Deepwater Snapper

Towards improved stock assessments and management

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Secretariat of the Pacific Community









SPC Deepwater Snapper project

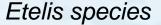
- Assistance provided to several countries:
 - Vanuatu
 - Samoa
 - Tonga
 - Marshall Islands
 - New Caledonia
 - Papua New Guinea





Deepwater Snapper Fisheries

- Small-scale fisheries (<20 vessels per country)
- Relatively easy to monitor
- Samoan hand reels ~150 500 m
- Etelis and Pristipomoides species
- High vulnerability to fishing





Pristipomoides species









Work Plan

4 main work areas:

- 1. Capacity development
- 2. Biological studies
- 3. Fisheries assessment and management
- 4. Fisheries data collection







Fisheries Data Collection

Aim: to develop a standardised approach to deepwater snapper data collection across the Pacific region

- Implement a common database system, which minimises development and maintenance costs;
- 2. Consistency in how and what data are collected and how they are analysed; and
- 3. Easy to compare fisheries among countries



Fisheries Data Collection

Activities

- Support development of deepwater snapper fisheries monitoring in-country (e.g. logsheets and port sampling)
- We originally planned to develop new database (SNAPMAN) ... BUT,
- It makes more sense to utilise existing artisanal data forms and database (TUF-ART)



Fisheries Data Collection

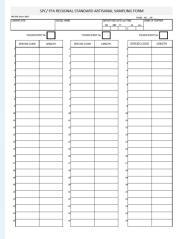
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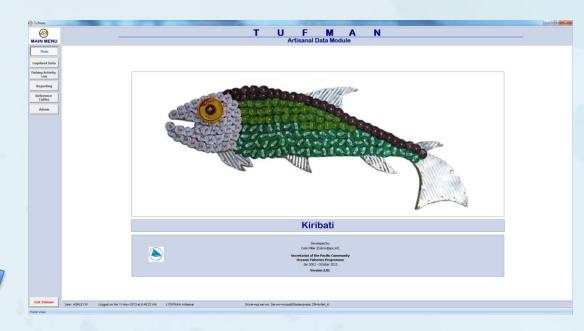
Catch & Effort data

TUF-ART Database

Sampling Logsheet



Length data





Important to record correct species

New species of short tail snapper







Why is it important to distinguish between these species in logsheets and database?

Because they have completely different biology

	Etelis carbunculus	Etelis marshi (new species)
Max. size	130 cm (30+ kg)	65cm (5 kg)
Maturity	~70 cm	~25 cm

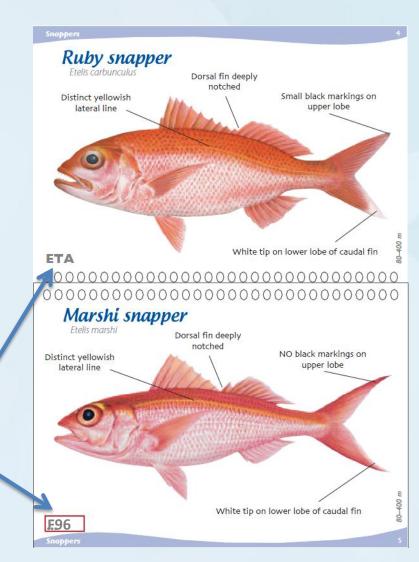




Identification cards



3-letter species codes





Recommendations

- Use TUF-ART logsheets to record deepwater snapper catch and effort data
- 2. Use **TUF-ART** database to enter, store and manage deepwater snapper data
- 3. Request assistance from SPC if needed







Questions?

