

Star Trading FIP (Paramount Fishery N.V) Site Visit Paramaribo, Suriname - 17 to 19 September, 2024

Visited the following vessels: Chung Kuo No. 21, 23, 25 and Gilontas No. 230

This information was obtained from speaking to crew and skippers of these vessels as well as the crew manager of Paramount Fishery N.V. under Star Trading FIP

Gear and Fishing Operations

The vessels are roughly 30m long, with space for 70 pieces per hatch with 6 hatches in each vessel.



Figure 1 - Vessels within the fleet.

The crew consists of 9 fishers, 1 engineer and a captain. Fishing trips are roughly 25 to 30 days including a 3 day steam to fishing grounds. They usually have a week off in between trips. Vessels unload product directly at the international port and then Paramount Fishery N.V. under Star Trading FIP, have their own dock for maintenance etc due to limited space at the international port.

Crew members take up 2 year contracts.

Vessels normally set from 8am which takes roughly 5hours, soak for 5hours, then hauling takes 8hours.

Most vessels set from the rear of the vessel but a small number have no line shooter so still manually set the line on the starboard side of the deck.



Figure 2 - View from the bridge onto the deck.

All vessels exclusively use monofilament line with circle hooks and line weights are used. Some skippers use lights on the gear too. Vessels use roughly 1500 to 1800 hooks per set with 100 hooks per basket.

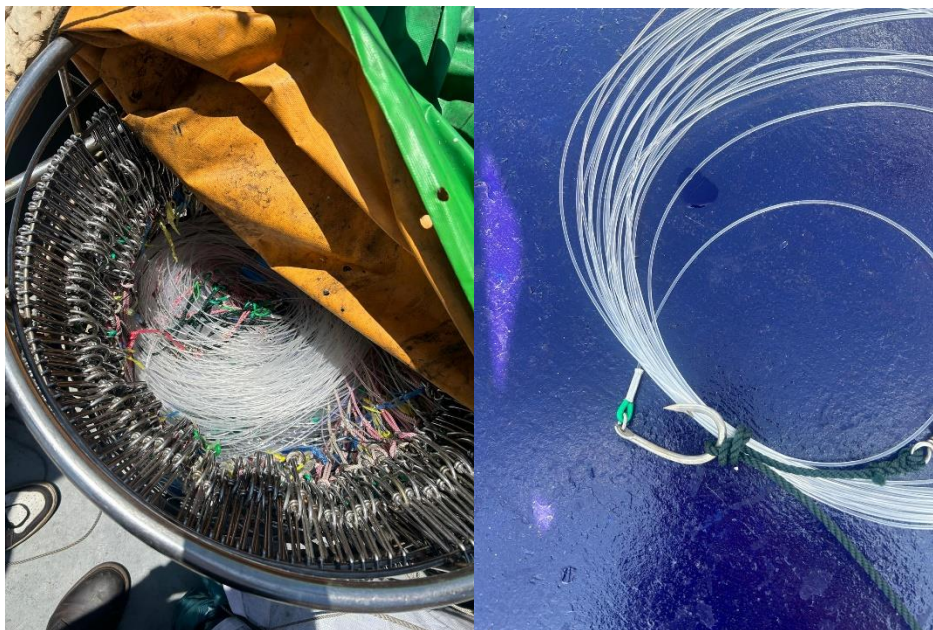


Figure 3 - Basket, line and hooks used by the fleet.

The product is gilled and gutted on board and then shipped as fresh product to Miami, USA.

No transshipment takes place in the fishery.

Have electric pickups in the port so don't require the vessel to have the engine on.

Currently, 3 boats have Wi-Fi provided by Starlink. Crew get a monthly allowance of 50gb to use as they wish. This is turned off during fishing operations. The remaining vessels will have Starlink installed.

Crew manager, Andreas, does regular trainings with the skippers and crew on all elements. KT to formalise an agenda and provide resources to include to this.

Bait

Paramount Fishery N.V. under Star Trading FIP, buys the bait for the fishing companies. Mackerel is sourced from China and farmed milkfish from Indonesia. Record of all bait bought is collected but this information does not include species name or stock information. This needs to be improved for MSC assessments.

There is roughly 10kg of bait per box and vessels use roughly 500boxes per trip totalling 5MT per trip.



Figure 4 - Frozen farmed milkfish used for bait on the vessel



Figure 5 - Frozen mackerel used as bait.

Waste management

Plastic waste, batteries and oil etc is held onto for the duration of the trip and offloaded at the international port to a waste management company. This is all in a basket secured on the rear of the vessel. Organic waste goes overboard. KT to draft a waste management policy to be translated and included on the vessels.

ETP

We added both the ETP/Shark finning policy and species ID poster to the vessels. KT to ensure the correct translated versions are available and Andreas will ensure these are posted on all vessels in the bridge and crew quarters. We will also include ETP training to the regular training Andreas delivers.



Figure 6 - ETP policy and commonly encountered posters posted in crew quarters.

Sharks and Rays

Bull (*Carcharhinus leucas*) and shortfin mako (*Isurus oxyrinchus*) sharks are observed once or twice a set.

Blue sharks (*Prionace glauca*) seem to be seasonal with them appearing in sets from April to June. Blue sharks are the only species retained.

Very rarely observes silky (*Carcharhinus falciformis*) and oceanic white tip (*Carcharhinus longimanus*) sharks.

When interacting with sharks, small sharks are brought aboard and dehooked and released, large sharks who pose a risk to crew are released in the water by cutting the line. Skipper advised he ensures they cut as close to the mouth as possible to ensure no trailing branchline.

Due to the size of the crew, they stop hauling when releasing large individuals of all species.

They interact with stingrays and do catch them, most likely southern stingray (*Hypanus americanus*). If small will dehook and release, if large, will cut the line as per the shark species.

Turtles

Limited turtle interactions, usually one per trip. They are nearly all hooked on the bill and are dehooked and released. Skipper uses a rope to open the barb and release. Skippers agree that this is

mostly, olive ridley sea turtle (*Lepidochelys olivacea*). Vessels use recommended circle hooks to reduce impact on turtle species.



Figure 7 - Circle hook used by the fleet.

Seabirds

Some seabirds are seen when setting which occurs at 8am until 230pm, soak until 7pm then hauling until 3/4am. Repeated daily. These birds do not interact with the bait and are not hooked or caught. These seabirds are of the *Procellariidae* family and are petrels and shearwaters. Within the region, these are likely to be:

- Band-rumped storm-petrel, *Hydrobates castro*
- Leach's storm-petrel, *Hydrobates leucorhous*
- Fea's petrel, *Pterodroma feae*
- Bulwer's petrel, *Bulweria bulwerii*
- Cory's shearwater, *Calonectris diomedea*
- Great shearwater, *Ardenna gravis*
- Manx shearwater, *Puffinus puffinus*
- Audubon's shearwater, *Puffinus lherminieri*

Cetaceans

Whales are not seen but they do lose around 30 pieces of tuna directly from the line from whale predation. If this happens, the skipper moves fishing grounds and communicates with nearby skippers.

Dolphins are seen more frequently but are never entangled. These are pantropical spotted dolphin (*Stenella attenuata*) and common Dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*).

Equipment and Crew

Vessels all had long handled dipnets, dehookers, monofilament line, circle hooks and wire cutters to enable them to perform best handling practices.



Figure 8 - Bycatch tools aboard all vessels.

All crew all listen and work well, no issues with crew not following rules and regulations regarding ETP species.

No additional equipment needed. Share recommended equipment list.

Reporting

No wet observers on boats. There is dockside monitoring when landing at the international port. They check logbooks and ensure holds match. If not, fishing company will be fined. Logbook information needs to be compiled into a usable format, Paramount Fishery N.V. under Star Trading FIP, is to send logbook information.

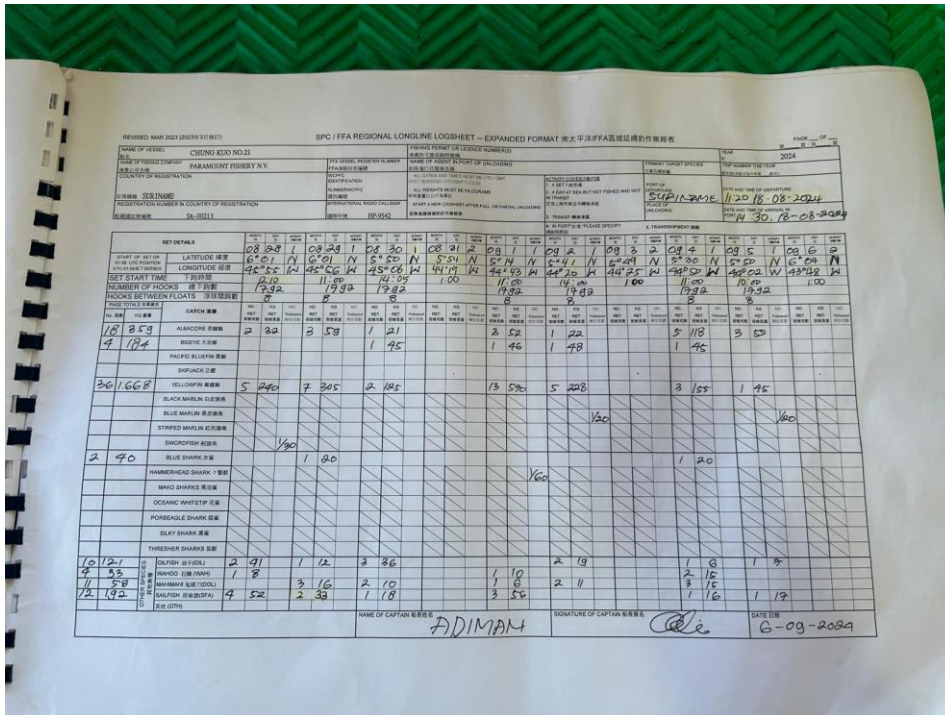


Figure 9 - Completed logbook entry.

In addition to the logbook, there are bycatch and release reports. Currently, these are not being filled in correctly and will be worked on. KT explained how to do this. Andreas to explain and teach all as required.

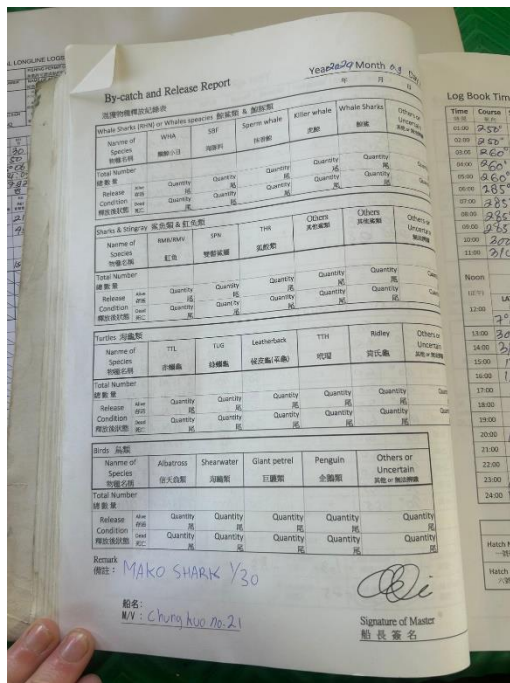


Figure 10 - Bycatch and Release Report showing incorrectly filled in entry.

Skipper is confident in his species identification but could be improved, for example, dolphin and ray ID wasn't as strong. To be added to training. There are species ID sections in the logbook and

bycatch release report book but commonly encountered posters to be posted on all vessels. KT to check if have copies in Bahasa.

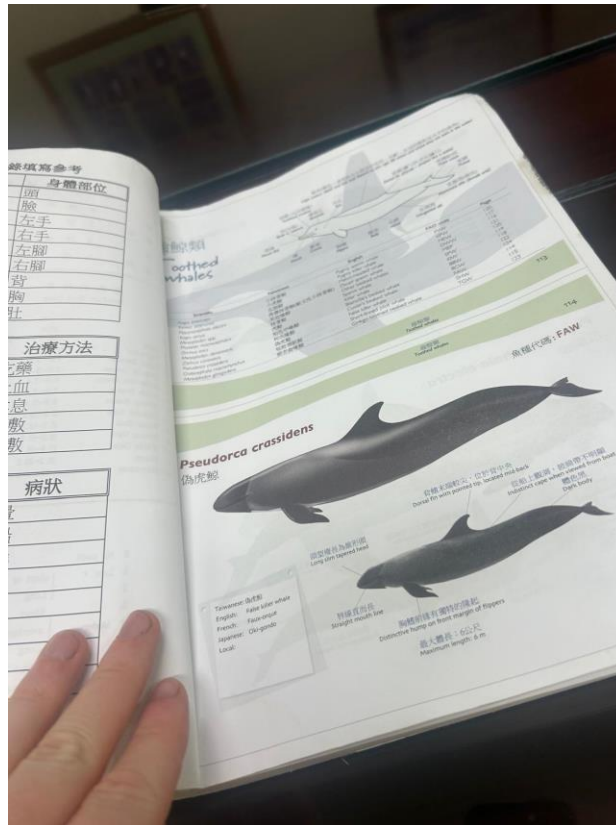


Figure 11 - species ID sections in the logbook and bycatch release report book..

Skipper is happy with his reporting requirements and doesn't have any issues with the local authority.

Actions

Action	Responsible
Send word versions of ETP policy to be translated into Bahasa.	KT
Send commonly encountered species in Bahasa and simplified Chinese.	KT
Post on all vessels ETP policy and commonly encountered species posters.	Paramount / ST
KT to draft a waste management policy to be translated and included on the vessels.	KT
ISSF Skipper guidebook to be sent with instructions on how to get certificates to prove completion.	KT
Additional bait information to be sourced including species name, ocean area and stock.	Paramount / ST
Develop and formalise the training agenda to include all environmental and social components required.	KT
Logbook data to be sent to be amalgamated.	Paramount / ST