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# Bycatches in FAD fisheries

Martin Hall\*<sup>†1</sup> and Marlon Roman<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Inter-American tropical Tuna Commission – 8604 La Jolla Shores Dr la Jolla, CA 92037, États-Unis

<sup>2</sup>Inter-American tropical Tuna Commission – 8604 La Jolla Shores Dr la Jolla, CA 92037, États-Unis

## Résumé

The FAD fisheries of the world share many characteristics, even between remote regions. The species and size compositions of the target and other species, and the dominance hierarchy are among those similar characteristics. The bycatches, defined as those individuals discarded dead, are also very similar, and mitigation measures developed in one ocean should be quite adaptable to other regions. The vast majority of the captures, defined as all that was captured in the seine, are tunas (up to 95% - 98%). Of the bycatches, again the vast majority are tunas (usually over 85%). The tunas discarded include undersized individuals of the main species, or individuals from other "minor" tuna species. The next component in importance because of their biomass are the large pelagic bony fishes (the rainbow runner, *Elagatis bipinnulata*, the yellowtail amberjack, *Seriola* spp. (*S. rivoliana*, *S. lalandi*, *S. dumerili*), the wahoo (*Acanthocybium solandri*), the mahi-mahi or dolphin fish (*Coryphaena hippurus*), and in some oceans, the barracuda, *Sphyraena barracuda*. The utilization of the mahi-mahi and wahoo is increasing, so their bycatches are decreasing. Sharks are the major conservation concern among the purse seine bycatches. The dominant species with over 75% of the shark captures are the silky sharks (*Carcharhinus falciformis*), followed far behind by the oceanic whitetip shark (*C. longimanus*), and at lower levels the hammerhead sharks (*Sphyrna* spp). The captures of sharks in purse seine fisheries amount to less than 5% of the overall shark captures in all fisheries. Even though finning is banned in PS fisheries, some sharks are retained. Billfishes are retained in their majority, and the overall impact amounts to 2% - 4% of the overall catches. Sea turtle bycatches are quite low and have been reduced with simple measures, although some entanglements in the webbing the fishers hang under the FADs still occur.

**Mots-Clés:** tuna, FADs, by, catches, bycatches, purse seine

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\*Intervenant

<sup>†</sup>Auteur correspondant: mhall@iattc.org