

# A Global Model for Sustaining Pelagic Fisheries



Photo: NOAA  
Observer Project



## Keeping Seafood Sustainable... We Are Leading the Way

**1991** First limited entry pelagic fishery

**1991** First pelagic fishery requiring daily logbooks

**1994** First fishery requiring vessel tracking using satellite technology

**2004** First Pacific fishery with a fleet limit on sea turtle interactions



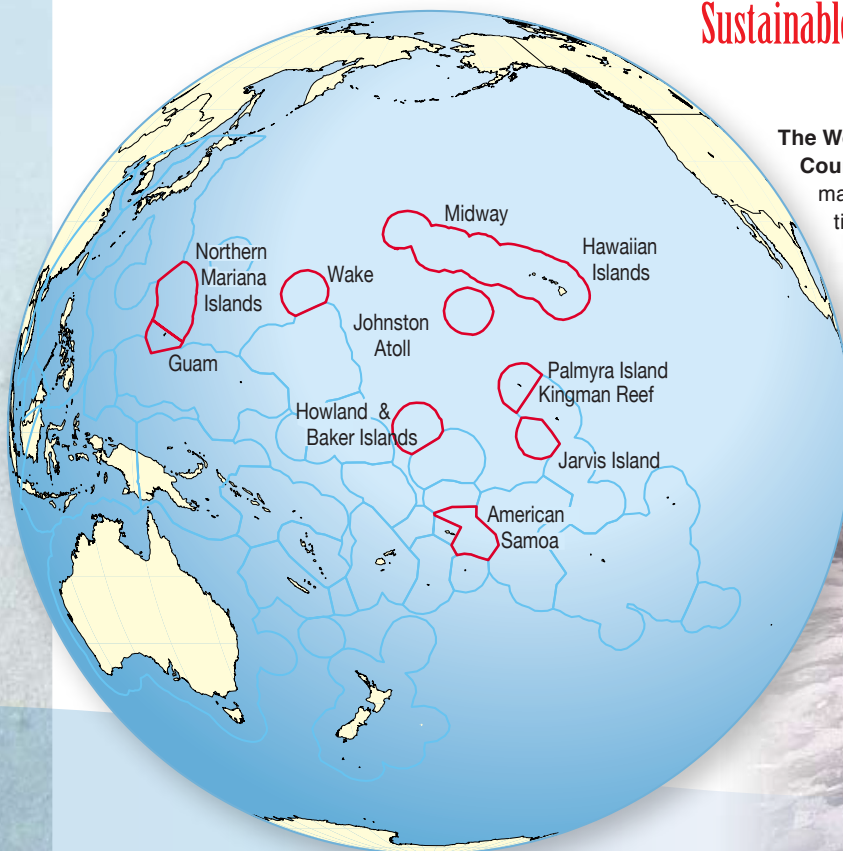
[www.wpcouncil.org](http://www.wpcouncil.org)

Ecosystem-based Management of Fisheries in the US Pacific Islands

**The Pacific Ocean provides the majority of the world's tuna.** In the Western and Central Pacific Ocean alone, tuna catches in 2010 were valued at US \$4 billion.

One tuna fishery in the Pacific stands out as a global model for sustainable pelagic fisheries—the Hawaii longline fishery.

The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council manages and monitors the Hawaii longline fishery, along with those based in American Samoa and the Mariana Islands. The management regime directly involves the longline industry, whose high-grade tuna and swordfish have led Honolulu to consistently place as one of the nation's top 10 fishing ports in landed value. Management measures developed by the Council sustain fisheries and fish stocks while protecting the ecosystem.



Mitigation requirements such as circle hooks and mackerel bait have reduced impacts on sea turtles and seabirds by over 90 percent.

Strictly regulated and closely monitored, the Hawaii longline fishery achieved a high score of 94% compliance with the comprehensive provisions of the United Nations FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries.

To learn more about the management of the Hawaii longline fishery, go to [www.wpcouncil.org/pelagic.htm](http://www.wpcouncil.org/pelagic.htm) or email the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council at [info.wpcouncil@noaa.gov](mailto:info.wpcouncil@noaa.gov). Also visit the International Fishers Forum website at [www.fishersforum.net](http://www.fishersforum.net), the Hawaii Seafood Council at [hawaii-seafood.org](http://hawaii-seafood.org) and the Pelagic Fisheries Research Program at [www.soest.hawaii.edu/PFRP](http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/PFRP).

## Sustainable Fisheries Management is Vital for a Healthy Economy

**The Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council** was established by Congress in 1976 to manage marine resources and maintain opportunities for sustainable fishing in the US exclusive economic zone waters surrounding Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the eight US Pacific remote island areas.

