Currently Authorized Swordfish Fisheries

Under The Fisheries Management Plan For West Coast Fisheries For Highly Migratory Species (HMS FMP)

Legal Gear (Commercial Fisheries)

- Pelagic longline
- Large mesh (14” minimum stretched mesh size) drift gillnet
- Harpoon
- Surface hook and line
- Purse seine

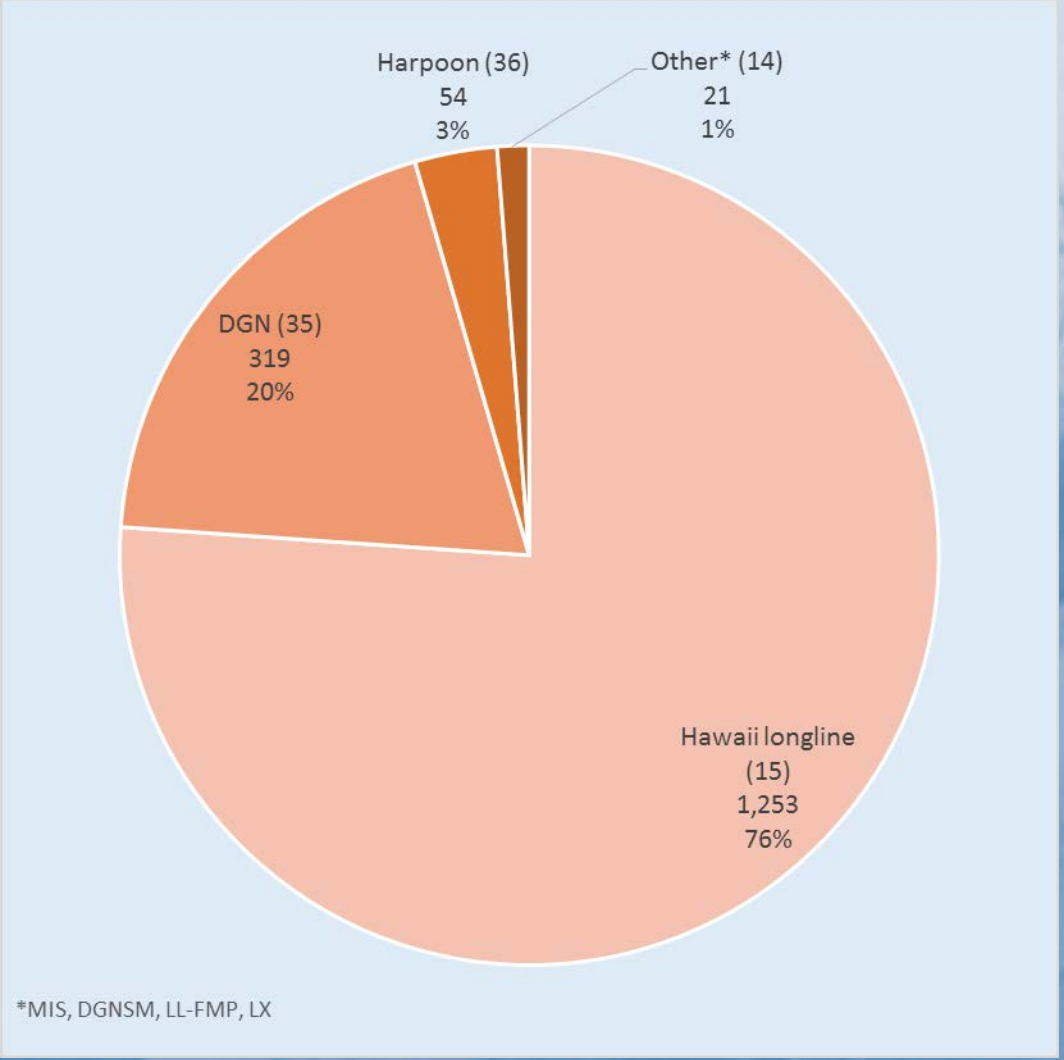
Federal Regulations: General

- Vessel identification
- Federal permit
- Logbooks
- Prohibited species
- Catch restrictions for non-HMS gears
- Observer, if required by NMFS

Federal Regulations: Pelagic Longline

- Prohibited in west coast EEZ
- Protected species measures same as Hawaii longline fishery in 2003
  - Gear restrictions (shallow-set prohibition unless HI permit, etc.)
  - Sea turtle take mitigation
  - Seabird take mitigation (STAL)
- VMS, if required by NMFS OLE
- Retention of incidentally-caught swordfish

Federal Regulations: Large Mesh Drift Gillnet

- Gear restrictions (POCTRP restrictions, length)
- Closed areas (leatherback and loggerhead sea turtles, mainland area closures)

Swordfish Landings by Gear Type, 2010-2014