



Australian Government
Bureau of Rural Sciences

The Bureau of Rural Sciences

Wildlife Bycatch Database

Science for decision makers



WILDLIFE BYCATCH DATABASE



Photographs © Ken Hoppen
khphoto@primus.com.au

Techniques to reduce wildlife bycatch in wild fisheries of Australia and New Zealand

by Carolyn Stewardson, Meredith Cosgrove,
Stuart Row and Qing Xue

Second Annual Meeting of the Consortium
for Wildlife Bycatch Reduction
7-9 June 2006, Boston

Project funded by the Natural Heritage Trust (NHT44144) and administered by the
Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry



Overview of Project

- Aim of Project
- Data Entry
- Database Structure
- Search Database
- Results of Search
- Next Steps



Aim of Project

- This project aims to collate available information on techniques that exist, or are being developed, to reduce bycatch of marine wildlife in wild fisheries of Australia and New Zealand



Specific Aims:

1. Bycatch concerns for large mega-fauna including whales and dolphins (Cetaceans); seals and sea lions (Pinnipeds); dugongs (Sirenians); seabirds (Aves); turtles and sea snakes (Reptiles); and sharks (Elasmobranchs)
2. The modification of fishing gear (e.g., SED)
3. The modification of fishing practices (e.g., temporal and/or spatial closures)
4. Actions to improve post-interaction survival once a non-target species has been trapped in gear



- This Wildlife Bycatch Database shall assist policy makers, fisheries and conservation managers (Australian and State Government), researchers and industry in the development of regulatory framework for managing and administering commercial fisheries



- Importantly, it shall be used to assist in the development of management plans required under legislation in relation to the pursuit of ecologically sustainable development of fisheries (e.g., EPBC Act, 1999 and Fisheries Management Act 1991)



Data Entry

- Please go to HTML file:

WildifeBycatchDatabase_slide_8b

to view how data is entered into the database (including a help sheet, pull down menus and glossaries)



Database Structure

- Please go to HTML file

WildifeBycatchDatabase_slide_9b

to view the structure of the database (including introductory statement, navigation area and search tips)



Search Database

- Please go to HTML file:
WildifeBycatchDatabase_slide_10b
to view how to search the database (view search page)



Results of Search – list of papers

- Please go to HTML file:

WildifeBycatchDatabase_slide_11b

to view results from a search, e.g., search by wildlife group (Sea Turtles) and mitigation measure (Excluder Devices; or bycatch reduction devices - general)



Results of Search – key findings/PDFs

- Please go to HTML file:

WildifeBycatchDatabase_slide_12b

to view results from a search, e.g., key findings and PDF for a selected paper from a given search



Next Steps

- Extend the marine wildlife groups to include other marine species*
- Incorporate a section on wildlife bycatch in general* (key findings and PDFs of published and unpublished literature)
- Incorporate a section on legal instruments* (PDFs of relevant legal documents and policy documents)
- Incorporate a section on Commonwealth and State Observer Programmes* (overview of relevant programmes)

* Australia only; * Australia and New Zealand

WILDLIFE BYCATCH DATABASE



Photographs © Ken Hoppen
khphoto@primus.com.au

Techniques to reduce wildlife bycatch in wild fisheries of Australia and New Zealand



Australian Government

**Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry**

Bureau of Rural Sciences

**Fisheries Research and
Development Corporation**

www.brs.gov.au