

INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

PERMANENT WORKING GROUP ON TUNA TRACKING

27TH MEETING

LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA USA
29 OCTOBER 2009

DOCUMENT TT-27-04 REV

**MATTERS RELATED TO THE TUNA TRACKING AND DOLPHIN SAFE
CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS**

This report presents comparisons of dolphin safe certificates and their corresponding Tuna Tracking Forms (TTFs) for trips that started on or after 1 January 2009, and that ended on or before 10 September 2009, and a summary of the TTFs received by the Secretariat.

1. SUMMARY OF DOLPHIN SAFE CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

The [Procedures for AIDCP dolphin safe tuna certification](#) establish the following criteria for issuing dolphin safe certificates:

1. The certificate is signed by a competent national authority whose signature is recognized by the Secretariat.
2. The certificate references a valid TTF for dolphin safe tuna.
3. Tuna caught by vessels with DMLs is eligible for dolphin safe certification only if the fishing captain is on the List of Qualified Captains.
4. The competent national authority issuing the certificate has a tuna tracking system consistent with the AIDCP.

The Secretariat uses the following guidelines for queries about the authenticity of any dolphin safe certificate:

1. The Secretariat responds to questions about specific certificates from potential importing states or companies only.
2. If the certificate meets the four requirements above, the response is that the certificate is valid.
3. If the Secretariat does not have the information it needs to verify 1 or 2 above, it first asks the competent national authority to provide the information before replying.
4. Otherwise, the Secretariat replies that the certificate is not valid.
5. No other information is provided about the contents of the TTF.

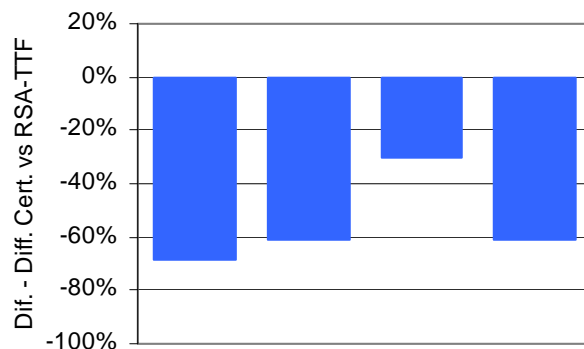
No inquiries have been received to date regarding the validity of a dolphin safe certificate.

As of 1 October 2009, the Secretariat has received three valid dolphin safe certificates issued on or after 1 January 2009. These certificates represent tuna from four trips and four TTFs. The Secretariat has received the originals of all TTFs.

Questions may arise about the validity of a certificate if the data on the certificate do not match the data on the corresponding TTFs. For all these trips with valid dolphin safe certificates, the amount of tuna on the certificate did not exceed the amount of dolphin safe tuna recorded on the corresponding TTFs.

The graph below shows the comparison of estimated weights, as recorded by the observer on the TTF, and the recorded scale weight for each TTF referenced for the three dolphin safe certificates mentioned above.

Mexico (4 viajes - trips)



2. TTFs RECEIVED BY THE SECRETARIAT AS OF SEP 10TH

Original TTFs received by the Secretariat, in accordance with paragraph 3.6 of the [System for Tracking and Verifying Tuna](#), by responsible national authority:

National authority		Trips ¹		% of originals received			
		Trips	TTFs recd	Oct 2009	Jun 2009	Jun 2008	Oct 2007
Colombia	COL	30	26	87	82	97	89
Costa Rica	CRI	3	0	0	91	100	100
Ecuador	ECU	223	215	96	99	100	92
European Union	EUR	3	2	67	100	100	-
Guatemala	GTM	8	3	38	45	93	100
México	MEX	128	121	95	98	100	100
Nicaragua	NIC	2	0	0	0	0	0
Panamá	PAN	3	1	33	100	71	50
Perú	PER	2	1	50	0	75	100
El Salvador	SLV	28	12	43	87	82	70
United States	USA	2	2	100	100	100	100
Venezuela	VEN	23	22	96	52	100	89
Total		455	405	89	93	95	93

¹ Trips starting during 2009 and ending on or before 10 September, 2009