

SIOFA SC Workshop on Scientific Observer Forms (WS2024-OBS2)

Virtual, Thursday 28 November 2024

WS2024-OBS2-03-Rev1

SIOFA Secretariat notes and comments on the observers' logbook templates

Relate to agenda item 3.b

The SIOFA Secretariat

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Distribution	Public ✓ Restricted ¹ <input type="checkbox"/> Closed session document ² <input type="checkbox"/>
Abstract	<p>The consultants of Project SEC-2022-OBS1 developed logbook templates for collecting and reporting observers' data. The templates are gear-specific and have been made available for trial purpose for the collection of 2023 observer data. The SIOFA data officer reviewed the templates and checked them against CMM 02(2023) requirements. This paper compiles the notes and comments made during this review. . While most of the data requirements driven by CMM 02 are reflected in the templates, a few items are missing, and other items are not strictly labelled as in CMM 02. This paper intends to trigger discussion on those items that would generate recommendations for the next SC.</p>

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SIOFA Secretariat notes and comments on the observers' logbook templates

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1. Introduction and background information

SIOFA CMM 02(2023) on Data Standards provide with the data that observers should collect while monitoring at-sea fishing activities. Annex B of CMM 02 has different sections corresponding to different categories of data, and specific sections for each fishery, mainly defined by the main fishing gear.

The Meeting of the Parties supported the establishment of a framework for scientific observation of SIOFA fisheries. The general aim of this project is to ensure that the scientific observers working in SIOFA fisheries operate using a consistent set of standards for observation and measurement.

This project (referenced as SEC-2022-OBS1) has been implemented by an external consultant which proposed several amendments to CMM 02 relevant to observer data, in the objective of moving the observer related paragraphs and sections into a dedicated observer *new* CMM. The final report of this project contains all the proposed changes and is available on the SIOFA website

(<https://siofa.org/science/sc-works/SEC2022-OBS1>)

The consultants also developed new logbooks, which are data collection templates built with Microsoft Excel, with a template for each of the main SIOFA fisheries, namely:

- longline (set longline or bottom longline)
- drop/dahn line
- handline

- pelagic longline
- pot/trap
- trawl.

These templates reflect the data requirements as presented in the revised observer data, which are also listed in Annex 3 of the consultant report.

Each template has a common set of data, for reporting general information such as vessel details, trip, catches, bycatches, biological sampling, etc. The templates have also different sheets for collecting information specific to a fishery, with different fishing operations parameters and gear specifications.

2. Method

In 2024, two CCPs submitted the observer data using these new templates. Since the new templates were based on a new set of data requirement, the data processing of these datasets revealed the differences with the *historical* datasets that are proposed by the Secretariat for reporting purpose.

While most of the data requirements driven by the current CMM 02 are present, a few items were different, labelled differently, or removed. Also, a few changes that occurred in 2023 in CMM 02 (dated from MoP10 in July 2023) were obviously not reflected since the templates were developed before.

For the information of the workshop, and the Scientific Committee, each of the data items present in the new logbooks have been listed, and where significant changes or gaps were identified, these have been highlighted with some comments and a proposed action/s when it was relevant.

This is summarized in the tables presented in the result section of this paper.

3. Result of the examination of the observer logbooks

Notes: This part should be read together with the relevant Excel template itself.

This section also provides comments or proposals relevant to a whole sheet or section.

3.1. General information logbook sections.

Sheet: Observers Details

Proposal: rename sheet to **trip and observers' details**

Section Vessel details

All vessel details may not be necessary to be recorded, since all vessels information are already recorded when the flag state register or update its fishing vessel on the SIOFA record of authorized vessels. [Suggestion is to keep all these fields for now.](#)

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Vessel Name	OK	
Vessel Flag	OK	
Vessel callsign	OK	
Vessel IMO	OK	
Vessel Length (m)	OK	
Vessel Gross Tonnage	OK	
Engine Power (indicate HP or kW)	OK	Use kW only
Vessel Type	To improve	Clarify label with <i>Vessel Type (ISSCFG code)</i> and link to the list of vessel codes
Total Frozen Hold Capacity (m3)	OK	

Section Vessel trip information

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Port of Departure	to improve	Link to a list of ports
Date of Departure	OK	
Date of Entry into SIOFA	There might be several SIOFA entry-exit events during a trip	Update to date of first entry into SIOFA on this trip
Date Start Fishing in SIOFA	may not be useful since it would be also recorded in the operations sheet	Remove
Date End Fishing	may not be useful since it would be also recorded in the operations sheet	Remove
Date of Exit from SIOFA	There might be several SIOFA entry-exit events during a trip	Update (as of Entry)
Targeted Species	not the proper place to provide this information, it is a haul-level information	Remove
Port of Landing	to improve	Link to a list of ports
Date of landing	OK	

Section Observer details

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Observer full name	OK	
Nationality	OK	
Employer Organisation Name	OK	
Employer Organisation Address	OK	
Employer Organisation Email	OK	
Employer Organisation Phone	OK	
Embarkation location	Embarkation can happen at-sea, in such case coordinates should be provided	Link to a list of port and add optional Latitude and Longitude fields
Embarkation latitude		
Embarkation longitude		
Embarkation date	OK	
Disembarkation location	Disembarkation can happen at-sea, in such case coordinates should be provided	Link to a list of ports and add optional Latitude and Longitude fields
Disembarkation latitude		
Disembarkation longitude		
Disembarkation date	OK	
Report submitted date	Unclear to which report it relate	Improve label: Date logbook submitted to employer
Observer ID	OK, linked to all other observerID field	

3.2. Logbook sections that are gear/fishery specific.

Sheet: Gear Details

This information should exclusively be collected by observers

Gear: Line (from demersal longline template, pelagic longline template, handline template)

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Line Type	unclear	rename to Gear Code (from ISSFGC) and link to a dropdown list of codes
Line Configuration	Unclear, applies to LLS	rename to <u>Longline</u> Configuration with a dropdown list (including a not-applicable value)
Mainline Material	OK	
Mainline Diameter (mm)	OK	
BranchLine Material	OK	
BranchLine Length (m)	OK	
Snood Material	OK	
Snood Length (m)	OK	
<i>For non-IWL:</i>		
Weights spacing (m)		addition
Number of measured weights		addition
Weight type		addition
Average weight (kg)		addition
Standard deviation (kg)		addition
<i>For IWL:</i>		
Line Weight (IWL) kg/m	OK	Change weighting unit to gram/meter.
Hook Type (J, C)	OK	
Hook Manufacturer	All the very specific metrics requirements for hooks description in CMM 02 have been replaced by hook manufacturer and model fields.	rename label
Hook marking (leave blank for none)		addition
Hook Model Name		

Note that no gear details form was provided in the drop/dahn line template, it is proposed that the above form is used.

Gear (mitigation gear)

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Mitigation ID	OK	
Streamer line height above water attached (m)	OK	
Number of streamer lines regularly set	OK	

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Streamer line position	OK	
Streamer line length (m)	OK	
Streamer Length min (m)	OK	
Streamer length max (m)	OK	
Streamer line distance between streamers (m)	OK	
Distance from attachment point to first streamer (m)	OK	
Number of streamers	OK	
Streamer material	OK	
Streamer diameter (<u>mm</u>)	OK	
Streamer colours	OK	
Streamer line aerial extent of line	OK	
Towed object	To improve	Add a yes/no list
Streamer line method used to assess extent	OK	
Distance from stern to bait entry point	OK	
Vertical distance from bait entry point to streamer line	OK	
Other Mitigation Device	OK	

A drawing of a typical streamer line can be provided on that sheet, it can help observer to identify the parameters to be recorded.

Note that the mitigation gear form is proposed in all templates but drop/dahn lines.

Gear: Trawl

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Net ID	OK	
Net type	unclear	rename to Gear Code (from ISSFGC) and link to a dropdown list of codes
Headrope length (m)	OK	
Groundrope length (m)	OK	
Bobbin diameter (cm)	OK	
Otterboard to wing length (m)	OK	
Horizontal opening (m)	OK	
Vertical opening (m)	OK	
Codend mesh size (<u>mm</u>)	OK	
Codend circumference (<u>mm</u>)	OK	
Mesh type	OK	
Otterboard type	OK	
Otterboard weight (kg)	OK	

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Field	Comment	Proposed action
Net design	Unclear	Rename to <i>net manufacturer and model</i> (if available)
Ground rope B obbins present?	New item by SEC2022- OBS1	
Ground rope B obbins material (steel or rubber)	New item by SEC2022- OBS1	
Ground rope B obbins weight (combined)	New item by SEC2022- OBS1	
By-Catch reduction device present?	OK, was labelled as Bycatch mitigation measures employed with further notes: Were bird scaring (tori) lines in use? (Yes/No) Were bird bafflers in use? (Yes/No)	Provide a Yes/No choice
Selectivity device present?	New item (by SEC2022-OBS1)	Provide a Yes/No choice Yes/no
Selectivity device description	New item	
Byc atch reduction device present?	New item (by SEC2022-OBS1)	Provide a Yes/No choice Yes/no
Byc atch device description	New item	

Gear: Pot

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Gear Material	New item	
Pot Type	OK, to improve	Link to a list of pot type, according to ISSCFGC (e.g. FPO).
Mesh Size (mm)	OK	
Number of chambers	OK	
Port Orientation	OK	
Port Aperture	OK	
Escape Port Present	OK, to improve	Provide a Yes/No choice provide a yes/no list
Dimensions of escape poert	OK, to improve	Correct typo
Weights attached?	New item (by consultant SEC2022-OBS1) , to improve	Provide a Yes/No choice provide a yes/no list
Min Weight (kg)	New item	
Max Weight (kg)	New item	

Sheet Fishery Operations

Fishing operations: handline template

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Set_ID	OK	
Set type	Missing (is required in CMM 02)	Set type was used to define the purpose of the set (like Commercial or Research). Proposal is to maintain this field and have it defaulted to "C"
Gear ID	OK	To be linked to the standard list for gear codes
Start fishing Date	OK	
Start fishing Time	OK	
Start fishing Latitude (deg)	Split to provide degree, minute, fields OK	
Start fishing Latitude (M.mm)	Split to provide degree, minute, fields	
Start fishing Longitude (deg)	Split to provide degree, minute, fields OK	
Start fishing Longitude (M.mm)	Split to provide degree, minute, fields	
Start fishing Bottom depth (m)	OK	
End fishing Date	OK	
End fishing Time	OK	
End fishing Latitude (deg)	Split to provide degree, minute, fields OK	
End fishing Latitude (M.mm)	Split to provide degree, minute, fields	
End fishing Longitude (deg)	Split to provide degree, minute, fields OK	
End fishing Longitude (M.mm)	Split to provide degree, minute, fields	
End fishing Bottom depth (m)	OK	
Target Species	OK	Ref. comments on target species in observer trip details
Number of Fishers	OK	
Lines per Fisher	OK	
Hooks per line	OK	
Line lifts number	Proposed	Proposed to capture most of the actual effort (it may be difficult to collect that information).

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Bait Species	OK	
Number of Lines observed for catch	A number of fishermen observed may be more relevant	To be discussed and consider feasibility. THA logbook suggests that 'a number of fishermen' are observed. Precise catch and bycatch.
	<u>Requirement to record observed effort (eg fishers*days or the start and end observation time)</u>	<u>Need more thought by SC</u>
<u>Mitigation device used?</u>		<u>Yes/no</u>
Bird Exclusion <u>Mitigation gear ID</u>	<u>Provide mitigation ID if a mitigation gear is used</u> May not be relevant for handline fishing	<u>Confirm if useful or remove</u>
Comments	OK	

Fishing operations: Demersal longline template

Field	Comment	Proposed action	
Set_ID	OK		
Line ID	OK, Refer to the line recorded in the fishing gear sheet		
Start setting	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	<u>split</u>
	Longitude	OK	<u>split</u>
	Bottom depth (m)	OK	
End Setting	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	<u>split</u>
	Longitude	OK	<u>split</u>
	Bottom depth (m)	OK	
Target Species	OK		
Setting Observed?	OK, to improve	Provide a Yes/No list	
Offal Dumping	OK	Provide a Yes/No list	
Main line length (m)	OK		
Number hooks set	OK		
Bait Species FAO <u>ASFIS</u> code	OK <u>multiple bait species and proportion of each recording</u>	<u>Modify to allow for 3 species max (%)</u>	
Deck light during setting	OK		
<u>Streamer Line ID</u>	<u>Refer to mitigation gear recorded in sheet Gear</u>	<u>Improve label to Mitigation Gear ID</u>	

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Field		Comment	Proposed action
Bait entry position		OK	
C&E Operation Identifier		OK, is required if the Set_ID is provided in C&E data submission is different.	
Start Hauling	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	split
	Longitude	OK	split
End Hauling	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	split
	Longitude	OK	split
Number of hooks observed for catch		OK, improve	Clarify in the label for catch and bycatch
Bird Exclusion ID		OK	Removed (duplicated)
Comments		OK	

Fishing operations: Pelagic Longline template

Field		Comment	Proposed action
Set_ID		OK	
Gear ID		OK Refer to the line recorded in the fishing gear sheet	
Start setting	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	split
	Longitude	OK	split
End Setting	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	split
	Longitude	OK	split
Target Species		OK	
Clip on Interval (seconds)		New Item	Check with IOTC data collection requirement to determine consistency
Vessel Speed		OK, was vessel setting speed	
Setting Speed (Line setter)		New Item	Check with IOTC data collection requirement to determine consistency
Main line length (m)		OK	
Branchline Length (m)		New item, is already provided in the gear description form	Removal Check with IOTC data collection requirement to determine consistency, Would be an operation level information

Field		Comment	Proposed action
Branchline weights (kg)		New Item, is it an operation level information, or a gear specification information?	To advise (Check with IOTC data collection requirement to determine consistency) Would be an operation level information
Branchline weight distance from hook (m)		New Item, is it an operation level information, or a gear specification information?	To advise (Check with IOTC data collection requirement to determine consistency) . Would be an operation level information
bait species		OK	
Deck light during setting		OK	
Streamer Line ID		New item, was a Y/N field for indicating if streamer line has been used	Improve label to mitigation gear ID
Offal dumping during setting		Missing, and was is present in CMM 02	To advise Add to form
Bait entry position (m)		OK, to improve	Provide a list of options (port, starboard, stern)
Start Hauling	Date	New item	
	Time	New item	
	Latitude	New item	split
	Longitude	New item	split
End Hauling	Date	New item	
	Time	New item	
	Latitude	New item	split
	Longitude	New item	split
Number of hooks observed for catch		OK, improve	Clarify in the label for catch and bycatch
Offal dumping during hauling		Missing, and was is present in CMM 02	To advise Add to form
Bird Exclusion ID		New Item, redundant with Streamer Line ID	Removal
Comments		OK	

Fishing operations: pot template

Field		Comment	Proposed action
Set ID		OK	
Gear ID		OK Refer to the gear recorded in the fishing gear sheet	
Start setting	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	split
	Longitude	OK	split
	Bottom depth (m)	OK	
End Setting	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	split

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Field		Comment	Proposed action
	Longitude	OK	split
	Bottom depth (m)	OK	
Target Species		OK	
Bait Type		OK, improve	Label to bait species (FAO ASFIS code), provision for many bait species (to be consistent with other bait fields)
Setting Observed?		OK, improve	Provide a Yes/No list
Length of line		OK	
Pot spacing		OK	
Number pots set		OK	
Start Hauling	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	
	Longitude	OK	
End Hauling	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	
	Longitude	OK	
No of Pots Hauled		OK	
Number of pots observed for catch		OK, improve	Clarify in the label for catch and bycatch
Comments		OK	

Fishing operations: trawl template

Field		Comment	Proposed action
Tow_ID		OK	
Observed?		Missing (required in CMM 02)	This field was provisioned to allow the observer to record if this operation has been observed. To be considered if all operations are recorded by the observers (even those they did not observe/monitored).
Net ID		OK	
Target Species		OK	
Set type		Missing (required in CMM 02)	Set type was used to define the purpose of the set (like Commercial or Research). Proposal is to maintain this field and have it defaulted to "C"
Start Net Shooting	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
Start Fishing	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	

Field	Comment	Proposed action	
	Latitude	OK	split
	Longitude	OK	split
	Trawl Depth (m)	OK	
	Bottom Depth (m)	OK	
End Fishing	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
	Latitude	OK	split
	Longitude	OK	split
	Trawl Depth (m)	OK	
	Bottom Depth (m)	OK	
End Net Hauling	Date	OK	
	Time	OK	
Offal discharged during shooting	OK		
Offal discharged during hauling	OK		
Trawl tow speed (knots)	Missing, was in CMM 02(2023)	Add if considered useful	
Catch Sampled (Y/N)	May not be useful since sheet 'sampling' will tell if some catch has been sampled	Removal	
Sub Sample total weight	OK		
Haul observed for fish/invert bycatch	Missing, was in CMM 02(2023)	May not be useful if the field 'Presence?' in bycatch sheets are added (for ETP and VME-Benthos).	
Bird scaring streamer line used	Can streamer line be used on trawl operation?	To advise	
Bird bafflers used	OK		
Trawl warp strike monitored (Y/N)	OK, details of trawl warp strikes are to be recorded in a specific form	Provide a Yes/No options list	
Comments	OK		

Sheet: Warp Strikes (for trawl fisheries only)

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Tow_ID	OK	
Observer ID	OK	
Mitigation Device ID	OK, linked to mitigation devices provided in sheet Gear	

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Mitigation Device ID	OK, linked to mitigation devices provided in sheet Gear	
Start Warp Strikes observation Date	OK	
Start Warp Strikes observation Time	OK	
End Warp Strikes observation Date	OK	
End Warp Strikes observation Time	OK	
FAO ASFIS Species Code	OK	
Species scientific name	No proposed, this addition would enable to input a bird species that is not registered on the FAO list	Add species scientific name field
Air Strikes number	OK	Consideration of severity?
Water Strikes number	OK	Consideration of severity?
Sinker Strikes number	OK	Consideration of severity?

Sheet: Whale interactions (for demersal longline fisheries only)

This sheet was not proposed in the demersal longline template, but there were two sheets relevant to mammals' observation (Mammals and Cetaceans), it is proposed to have one sheet for the purpose of recording mammal interactions with gear for this fishery, it applies to killer whale and sperm whale only and make reference to Annex B and E of CMM 02(2023).

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Set ID	OK	
Observer ID	OK	
Start Observation Date	OK	
Start Observation Time	OK	
End Observation Date	OK	
End Observation Time	OK	
Presence?	Provided in CMM 02 annex E and was missing.	Addition of Presence field (Yes/No/Not observed options)
FAO ASFIS Species Code	OK, improve	Link to FAO ASFIS species code list
Estimated number (minimum)	Annex E of CMM 02 proposed the minimum and maximum number, it is reinstated there	Maintain the 2 fields
Estimated number (maximum)		
Photos taken?	Provided in CMM 02 annex E and was missing	Add photo taken? Field (Yes/No)
Fish waste discharge	OK, new addition	
ETA (hours or minutes)	Provided in CMM 02 annex E and was missing	Add ETA field

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Interacted with Gear	OK, improve	provide a yes/no list
Comments	OK	

3.3. Logbook sections that are common to all fisheries.

Sheet: Observed Catch

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Set_ID or Tow_ID	OK	
Observer ID	OK	
-FAO ASFIS Species code	OK, improve	Link to FAO ASFIS species code list
<u>Total</u> Number retained	OK	
<u>Number retained with Tags</u>	<u>OK</u>	
Weight retained (kg)	OK, FR-OT noted it is not possible to collect for LLS	Provide different catch tables for different fisheries
Number discarded	OK	
<u>Nb fish lost</u>	<u>Add</u>	
<u>Nb fish cut off</u>	<u>Add</u>	
<u>Nb fish depredated</u>	<u>Add</u>	
Weight discarded (kg)	OK	
Comments		

Sheet: Conversion Factor

CMM 02(2023) annex B, did not clearly required the observer to calculate conversion factors for all fisheries and for all retained species. It is also a catch and effort data requirement (as provided in Annex A). It is more consistent that this is also provided by the observers, for all fisheries.

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Set_ID or Tow_ID	OK	
Observer ID	OK	
FAO ASFIS Species -code	OK, improve	Link to FAO ASFIS species code list
Processing Code	OK	
Number of fish	OK	

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Length Type	OK	
Min Length (cm)	OK	
Max Length (cm)	OK	
Total Green weight (kg)	OK	
Weighing method	OK	
Total Processed weight (kg)	OK	
Conversion Factor	OK	Calculated field, does not need direct input.

Sheet: Biological Sampling

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Set_ID or Tow ID	OK, Linked to Set/Tow ID from the operation sheet	
FAO Species Code FAO ASFIS species code	OK, improve	Link to FAO species code FAO ASFIS species code list
Fish Serial Number	OK	
Observer ID	OK	
Total Length (cm)	Too many lengths field are proposed, for easier processing in database, one LENGTH field can be used to input the value, and another LENGTH TYPE field will clarify how the length has been measured.	Reduce to 2 fields. Make a dropdown list for the type of length that has been measured (TL, FL, UL, SA, PL, etc.), it will also be easier to add new types of length if required. <u>Retain the 5 fields</u> <u>Possible addition of many other measurements (carapace length, carapace width, mantle length, etc.)</u>
Standard Length (cm)		
Fork Length (cm)		
Snout-Anus Length (cm)		
Pelvic Length (cm)		
Wingspan (cm)	OK	
Length Method	OK , to improve	Add a dropdown list with usual tools used to measure (flexible tape, calliper, board, etc.)
Weight (kg)	OK	
Weight Method	OK	
Sex	OK	Add a dropdown list with: {Female, Male, Immature and Undetermined}
Maturity Stage	OK	Add a dropdown list with values from 1 to 5-integer input

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Gonad Weight (kg)	Gonad weights were previously recorded in grams	SC10 to advise To advise
Otolith/ s Statolith Collected?	OK, to improve	Add a Y/N choice
Additional sample collected	OK, to improve	Add a Y/N choice
Sample Storage	OK	
Comments	OK	

Sheet: Tagging

The tag specifications that may be common for a whole series of tags have been proposed to be entered in a specific table of the template (tag type, tag colour, tag wording). For easier data processing it is proposed that these parameters are inserted within each tag description. It would also help CCAMLR when applying the tag linking algorithm.

Tag releases

Field	Comment	Proposed action	
Set_ID	OK, Linked to Set ID from the operation sheet		
FAO Species Code FAO ASFIS species code	OK, improve	Link to FAO species code FAO ASFIS species code list	
Observer ID	OK		
Tag Release Position	Latitude	OK	
	Longitude	OK	
First Tag	Tag Type		
	Tag colour		
	Tag wording		
	Tag ID	Would become obsolete if the 3 above field are provided	remove
	Tag Number	OK	
Second Tag	Tag Type		
	Tag colour		
	Tag wording		
	Tag ID	Would become obsolete if the 3 above field are provided	remove
	Tag Number	OK	
Third Tag	Tag Type		
	Tag colour		
	Tag wording		

Field		Comment	Proposed action
	Tag ID	Would become obsolete if the 3 above field are provided	remove
	Tag Number	OK	
Person Tagging		New Item Relevant if the tagging is made by somebody else than the observer	
Total Length (cm)		OK	
Weight		Proposal for addition as it is sometime provided (would be optional)	To advise
Sex (for selected species, eg skates)		Missing, was <u>is</u> in CMM 02	To advise
Released Fate		OK, improve	Add list of 2 options: Injured/Uninjured
Comments		OK	

Tag recovery

Field		Comment	Proposed action
Set _ID		OK, Linked to Set ID from the operation sheet	
Tag Finder		New addition	Perhaps add a drop-down list can that indicate whether it is a crew member or an observer who find the tag
FAO Species Code FAO ASFIS species code		OK, improve	Link to FAO species code FAO ASFIS species code list
First Tag	Tag Type	OK	
	Tag Colour	OK	
	Tag Number	OK	
	Tag Wording	OK	
Second Tag	Tag Type	OK	
	Tag Colour	OK	
	Tag Number	OK	
	Tag Wording	OK	
Third Tag	Tag Type	OK	
	Tag Colour	OK	
	Tag Number	OK	
	Tag Wording	OK	
Total Length (cm)		OK	
Weight (kg)		OK	
Sex		OK	
Maturity Stage		OK, improve	Add a list of maturity stage (integer values)

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Gonad Weight (kg)	OK, should be consisted with gonad weight collected in sampling sheet	SC10 to advise (kg / g)
Tag Site Condition	New addition	
Samples retained	New addition	
Tag photo (include in cruise report)	New addition	Add a Yes/No list
Comments	OK	

Sheet: Seabirds abundance

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Set_ID or Tow_ID		
Observer ID	OK	
Presence?	Missing, this presence field is in CMM 02 for several gears, it allows to record if birds were present, or not, or if the birds were not observed at all.	Add Presence field with a list of options: Yes/ No/ Not observed.
Start Observation Date	OK	
Start Observation Time	OK	
End Observation Date	OK	
End Observation Time	OK	
FAO Species Code FAO ASFIS species code	OK	
Estimated number (min)	Updated, For database processing purpose, it is proposed to split the abundance field into 2 fields rather than providing a range in one field.	Use 2 fields instead of one to provide the range of abundance (1-10, 10-50, etc.)
Estimated number (max)		
Fishwaste discharge	OK	Provide a Yes/No control
Observed feeding	New addition	Provide a Yes/No control
Comments	OK	

[Split table into 2 sub tables \(table 1 record the observation duration, table 2 the species details\)](#)

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For longline and pots operations, this template may allow to provide birds abundance monitoring at setting and at hauling time by duplicating the Set_ID and add a new record.

Sheet: Marine Mammal

The observation of marine mammal has been extended to all fisheries.

Field	Comment	Proposed action
<u>Set ID/Tow ID</u>		
Presence?	Missing, this presence field is a recent addition on CMM02	Add Presence field with a list of options :Yes/ No/ Not observed.
<u>Observation Start Time</u>	OK	
<u>Observation End Time</u>	OK	
FAO Species Code FAO ASFIS species code	OK	
Estimated number (min)	To be consistent with other provision of abundance, keep a minimum and a maximum information in 2 separated fields	Split the number field into a minimum and maximum field.
Estimated number (max)		
Fishwaste discharge	OK	
Interacted with Gear	OK	
Comments	OK	

[Split table into 2 sub tables \(table 1 record the observation duration, table 2 the species details\)](#)

For demersal longline, this form would be used to record mammals other than killer whale and sperm whale species. For the latter two, another form is designed for that fishery.

Sheet: VME (bottom fishing fisheries templates)

It is Proposed to rename 'VME' to 'VME and other benthos' to enlarge the scope of data collection to any sessile invertebrates. If this is agreeable, a new field may also be provided which would specifically record if the taxon is an actual VME taxon (ie. included in the SIOFA VME taxa list).

Field	Comment	Proposed action
Set_ID / Tow_ID		
Presence/Absence	Missing. It clarifies whether benthos organisms are present or not in the set or in the tow.	Add Presence field with a list of options: Yes/ No/ Not observed.
FAO-Species-Code <u>FAO ASFIS species code</u>	OK	
Scientific taxon name	Allows to input something in case the FAO code for the taxon does not exist	Add Scientific Name field
Is a <u>VME indicator taxa</u> ?	This field is proposed to record if at the time of the catch, that species was considered as a VME <u>indicator taxa</u> or not	Add a Yes/No field
Quantity <u>Volume (litre)</u>	OK	
<u>Weight (kg)</u>		<u>Add</u>
Quantity <u>unit</u>	OK	-
<u>Live status</u>		<u>Dead/Alive options</u>
<u>Photos taken?</u>		
Sample taken for ID	OK	
Comments	OK	

Split table into 2 sub tables (table 1 record the absence/presence, table 2 the species details)

Sheet: ETP bycatch

Field	Comment	Proposed action
<u>Set ID / Tow ID</u>	OK	
<u>Presence?</u>	Missing, this presence field is a recent addition on CMM02. It ensures that ETP bycatch information is provided for each haul.	Add Presence field with a list of options: Yes/ No/ Not observed.
FAO Species code <u>FAO ASFIS species code</u>	OK, improve	Link to a list of ETP species
Number caught	OK	
Number released	Duplicated information with <i>Nb Discarded dead</i> and <i>Nb Released alive</i> fields.	Remove
Nb Retained dead	OK	
Nb Discarded dead	OK	
Nb Released alive (not injured)	OK, note that in CMM 02 a life status was required (vigorous, alive, lethargic, injured)	
Nb released alive (injured)	OK, note that in CMM 02 a life status was required (vigorous, alive, lethargic, injured)	addition
Nb Discarded dead	OK	
Number sampled	OK	
Comments	OK	

[Split table into 2 sub tables \(table 1 record the absence/presence, table 2 the species details\)](#)

In many log sheets the information of presence or absence was missing, and it is an important information that allow to ascertain if something has been actually monitored (by the provision of a 'Yes' or 'No' information) or if something was not monitored (when this field is either left blank or set to 'Not observed'). This was added in the revision of CMM 02 in 2023.

4. Discussion and ways forward

This paper is a basis for guiding the working group to finalize the data the observers would collect and report to SIOFA.

Once the fields are clarified, and that there is an agreement about the fields to retain, it is proposed that this forwarded to the Scientific Committee for allowing further discussion and adoption. Ideally, it would lead the SC to make recommendations to the MoP to either:

(a) endorse a new CMM for observer, with the data requirements provided within that CMM, or

(b) amend CMM 02 on Data Standard considering these proposals.

For both of these options, it would be desirable that one or several CCPs make a proposal to the MoP. In any case the revision of CMM 02 would be necessary, and if option (a) is chosen most paragraphs and requirements relevant to observer would be removed out of CMM 02, as they would be transferred into the new CMM.

For the easy compliance assessment of these provisions, the observers' data requirements must first be well defined and written within the CMMs, and the data collection templates provided accordingly. It will not prevent CCP to add extra fields to their templates if they believe that extra (non-mandatory) data would be useful to be reported to SIOFA.

Since the Scientific Committee can review annually those data requirements and adjust them to fit its need, these templates are in a constant evolution and using Excel sheets improve flexibility when making changes. The templates should be maintained accordingly and always be consistent with the CMM provisions.