CHANGES TO THE LONGLINE OBSERVER FORMS AGREED BY
11TH TUNA FISHERY DATA COLLECTION COMMITTEE (DCC), AUGUST 2018[1]

SPC/FFA REGIONAL LONGLINE OBSERVER CATCH MONITORING	**FORM LL-4**

Issue

Prior to 2016 SSIs condition code at interaction or capture was recorded on the GEN-2. This was more descriptive combining condition code (life status) with interaction codes (how captured and where hooked). With the transfer of SSI interactions and catches to LL-4 (after 2016) the instructions state that the interaction codes were used for interactions.

Agreed Changes

DCC11 agreed that the interactions field is used for all **SSI interactions and captures** (landed on deck) to provide more detail on hooking injuries for SSIs landed and discarded.

This would also make the discarded protected species Fate Codes for SSI's redundant (DPA, DPD DPU), as other codes will provide more information on the treatment of the SSI such as Discarded Struck Off or Discarded Cut Free (DCF) or Discarded Dehooked (DDH). There is an additional note in the instructions to indicate in comments what length/type of gear remained attached to the SSI). A new Fate Code 'DUN' indicates if an entangled SSI was untangled for release. A new Fate Code 'DPG' indicates wither WCPFC SSI treatment guidelines (such as for sharks and turtles) were followed when landed.

Some of the discard codes would indicate if the animal was released prior to landing (DSO, DCF, etc). If the animal only interacted with the primary gear but was not hooked or entangled such as just feeding on bait, only use the Interaction Code and Condition Code would be used, no Fate Code .

Fate codes descibe whether the fish was kept (retained) or thrown away / released (discarded).
Also - how and/or reason processed / discarded
Important to select one **most informative** code !

RGG - Retained - gilled and gutted (for sale)
RGT - Retained - gilled gutted and tailed (for sale)
RWW - Retained - whole
RPT - Retained - partial (e.g. fillet, loin, trunk)
RFR - Retained - both fins and trunk (sharks)
RHG - Retained - headed and gutted (billfish)
RSD - Retained - but shark damaged
RCC - Retained - for crew consumption
RGO - Retained - gutted only.
ROR - Retained - other reason (specify)

DFR - Discarded trunk - fins retained (sharks)
DGD - Discarded - gear damage (tuna only)
DSD - Discarded - shark damage
DWD - Discarded - whale damage
DUS - Discarded - uneconomic species
DDL - Discarded - too difficult to land
DSO - Discarded - struck off
DCF - Discarded - cut free
DDH - Discarded - de-hooked
DTS - Discarded - too small (target species)
DPQ - Discarded - poor quality
DOR - Discarded - other reason (specify)
DPG - Discarded - SSI handling guidlines followed
ESC - Escaped

Code Changes

Added –DUN Fate Code to be used for entangled catch that is untangled prior to release.

DPG - Use this Fate Code if the WCPFC specific handling guidelines were followed.

Removed – Fate Codes DPA, DPD, DPD use more specific codes for how the animal was handled. Use comments for further detail

Instructions – if Fate Code DCF is used or if any gear remains attached indicate the length of gear attached in Comments.

Use Gear Interaction Codes for SSI interactions and landings to indicate how it was hooked.

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[1] Observers are strongly encouraged to read the form instructions to better understand what data needs to be recorded. These notes are to identify the changes that were made to the forms and provide explanation.