

**SPC / FFA REGIONAL OBSERVER
SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST - SIGHTINGS**

**Supplement to
FORM GEN - 2**

Rev 2018

OBSERVER NAME	VESSEL NAME	OBSERVER TRIP ID No.	PAGE	OF
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DATE YY MM DD	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		SIGHTING CODE	TALLY	TOTAL NUMBER
	(dd mm.mmm)	N S	(ddd mm.mmm)	E W			
SSI CODE	Species Description						

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SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST - Supplementary (SIGHTINGS) Instructions

Rev. 2018

The purpose of the newly formatted *Species of Special Interest - Supplementary (Sightings)* Form is to capture any sightings of *Species of Special Interest* made by the observer. Make sure that it is a sighting and not an interaction with the vessel or non-primary gear (see GEN-2 interactions). Recording a sighting of a SSI suggests that the SSI's behaviour was not affected by the presence of the observer's vessel. Be reflective about how you record birds. Obviously, recording every single bird you see over-head with the species group code (BIZ) is not helpful. So think about what is helpful before recording bird sightings. Record (if you can identify them), the species you generally see during your trip. Your data should indicate the general abundance of birds, by species during the trip. Further training in Bird Identification and data recording will be provided from mid-2017. Recording the presence of marine mammals and birds on their migratory routes can be helpful to define, understand and evaluate their species ranges (the areas they can be found) and any impacts changes in the ecosystem is having on their migratory routes.

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.

DATE: Record the date (year-month-day) the sighting was made.

**LONGITUDE
LATITUDE:** Give the position of the observer's vessel when the first SSI was sighted.

SIGHTING CODE: Record one of the 'Sighting Codes' to indicate the SSI behaviour when sighted.

SIGHTING CODES

SDS - Sighting- Distance Swimming
SBR - Sighting - Breaching
STP - Sighting - Tail Slapping or Playing
SMG - Sighting - Motionless in Group
SDW - Sighting -Dead in Water
SBO - Sighting - Bird Overhead
OTH - Other, please specify

TALLY: Use this area if there are a number of SSIs that are noticed during the day. This area will be useful for bird sightings, or pods of marine mammal with many individuals.

TOTAL NUMBER: Record the total number of the SSI species that were seen. If there are large numbers of individual species record an eye-estimate.

SSI CODE Record the three letter FAO species identification code,

**SPECIES
DESCRIPTION:** Provide a description of the species that will help to confirm its species code, mention colour, markings, length, fin shape etc.