

**SPC / FFA REGIONAL OBSERVER  
SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST - VESSEL INTERACTIONS**

**FORM GEN - 2**

First edition\_DEC. 2016

OBSERVER NAME	VESSEL NAME	OBSERVER TRIP ID NUMBER	PAGE	OF
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SSI CODE	START OF INTERACTION TIME (HH : mm)		END OF INTERACTION TIME (HH : mm)		DATE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	YY	MM	DD	YY	MM	DD	(dd mm.mmm)	N	(ddd mm.mmm)	E	W
VESSEL INTERACTION CODE	Est. DISTANCE from V.		CONDITION CODE		Estimate of SSI Length			Total Numbers			
	START	END	START	END	Adults	Juvenilles	Adults	Juvenilles	Adults	Juvenilles	
	m NM	m NM			m cm	m cm					

Description of Species / Interaction

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Description of Species / Interaction

## SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST - VESSEL INTERACTIONS Instructions

*First Edition Dec. 2016*

The Purpose of the new Vessel Interaction Form is to capture any interactions by any Species of Special Interest with the vessel or its non-primary gear. An interaction with the vessel or its non-primary gear is said to have occurred if the SSI has come close to the vessel/non-primary gear or if the behaviour of the SSI has been influenced by the presence of the vessel/non-primary gear. For instance, the marine mammal came close to the vessel and swam alongside it. Record all interactions with the primary fishing gear on the PS-3, LL-4 or PL-3 form.

**Non-primary gear** means equipment that belongs to the vessel, but it not the gear used by the vessel to catch tuna.

On a purse-seine vessel only the net is the primary gear. FADs, tender vessels, skiff etc are not considered primary gear. All SSIs caught/trapped/entangled by the purse-seine net should be recorded on the PS-3 form.

On a longline vessel the mainline, all componets of the branchline, and the radio buoys attached to the mainline are seen as part of the primary gear. All SSI caught/trapped/ hooked by the longline gear should be recorded on the LL-4 form.

On a pole-and-line vessel only the fishing poles are part of the primary gear.

**Observer Name:** Print your name in full. Put your first name (Christian name) first and your last name (surname) last.

**Observer Trip ID Number:** Fill in your trip identification number as supplied by your programme before departure - exactly as recorded on the PS-1 (pg1) form.

**Page of:** Number forms through trip as Page 1, Page 2 etc. At the end of the trip check that the total number of pages are filled in on all pages.

**SSI Code:** Record the three-letter FAO species code for each species of special interest that interacts with the vessel/non-primary gear.

**Start of Interaction Time:** Record in hours and minutes the time the SSI started to interact with the vessel/non-primary gear. This is the time the observer first noted that there was an interaction or that the SSI behaviour was influenced by the vessel presence.

**End of Interaction Time:** Record the time in hours and minutes when the SSI's interaction with the vessel ended.

**Date:** Record the date of the interaction (year-month-day).

**Latitude / Longitude:** Record the location of the start of the interaction (or when the observer first noticed the interaction) by filling in the degrees, minutes and decimal minutes for latitude and longitude to three decimal places.

**VESSEL INTERACTION CODES:** Use these codes to describe how the SSI interacted with the vessel or non-primary gear.

IBV - Interaction, beside vessel

ION - Interaction, outside net

ICF - Interaction, crew feeding

IWF - Interaction - with FADs, but not set on

IDW - Interaction - dead in water

OTH - Interactions - other, please specify

ICV - Collision with vessel

ICP - Collision with propeller

ICT= Collision with Tori line

FRB- Feeding on bait during set

IFO - Feeding on discarded offal

IRE - Resting on vessel, floats or FADs (birds)

**Estimate of Distance from Vessel:** Record an observer eye-estimate of the distance of the SSI from the vessel when the observer first noticed the interaction. If the SSI moves towards or away from the vessel/non-primary gear record this in the description box below. Normally the distance will be recorded in (m) **meters, or** (nm) **nautical miles.**

**Condition Codes:**

A0 - Alive, condition unknown

A1 - Alive and healthy

A2 -Alive, but injured or distressed

A3 - Alive, but unlikely to live

D - Dead

U - Conditinon

**Estimate of SSI Length:** Record an observer eye-estimate of the average length of 1) the adult SSIs and 2) the juvenile SSIs. Normally, marine mammals will be recorded in (m) **meters**, while turtle, birds will be recorded as (cm) **centimeters.**

**Total Numbers:** Record the total number of adults, and or the total number of juvenile SSIs. If there are a large number of species, record an eye-estimate, and mention this is in the description area below.

**Description of Species / Interaction:** Provide more information on the species to help confirm the species (size, colour, markings) code recorded by the observer. Also, describe all aspects of the interaction as briefly, but also as informative, as possible.