

 <p>Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels</p>	<p>Sixth Meeting of the Seabird Bycatch Working Group <i>Punta del Este, Uruguay, 10 - 12 September 2014</i></p> <p>Progress on ACAP bycatch indicators</p> <p><i>Igor Debski, Anton Wolfaardt & Wiesława Misiak</i></p>
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SUMMARY

This paper reports on progress made towards developing bycatch related indicators to measure the effectiveness of the Agreement. The SBWG are requested to review and consider a number of options for indicators that could be implemented by and reported on at SBWG7.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This paper recommends that the SBWG:

1. Review the proposed indicator table to measure progress towards availability of fine resolution bycatch related data (S2 indicator).
2. Recognise that the further development of a bycatch rate and level indicator (P1) is reliant on obtaining adequate fine scale data.
3. Review the proposed classification of mitigation measures data provided by Parties, to allow reporting on implementation of seabird bycatch mitigation within EEZs (R1indicator)
4. Consider the RFMO review elements developed by the intersessional group as indicator metrics for R2.
5. Consider whether an interim indicator be developed to assess the relevance of mitigation research to ACAP priorities (R3).

Avances en materia de los indicadores de captura secundaria del ACAP

En este documento se informa sobre los avances logrados hacia la identificación de indicadores en materia de captura secundaria para medir la efectividad del Acuerdo. Se solicita al GdTCS que evalúe y ponga bajo su consideración las distintas opciones de indicadores que podrían implementarse antes de la GdTCS7 e informarse durante dicha reunión.

RECOMENDACIONES

Este documento presenta las siguientes recomendaciones para el GdTCS:

1. que evalúe la tabla propuesta de indicadores para medir los avances logrados hacia la disponibilidad de datos de alta resolución sobre captura secundaria (indicador S2);
2. que reconozca que la futura elaboración del indicador de tasa y nivel de captura secundaria (P1) depende de la posibilidad de obtener suficientes datos a una escala precisa;
3. que revise la clasificación propuesta de datos sobre medidas de mitigación suministrados por las Partes, a fin de poder informar sobre la implementación de medidas de mitigación de captura secundaria de aves marinas dentro de las ZEE (indicador R1);
4. que considere los elementos de revisión de las OROP, diseñados por el grupo del período entre sesiones, como factores de medición del indicador R2; y
5. que estudie la posibilidad de crear un indicador provisional para evaluar la pertinencia de la investigación sobre mitigación de acuerdo con las prioridades del ACAP (R3).

Progrès relatifs aux indicateurs de l'ACAP pour les captures accessoires

Le présent document fait part des progrès accomplis en matière d'élaboration d'indicateurs liés aux captures accessoires pour mesurer l'efficacité de l'Accord. Le GTCA est appelé à passer en revue et à examiner un certain nombre d'indicateurs potentiels qui pourraient être mis en œuvre et dont il serait fait rapport d'ici le GTCA7.

RECOMMANDATIONS

Ce document recommande au GTCA de :

1. Passer en revue le tableau d'indicateurs proposé pour mesurer les progrès accomplis concernant la disponibilité de données de qualité liées aux captures accessoires (indicateur S2).
2. Reconnaître que le développement d'un indicateur du taux et du niveau de captures accessoires (P1) nécessite l'obtention de données d'échelle de qualité.
3. Réviser le projet de classification des données liées aux mesures d'atténuation fournies par les Parties afin de pouvoir faire rapport sur la mise en œuvre des mesures d'atténuation de la capture accessoire dans les ZEE (indicateur R1).
4. Examiner les éléments de la revue sur les ORGP élaborée par le groupe d'intersessions comme paramètres de l'indicateur R2.
5. Déterminer la nécessité d'élaborer un indicateur provisoire pour évaluer la pertinence d'inscrire la recherche de mesures d'atténuation au titre des priorités de l'ACAP (R3).

1. BACKGROUND

This paper reports on progress made towards developing bycatch related indicators to measure the effectiveness of the Agreement, building on the recommendations agreed at SBWG5 (see SBWG5 Doc 13). The suite of indicators being developed follows the State-Pressure-Response framework, and comprise:

State (S)

- 1) Availability of data for definition of at-sea ranges of ACAP species
- 2) Availability of bycatch data relevant to ACAP species

Pressure (P)

- 1) Bycatch rates and levels of ACAP species

Response (R)

- 1) Implementation of seabird bycatch mitigation within EEZs
- 2) Engagement with RFMOs on seabird bycatch issues
- 3) Research and development for effective seabird mitigation measures

2. PROGRESS ON DEVELOPMENT OF INDICATORS TO DATE

2.1. State (S) indicators

2.1.1. S1: Availability of data for definition of at-sea ranges of ACAP species

The formulation of one or more indicators to reflect the progressive acquisition of at-sea range data, and especially the filling of data gaps (see PaCSWG2 Doc 03), is being progressed by PCSWG with assistance from BirdLife International.

2.1.2. S2: Availability of bycatch data relevant to ACAP species

Bycatch data assessment options are still being developed (SBWG6 Doc 09). It is envisaged that over time there will be a progression towards reporting fishing effort/observer effort/seabird bycatch data at finer resolutions to aid in more robust estimation of global bycatch. A simple indicator of progression towards obtaining this finer scale reporting could be to classify the number of parties or fleets by the scale of reported data over time. Table 1 provides a template that could be used for such an indicator.

Table 1. Proposed indicator table for availability of data.

Year	Number of Parties or Number of fleets					
	Spatial scale			Temporal scale		
	By fleet	By 5° x 5°	< 5° x 5°	By year	By quarter	By month
2013						
2012						
2011						
etc						

2.2. Pressure (P) indicators

2.2.1. B1: Bycatch rates and levels of ACAP species

Further development of indicators on bycatch rates and levels is reliant on obtaining adequate data. We propose that further work on this indicator be progressed once the work on seabird bycatch data reporting (SBWG6 Doc 09) is adequately progressed, and that indicator S2 be used in the interim as a measure of progress towards this.

2.3. Response (R) indicators

2.3.1. R1: Implementation of seabird bycatch mitigation within EEZs

At SBWG5 it was recognised that the structure of reporting by Parties may need to be modified to ensure comparable and sufficiently detailed information is collected in order to report on the implementation of bycatch mitigation within EEZs. Currently, the reporting template consists of a number of free text entry questions, which makes summarisation and comparison difficult (see SBWG5 Doc 13). The indicators proposed at SBWG5 were:

- 1) to what extent does the mitigation conform with ACAP recommended best practice?
- 2) to what extent is the use of mitigation independently verified or monitored?
- 3) is the mitigation mandatory or otherwise required to be used across the fishery in question, or is use voluntary and/or used by part of the fleet only?

In order to report on these indicators we propose a more option based classification, as detailed in Table 2. This data would need to be classified by fishery by year. Ideally, existing information can be migrated to this classification, and in future, data collection could be based on option-based questions.

Table 2. Proposed structure for summarising mitigation measures data provided by Parties.

Element	Classification
Gear type	Pelagic longline/Demersal Longline/Trawl/Other
Mitigation measure	List of mitigation measures described in relevant ACAP mitigation review
Do technical specifications conform to ACAP best practice minimum standards?	Yes/no/not applicable
Use of measure	Fleet-wide/partial Mandatory/voluntary
Effectiveness monitored?	Yes/no If yes, how?
Compliance monitored?	Yes/no If yes, how?: at-sea observers/electronic monitoring/port-based inspection/other

2.3.2. R2: Engagement with RFMOs on seabird bycatch issues

An intersessional group has identified a number of elements that can be used to review and report on data collected and reported, degree of implementation, and seabird bycatch in tuna RFMOs (SBWG6 Doc 20). Subject to review and adoption by the SBWG of these elements, we recommend that these would form suitable indicators for this response category.

2.3.3. R3: Research and development for effective seabird mitigation measures

At SBWG5, it was proposed that consideration should be given to the bycatch data assessment options being developed, which could provide a risk based framework in which the use of mitigation can be reported. While work is still be progressed towards more detailed data reporting, it may be appropriate to develop an interim indicator of the extent to which research undertaken and reported to SBWG responds to the research priorities identified by the SBWG.