INTERNATIONAL DOLPHIN CONSERVATION PROGRAM

SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

7th MEETING

La Jolla, California (USA)
30 October 2009

AGENDA

	Documents
1. Opening of the meeting	
2. Adoption of the agenda	
3. Review of the SAB work plan	SAB-07-03
4. Discussion of new research topics	SAB-07-04
5. Updated estimates of N_{min} and Stock Mortality Limits	SAB-07-05
6. Other business	
7. Place and date of next meeting	
8. Adjournment	

1. Opening of the meeting

Dr. Guillermo Compeán, Director of the IATTC, opened the meeting,. The participants are listed in Appendix 1.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Review of the SAB work plan

Dr. Michael Scott, of the IATTC staff, reviewed the SAB work plan and reported research activities during the past year (Document SAB-07-03). Dr. Michel Dreyfus pointed the SAB's attention to a new publication containing preliminary results about the alerone research program in Mexico.

4. Discussion of new research topics

Dr. Scott presented a SAB-recommended proposal to study the tuna-dolphin association by simultaneous tracking dolphins and yellowfin tuna (SAB-07-04). The proposal was written to aid the Director and the AIDCP members in procuring 1) the cooperation of a tuna vessel, 2) the use of a research vessel, and 3) funding to conduct the study. Dr. Luis Fleischer proposed, and the SAB agreed, that the SAB members encourage vessel owners in their countries to cooperate in this study. Jeremy Rusin offered the cooperation of the U.S. in this study, particularly in obtaining a research vessel. Dr. Javier Ariz recommended the additional use of pop-up archival tags to gather information.

5. Updated estimates of N_{min} and Stock Mortality Limits

Dr. Scott presented a document (SAB-07-05) detailing analyses conducted by the IATTC staff at the recommendation of the SAB to update estimates of abundance (N) and minimum abundance (N_{min}), and to calculate revised Stock Mortality Limits (SMLs). Current SMLs are based on abundance estimates from surveys during 1986-1990; the revised SMLs are based on data that are more extensive, more recent and less biased for spinner dolphins. The estimates were updated for northeastern and western/southern

spotted dolphins and eastern and whitebelly spinner dolphins (see table); common dolphins will examined at a later date. The SAB recommended to the Meeting of the Parties that the revised SMLs be adopted.

Species and stock	Current SML	Revised SML	Difference
Spotted dolphin (*Stenella attenuata*)			
Northeastern	648	793	+145
Western/Southern	1,145	881	-264
Spinner dolphin (*Stenella longirostris*)			
Eastern	518	655	+137
Whitebelly	871	666	-205

6. Other business

There was no other business.

7. Place and date of next meeting

The next meeting of the SAB will be held at a time to be agreed by the parties to the AIDCP.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.

Appendix 1.

<u>ATTENDEES - ASISTENTES</u>

<u>BOARD MEMBERS-MIEMBROS DEL CONSEJO</u>

JAVIER ARÍZ
  Instituto Español de Oceanografía
ALVIN DELGADO
  PNOV/FUNDATUN
MICHEL DREYFUS
  Instituto Nacional de Pesca

LUIS FLEISCHER
  Centro Regional de Investigación Pesquera
JEREMY RUSIN
  NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service

<u>OBSERVERS - OBSERVADORES</u>

HUGO ALSINA
  Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y
  Alimentación
LUIGI BENINCASA
  ATUNEC
ORLANDO BERNAL
  Autoridad de los Recursos Acuáticos de Panamá
CRISTOBEL BLOCK
  Humane Society International
JOSÉ CARVAJAL
  Instituto Costarricense de Pesca y Acuicultura
GLADYS CÁRDENAS
  Instituto del Mar del Perú
CARLOS CEVALLOS
  United Corporation
CRAIG D'ANGELO
  NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service
MARÍA PATRICIA DÍAZ
  FIPESCA
JUDSON FEDER
  NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service
ARNULFO FRANCO
  Fundación Internacional de Pesca
JULIO GUEVARA
  INATUN
RINI GHOSH
  NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service
HEIDI HERMSMEYER
  NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service
ARMANDO HERNÁNDEZ
  ICA/Programa Nacional de Observadores de
  Colombia

DAVID HOGAN
  U.S. Department of State
WILLIAM JACOBSON
  NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service
ALEJANDRO LONDOÑO
  Asociación Nacional de Empresarios de Colombia
LILLO MANISCALCHI
  Avatun
SANTIAGO NECHES
  Embajada de España en Washington
ANTONIO PORRAS
  Instituto Costarricense de Pesca y Acuicultura
CARLOS ROBLES
  Ministerio de Agricultura y Desarrollo Rural
HUMBERTO ROBLES
  Instituto Nacional de Pesca
DANILO ROSALES
  Instituto Nicaragüense de Pesca y Acuicultura
MARTINA SAGAPOLU
  NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service
LUÍS TORRES
  Subsecretaría de Recursos Pesqueros
RAFAEL TRUJILLO
  Cámara Nacional de Pesquería
HUGO VERA
  Subsecretaría de Recursos Pesqueros
BRADLEY WILEY
  NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service
SARAH WILKIN
  NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service

SECRETARIAT - SECRETARIA

GUILLERMO COMPEÁN, Director
ERNESTO ALTAMIRANO
RICARDO BELMONTES
DAVID BRATTEN
MÓNICA GALVÁN
MARTÍN HALL
BRIAN HALLMAN

CLERIDY LENNERT
MARK MAUNDER
ROBERT OLSON
CYNTHIA SACCO
MICHAEL SCOTT
NICHOLAS WEBB

Appendix 2. SAB Work Plan updated during the 7th Meeting, October 2009.

Research Topics	Proposed Studies	SAB Recommendations
1. Prevalence and significance of cow-calf separation.	A) Aerial photogrammetry B) At-sea observations C) Spatial distribution of chase time	A-C) Conduct research to discover evidence of cow-calf separation during chase.
2. Life history and fishery-related-stress effects studies.	A) Life history studies 1) Reproductive parameters/ vital rates 2) Food habits 3) Trophic interactions B) Stress effects 1) Necropsy studies	A-B) Resume sampling program to conduct studies on these topics.
3. Review of currently available estimates of abundance for dolphin stocks.	A) Review current abundance estimates	A) Revise common dolphin N_{min} estimates and Stock Mortality Limits.
4. Stock assessment of coastal spotted dolphins	A) Genetics and taxonomy research B) Historical mortality, abundance, and status of any new stocks	A-B) Maintain on Work Plan.
5. Ecosystem effects.	A) Trends in other EPO cetaceans B) Ecosystem models C) Effect of large-scale changes in 1970s D) Carrying capacity and R_{max} for dolphins	A-D) Maintain on Work Plan.
6. Mortality estimates.	A) Historical mortality estimates. B) Potential unobserved sources of mortality 1) Comparison of observer programs 2) Class-5 vessels 3) Other fisheries	A) Maintain on Work Plan. B) Monitor ongoing comparisons for IRP[1].
7. Population modeling	A) Model effects of unobserved mortality B) Other population models	A) Expand NMFS simulation studies to prioritize research. B) Maintain on Work Plan.
8. Development in gear technology and fishing techniques to improve dolphin release.	A) Net panels B) Net profilers	A-B) Maintain on Work Plan.
9. Capture of mature tuna not in association with dolphins.	A) Simultaneous tracking of dolphins and tuna B) Survey fleet's use of passive and active detection devices	A) Procure vessel time and funding to conduct study. B) Maintain on Work Plan.

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[1] Pending consultation with the Parties regarding confidentiality issues.