

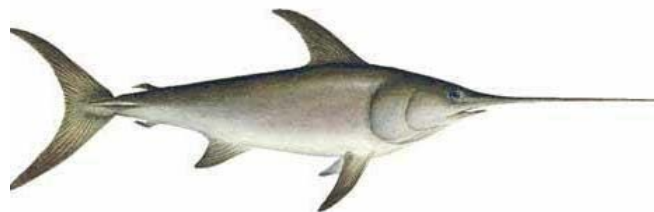
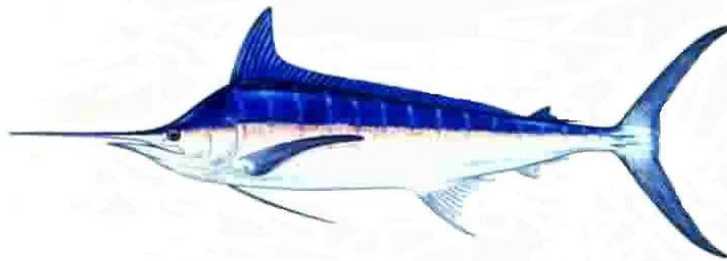


## Update of USA Swordfish Catches in the North Pacific for 2008-2010

Darryl Tagami

NOAA NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center  
2570 Dole St., Honolulu, HI, USA 96822

**Email:** [Darryl.Tagami@noaa.gov](mailto:Darryl.Tagami@noaa.gov)



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Darryl T. Tagami  
Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center  
National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822 U.S.A.

## **Abstract**

This working paper provides data updates to the U.S.A. catch of swordfish, striped marlin, and blue marlin in the North Pacific for 2008 to 2010. The U.S. catch summaries are based on the longline, troll, and handline fisheries for Hawaii, and the longline, gillnet, harpoon, and sport fisheries for California. Catch estimates back to 2005 were also corrected when necessary.

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## Fisheries and Catches

U.S. catches of swordfish (*Xiphias gladius*), striped marlin (*Kajikia audax*), and blue marlin (*Makaira nigricans*) in the North Pacific are updated for 2008 to 2010 in Tables 1, 2, and 3, respectively.

These data updates the 2010 ISC and BILLWG billfish catch tables (updated in July, 2010) which presented U.S. catch data up to 2007.

Longline catch estimates back to 2005 were also corrected.

The U.S. billfish catches are from the longline, troll, and handline fisheries in Hawaii, and from the longline, gillnet, harpoon, and sport fisheries in California. Most of the U.S. billfish catches are produced from the Hawaii pelagic longline fishery for large tunas and swordfish which operates on the high seas. The other U.S. fisheries listed above are small-scale fisheries and/or coastal fisheries.

The U.S. catch statistics presented in Tables 1, 2, and 3 were obtained from the Category I tables for the western and central Pacific Ocean submitted by the U.S. to the WCPFC, and from catch summaries for the eastern Pacific Ocean generated by the NOAA Fisheries Pacific Island Fisheries Science Center (PIFSC) and Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC).

**Table 1** – Swordfish catch (mt) by U.S. swordfish fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean, 2000-2010. 2009 and 2010 data are preliminary. Only 1 California vessel fished so combined with Hawaii longline catch. Updates to the data are highlighted.

	Hawaii		California			Total U.S. North Pacific
	Longline	Longline	Gillnet	Harpoon	Unknown	
2000	2,949	1,908	646	90	9	5,602
2001	220	1,763	375	52	5	2,415
2002	204	1,320	302	90	3	1,919
2003	147	1,812	216	107	0	2,282
2004	213	898	169	62	37	1,379
2005	<b>1622</b>		220	76	0	<b>1918</b>
2006	<b>1211</b>		444	71	2	<b>1728</b>
2007	<b>1735</b>		484	58	0	<b>2277</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>1980</b>		<b>280</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2294</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>1813</b>		<b>172</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2020</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>1654</b>		<b>33</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1713</b>

**Table 2** – Striped marlin catch (mt) by U.S. swordfish fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean, 2000-2010. 2009 and 2010 data are preliminary. Updates to the data are highlighted.

Year	Hawaii			California	Total U.S. North Pacific
	Longline	Troll	Handline	Sport	
2000	200	14	1	10	225
2001	351	42	2		395
2002	226	30	0		256
2003	552	29	0		581
2004	376	34	1		411
2005	<b>511</b>	20	0		<b>531</b>
2006	<b>611</b>	21	0		<b>632</b>
2007	<b>276</b>	13	0		<b>289</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>426</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>440</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>256</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>266</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>163</b>

**Table 3** – Blue marlin catch (mt) by U.S. swordfish fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean, 2000-2010. 2009 and 2010 data are preliminary. Updates to the data are highlighted.

Year	Hawaii			California	Total U.S. North Pacific
	Longline	Troll	Handline	Sport	
2000	314	233	2		549
2001	399	292	2		693
2002	264	228	3		495
2003	359	208	2		569
2004	283	186	2		471
2005	<b>337</b>	185	2		<b>524</b>
2006	<b>409</b>	158	2		<b>569</b>
2007	<b>262</b>	<b>127</b>	1		<b>390</b>
<b>2008</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>529</b>
<b>2009</b>	<b>357</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>538</b>
<b>2010</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>437</b>