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Indian Ocean Tuna Commission
Commission des Thons de l'Océan Indien

Work Methodology to Follow Onboard a Purse-seiner



IOTC ROS TR18.1

Category: Purse-seine onboard data collection and recording

[IOTC ROS TR18]



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UPON EMBARKING

- Present yourself at the bridge and meet the bridge officers (Captain, 1st officer, Fishing master)
- Prepare your living and work area
- Meet other key people such as the Factory Manager, Bosun, and the Cook
- Visit the vessel factory (lower deck) with the Factory Manager to familiarize yourself with vessel configuration/equipment layout
- Inform the Bosun of your work objectives. Agree on sampling areas on the lower and main decks.
- Organise for the crew to set aside discards both on the main and lower deck for sampling.





Locate the GPS that displays latitude and longitude in DMS format.

A GPS can show one of THREE different notations:

1. **DMS:** degrees, minutes, and seconds (Lat dd mm ss / Long ddd mm ss). Note seconds will always only be recorded as two digits
2. **DDM:** degrees and decimal minutes (Lat dd mm.mmm / Long dd mm.mmm). Note the minutes can be recorded to more than two decimal places
3. **DD:** decimal degrees (Lat dd.ddd / Long dd.ddd). Note the degrees can be recorded to more than two decimal places.

If you can't find a GPS in the DMS format, note on the data collection forms, notebook and final report the format collected.

You ARE NOT to convert DDM / DD positions into DMS format





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- Set all your personal devices to UTC time
- Start taking notes on your notebook
- Collect information on vessel, observer & crew details
- Collect information concerning fishing gear
- Start filling IOTC form 1–PS and 2-PS
- Ask Captain or bridge officer to help you sending your deployment report (to be sent within 24h of embarking).
- Familiarize yourself with vessel instruments
- Take an interest in vessel safety procedures and equipment: life jackets, life rafts, fire extinguishers, first aid kit, etc.



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DURING THE COURSE OF THE TRIP

ON A DAILY BASIS

1. Be present $\frac{1}{4}$ hour before sunrise
2. **Fill in IOTC Form PS-8 from sunrise to sunset every 2 hours and/or every time the vessel fishes.**
3. At sunset end data collection, verify and correct all forms filled for the day and enter data in DB.
4. For every fishing event, and before brailing starts, fill in IOTC Form PS-3 (even for fishing events where nothing is caught).



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Every week

1. Submit weekly status report by email to your Coordinator as per the format provided.
2. The report period will be for the preceding seven (7) days.
3. Be aware that if the report is not received within 24h of the date it is due, your Coordinator shall start the process to establish contact via the vessel operator to ensure your safety.



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**TO ACHIEVE THE
SAMPLING OF THE CATCH
IN THE BEST CONDITIONS
POSSIBLE, FOLLOW THE
STEPS DETAILED IN THE
NEXT SLIDES.**



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Before the Forming of the Pocket

- ❑ Observe / ask bridge officers to provide you with an estimate of set catch and composition using the sonar.
- ❑ **Prepare your sampling equipment** (camera, measuring tool, slate, pencil and sample bins).
- ❑ If fishing on a FAD verify if the Skiff/Speed vessel crew cleans the FAD from entangled species (sharks, turtle), or if it replaces the buoy attached.





If Fishing on a Free School

1. Ask the Factory manager to ensure that all bycatch specimens sorted in the lower deck (sharks included) are set aside for sampling.
2. Count and measure all bycatch (retained and released) that stays on the upper deck.
3. At the end of brailing move to the lower deck and count and measure all bycatch set aside by the crew.
4. Ask estimates of total retained catch per species (placed in the wells) to Factory Manager.





If Fishing on an Associated School

1. Ask the Officer at the winch station to collect information on bycatch releases, method & condition.
2. Ask the Bosum to keep all dead large bycatch on the upper deck till brailing ends, for sampling.
3. Watch the 1st brail to check if the net is capsized.
4. If the is net capsized, watch and note all information possible on species released (quantity, condition).
5. Move to the lower deck to sample bycatch





On the Lower Deck

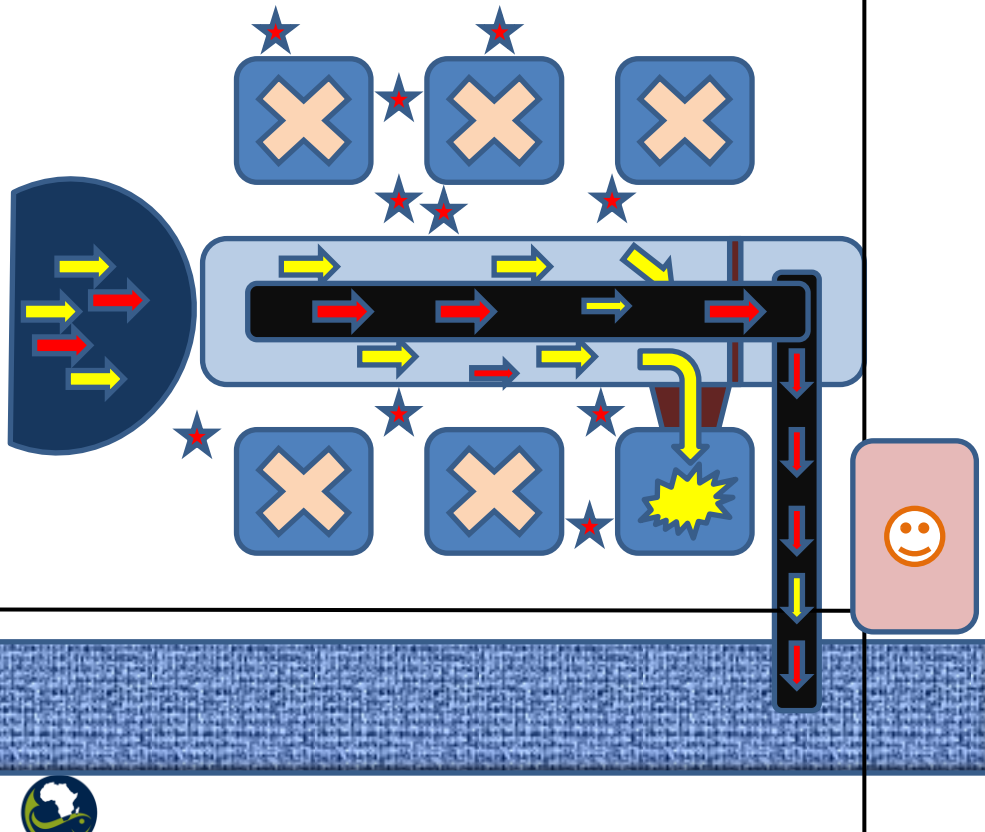
- 1. Chose sampling strategy and place yourself in the factory according to the set & factory specificities.**
 - A. Presence of a discard belt
 - B. Absence of a discard belt
 - C. Well used the closest to the fish hatch
- 2. At the end of sorting move to the upper deck and sample all bycatch put aside by the crew.**
- 3. Come back to the lower deck and complete your sampling.**





A- Presence of a Discard Belt

Factory with a discard belt

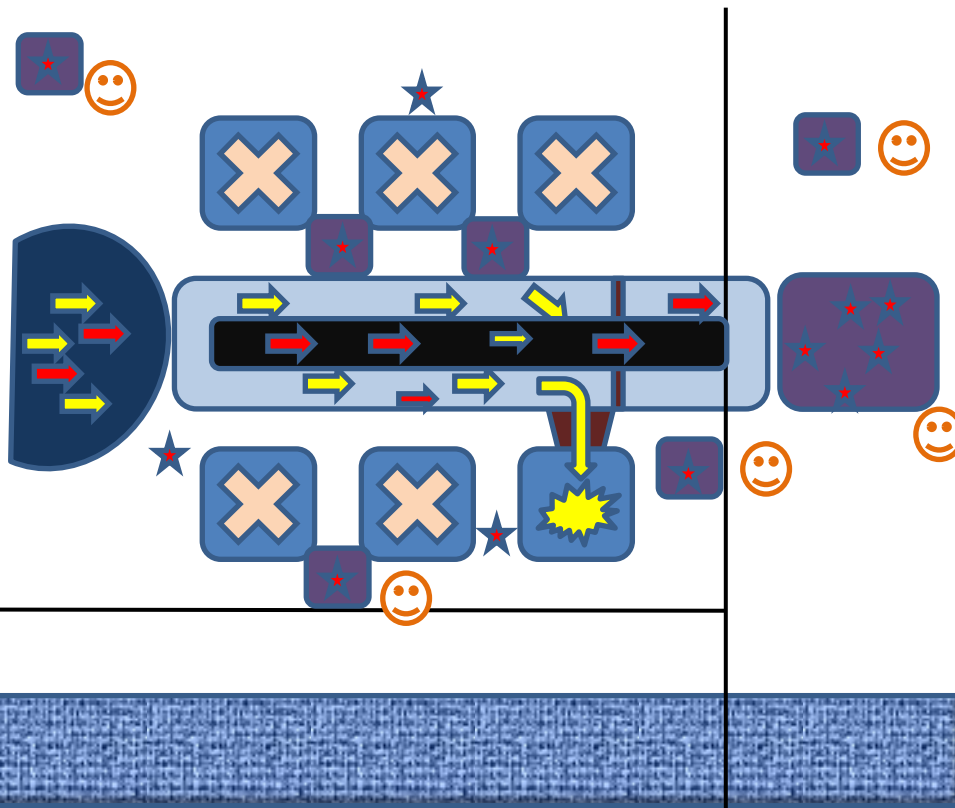


1. *Place yourself next to the discard belt*
2. *ID & count all discarded bycatch (if possible)*
3. *Collect multiple random samples at different moments of the sorting using factory rejection bins.*
4. *At the end of brailing and after sampling bycatch on the upper deck, return to the lower deck and count, ID and measure your samples.*



B- Absence of a Discard Belt

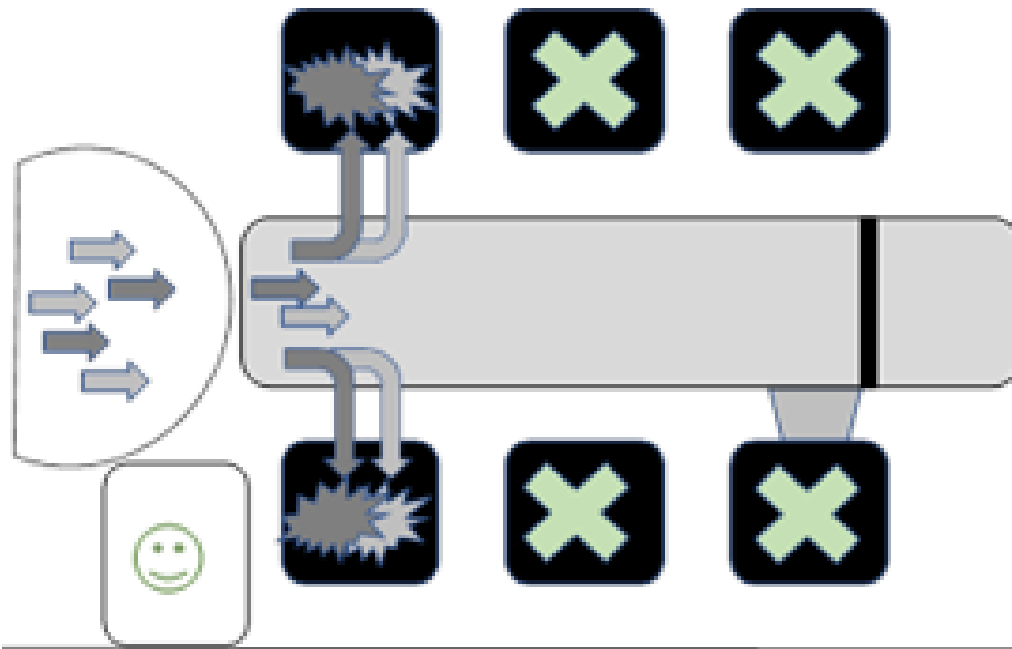
Factory with no discard belt



1. *Move around the factory, count and ID all bycatch species placed in the bins and in the floor.*
2. *Place sampled bins against factory walls to ID the ones already sampled.*
3. *At the end of brailing select bins to be used for the sub-sampling of length frequency.*
4. *At the end of brailing and after sampling bycatch on the upper deck, return to the lower deck to measure your samples.*



C- Well Used the Closest to the Fish Hut



1. *Place yourself next to the well being used.*
2. *Count the number of brailers stored in the well(s).*
3. *Attempt to identify the main species and size class of the fish stored in these wells.*
4. *When vessel arrives to land and proceeds to unload these wells, if you still onboard, collect multiple random samples at different moments of the unloading and sample them for catch composition.*



At the End of Sampling

1. Check if you've sampled all bycatch put aside by the crew on the lower and upper deck.
2. Request the following catch estimations from the factory manager:
 - Total catch weight
 - Retained catch weight per well and species
 - Total discards weight (upper + lower deck)
3. On vessels conducting shifting ask factory manager when shift is expected to happen and show up.





UPON SHIFTING

1. Be present ¼ hour before the start of the operation
2. Conduct an exhaustive sampling of the bycatch (no raising required)
3. Correct your bycatch data in Forms 4-PS for a specific set after shifting.
4. Complete IOTC Form 4-PS with bycatch biometric data collected during shifting.
5. In the case of a tag recovery also fill IOTC Form 5-PS.





UPPON OFFLOADING and/or TRANSHIPPING

1. Be present ¼ hour before the start of the operation
2. Fill in IOTC Form 7-PS
3. *If requested by your NOP Coordinator sample catch being unloaded / transferred.*
4. *Follow sampling protocol provided by NOP Coordinator*
5. *Fill in sampling protocol provided by NOP Coordinator for this purpose.*





PREVIOUS TO DISEMBARKING

1. Inform NOP Coordinator of vessel ETA to port
2. Finish filling IOTC Form PS-1 with disembarkation information
3. Complete your draft trip report with disembarkation information
4. Verify and organise your data forms
5. Verify and organize your sampling materials
6. Verify and organize your personal items





UPPON DISEMBARKING

1. Immediately report to NOP offices.
2. Submit physical and electronical data, draft trip report and notebook to NOP Coordinator.
3. Return all work and safety materials to NOP Administrator.
4. Conduct debriefing with NOP Coordinator (1 week following disembarkation).
5. Correct data forms, electronic data and finalize trip report (max 3 weeks after disembarkation).



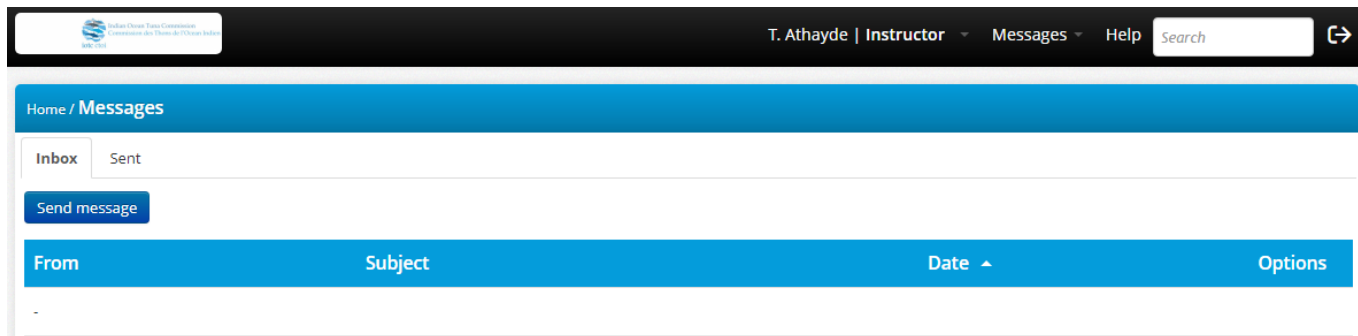


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ANY QUESTIONS?



send us a message via Talents LMS



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