MINISTRY OF FISHERIES

FISHERIES QUARTERLY REPORT

FIRST QUARTER 2025 January - March, 2025

QUARTERLY FISHERIES PRODUCTIONS SUMMARY

During the first quarter of 2025 (January–March), Tonga's fisheries sector recorded an estimated 608.2 metric tons (mt) of fisheries production, with an estimated total value of TOP $4.3 million. This represents an increase of 38.8% compared with the previous quarter (Q4 2024), but a decrease of 42.8% compared with the same quarter of the previous year (Q1 2024).

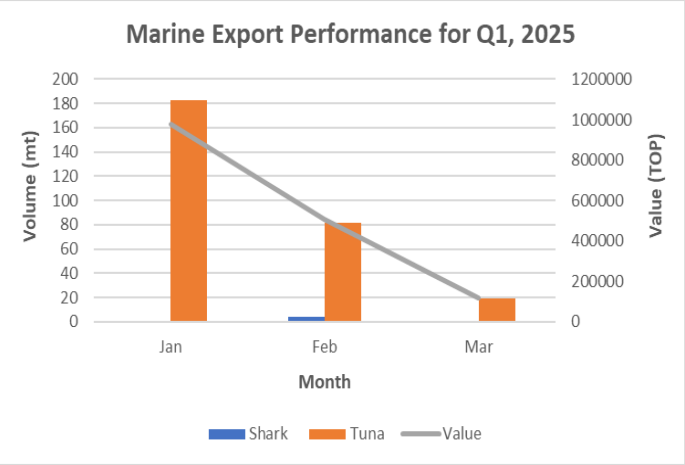
MARINE EXPORTS

This quarter, the total volume of marine products exported reached to 297.10 metric tons (mt), comprising 293.06mt of tuna and 4.04mt of shark. No snapper was exported during this period, as it was sold locally.

Tuna dominated exports, accounting for 98.6% of the total, while shark meat made up the remaining 1.4%. Export performance fluctuated, declining throughout this quarter from January to March, primarily due to variations in the number of fishing trips and active vessels each month.

Excluding aquarium product, the total volume of marine exports this quarter showed a significant 48.2% increase compared to the previous quarter (Q4, 2024). And 57.7% drop in compared with Q1, 2024. Additionally, the total FOB value of marine exports for the quarter was approximately TOP 1.6 million, reflecting a 31.6% decline from the previous quarter (Q4, 2024) and a 56.7% decrease compared to the same quarter last year (Q1, 2024).

***Source**: Fisheries exports database*

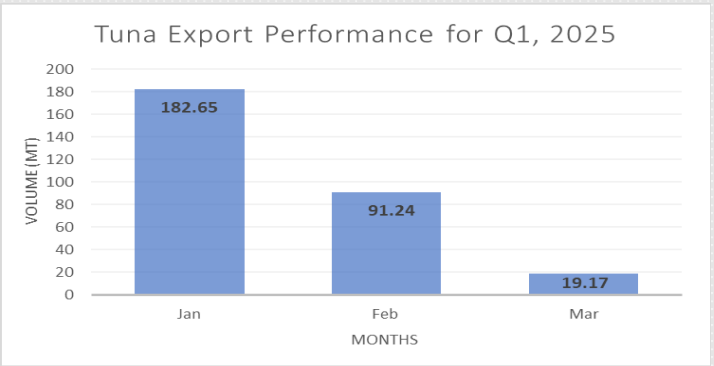


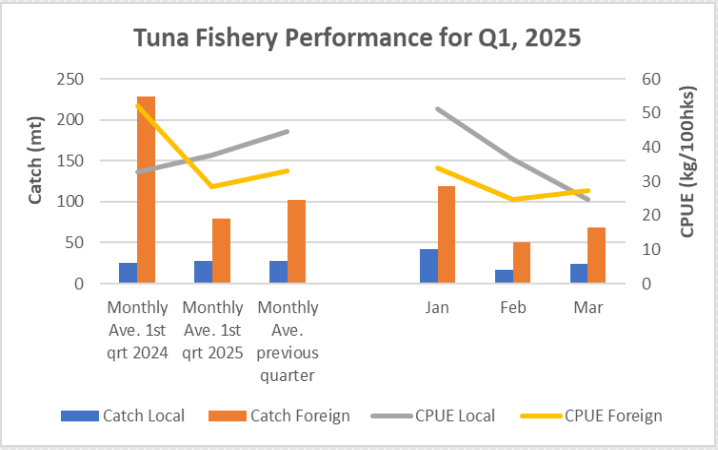
**FOB = Free On Board, describes a price which includes goods plus the services at the time of offloading from the vessel at first landing This is a static value designated to each export product. The value is an historical estimate and may not represent the true present value.*

TUNA FISHERY

Tuna exports totaled 293.06mt this quarter, up to 48.4% from the previous quarter but 57.9% lower than the same quarter in 2024, with exports declining from January to March.

A total of 453.33mt of tuna was offloaded, with foreign fleets contributing 371.73mt and domestic fleets 81.6mt. Both fleets recorded declining catches during the quarter. Compared with the previous quarter and Q1 2024, foreign fleets had lower average catches and CPUE, while domestic fleets recorded slightly higher average catches but lower CPUE than the previous quarter.





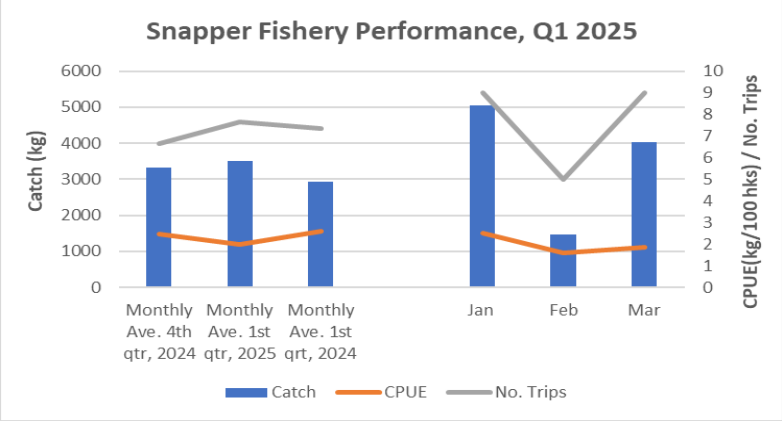
FLAG	MM	ALB	SKJ	YFT	BET	OTH	TOTAL	No. Trips	No. Vessel
FJ	Jan	102.56	3.362	27.572	0.843	14.236	148.58	2	2
	Feb	40.641	2.105	9.414	1.151	5.122	58.433	2	2
	Mar	8.187	0.671	14.851	1.224	0.749	25.682	1	1
TO	Jan	1.725	3.3915	22.006	0.319	16.141	43.582	12	3
	Feb	0.25	1.1995	9.5475	0.8105	7.749	19.557	5	3
	Mar	1.0715	1.869	6.81	1.545	7.162	18.458	10	3
TW	Jan	40.174	2.86	9.271	0.75	5.261	58.316	1	1
	Feb	23.66	0.292	9.307	0.727	11.141	45.127	1	1
	Mar	28.358	1.154	2.913	1.483	1.687	35.595	1	1
TOTAL		**246.63**	**16.904**	**111.692**	**8.8525**	**69.248**	**453.33**	**35**	**17**

***Source:** Ministry of Fisheries Tuna exports database*

SNAPPER FISHERY

During this quarter, a total of 13.8mt of snappers were unloaded, marking a 0.7% decrease compared to the previous quarter (Q4, 2024) and a decrease of 15.3% compared to the same period last year (Q1, 2024). The snapper landings were distributed as 4.9mt in January, 4.4mt in February and 4.5mt in March. No snappers were exported this quarter, as all were sold locally.

Overall, the average snapper catch for this quarter is slightly higher than that of the previous quarter (Q4, 2024) and the same quarter in the previous year (Q1, 2024). Additionally, the total catch per unit effort (CPUE) of snapper fishery for this quarter was slightly lower than both of the previous quarter (Q4, 2024) and the same period last year (Q1, 2024),

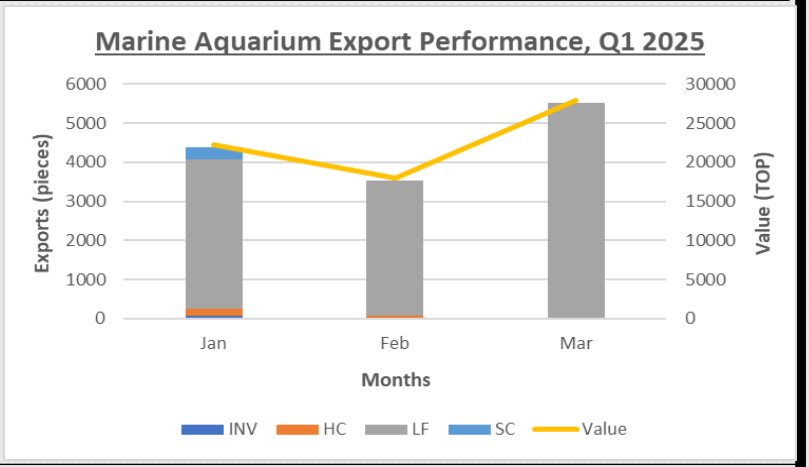


AQUARIUM FISHERY

The total quantity of aquarium products exported this quarter was 13416 pieces, representing an 1.66% decrease compared to the 13193 pieces exported in the previous quarter. Hence comparing to the same quarter last year, which were 13307 pieces exported, this marks 0.81% decrease as well.

Livefish were the largest category, with 12792 pieces exported, followed by soft corals with 294 pieces. Hard corals totaled 256 pieces and invertebrates were the least exported at 74 pieces.

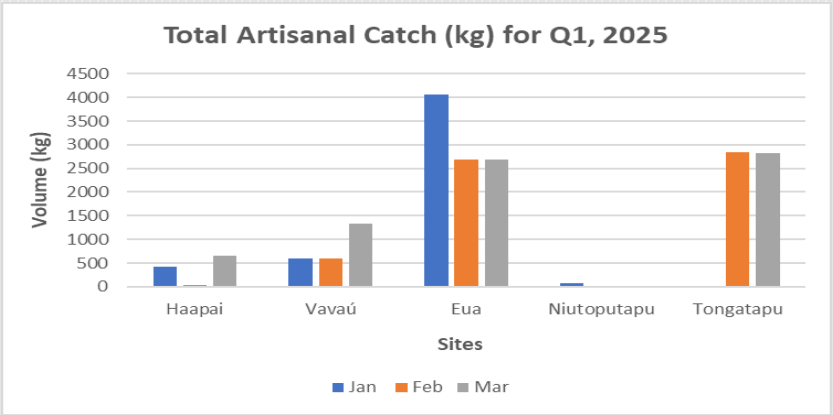
The total FOB value of the exported aquarium products this quarter was approximately TOP 0.07million, reflecting a 0.67% decrease compared to the estimated export value for the previous quarter (Q4, 2024) and 12.1% decline compared to the same period last year (Q1, 2024).



ARTISANAL FISHERY

The total artisanal tuna catch recorded this quarter amounted to 18.8mt, collected from five (5) different sites. The highest volume of tuna-like species was recorded at Nafanua Wharf with 9.4mt, followed by Faua Wharf with 5.7mt, Halaevalu Wharf with 2.5mt, 1.1mt at Taufaáhau Wharf and the lowest catch was recorded from Pasivulangi Wharf.

The highest catch landing for the quarter occurred in March with 7.5mt, followed by 6.2mt in February and 5.2mt in January. The artisanal fishing performance this quarter reflects a 65.4% increase compared to the previous quarter (Q4, 2024) and a 20% increase in comparing with the same quarter last year (Q1, 2024).

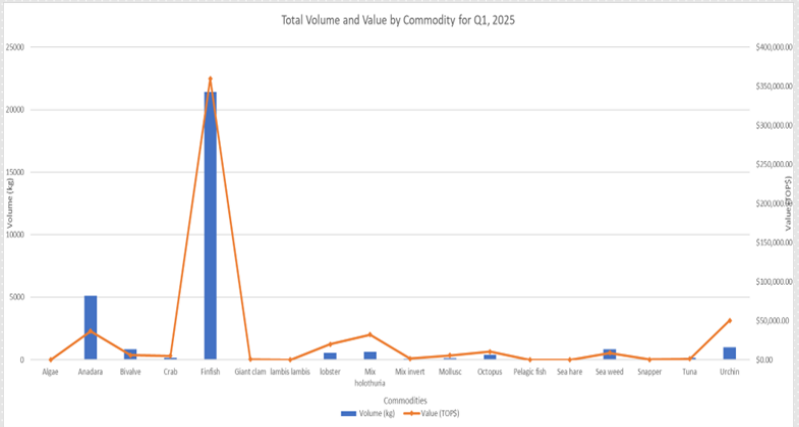


DOMESTIC MARKET

In this quarter, a total of 31.4mt of marine resources were recorded across various sites in Tongatapu (15.6mt), Haápai (7.8mt) and Vavaú (8.0mt). This represents a slight increase compared to both the previous quarter (Q4, 2025) and same quarter last year (Q1, 2025).

Despite the growth in volume, the total value of the recorded marine resources this quarter was approximately TOP $0.54 million, which is roughly the same with the previous quarter and same quarter last year.

The average domestic prices for different species fluctuate based on market demand for fish. Typically, changes in fish market prices are influenced by the availability of marine products at any given time and also the increases of fuel.



Ministry of Fisheries, P.O. Box 871, Nuku'alofa, Tonga. Phone: (676 7401201) Fax: (676 7401200). For queries regarding this report, contact ceo@tongafish.gov.to or siolaamalimali@gmail.com