

Mexico Eastern Pacific yellowfin tuna - purse seine

Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) Workplan

Introduction

This environmental work plan was developed based on the Alliance's latest Surveillance Audit Report for The Northeastern Tropical Pacific Purse Seine Yellowfin and Skipjack Tuna Fishery, and is therefore consistent with the improvement process reflected in the annual audits and the PCR. This report, prepared in 2022, corresponds to the fourth year of audits for the fishery in question. It provides an overview of the progress made to date regarding the fishery's environmental status and changes in conditions, as well as an update on PIs. Grupomar as a member of the Alliance remains interested, like the rest of the fishery's stakeholders, in the environmental performance progress and publicly reports through FisheryProgress.org. Therefore, through this specific work plan for Grupomar, they are willing to continue supporting the improvement needs against the MSC standard.

Table 1: Workplan Overview

Workplan Version and Date	1.0 October 2025
Start date (expected)	End date (anticipated month/year)
December 2025	November 2029
FIP Lead (organization/individual responsible for Action Plan)	Improvements recommended by (meeting/group that supported the development)
Grupomar	Pablo Álvarez
FIP Coordinator (organization/individual responsible for reporting on FisheryProgress)	Workplan developed by (consultant or person)
Javier Díaz López	Pablo Álvarez

Acronyms

AIDCP	Agreement on the International Dolphin Conservation Program
Alliance	Pacific Alliance for Sustainable Tuna (<i>Alianza del Pacífico por el Atún Sostenible A.C.</i>)
CONAPESCA	National Commission of Aquaculture and Fisheries (<i>Comisión Nacional de Acuacultura y Pesca</i>)
EEZ	Exclusive economic zone
ETP	Endangered, Threatened, and Protected
ETPO	Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FIP	Fishery Improvement Project
IATTC	Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
mt	Metric Tons
PCR	Public Certification Report
PI	Performance Indicator
SI	Scoring Issue
USD	United States Dollar

Unit of Assessment(s)

Table 2. Unit(s) of Assessment (UoA)

UoA 1	Description
Target species (common and scientific name)	ETPO yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)
Stock	Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean
Geographical area	Mexican EEZ and greater ETPO, within FAO 77 and the IATTC management zone with scope defined by the Antigua Convention (<i>i.e.</i> including FAO 87).
Fishing method or gear type	Purse seine vessels > 363mt hold capacity, dolphin-associated sets
Fishing fleet or group of vessels, or individuals fishing operators pursuing stock	Industrial Grupomar fleet
UoA 2	Description
Target species (common and scientific name)	ETPO yellowfin tuna (<i>Thunnus albacares</i>)
Stock	Eastern Tropical Pacific Ocean
Geographical area	Mexican EEZ and greater ETPO, within FAO 77 and the IATTC management zone with scope defined by the Antigua Convention (<i>i.e.</i> including FAO 87).
Fishing method or gear type	Purse seine vessels > 363mt hold capacity, unassociated sets
Fishing fleet or group of vessels, or individuals fishing operators pursuing stock	Industrial Grupomar fleet

FIP Actions

Table 3. Performance Indicator Action Plan Table for Action 1 UoA 1

Action Number and Name (One sentence description)	1. Dolphin Population Estimates in the ETPO
Action Goal (One sentence that describe the result of the action)	Support the research to Arrive at New Dolphin Population Estimates in the ETPO for offshore spotted dolphin (<i>Stenella attenuata</i>) and spinner dolphin (<i>Stenella longirostris</i>)
Action Description (Brief summary of the steps involved in the action and importance of the action in achieving the FIP objectives)	Grupomar is committed to contributing to the implementation of independent dolphin surveys in the ETPO and to ensure the results of the dolphin population surveys, the project should be designed, implemented, and managed by independent scientists; and supported by interested stakeholders, including the IATTC. The steps involved in the action are: firstly, one season of dolphin abundance surveys are successfully executed, to generate the dolphin abundance estimates; then to provide the results of the dolphin abundance and new dolphin population estimates for ETPO; and finally to provide evidence of trends in dolphin populations. The importance of the action is to demonstrate the effects of dolphin sets in the fishery on dolphins are known and are highly likely to be within limits of national and international requirements for their protection.
Expected Completion Date	November 2029
Priority (Based on the implementers criteria: e.g., lowest scoring issues are high priority or actions that are necessary to complete before beginning other actions are high priority)	High
Estimated Cost (An estimate of the budget needed to complete the action)	\$988,000.00 USD
Responsible Parties (List of participants)	Grupomar
MSC Performance Indicator(s) Addressed by the Action (The MSC performance indicator(s) that are directly impacted by the action. The completion of the action is likely to result in an improved score change for these performance indicators)	PI 2.3.1 ETP Species Outcome SIa-b PI 2.3.2 ETP Species Management SIb PI 2.3.3 ETP Species Information SIa-b

Action	Tasks/ Milestones	Responsible (lead)	Responsible (supporting role)	Starting date	Expected completion date	Evidence of completion / results
1. Dolphin Population Estimates in the ETPO	Participate in the execution of the one season of dolphin abundance surveys	Grupomar	Alliance, IATTC, Relevant Stakeholders	December 2025	November 2028	Surveys implementation records
	Follow up the obtaining of the dolphin abundance results and new dolphin population estimates	Grupomar	Alliance, IATTC, Relevant Stakeholders	June 2027	November 2028	Results and estimates report
	Follow up the analysis of trends in dolphin populations	Grupomar	Alliance, IATTC, Relevant Stakeholders	June 2028	November 2029	Trends in dolphin populations report

Table 4. Performance Indicator Action Plan Table for Action 2 UoA1

Action Number and Name (One sentence description)	2. Dolphin Mother-Calf Separation
Action Goal (One sentence that describe the result of the action)	Follow up the research program to determine whether mother and calves get separated during the follow up, catch and release phase of the fishing operation.
Action Description (Brief summary of the steps involved in the action and importance of the action in achieving the FIP objectives)	The research program consists of the participation of external consulting, led by IATTC, to observe and video-record the fishing operation and further analyze the information. This research program is intended to mainly determine if: a) calves get separated from their mothers during the fishing operation and/or, b) mothers stay with their calves despite the fishing operation. The steps involved in the action are: get preliminary findings and recommendations of the research program; next, take into consideration these preliminary results in the overall management objectives of the IATTC/AIDCP; then, show the effects of the fishing operation on dolphins; and finally, show all observed and potential fishery effects. As previous action, the importance of the action is to demonstrate the effects of dolphin sets in the fishery on dolphins are known and are highly likely to be within limits of national and international requirements for their protection.
Expected Completion Date	June 2026
Priority (Based on the implementers criteria: e.g., lowest scoring issues are high priority or actions that are necessary to complete before beginning other actions are high priority)	High
Estimated Cost (An estimate of the budget needed to complete the action)	\$20,000.00 USD
Responsible Parties (List of participants)	Grupomar
MSC Performance Indicator(s) Addressed by the Action (The MSC performance indicator(s) that are directly impacted by the action. The completion of the action is likely to result in an improved score change for these performance indicators)	PI 2.3.1 ETP Species Outcome SIa-b PI 2.3.2 ETP Species Management SIb PI 2.3.3 ETP Species Information SIa

Action	Tasks/ Milestones	Responsible (lead)	Responsible (supporting role)	Starting date	Expected completion date	Evidence of completion / results
2. Dolphin Mother-Calf Separation	Gather preliminary findings and recommendations from the research program	Grupomar	Alliance, IATTC, Relevant Stakeholders	December 2025	June 2026	Preliminary findings and recommendations summary
	Follow up the IATTC/AIDCP for taking into consideration the preliminary results in their overall management objectives	Grupomar	Alliance, IATTC, Relevant Stakeholders	December 2025	June 2026	IATTC/AIDCP records related to their overall management objectives
	Point out the effects of the fishing operation on dolphins	Grupomar	Alliance, IATTC, Relevant Stakeholders	December 2025	June 2026	The effects of the fishing operation on dolphins report showing they are highly likely to be within limits of national and international requirements for their protection
	Point out all observed and potential fishery effects	Grupomar	Alliance, IATTC, Relevant Stakeholders	December 2025	June 2026	All observed and potential fishery effects report showing they are highly unlikely to create unacceptable impacts on ETP species and significantly curtail their reproductive rate