

Agenda Item 14.3.2

Implementation of the ASCOBANS Triennial
Work Plan (2007-2009)

Review of New Information on Bycatch and
Other Causes of Mortality

Information Originating from the Reporting of EU
Member States under Regulation 812/2004

Document 19

**Information Submitted by Parties on
Reporting under EC Reg. 812/2004
b) United Kingdom**

Action Requested

- take note of the information submitted
- comment
- decide on the reporting format and frequency
for future meetings

Submitted by

Parties



NOTE:
**IN THE INTERESTS OF ECONOMY, DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED TO BRING THEIR OWN
COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING**

Secretariat's Note

Attached are, as separate documents in order to minimise the need for revisions, the responses received on Information Originating from the Reporting of EU Member States under Regulation 812/2004, as submitted by the ASCOBANS Parties.

Cetacean Bycatch Observer Monitoring Scheme 2007-2009. CR0377

2nd Progress Report to Steering Group: Jan 2008

The aims of the project are:

- To continue to monitor the bycatch of vessels over 15m in fisheries, as required by Council Regulation 812/2004;
- To develop monitoring for vessels of less than 15m in length, as required by 812/2004;
- To monitor other fisheries for the Habitats Directive, as decided by the steering group; and
- To continue to refine monitoring methods developed previously.
- In the course of monitoring cetacean bycatch, to record the bycatch of all other species, and report on any bycatch of sturgeons and turtles.

Objectives in terms of days at sea for 2007 have been met. The number of days at sea planned (and achieved) for 2007 were for SMRU, 225 (278), CEFAS 30 dedicated days (34), plus 70 days (81) on other gillnets and pelagic trawlers, FRS 150 days on pelagic trawlers (~136) and AFBINI 25 days (64+) on a variety of gear types. Overall we were aiming for 500 days per year, and have achieved at least 593.

No records of sturgeons or turtle bycatches have been received. Catches and discards of skates and rays have not yet been tabulated. We recorded 9 porpoises, 26 dolphins and 2 seals as bycatches in 2007. Further details of gear types etc are given below by organisation. A fuller interim report including fishing effort and estimates of total bycatch for protected species for 2007 is due to be submitted at the end of March 2008.

Summary of SMRU Observer Sampling in 2007

Gear Types	Length Category	Days Spent at Sea by ICES Division			
		Total	IVa	VIa	VIIdefg
Midwater trawl	>15	68	23	26	19
Midwater pair trawl	>15	23		23	
Midwater pair trawl	<15	7			7
Midwater demersal trawl	>15	4		4	
Light otter trawl	<15	14			14
Gill net (unspecified)	>15	22			22
Drift net	<15	7			7
Gill net (unspecified)	<15	32			32
Tangle net	<15	93			93
Trammel net	<15	8			8
TOTALS:		278	23	53	202

Observed mammal bycatches include:

Dolphins: 12 from Div VII: MPT=8; Gillnet>15=2; Gillnet <15=1; Tanglenet <15 = 1

Porpoises: 6 from Div VII: Gillnet >145 = 3; Gillnet <15 = 1; Tanglenet < 15 = 2;

Seals: 1 from MPT in Div VI

CEFAS- Subcontracted Observations during 2007

Gear	Days Absent	IVc	VIIId	VIIe
Pair trawl <15	3			3
Driftnet <15	20	20		
Gillnets <15	11	10	1	
TOTALS	34	30	1	3

Observed Mammal Catches include:

Dolphins: 14 from VIIe; MPT = 14

CEFAS Other Observations from Discard Surveys: days at sea

Gear	Total	IVa	IVb	IVc	VIIa	VIIdefghj
Beam trawl	162				6	156
Fly seine	1		1			0
Drift net	1			1		0
Gill net	63					63
Trammel net	11		2			9
Tangle net	6					6
Long lines	1			1		0
Otter trawl	239	10	84	20	26	226
Nephrops trawl	72		47		24	0
TOTALS	556	10	134	22	56	460

Additional marine mammal bycatches reported by CEFAS include:

2 Porpoises: 1 from VIIa: Nephrops Trawl. 1 from VIIe released alive: gillnet.

FRS Observations during 2007¹

Fishery	Trips VIa	Trips IVa	Estimated no days
Mackerel January	10	1	55
Herring Summer	4	10	56
Mackerel October	0	5	25

FRS reported one seal bycaught in the herring fishery

AFBINI Observations during 2007²

Gear	Division	Days at sea	Bycatches
Nephrops Trawlers	VIIa	64	1 porpoise
Pelagic Trawlers			

¹Data from FRS do not include number of days at sea; we assume similar trip lengths to those we sampled, average 5 days per trip in the mackerel fishery and 4 days per trip in the herring fishery.

² At least one trip was made with pelagic trawlers late 2007. No details available as of 28 Jan 08.