

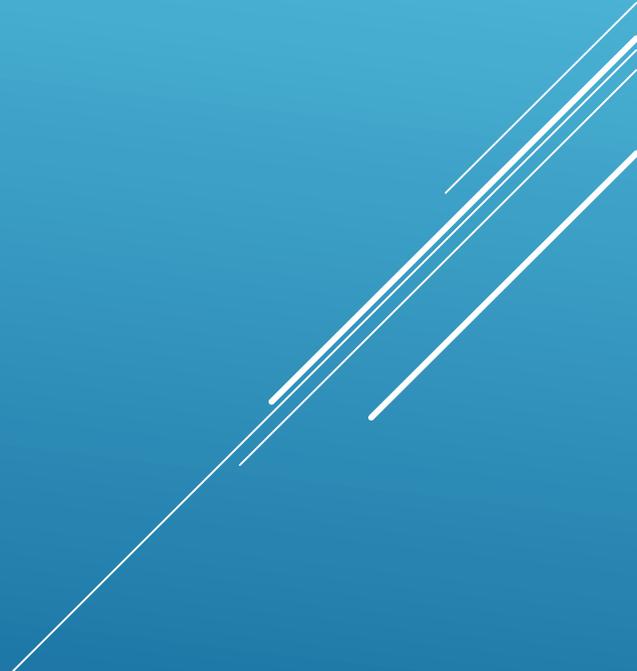
HARBOUR PORPOISE IN LITHUANIA WATERS

Ignas Kazlauskas

CURRENT STATUS: LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

- ▶ Protected by:
 - ▶ ASCOBANS and HELCOM commitments
 - ▶ Harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) protection plan
 - ▶ Other relevant international agreements (if any)
- ▶ Fishery's regulation:
 - ▶ All boats fishing commercially is obliged to use log-books and inform local office EPA about every by-catch case of mammal or sea bird

OCCURRENCE

- ▶ 13 official cases of stranding or by-catch from data of 1903 – 2017
 - ▶ 3 cases of accidental sightings in sea
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PROTECTION ACTIONS

- ▶ Harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) protection plan:
 - ▶ Education:
 - ▶ Flyers, short documentary
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WQYP5T0SCbs>
 - ▶ Data collection
 - ▶ Annual
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FUTURE PLANS

- ▶ Project by Lithuanian sea museum (LSM) and partners to build “Baltic sea animals research and therapy center ” (BARTC)

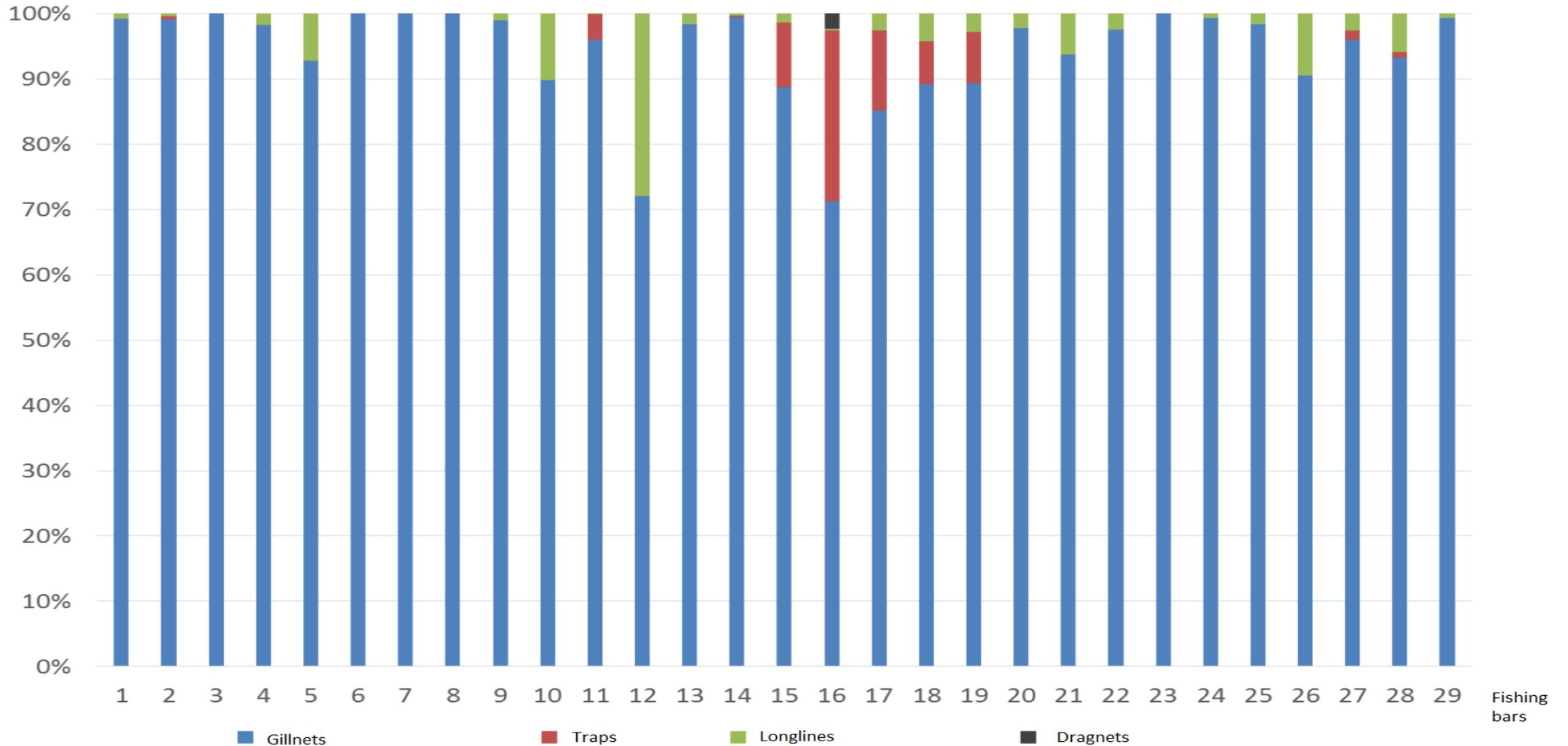


FISHERIES IN LITHUANIAN COASTAL WATERS

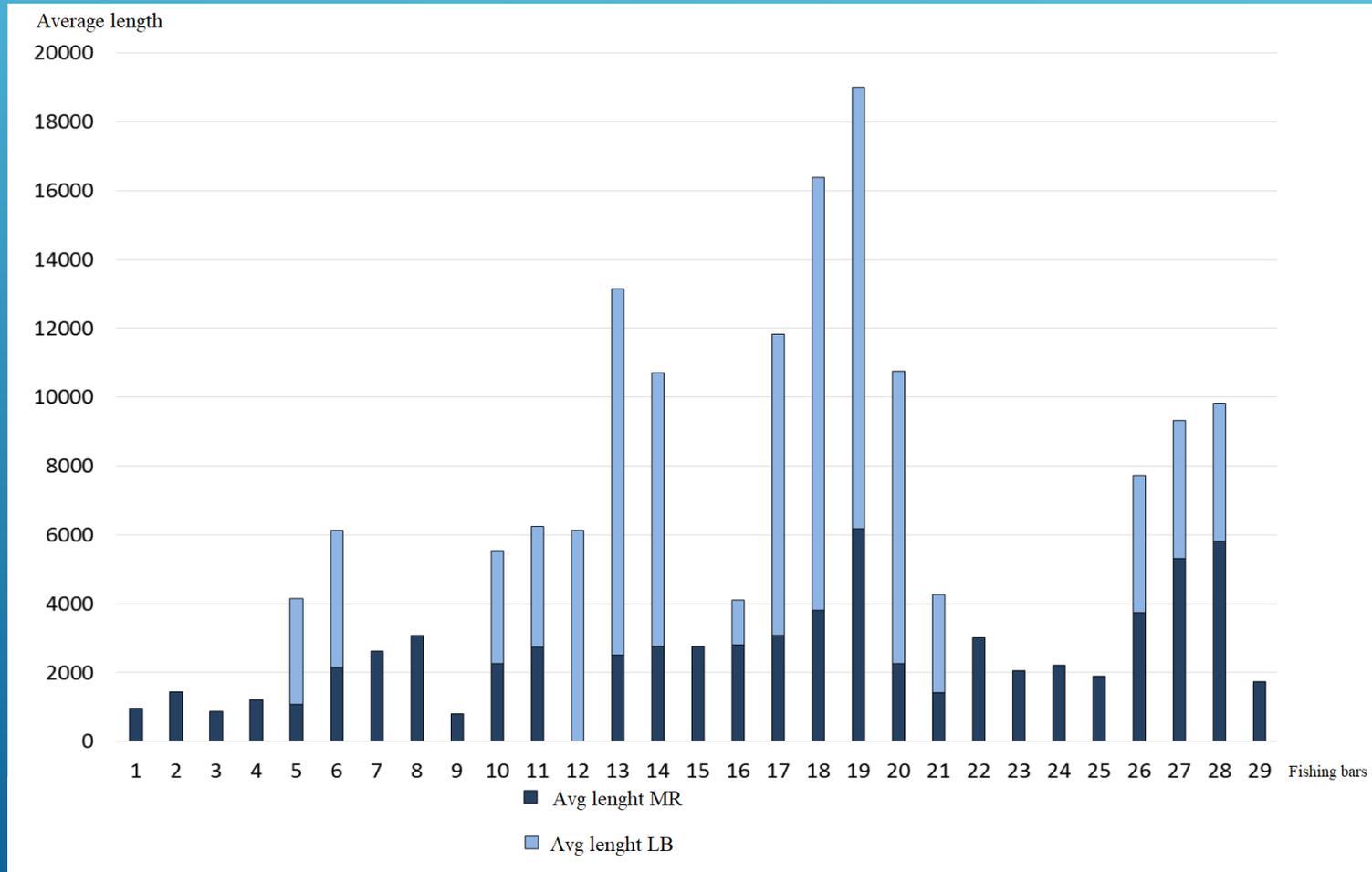
- ▶ 101 commercial fisherman and fishing companies (20 fisherman and 90 fishing companies)
- ▶ In 92,6% of fishing days gillnets were used
- ▶ Official bycatch of marine mammals is 0 (no reports)
- ▶ Bycatch of wintering birds up to 10%
- ▶ Undergoing research of modification of gillnets to reduce birds bycatch
- ▶ Undergoing researches on use of alternative and/or more safe fishing gear use
- ▶ By Fisheries development program 2014 – 2020 application is accepted for activities to reduce negative environmental impact of fisheries

Data source*	Fishing gear	days per year		
		average	maximum	minimum
Monthly reports	gillnets	4125	4695	3493
	traps	242,9	394	92
	longlines	78,4	182	11
	dragnets	7,5	19	0
Log-books	gillnets	610,7	957	321
	longlines	61,2	105	33

USE OF FISHING GEAR IN 2008 - 2014



AVERAGE LENGTH OF GILLNETS USED PER MONTH IN FISHING BARS



MAP OF FISHING BARS

