INTER-AMERICAN TROPICAL TUNA COMMISSION SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE FIFTH MEETING

La Jolla, California (USA) 12-16 May 2014

DOCUMENT SAC-05-03B

UPDATED SUMMARY REGARDING HAMMERHEAD SHARKS CAUGHT IN THE TUNA FISHERIES IN THE EASTERN PACIFIC OCEAN

Marlon Román-Verdesoto And Martin Hall

Outline

- Status of information on *Sphyrna* collected in the EPO by different tuna fisheries
- Some details on the evolution of the data collecting of *Sphyrna* in the tuna purse seine fishery in the last two decades

Captures of Sphyrna in different tuna fisheries

• Artisanal fisheries

Industrial LL fisheries

- Capture data not detailed enough for statistical analyses.
- Pupping grounds may be coastal (Wakabayashi and Iwamoto 1981; IOTC 2007).
- Adults and juveniles are targeted by small-scale coastal artisanal fisheries in the EPO, using different gear types (Hall and Roman 2013).
- Scarce information.
- ~ 1% among shark captures in Chinese BET LL fishery (Xiaojie et al. 2006).
- Zero capture in Japanese BET LL fishery (Okamoto and Bayliff 2003)

- Purse-seine fisheries
- Data collected by observers since 1993. Total length recorded by size category.
- 2005: Identifications down to species. Total length recorded at nearest centimeter. Sex was recorded.

Spatial distribution of sets with *Sphyrna* captured by the tuna purse-seine fishery





Hammerhead capture data in the tuna purse-seine fishery (set types combined)



Hammerhead capture data in the tuna purse-seine fishery (set types combined)

Smooth hammerhead (S. zygaena) and Scalloped hammerhead (S. lewini) are the predominant species



Conclusions

- The tuna purse seine observer database records *Sphyrna* captures data since 1993. By 2005 data is recorded down to species.
- *S. zygaena* and *S. lewini* are the predominant *Sphyrna* species captured by the tuna purse seine fishery
- Captures of *Sphyrna* in the industrial longline fishery targeting bigeye tuna may be low
- Sphyrna capture data, specially the artisanal fishery may be necessary to better understand the potential impact to these populations

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