

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

INTERNATIONAL REVIEW PANEL

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EFFECTIVENESS OF TECHNICAL GUIDELINES TO PREVENT HIGH MORTALITY DURING SETS ON LARGE DOLPHIN HERDS

Sets on large dolphin herds are known to be more likely to lead to high mortality of dolphins than sets on smaller herds, and in June 2002 the IRP adopted [guidelines](#) for reducing the risk of such mortalities. The *Plan of Action to enhance the success of the AIDCP* directs the Secretariat to continue to review and evaluate the effectiveness of the guidelines.

The fundamental guideline is that sets on herds of more than 2,000 dolphins should be avoided. Figure 1 shows the trend during 1993-2003 in mortality, catch, and proportion of the total number of dolphin sets of sets on herds of that size. Tables 1 and 2 show the proportions of sets on such herds prior to (Table 1) and after (Table 2) the guidelines were introduced in June 2002. The data in the tables can be summarized as follows:

Table	Sets on herds of more than 2,000 dolphins:	Sets	Catch of tuna	Mortality
1	January 1999 – June 2002	1.3%	2.7%	17.2%
2	July 2002 – April 2003	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%

In the first 10 months following the introduction of the guidelines, there were relatively fewer sets on herds of more than 2,000 dolphins than in the period before the guidelines but, in view of the short period since their introduction and the limited data available, it would be premature to ascribe any differences to the effect of the guidelines.

FIGURE 1. Sets in which more than 2,000 dolphins were encircled as percentages of total dolphin mortality, total catch of tunas in dolphin sets, and total number of dolphin sets. Years are from July 1-June 30; data for 2003 are incomplete. Data from IATTC observer program only.

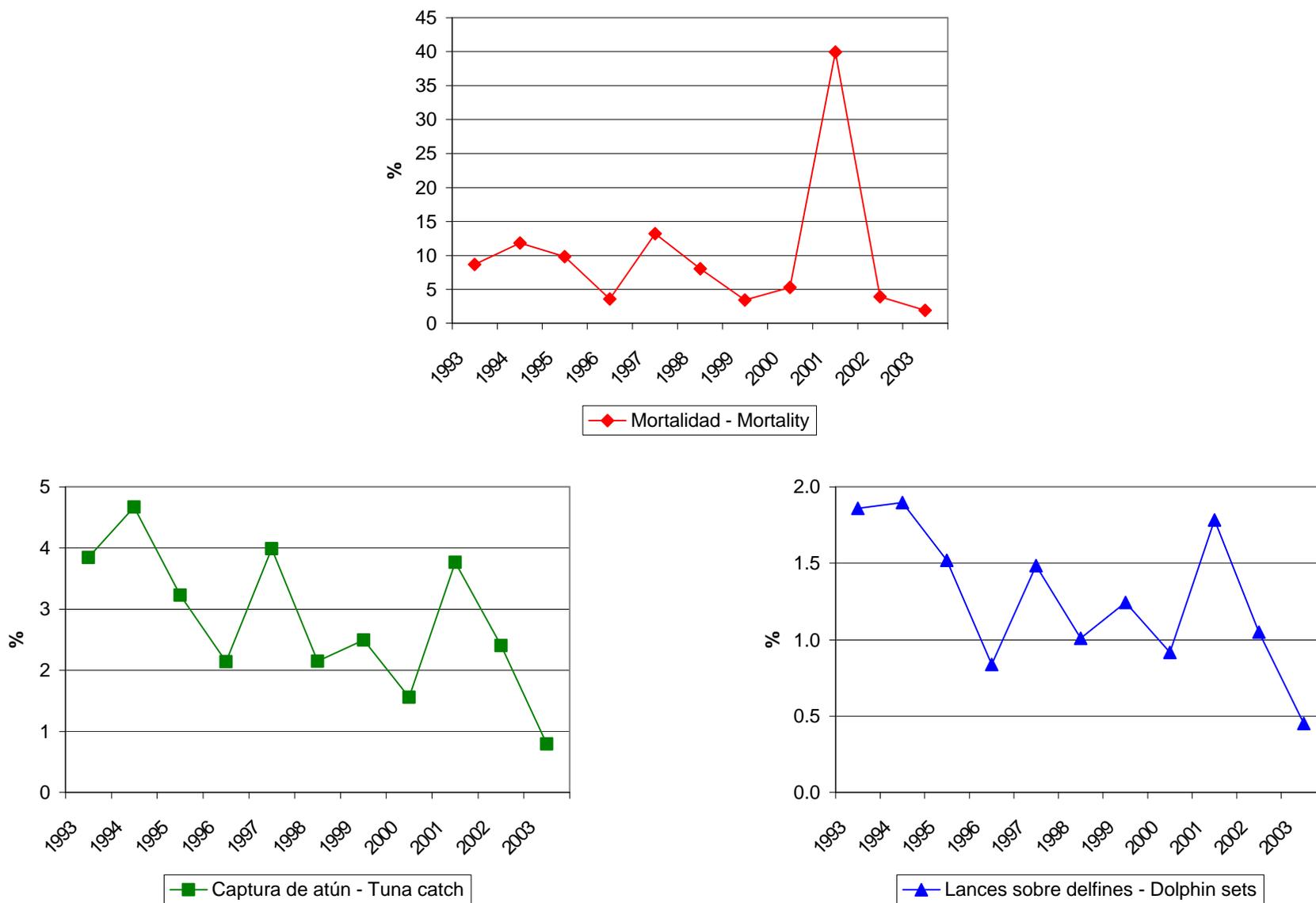


TABLA 1. Porcentaje de la mortalidad total de delfines, captura de atunes (YFT, SKJ, BET) en lances sobre delfines, número total de lances sobre delfines, y mortalidad por 1000 toneladas de atún capturado, por tamaño de la manada de delfines capturada, en viajes de pesca iniciados entre el 1 de enero de 1999 y el 30 de junio de 2002. Se presenta la información con y sin los tres lances con mortalidad alta (30 delfines o más). Datos del programa de observadores de la CIAT solamente.

TABLE 1. Percentages of total dolphin mortality, tuna catch (YFT, SKJ, BET) in dolphin sets, total number of dolphin sets, and mortality per 1000 tons of tuna caught, by size of herd captured, for fishing trips departing between January 1, 1999, and June 30, 2002. The data are presented with and without the three sets with high mortality (30 or more dolphins). Data from IATTC observer program only.

Número de delfines capturado	Incluyendo lances con alta mortalidad				Excluyendo lances con alta mortalidad			
	% de			Mortalidad/ 1000 T de atún	% de			Mortalidad/ 1000 T de atún
	Mortalidad total	Captura de atún	Lances sobre delfines		Mortalidad total	Captura de atún	Lances sobre delfines	
Sets with high mortality included				Sets with high mortality excluded				
Number of dolphins captured	% of			Mortality/ 1000 T tuna	% of			Mortality/ 1000 T tuna
	Total mortality	Tuna catch	Dolphin sets		Total mortality	Tuna catch	Dolphin sets	
1 - 100	2.4	6.9	14.0	2.8	2.7	6.9	14.0	2.8
101 - 200	5.9	8.6	12.9	5.7	6.9	8.6	13.0	5.7
201 - 300	6.2	9.4	11.9	5.5	7.3	9.4	11.9	5.5
301 - 400	7.4	9.8	11.0	6.3	8.6	9.8	11.0	6.3
401 - 500	7.9	10.9	10.7	6.0	9.2	10.9	10.7	6.0
501 - 600	8.0	8.6	7.9	7.8	9.3	8.6	7.9	7.8
601 - 700	6.3	8.0	6.7	6.6	7.3	8.0	6.7	6.6
701 - 800	7.6	8.3	6.3	7.6	8.9	8.3	6.3	7.6
801 - 900	5.4	4.3	3.2	10.7	6.4	4.3	3.2	10.7
901 - 1000	6.6	7.2	4.9	7.7	7.7	7.2	4.9	7.7
1001 - 1100	1.2	1.2	0.8	8.0	1.4	1.2	0.8	8.0
1101 - 1200	3.3	3.9	2.4	7.2	3.9	3.9	2.4	7.2
1201 - 1300	2.6	2.1	1.2	10.3	3.0	2.1	1.2	10.3
1301 - 1400	0.6	0.7	0.4	8.0	0.7	0.7	0.4	8.0
1401 - 1500	4.1	3.3	2.0	10.4	4.8	3.3	2.0	10.4
1501 - 2000	7.2	4.3	2.4	14.0	7.0	4.3	2.4	11.6
2001 - 2500	2.9	1.6	0.8	15.0	2.4	1.6	0.8	10.8
2501 - 3000	1.3	0.8	0.4	14.1	1.6	0.8	0.4	14.1
>3000	13.0	0.3	0.1	350.1	0.8	0.3	0.1	21.0

TABLA 2. Porcentaje de la mortalidad total de delfines, captura de atunes (YFT, SKJ, BET) en lances sobre delfines, número total de lances sobre delfines, y mortalidad por 1000 toneladas de atún capturado, por tamaño de la manada de delfines capturada, en viajes de pesca iniciados entre el 1 de julio de 2002 y el 30 de abril de 2003. Se presenta la información con y sin los tres lances con mortalidad alta (30 delfines o más). Datos del programa de observadores de la CIAT solamente.

TABLE 2. Percentages of total dolphin mortality, tuna catch (YFT, SKJ, BET) in dolphin sets, total number of dolphin sets, and mortality per 1000 tons of tuna caught, by size of herd captured, for fishing trips departing between July 1, 2002, and April 30, 2003. The data are presented with and without the three sets with high mortality (30 or more dolphins). Data from IATTC observer program only.

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	Mortalidad total	Captura de atún	Lances sobre delfines		Mortalidad total	Captura de atún	Lances sobre delfines	
Sets with high mortality included				Sets with high mortality excluded				
Number of dolphins captured	% of			Mortality/ 1000 T tuna	% of			Mortality/ 1000 T tuna
	Total mortality	Tuna catch	Dolphin sets		Total mortality	Tuna catch	Dolphin sets	
1 - 100	6.8	9.9	17.1	3.1	6.8	9.9	17.1	3.1
101 - 200	7.2	9.7	13.0	3.4	7.2	9.7	13.0	3.4
201 - 300	8.3	10.1	11.4	3.7	8.3	10.1	11.4	3.7
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1101 - 1200	5.0	3.7	2.4	6.2	5.0	3.7	2.4	6.2
1201 - 1300	2.9	1.7	1.0	7.5	2.9	1.7	1.0	7.5
1301 - 1400	1.2	0.7	0.4	8.0	1.2	0.7	0.4	8.0
1401 - 1500	6.7	2.5	1.5	12.1	6.7	2.5	1.5	12.1
1501 - 2000	4.4	3.1	1.6	6.4	4.4	3.1	1.6	6.4
2001 - 2500	1.3	0.5	0.3	11.7	1.3	0.5	0.3	11.7
2501 - 3000	0.5	0.1	0.1	37.7	0.5	0.1	0.1	37.7
>3000	0.1	0.2	0.1	2.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	2.3