Verification of the code of good practices in ANABAC & OPAGAC tuna purse seiners





SCRS/2015/061

Nicolas Goñi,

Jon Ruiz,

Hilario Murua,

lñigo Krug,

Josu Santiago,

Begoña Sotillo de Olano,

Alberto González de Zarate,

Gala Moreno,

Jefferson Murua

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- 2- Initial situation (october 2014)
- 3- Training of skippers and observers
- 4- Registered information
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Voluntary initiative, self-imposed by ANABAC and OPAGAC. Started in February 2012

1. General goals

Reduction of mortality by entangling or by indicental catch of FAD-associated sensible species (sharks, rays/mantas, sea turtles, whale sharks)

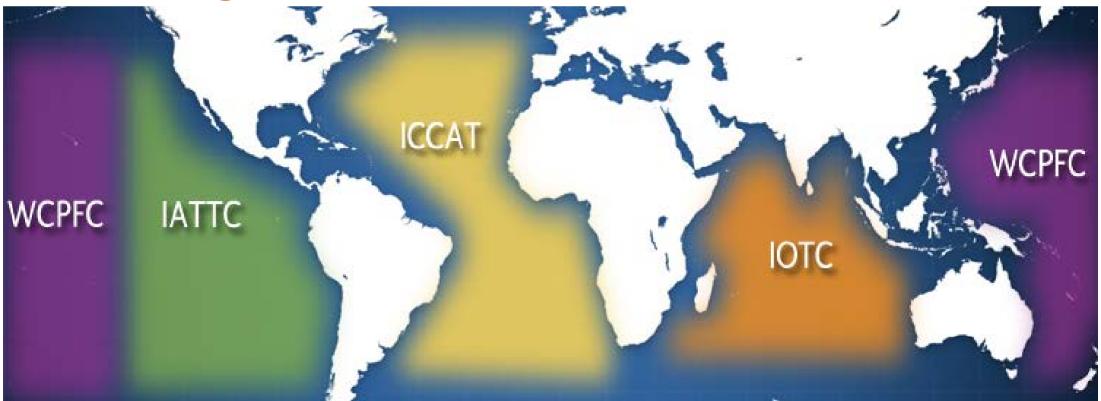
→ Use of non entangling FADs
 → Application of release operations for sensible species



Illustration :

Poisson F., Vernet A. L., Séret B., Dagorn L., 2012. Good practices to reduce the mortality of sharks and rays caught incidentally by tropical tuna purse seiners. EU FP7 project #210496 MADE, Deliverable 6.2., 30p.

1. General goals



3 Oceans; 4 RFMOs; 59 purse seiners and 19 auxiliar vessels
= whole ANABAC & OPAGAC fleet (Spanish and other flags)
100% observer coverage – 140 observers implied (Voluntary in Atlantic and Indian Oceans).

2. Initial situation

- Questionnaires transmitted to the skippers
- Goal: know the level of application of Code since 2012 i.e. use of non-entangling FADs and fauna release operations
- Fauna release operations applied by 93,7% to 100% of the skippers (depending on the species)
- All the skippers use at least one of the non-entangling FAD types defined in the code (raft and submersed part)
- Since december 2014: Observer validation of nonentangling FAD use and by-catch release operations.

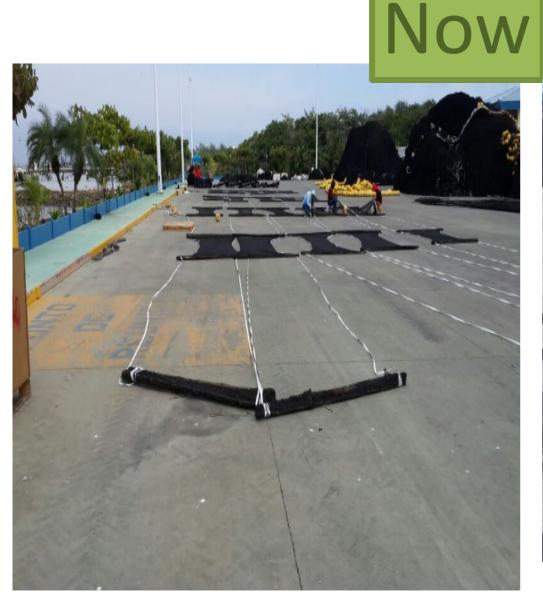
2. Previous situation – before implementing good practices



2. Initial situation – through implementing good practices

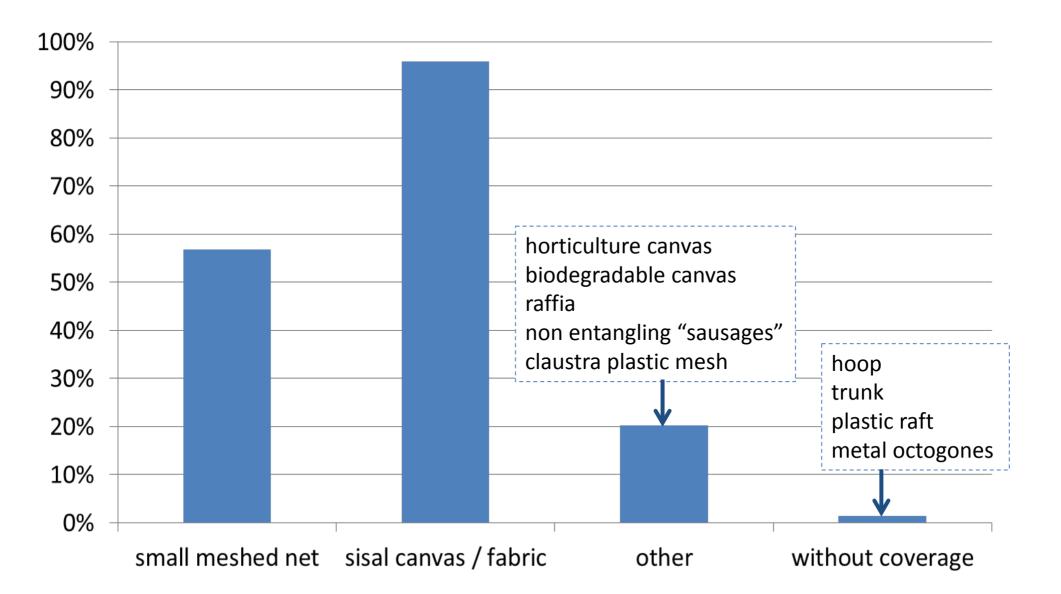


2. Initial situation – through implementing good practices

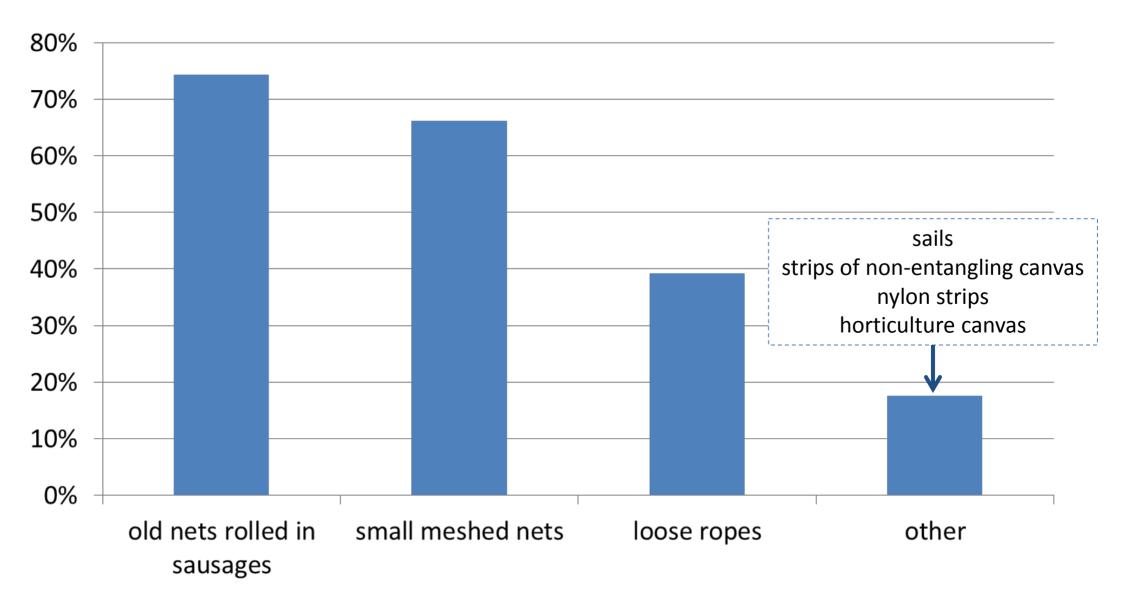




2. Initial situation – Type of FAD coverage used



2. Initial situation – Type of FAD submerged part used



3. Training – application and observation of good practices

- For <u>skippers</u>: guide (crew safety, fauna release operations, non-entangling FAD design)
- Coordination with ISSF skipper workshops (over 300 Spanish skippers atended workshops)
- For <u>observers</u>: instruction handbook
- Training for observers organisms (Ocean Eye, CSP, SFA,

Curaçao...)



3. Application and observation of good practices

- Atlantic Ocean: observer on **100%** of ANABAC and OPAGAC fleet, observation of good practices on **91%** (100% soon)
- Associated average cost of observation:

	Atlantic	Indian	Pacific
Year, all vessels	1.209 M€	882 000€	485 000€

2.576 M€ / year

- Specific equipment for fauna release : 1000-2500€/vessel

3. Application and observation of good practices

- Average FAD cost:

	Atlantic	Indian	Pacific
Old, entangling FADs	27.50€	27.50€	27.50€
Non-entangling FADs, unit	122-191€	122-191€	160-170€
% of initial cost	444-695%	444-695%	582-618%

Non entangling FAD: 4 to 7 times cost of old FADs

4. Information registered by the observers (sharks)

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4. Information registered by the observers (whale sharks

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4. Information registered by the observers (turtles)

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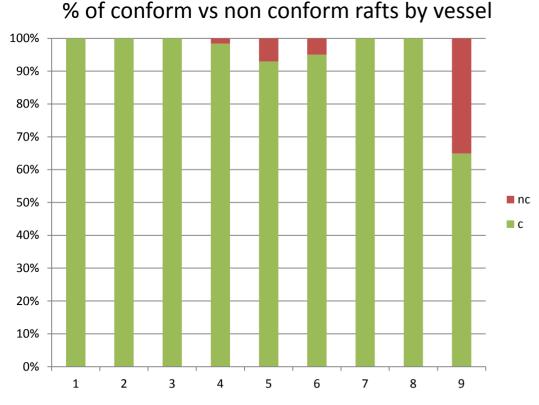
Extra care for turtles

4. Information registered by the observers (FADs)

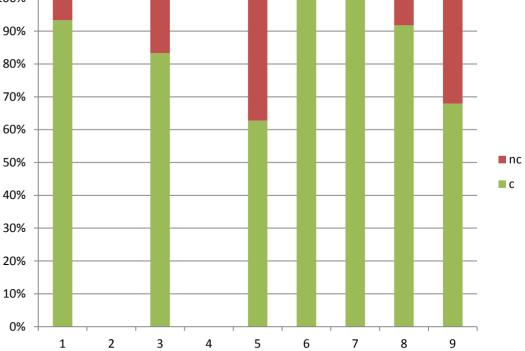
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5. Preliminary results (Atlantic Ocean)

- Data from 9 vessels



% of conform vs non conform subsurface part by vessel

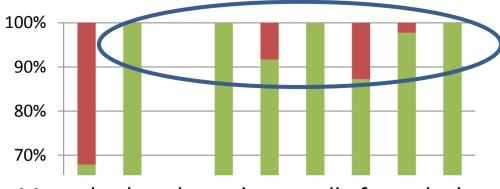


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5. Preliminary results (Atlantic Ocean)

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Shark releases



Most sharks released manually from deck



- Ray/manta releases

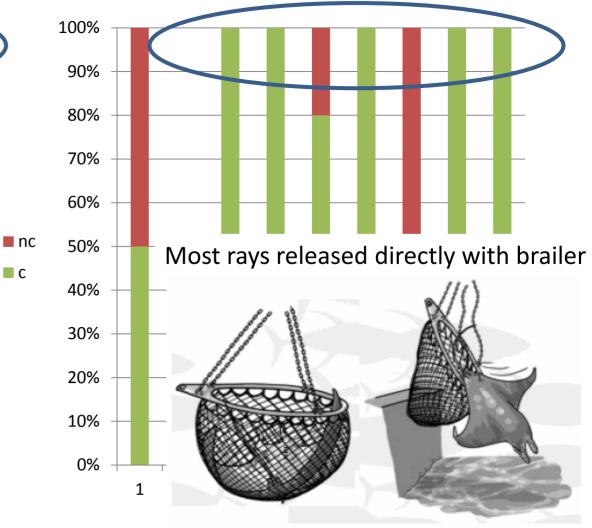
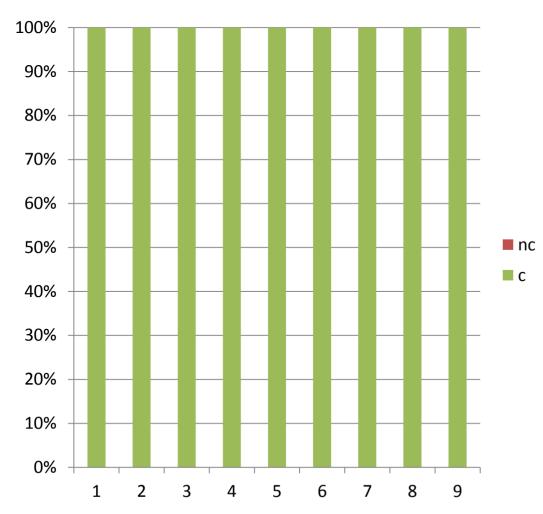


Illustration: Poisson et al., 2012.

5. Preliminary results (Atlantic Ocean)

• Turtle releases: 100% for all boats

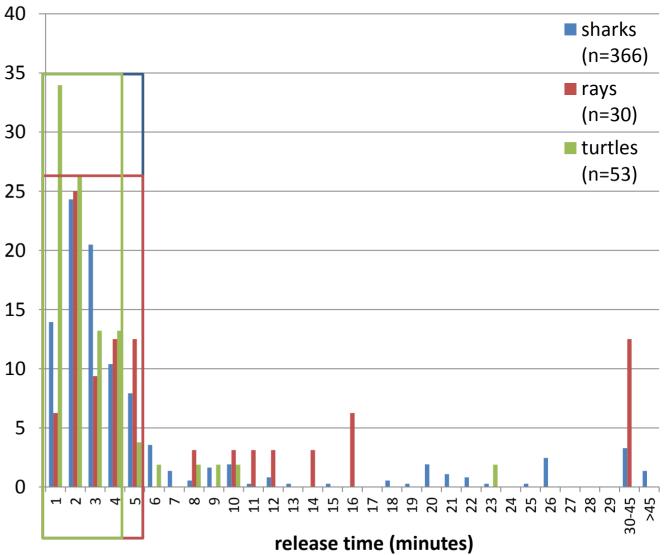


Most turtles released manually from deck



5. Preliminary results (Atlantic Ocean)

- Quick releases 77% of sharks released in the first 5 minutes after detection (59% in first 3 minutes)
- >65% of mantas released in the first 5 minutes
- 87% of turtles released in the first 4 minutes (34% in the first minute)



6. Conclusive notes

- Voluntary initiative by ANABAC and OPAGAC and investment to improve the sustainability of PS FAD fishery
- Validation by AZTI to certify compliance of good practices commitment
- First results encouraging
- Need to reinforce regional observer programs (Atlantic and Indian Ocean) for a better coordination and information flow.

Thank you for your attention Merci pour votre attention Gracias por su atención



More details in document SCRS/2015/061