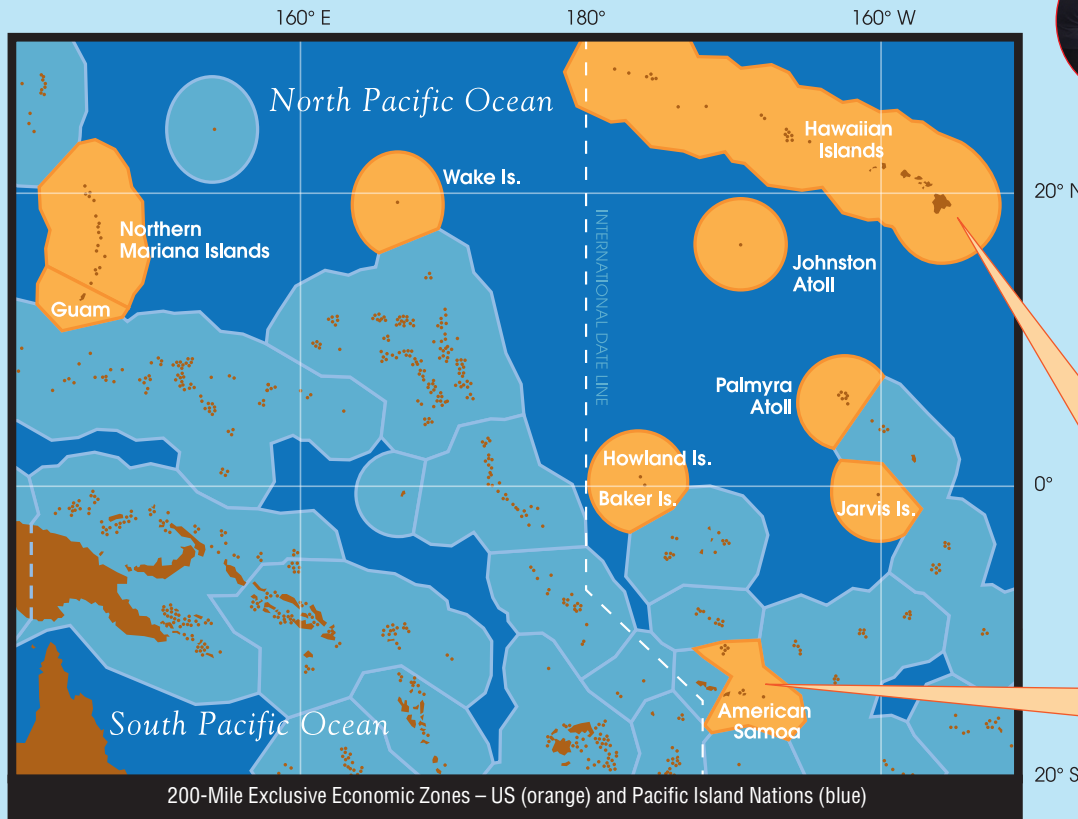




How Does the Council Work with Fishermen to Collect Good Fishery Data?

Western Pacific Council Jurisdiction: An Area of More Than 1.7 Million Square Nautical Miles



The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council manages fisheries in federal waters surrounding American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Guam, Hawai'i and the Pacific Remote Island Areas.

For effective management, the Council needs complete and accurate data on the characteristics of the fisheries. This data helps the Council to assess the status of the fisheries and understand their biological, economic and social aspects. Each island area uses a different combination of methods to collect this information.

Accurate information, provided by fishermen and through scientific research, is critical to developing sensible fishing regulations.

Working with fishermen and the seafood industry, the Council has supported various initiatives to address permitting and reporting gaps:

Hawai'i

- Aerial surveys for akule (bigeye scad) biomass
- Alternative estimation methods for annual catch of federally-managed species
- Fish biosampling to obtain life history data
- Pulse market surveys for whole ahi and other local fish products at local retail fish markets/vendors
- Registry, Permit, and License Feasibility Study



American Samoa

- Archaeological and historical data review on reef fishing in Hawai'i and American Samoa
- Commercial receipt book program and small-boat fishery reporting app
- Coral reef fishery ecosystem assessment
- Pilot creel surveys at unsampled ports and shoreline areas
- Rare events data collection



(Continued on back)

Each hook represents whether the data collection system gathers biological, economic, fishery, protected species/bycatch or social information. On a scale of 0-5 hooks, 0 = no data collected, 5 = all aspects are collected.

Published in the United States by the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council under NOAA Award #NA20NMF4410013.

Data Collection Method	PACIFIC ISLAND AREA							
	Hawai'i		American Samoa		Guam		CNMI	
	Commercial	Non-Commercial	Commercial	Non-Commercial	Commercial	Non-Commercial	Commercial	Non-Commercial
Permits/Logbooks (federal)	✓✓✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓✓✓✓		✓		✓✓	
Catch Reports (state/local)	✓✓✓✓		✓✓					
Observers	✓✓✓✓✓		✓✓✓✓✓					
Intercept Surveys	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓
Dealer Reporting	✓✓✓		✓✓		✓		✓	
Sales Receipt	✓✓		✓✓		✓		✓	
Fishery Independent Research	✓✓✓	✓✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓	✓	✓



How Does the Council Work with Fishermen to Collect Good Fishery Data?

(Continued from front)

CNMI

- Commercial receipt book program and small-boat fishery reporting app
- Community-implemented pilot creel surveys at unsampled ports and shoreline areas
- Data tool development for creel surveys
- Mandatory Catch Recording and Reporting (Public Law 17-89)



Guam

- Archaeological and historical data review on reef fishing in Guam and CNMI
- Commercial receipt book program and small-boat fishery reporting app
- Fish biosampling to obtain life history data
- Naval base and rare events data collection



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council

1164 Bishop Street, Suite 1400
Honolulu, HI 96813
Telephone: (808) 522-8220
www.wpcouncil.org,
www.wpcouncildata.org
E-mail: info@wpcouncil.org

National Marine Fisheries Service Pacific Islands Regional Office

Telephone: (808) 725-5000
www.fisheries.noaa.gov/region/pacific-islands#management

Hawai'i Division of Aquatic Resources

Telephone: (808) 587-0100
www.dlnr.hawaii.gov/dar

American Samoa Department of Marine and Wildlife Resources

Telephone: (684) 633-4465
www.americansamoa.gov/department-of-marine-wildlife

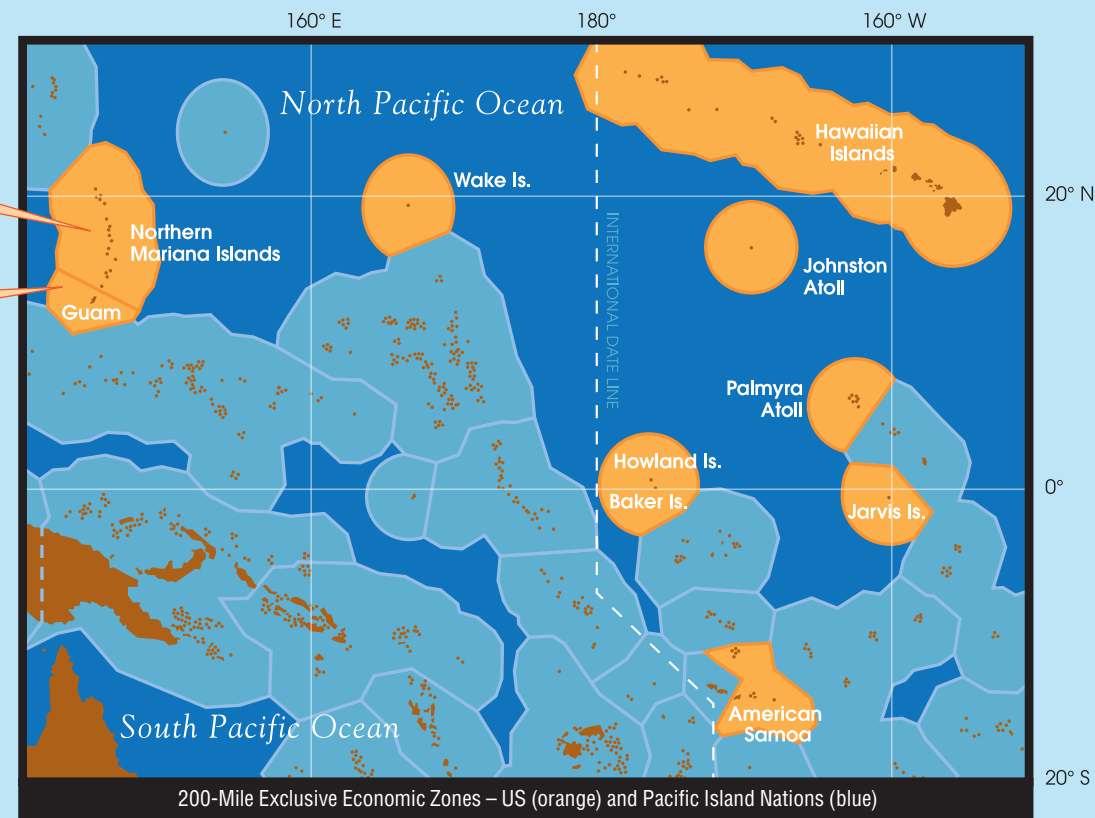
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Division of Fish and Wildlife

Telephone: (670) 664-6000
www.dfw.gov.mp

Guam Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources

Telephone: (671) 735-0281

Western Pacific Council Jurisdiction: An Area of More Than 1.7 Million Square Nautical Miles



THERE IS STILL MORE TO DO! DO YOUR PART—PARTICIPATE!

Continuous effort is required to address permitting and reporting data gaps. Data is needed from both commercial and non-commercial (including subsistence and charter) fishermen.

YOU CAN HELP:

- Log and report commercial and non-commercial catch (e.g., main Hawaiian Islands non-commercial bottomfish permit)
- Participate in dockside and shoreline surveys