do not collect logbook information.
- The list mainly focused the items to be collected directly through HO and EMS. The information that reporting requirement is determined elsewhere is removed from this list.
- In this document, "Mandatory" means that CPC should collect relevant information through human HO, or EMS, or in combination with supplementary data collection procedure(s) (e.g. port sampling/ inspections, VMS, logbook) as needed.
- Criteria to make "Mandatory" included: either essential for data management and/ or scientific analysis, or included in the Resolution and its evaluation of impacts required, under the condition where reasonable level of data collection can be assumed by both HO and EMS in combination with supplementary procedure(s).

### (2) Fields proposed for modifications:

- [GENERAL/ OBSERVER IDENTIFICATION] **All items** – modify filed names and descriptions to include data analyst identifications for EMS.
- [GENERAL/ OBSERVED TRIP SUMMARY] **Number of fishing events / sets conducted by the vessel while the observer was on-board** and **Number of fishing events / sets observed** – modify the field name and description to make applicable to EMS processed data set.
- [Longline/ LL SETTING OPERATIONS - MITIGATION MEASURES] **Bait species** – Reference table should be reviewed and updated as appropriate.
- Biometric information: In order to accept supplemental information collected through port-sampling/ post-trip inspection, standard method to link trip-based information with other detailed information collected HO/ EMS should be developed.

## (2) Fields to be removed

- **All fields** in [GENERAL/ Vessel Identification] CPCs should report the information in this section through the Register of Active Vessels. Vessel IOTC number should be kept for data management purpose.
- [GENERAL/ VESSEL OWNER & PERSONNEL] **Registered owner** and **Charter/Operator**. CPCs should report the information in this section through the Register of Active Vessels (RAV).
- [GENERAL/ VESSEL Attributes] **Tonnage, Length overall, Hull material, Main engines (make and power), and Fish storage capacity**. CPCs should report the information in this section through the RAV. The RAV need to modify to include fish storage capacity, if this information needed.
- [General/Vessel electronics] **Weather facsimile** – out of dated.
- [General/OBSERVED TRIP SUMMARY] **Number of days in the fishing area** – ambiguous, also retrievable from VMS data.
- [Longline/ LL GENERAL GEAR ATTRIBUTES] **Mainline Material, Mainline Length, and Mainline Diameter** -- no scientific value, duplicate at event level data collection.
- [Longline/ LL SETTING OPERATIONS] **VMS on** – MCS issue.
- [Longline/ LL - HAULING OPERATIONS] **Method(s) to stun fish** – no scientific relevance.

## (3) Pending fields with no consensus

- [GENERAL/Observer trip details] Although this information is useful for operational management of HO, need of this section in the ROS fields was questioned but no consensus made. Majority view is that this section is for identifying start and end of observation dates and location, which is easily extractable from the detailed data submitted. Therefore some considers it not necessary to require this information separately. Although this information is useful for operational management of human observer program, it will not have relevance when selecting the footage for analysis randomly from whole operations in the case of EMS.
- [GENERAL/ VESSEL OWNER & PERSONNEL] **Fishing master** and **Skipper** – currently not in the RAV, general agreement on the importance of this information, but no consensus on the proper way to report without causing confusion.
- [GENERAL/Vessel trip details] The CPC program operator hold this information, not necessarily relevant to HO nor EMS data. The need of this section in the ROS fields was questioned but no consensus made. Large discrepancy in views on potential utility of this information. In any case, clear definition of "trip" need to be agreed. It should be noted that the end date and location of trip information would not be accessible to "observers" unless disembarkation occur at the same time/location.
- [Longline/ LL FISHING EVENT] **Set Number** – no consensus on whether ID should be allocated to all operations regardless observation/ analysis.
- Gear configuration in "LL SETTING OPERATION" section: Discrepancy in views on what is the minimum necessary information to describe the longline gear configuration that can be monitored by combination of objective data collection, which include **vessel speed, line setter speed, mainline set length, branchline clip on time, buoys clip on time, distance between branchlines, floatline length, total radio/ dhan buoys set, and attached lights**.
- Branchline weighting information: Currently, this information is under the MITIGATION MEASURES. Two approaches, a) to record Y/N (as current), and b) to include this as a part of branchline configurations, were discussed but no conclusion was made. Same arguments in treatment of hook types and utilisation of other appendices. If taking the approach a), the reporting responsibility should be CPC's, not observers.
- [Longline/ Catch ID vs LL - SPECIMEN INFORMATION]: further clarification needed in the way of applying "Catch-ID" and "specimen-ID".