

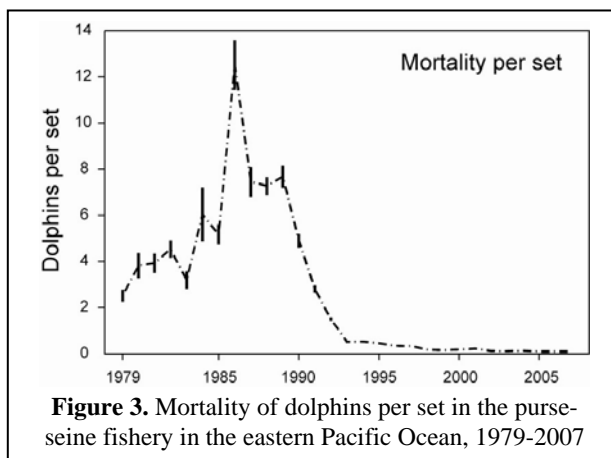
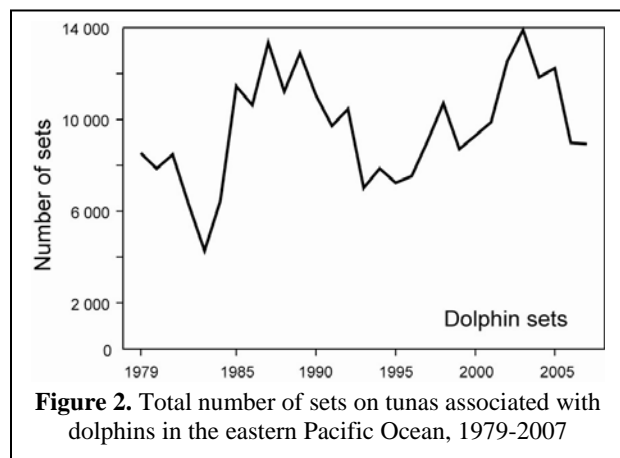
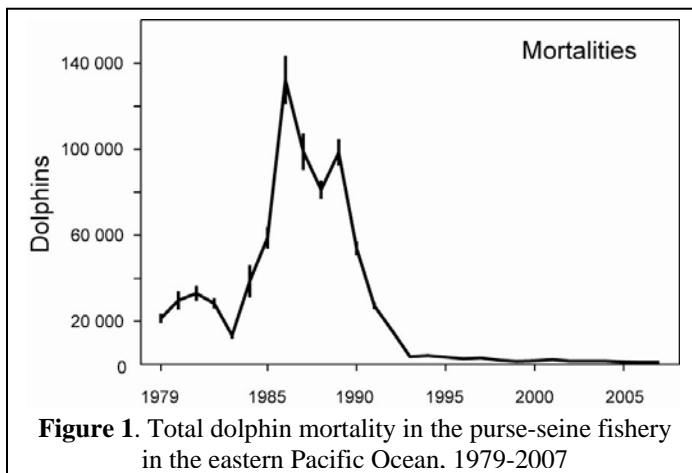
AGREEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

EXECUTIVE REPORT ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE AIDCP IN 2007

This Executive Report provides a brief summary of the operation of the Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program (AIDCP) during 2007. Further information can be found in minutes of meetings, reports and other documents at www.iattc.org. All data for 2007 are preliminary.

1. THE FISHERY IN 2007

During 2007, the trend of low incidental dolphin mortalities in the tuna purse-seine fishery in the Agreement Area to levels approaching zero, one of the principal objectives of the AIDCP, continued. In 8,871 intentional sets on tunas associated with dolphins, 103,420 thousand metric tons (t) of yellowfin tuna were caught, and 838 dolphins died, an average of 0.09 dolphins per set. Approximately 94% of these sets caused no mortality or serious injury of dolphins. Figures 1-3¹ show the trends in total mortality, number of sets on tunas associated with dolphins and mortality per set.



One hundred and four vessels were allocated full-year Dolphin Mortality Limits (DMLs) and the average individual-vessel DML (ADML) was 47.12 animals. Ninety-six of these DMLs were utilized; none were exceeded, and the average mortality per vessel was 8.5 dolphins. In addition, two vessels were allocated DMLs from the Reserve DML Allocation, both of which were utilized. One second-semester DML was allocated, but not utilized. The distribution of the mortality caused in 2007 by these vessels is shown in

¹ In Figures 1 and 3, the vertical bars indicate the 95% confidence intervals in years when only a sample of the fleet carried observers.

Figure 4.

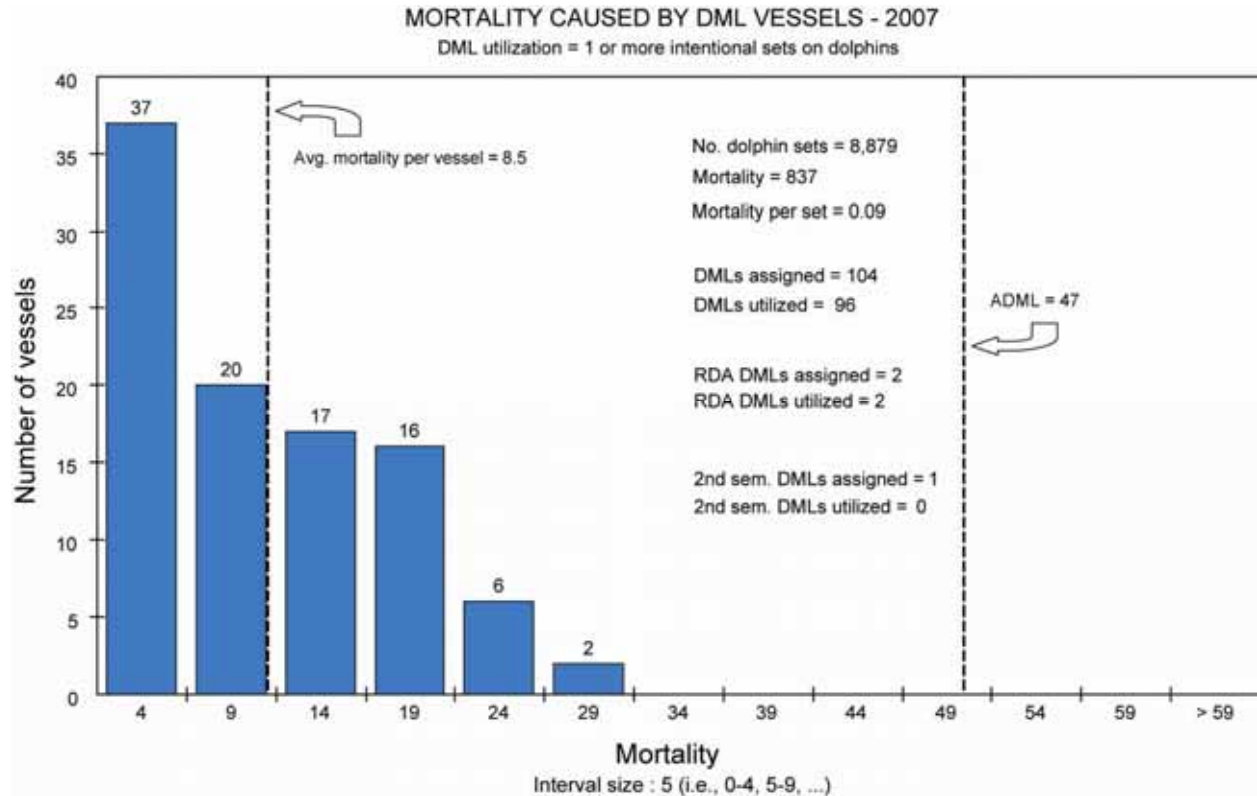


Figure 4. Distribution of dolphin mortality caused by vessels with DMLs, 2007.

2. ADMINISTRATION OF OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE AGREEMENT

The 43rd and 44th meetings of the International Review Panel (IRP) reviewed observer information from 772 fishing trips, in which 8,817 sets were made on tuna associated with dolphins.

Following these meetings, a total of 64 possible infractions of the types shown in the table below were forwarded to the Parties for investigation, compared to 84 possible infractions in 2006 and to an average of 134.6 in the three previous years, 2003-2005.

| POSSIBLE INFRACTIONS | 2007 | 2006 | Average 2003-2005 |
|--|-------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Fishing without an observer | 1 | 1 | 1.3 |
| Fishing on dolphins without a DML | 1 | 1 | 5.6 |
| Failing to avoid injuring or killing dolphins captured in the course of fishing operations | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| Fishing on dolphins after reaching the DML | 0 | 0 | 8 |
| Depart to fish with a DML without a dolphin safety panel in the net | 2 | 5 | 3 |
| Fishing captain assigned to a DML vessel not on AIDCP List of Qualified Captains | 3 | 5 | 19 |
| Use of explosives when fishing on dolphins | 2 | 12 | 15.3 |
| Not conducting backdown after dolphins are captured | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Sacking up or brailing live dolphins | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Harassing an observer, or interfering with his duties | 5 | 6 | 5.6 |
| Night set (not completing backdown within 30 minutes after sundown) | 8 | 12 | 26.6 |
| Not deploying rescuers during backdown | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | |
|--|----|----|------|
| Item of rescue equipment missing | 35 | 29 | 38.6 |
| Not continuing rescue efforts after backdown with live dolphins in the net | 0 | 1 | 0.3 |
| Fishing on dolphins prior to notification of allocation of DMLs | 0 | 7 | 4.3 |

As of September 10, 2008, the Secretariat had received the following responses from governments for possible infractions reported during 2007 and 2006:

| Response | 2007 | 2006 |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Confirmed as infraction, sanction imposed | 0 | 8 |
| Confirmed as infraction, no sanction | 0 | 0 |
| Warning issued | 0 | 6 |
| Determined not to be infraction | 10 | 23 |
| Under investigation | 17 | 6 |
| No response | 2 | 2 |

3. DOLPHIN SAFE CERTIFICATION

In 2001 the Parties to the AIDCP established the [AIDCP Dolphin Safe Certification System](#), which provides assurance of the dolphin safe status of tuna by means of a certificate issued by a government for tuna that meets all the requirements of the [System for Tracking and Verifying Tuna](#).

During 2007, ten valid dolphin safe tuna certificates were issued by the Parties.