

PIRFO Draft Competency Standards

PIRFO 3 – 7.02	Demonstrate the knowledge and skills needed to accurately record fisheries observer information from purse seine fishing operations
<p>Prerequisites:</p> <p>Descriptor</p> <p>The standard requires a candidate to demonstrate the knowledge and skills needed to accurately record information gathered from purse seine fishing operations. This includes vessel details and characteristics; daily vessel activities; details of catch and bycatch from fishing sets; loading, unloading and transfer of fish; and information on Fish Aggregating Devices (FAD) and floating objects.</p> <p>The templates on which this information and data is recorded may vary according to the directives of national or regional fisheries agencies.</p> <p>Currently (2009) the templates are identified as PS 1; PS 2; PS 3; PS 4; PS 5; and Gen 5;</p> <p>Note: Candidates are not judged competent in this module until such time their Observer Certificate of Competency has been endorsed accordingly by the relevant National Observer Coordinator or approved delegated authority.</p>	
Competency Element	Performance Criteria
<p>1. Outline the type of information gathered by fisheries observers during purse seine fishing operations</p>	<p>1.1 Information includes but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Time and date Vessel fish storage capacity Vessel crew details Vessel safety equipment details EEZ codes FAD activity, FAD materials and FAD type Position How fish detected Electronics associated with FAD and any identification Vessel activity codes How vessel detected fish school Fish school association Observer trip details Vessel characteristics (including helicopter) Nature of fishing vessel electronic equipment Nature of communications equipment Number and capacity of brails taken Species codes Fish measurements Fish well fill codes Details of tuna catch retained or discarded Details of bycatch species retained or discarded Details of species of interest –sightings, interaction and catch Details of bunkering and transfer or dumping of fish

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2. Outline the processes used to gather fisheries observer information from purse seine fishing operations	2.1 The information is gathered by: Professional observation and estimate Inspection of vessel electronics Inspection of vessel records and certificates Inspection of vessels catch log Interview of crew and officers
3. Record information from purse seine fishing operations in accordance with the protocols and formats provided by national and regional fisheries agencies	3.1 The information and data is entered in purse seine observer templates to the level of accuracy specified by the regional agencies responsible for observer training

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PIRFO 3 – 7.02 Evidence and Assessment Guide

<p>Context and Method of assessment</p> <p>Assessment is to be conducted in a simulated workplace environment and must include the use of simulated fishing trip information and data. The candidate is required to gather, interpret and enter the information on the appropriate forms with a minimum verified accuracy of 75%.</p> <p>Assessment must be completed in accordance with the protocols and templates currently provided by regional agencies for a fisheries observer reporting on purse seine fishing operations. Currently (2009) the templates are identified as PIRFO PS 1; PS 2; PS 3; PS 4; PS 5; and GEN 5;</p> <p>Candidates should be made familiar with all the protocols and formats in classroom demonstrations and practical demonstrations before they are assessed. Resources for assessment include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the required forms together with supporting guidelines for completion • At least 3 realistic written simulations of credible purse seine fishing scenarios • Species codes and identification resources 	
<p>Underpinning knowledge</p> <p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of general procedures in purse seine fishing operations • An understanding of the information needed for each of the forms used • An awareness of the sources of information that is required to complete the forms • An appreciation of the potential sensitivity of information that is collected • A clear grasp of the importance of accuracy in all aspects of collecting and documenting the data 	
Competency Element	Evidence Guide
<p>1. Outline the type of information gathered by fisheries observers during purse seine fishing operations</p>	<p>Candidates use the guidelines associated with each of the templates to establish the nature and format of the data required for to complete them</p>
<p>2. Outline the processes used to gather fisheries observer information from purse seine fishing operations</p>	<p>Candidates identify the common sources for the information that is required and are capable of using a mix of interview, inspection, estimate and observation to gather the information and data required to complete the forms.</p>
<p>3. Record information from purse seine fishing operations in accordance with the protocols and formats provided by national and regional fisheries agencies</p>	<p>Candidates should be able enter the information and data at the level of accuracy specified for each template by the regional agency responsible for the observer training. This may vary between different templates, but in any event a minimum level of accuracy of not less than 75% will be required.</p> <p>Currently (2009) the templates are identified as PIRFO PS 1; PS 2; PS 3; PS 4; PS 5; and GEN 5;</p>

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Practical skills

The essential skills needed include:

- The ability to collect data and information needed for each form and accurately record it
- The ability to plan and work so that the data and information is collected without interruption to fishing operations
- Literacy and numeracy skills:
- Interpretation of forms and instructions for completing them
- Collection of data and information from vessel records and documentation
- Accurate completion of the forms
- Calculation

Critical aspects of evidence

Assessment must confirm the ability to:

- Locate and format the data and information needed to complete each template associated with purse seine operations
- Complete each template specified for a purse seine observer with a level of accuracy of no less than 75%. Currently (2009) the templates are identified as PIRFO PS 1; PS 2; PS 3; PS 4; PS 5; and Gen 5.

Assessment must confirm knowledge of:

- Common purse seine operational scenarios
- The sources of information and data available for the observer that apply during both fishing and general operations