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TO: Dr. Joan Browder,
Protected Resources Branch

FROM: Larry Beerkircher,
POP Observer Coordinator

SUBJECT: Longline gear Incidental Take summary for Quarter 4, 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 October 1 to December 30, 2007. The POP completed an overall coverage rate of 8.6 % of the selected pelagic longline fleet for this quarter (Table 1). During the quarter, observers recorded 30 sea turtles (24-leatherback-alive; 6-loggerheads-alive), in addition to 5 marine mammals (3-pilot whales-alive; 1-Risso's dolphin-alive; 1-Bottlenose dolphin-alive). No seabirds were observed captured this quarter.

Attachments

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

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

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

AREA	TOTAL HAULS OBSERVED	REQUIRED 8% COVERAGE	TURTLES			MAMMALS		BIRDS	
			A	D	U	A	D	A	D
GOM-2	73 (8.7%)	67	11/0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEC-3	7 (9.3%)	6	0/ 2/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SAB-4	7 (6.2%)	9	0/ 0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAB-5	52 (9.7%)	43	8/ 4/0	0	0	5	0	0	0
NEC-6	0 (0.0%)	5	0/ 0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NED-7	14 (16.0%)	7	5/ 0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OFFSHORE	0 (0.0%)	0	0/ 0/0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	153 (8.6%)	143	24/6/0	0	0	5	0	0	0

Hook effort Summary:

<u>Area</u>	<u>Hook effort</u>
GOM	62,770
FEC	3,564
SAB	4,240
MAB	52,382
NED	11,080
TOTAL	134,036