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April 27, 2007

TO: Dr. Joan Browder,  
Protected Resources Branch

FROM: Larry Beerkircher,  
POP Observer Coordinator

SUBJECT: Longline gear Incidental Take summary for quarter 1, 2007.

The Miami Laboratory Pelagic Observer Program (POP) is providing you with a summary report of the incidental take of marine mammals, turtles, and birds that have been recorded by observers aboard longline vessels for January 1 to March 31, 2007. The POP completed an overall coverage rate of 9.8 % of the selected pelagic longline fleet for this quarter (Table 1). During the quarter, observers recorded zero (0) marine mammals and six (6) seabirds (6-greater black-backed gulls-dead), in addition to seven (7) sea turtles (1-leatherback-alive; 6-loggerheads-alive).

Attached for you are the original Sea Bird Life History forms submitted by observers during the regular longline coverage, along with copies of the associated haul logs. The POP will maintain copies of the individual life history forms in our files until you have completed your data review or entry. I recommend that the original forms be returned (with any changes in red and initialed) to the POP staff or the file cabinets in Rm 324 when the reviews have been completed.

Attachments

Table of the Incidental Take summary for first quarter of 2007 by geographical area and effort (sets and hook count) observed.

cc: POP office files;  
Guy Davenport, Jim Bohnsack (cover letters only).

Table 1: Percent coverage (by sets), the incidental take of Protected Resource species (turtles, mammals, seabirds), and hook effort summarized by geographical area for January 1 to March 31, 2007 (A=Alive, D=Dead, U= Unknown, LB=Leatherback, LH=Loggerhead, O=other)

AREA	TOTAL SETS OBSERVED	REQUIRED	TURTLES		MAMMALS			BIRDS	
		8% COVERAGE	A	D	A	D	U	A	D
			LB/LH/O						
GOM-2	58(9.3%)	50	0/ 0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEC-3	20(17.8%)	9	1/ 2/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SAB-4	14(12.4%)	9	0/3/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAB-5	10(6.7%)	12	0/ 0/0	0	0	0	0	0	6
CAR-1	3(100%)	0	0/1/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SAR-8	10(5.7%)	14	0/ 0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	115(9.8%)	94	1/6/0	0	0	0	0	0	6

Hook effort Summary:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Hook effort</u>
GOM	49,104
FEC	18,261
SAB	12,507
MAB	5,960
CAR	2,132
SAR	7,660
TOTAL	95,624