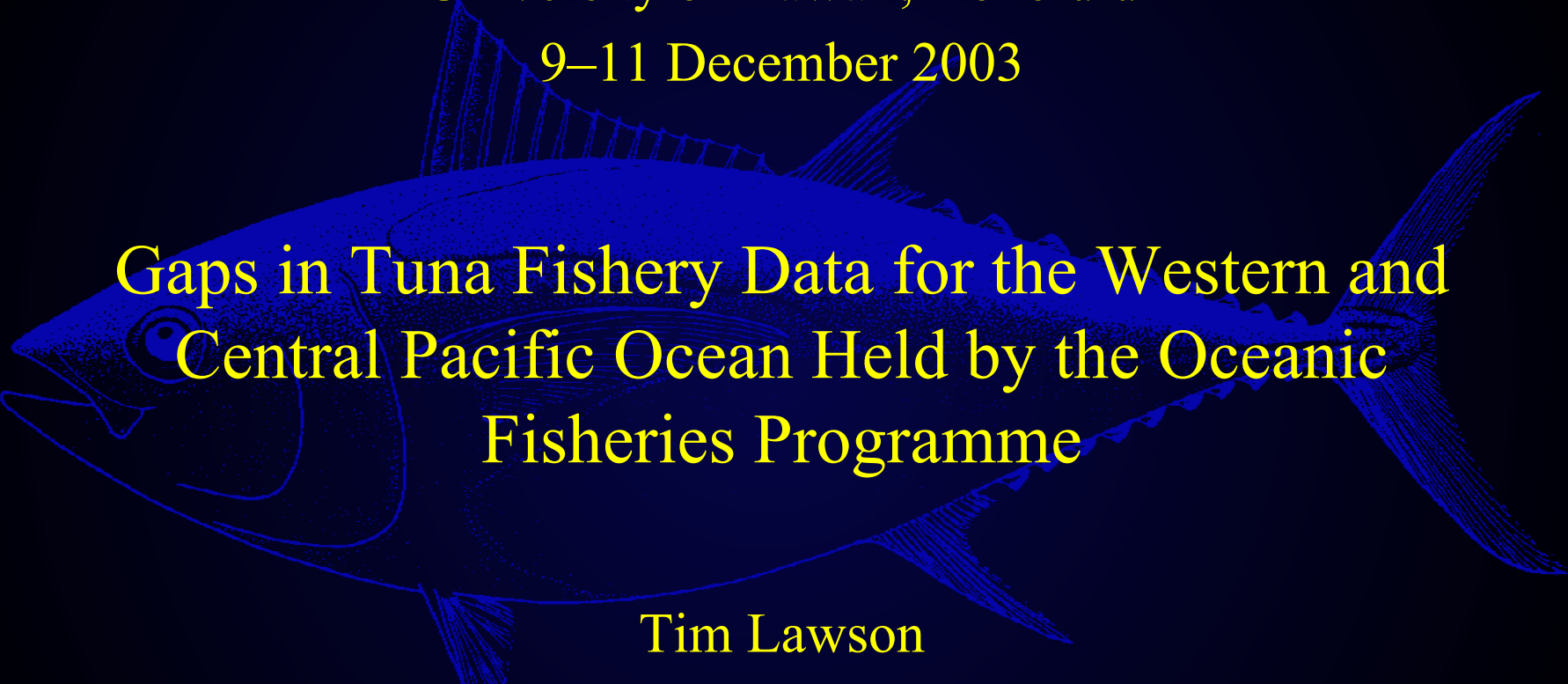


Pelagic Fisheries Research Program
Principal Investigators Workshop
University of Hawaii, Honolulu
9–11 December 2003

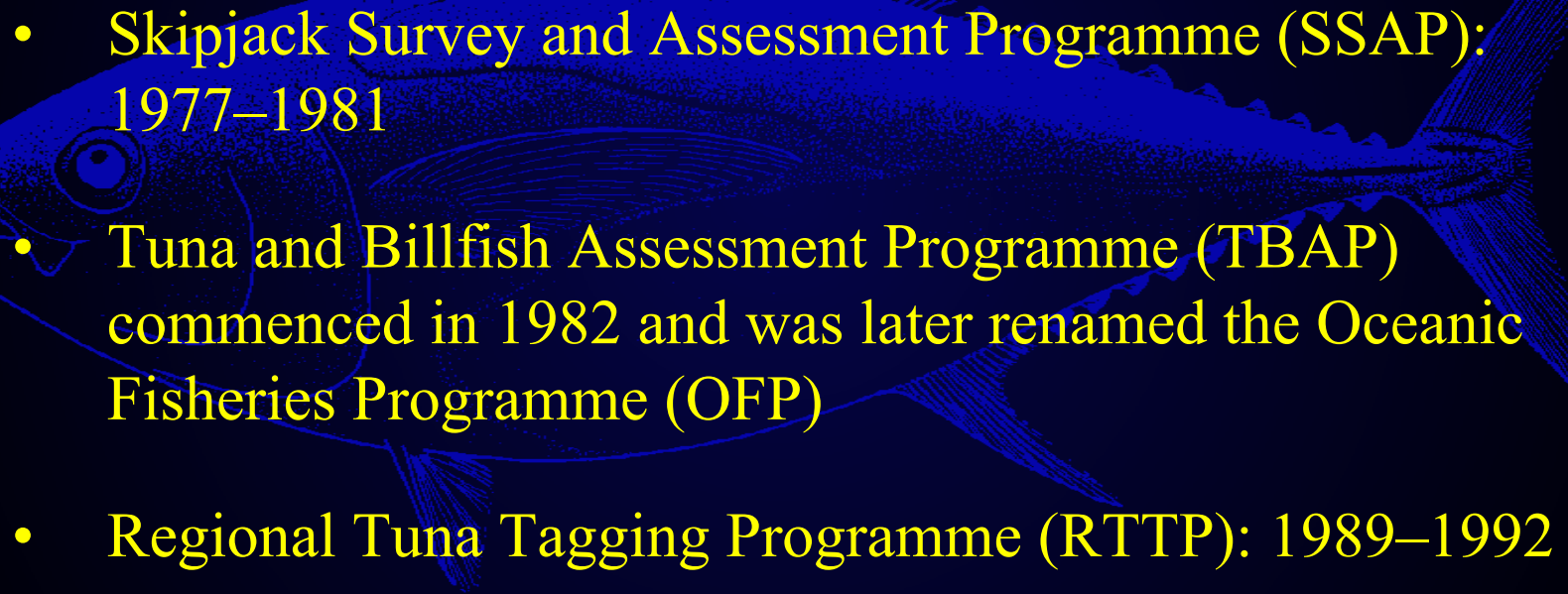


Gaps in Tuna Fishery Data for the Western and
Central Pacific Ocean Held by the Oceanic
Fisheries Programme

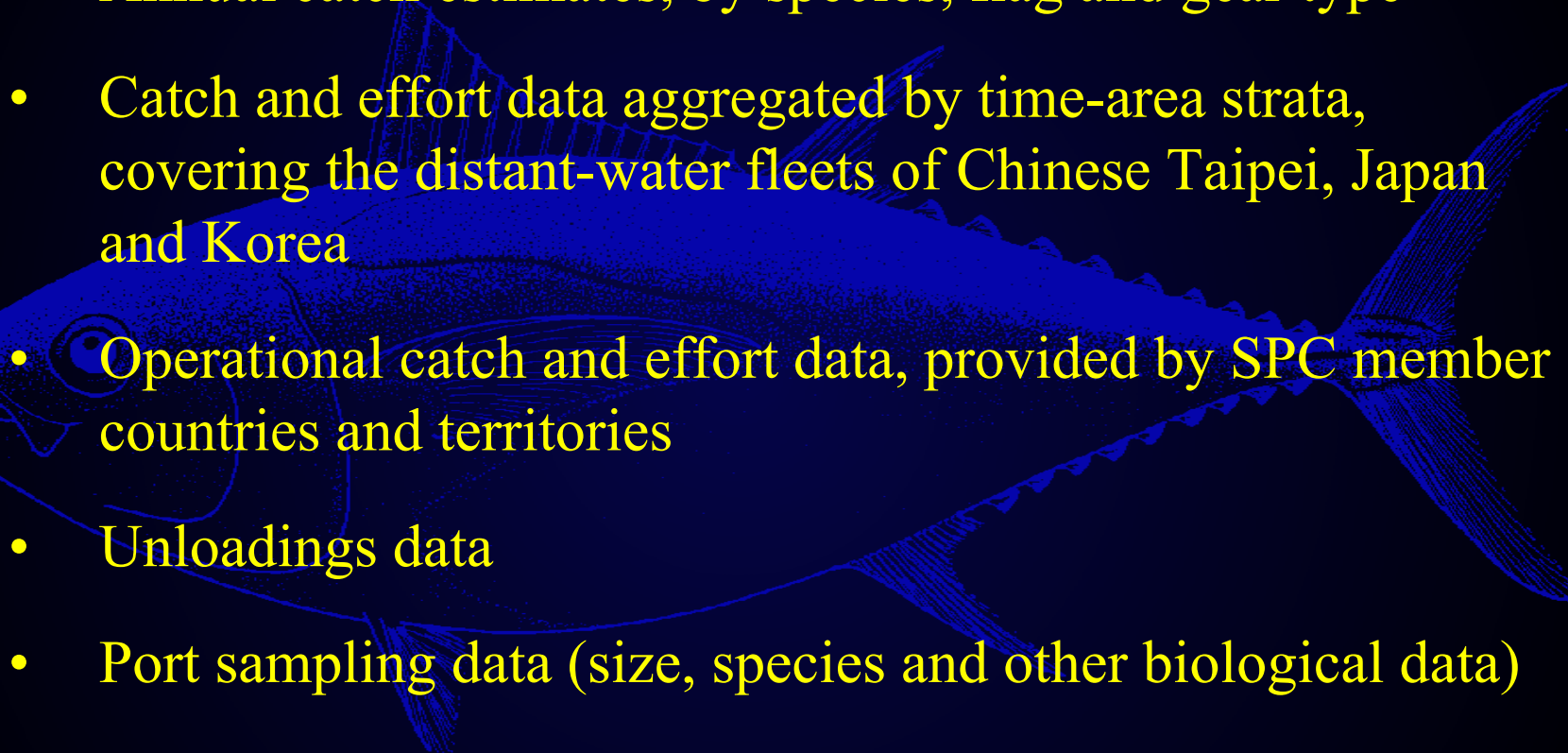
Tim Lawson
Oceanic Fisheries Programme
Secretariat of the Pacific Community
Noumea, New Caledonia

BACKGROUND

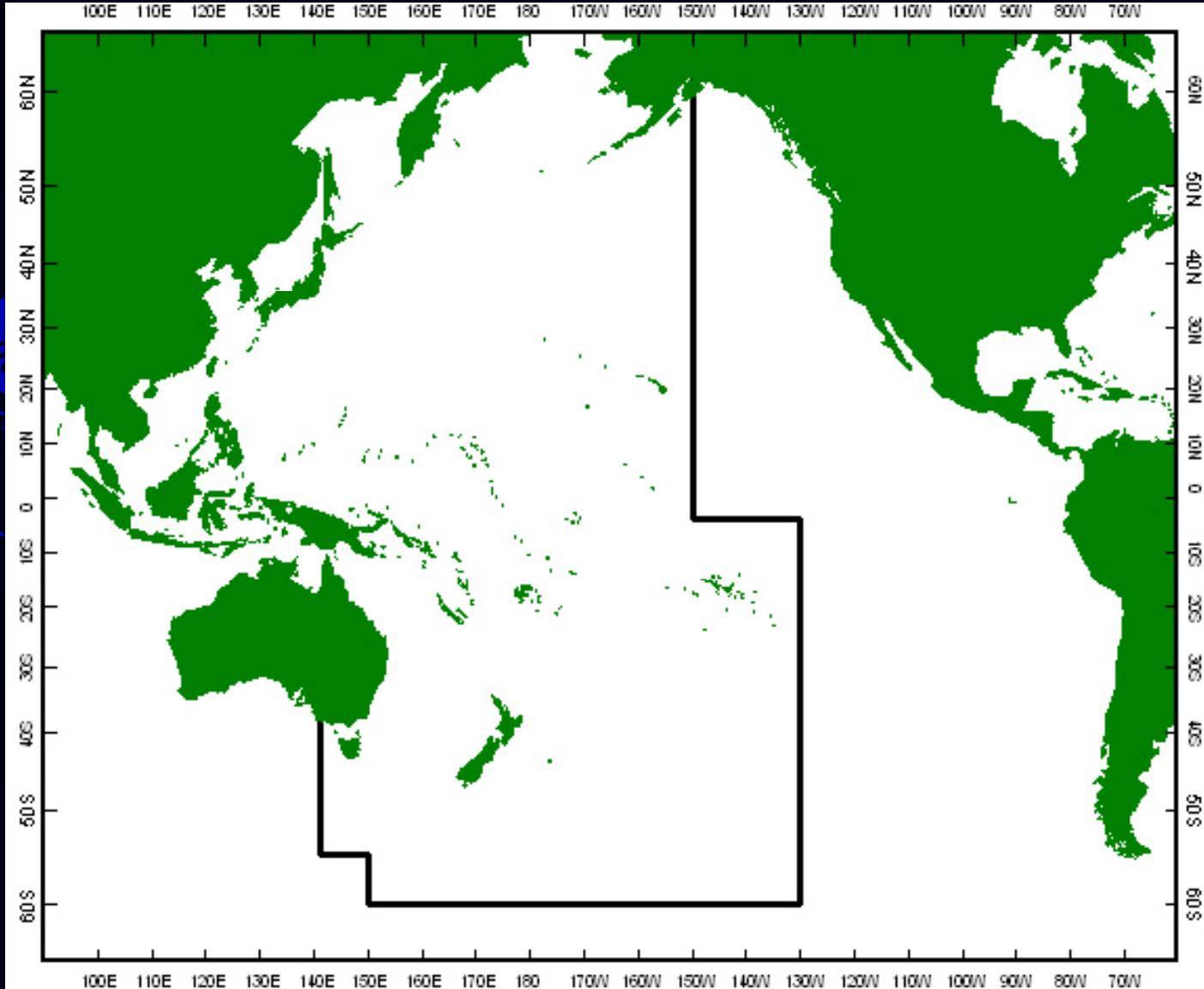
The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) has compiled tuna fisheries data for the Western and Central Pacific Ocean since 1977:

- Skipjack Survey and Assessment Programme (SSAP): 1977–1981
 - Tuna and Billfish Assessment Programme (TBAP) commenced in 1982 and was later renamed the Oceanic Fisheries Programme (OFP)
 - Regional Tuna Tagging Programme (RTTP): 1989–1992
 - South Pacific Regional Tuna Resource Assessment and Monitoring Project (SPRTRAMP): 1994–2001
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TYPES OF DATA COMPILED BY SPC

- Annual catch estimates, by species, flag and gear type
 - Catch and effort data aggregated by time-area strata, covering the distant-water fleets of Chinese Taipei, Japan and Korea
 - Operational catch and effort data, provided by SPC member countries and territories
 - Unloadings data
 - Port sampling data (size, species and other biological data)
 - Observer data (size, species, other biological data, gear attributes, etc.)
 - Tagging data, oceanographic data, etc.
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WESTERN AND CENTRAL PACIFIC CONVENTION AREA



ANNUAL CATCH ESTIMATES

- Annual catch estimates provided by the fishing nation, but not stratified by gear type and/or species

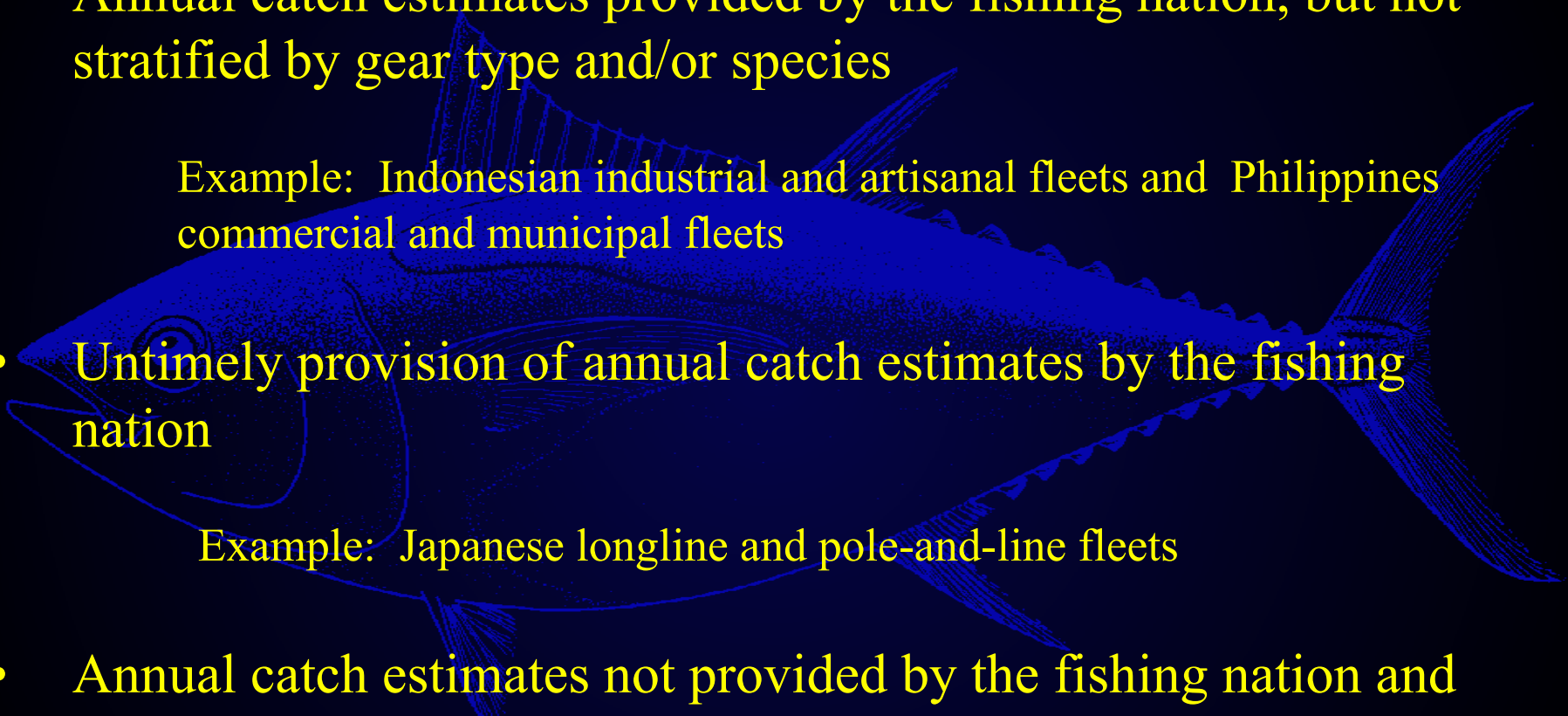
Example: Indonesian industrial and artisanal fleets and Philippines commercial and municipal fleets

- Untimely provision of annual catch estimates by the fishing nation

Example: Japanese longline and pole-and-line fleets

- Annual catch estimates not provided by the fishing nation and determined by SPC on the basis of incomplete data

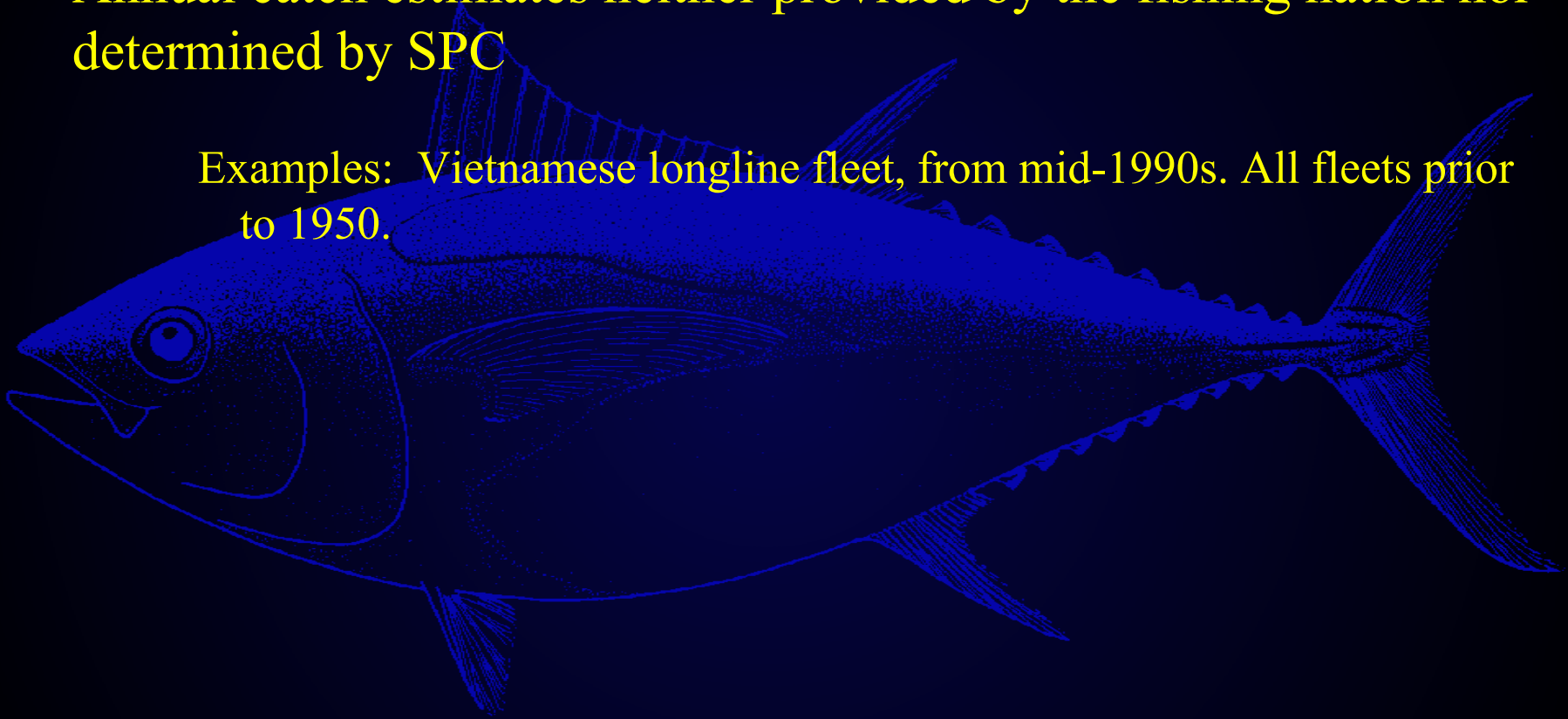
Example: Tonga longline, 1996–2000



ANNUAL CATCH ESTIMATES

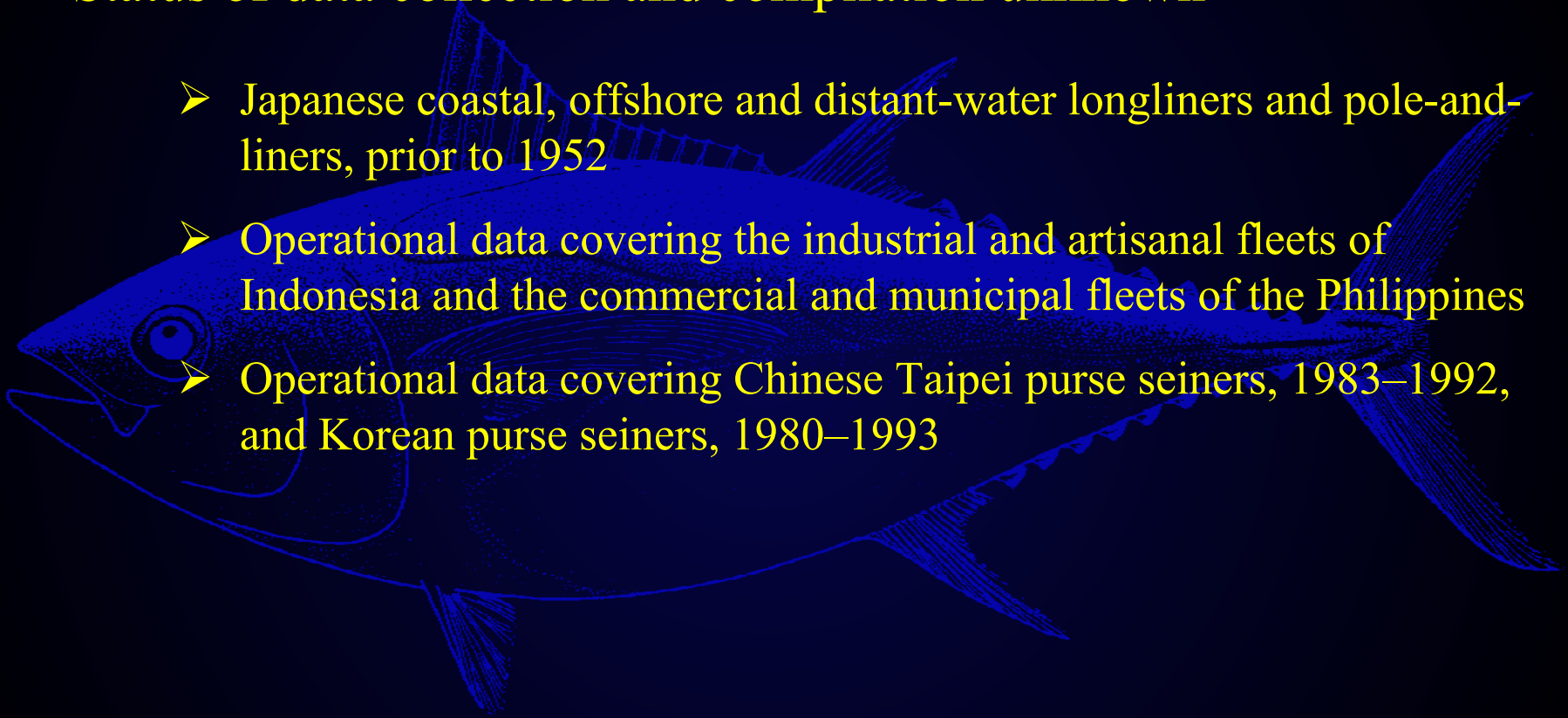
- Annual catch estimates neither provided by the fishing nation nor determined by SPC

Examples: Vietnamese longline fleet, from mid-1990s. All fleets prior to 1950.

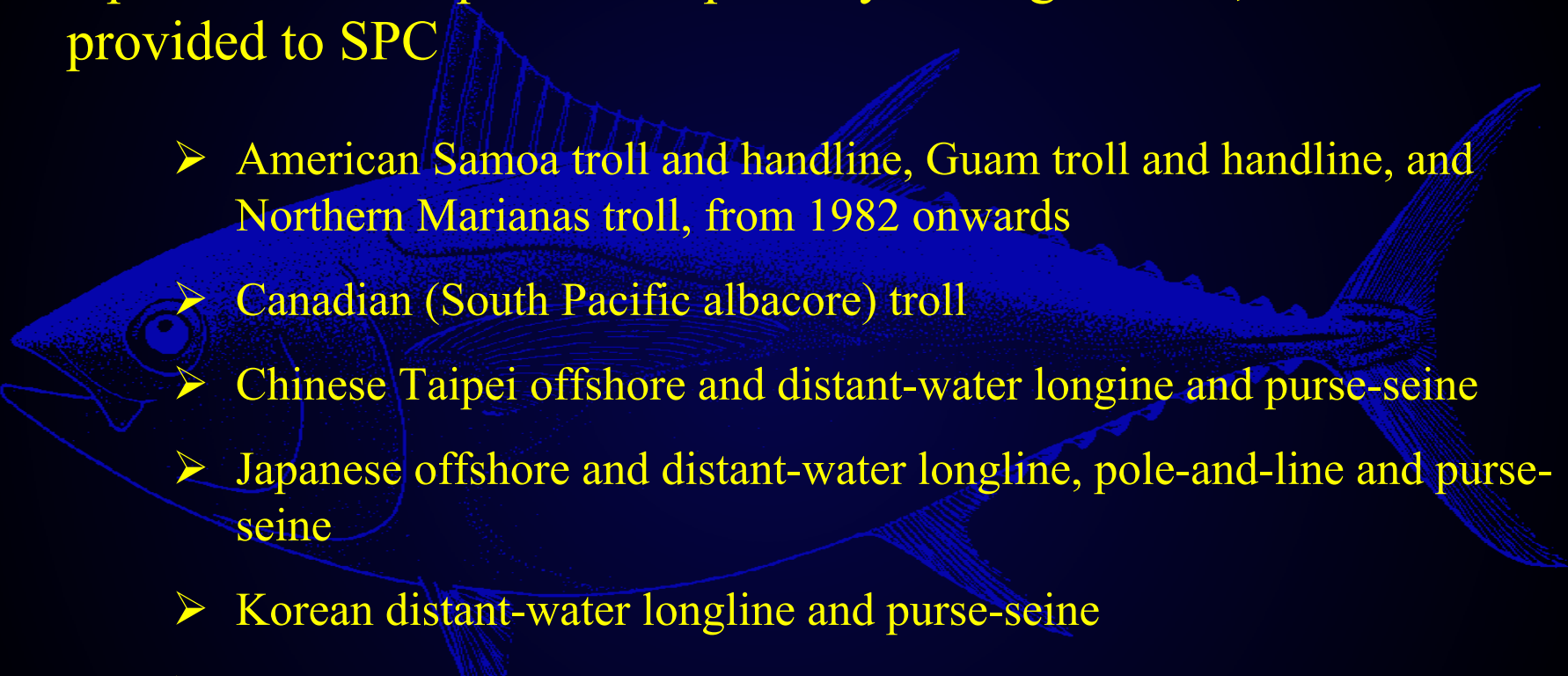


CATCH AND EFFORT DATA

- Status of data collection and compilation unknown
 - Japanese coastal, offshore and distant-water longliners and pole-and-liners, prior to 1952
 - Operational data covering the industrial and artisanal fleets of Indonesia and the commercial and municipal fleets of the Philippines
 - Operational data covering Chinese Taipei purse seiners, 1983–1992, and Korean purse seiners, 1980–1993

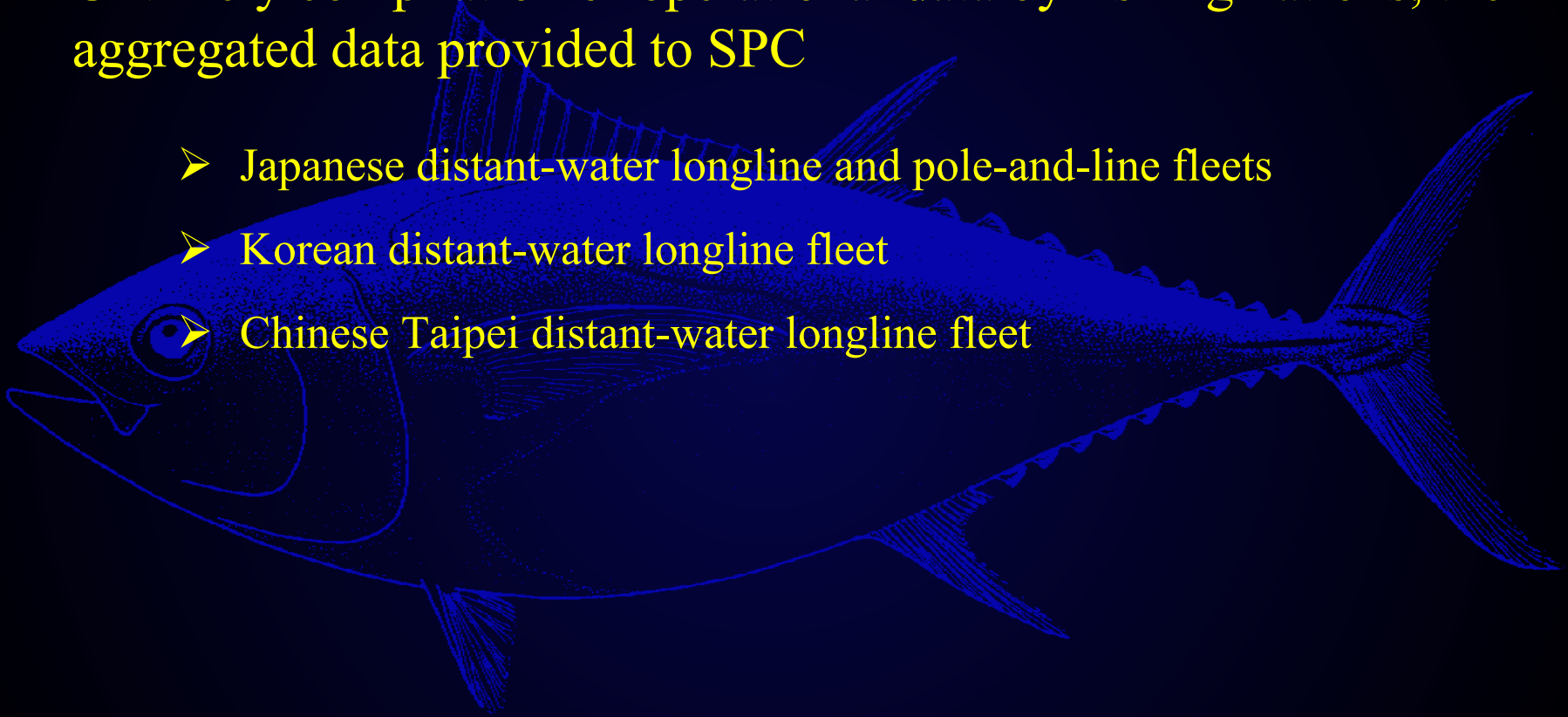


CATCH AND EFFORT DATA

- Operational or trip data compiled by fishing nations, but not provided to SPC
 - American Samoa troll and handline, Guam troll and handline, and Northern Marianas troll, from 1982 onwards
 - Canadian (South Pacific albacore) troll
 - Chinese Taipei offshore and distant-water longline and purse-seine
 - Japanese offshore and distant-water longline, pole-and-line and purse-seine
 - Korean distant-water longline and purse-seine
 - United States (POFI) longline surveys in the 1950s
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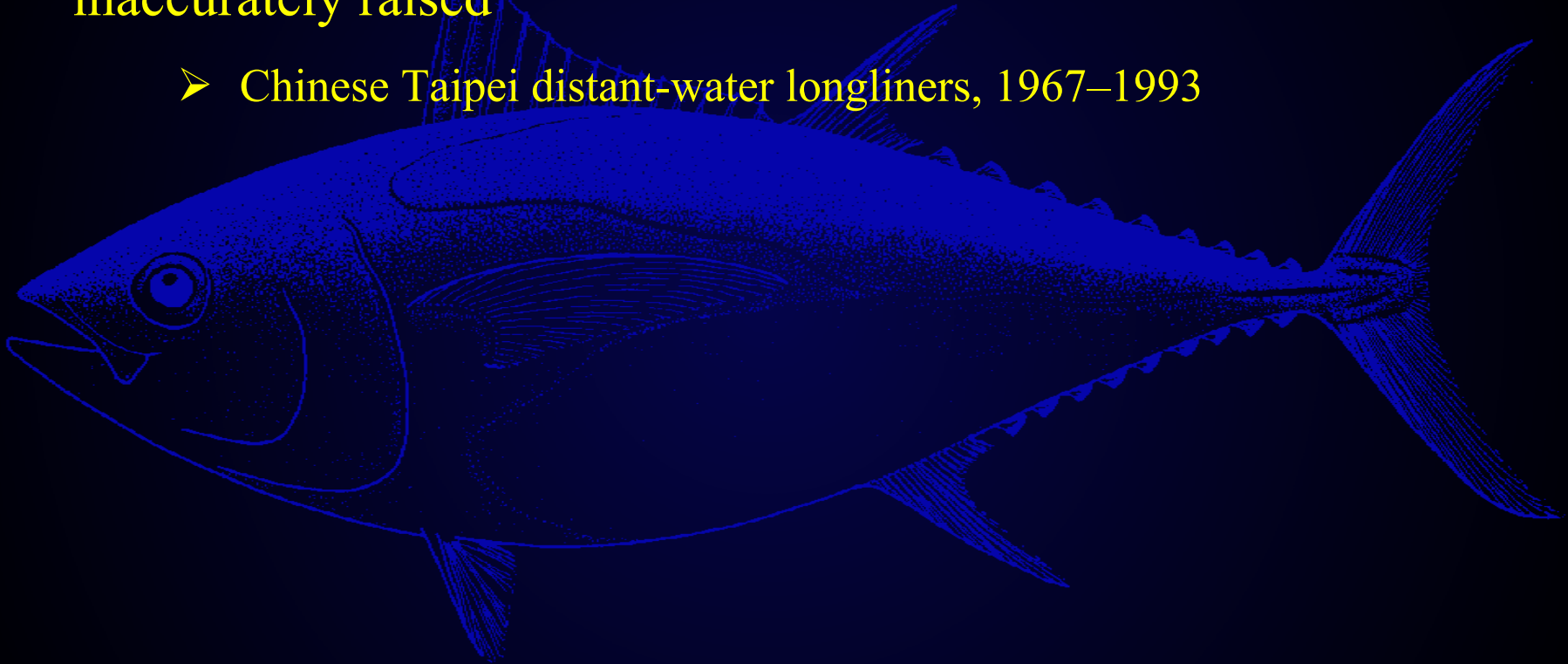
CATCH AND EFFORT DATA

- Untimely compilation of operational data by fishing nations, then aggregated data provided to SPC
 - Japanese distant-water longline and pole-and-line fleets
 - Korean distant-water longline fleet
 - Chinese Taipei distant-water longline fleet



CATCH AND EFFORT DATA

- Aggregated data provided to SPC by fishing nation, but inaccurately raised
 - Chinese Taipei distant-water longliners, 1967–1993



CATCH AND EFFORT DATA

- Operational data compiled by coastal states and provided to SPC, but with low coverage due to non-reporting and/or mis-reporting
 - Fiji longline, 1993–2001
 - Papua New Guinea longline, 1991–1997
 - Tonga longline, 1990–2000
 - Chinese Taipei purse seine, 1983–1993
 - Korean purse seine, 1980–1993
-

SIZE COMPOSITION DATA

- No port sampling data collected by port state
 - Purse-seine fleets unloading in Thailand
 - Coastal fleets of Japan
 - Indonesian industrial and artisanal fleets
 - Vietnamese longline fleet
- Low Coverage by Port Sampling Data
 - Philippines commercial and municipal fleets

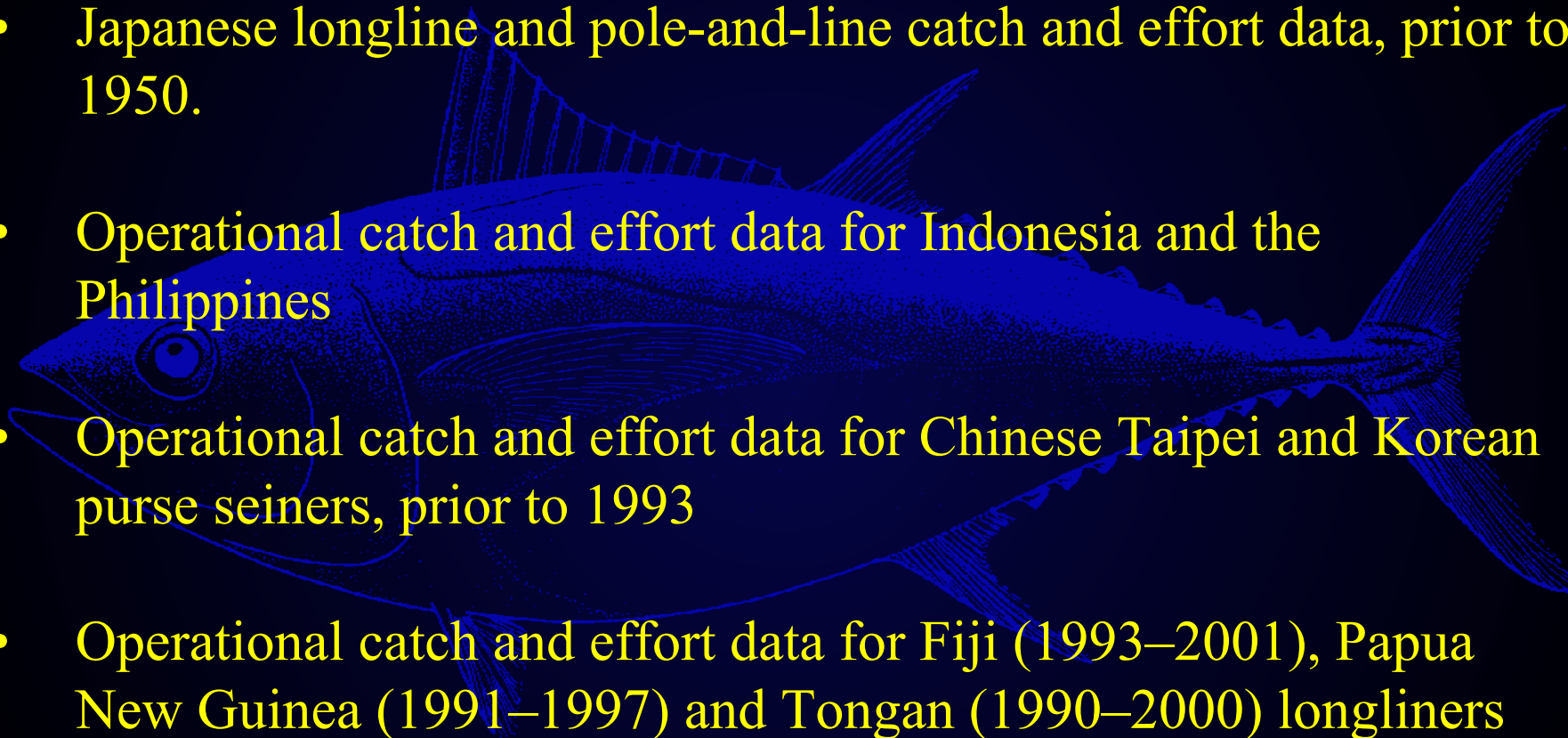


SIZE COMPOSITION DATA

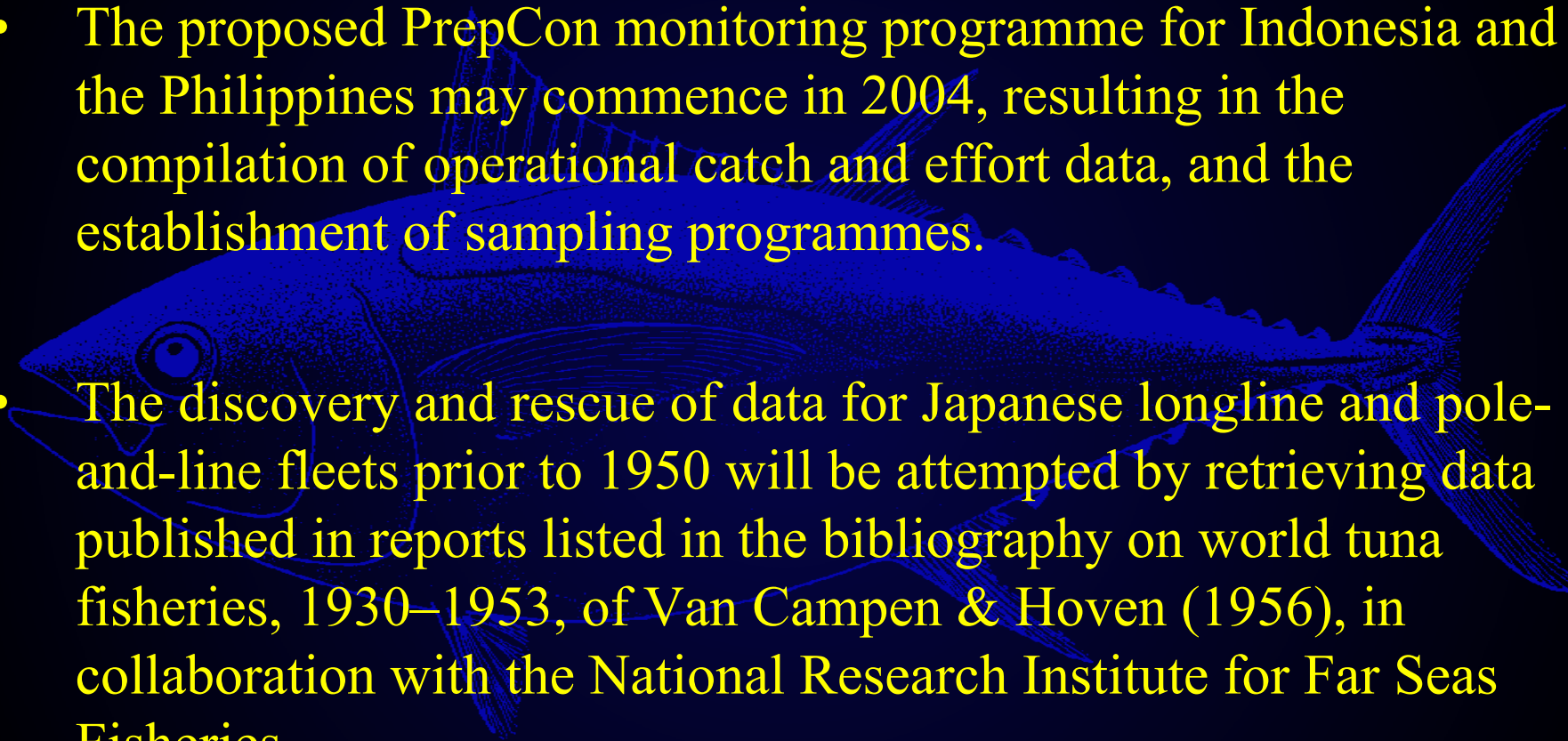
- Port sampling data compiled by port state, but not provided to SPC
 - Chinese Taipei offshore longliners sampled in Chinese Taipei
 - Korean purse seiners sampled in Korea



POTENTIALLY RESCUEABLE DATA

- Japanese longline and pole-and-line catch and effort data, prior to 1950.
 - Operational catch and effort data for Indonesia and the Philippines
 - Operational catch and effort data for Chinese Taipei and Korean purse seiners, prior to 1993
 - Operational catch and effort data for Fiji (1993–2001), Papua New Guinea (1991–1997) and Tongan (1990–2000) longliners
- 

DATA GAPS: NEXT STEPS

- The proposed PrepCon monitoring programme for Indonesia and the Philippines may commence in 2004, resulting in the compilation of operational catch and effort data, and the establishment of sampling programmes.
 - The discovery and rescue of data for Japanese longline and pole-and-line fleets prior to 1950 will be attempted by retrieving data published in reports listed in the bibliography on world tuna fisheries, 1930–1953, of Van Campen & Hoven (1956), in collaboration with the National Research Institute for Far Seas Fisheries.
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DATA GAPS: NEXT STEPS

- A working paper on “data gaps” may be presented to the 17th meeting of the Standing Committee on Tuna and Billfish (SCTB) in August 2004.
 - SCTB recommendations will be considered by the Scientific Coordinating Group, the Preparatory Conference, and possibly the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission in late 2004.
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